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Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, JANUARY, 1975

NUMBER 1

Editors Corner

Three Cheers For The New Year!

One of the great things about Jesus was the good cheer which never deserted him. He shared this constantly with his disciples and other despondent souls to whom he ministered. He constantly admonished those poor souls, who seemed to be at their lowest ebb, to "Be of good cheer." The words fell from his lips with understanding, affection, and confidence to the extent that he lent power and courage to those who heard him. Listen to him as he speaks the words on three different occasions and let us apply each of them to our own lives.

On an occasion when a paralytic was brought to Jesus by friends, Jesus seeing their faith, said unto the sick man, "Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee."

Jesus spoke what have been called the "most gallant words in literature" when he knew that in a matter of hours he would be left alone in the hands of evil men who would do their worst. In spite of all this, he found courage in trials to say "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Unfortunately, while Paul was in Jerusalem, he visited the temple. His presence there caused an uproar. In an effort to restore order, Paul was arrested and confined to the barracks as a prisoner. In an anxious moment, he was fearful lest this ruin his opportunity to lay the foundations

for his Roman Mission. The night following, the Lord stood by him and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul, for thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome."

As General Baptists approach the portals of the new year, may we listen to the "three cheers" from our Lord as he bids us, "On this way go on." He speaks to the innermost recesses of each individual, "Your Sins are Forgiven," Have Faith for the Future." We have work to do, with God, and the Mission must be accomplished. We are a Redemptive Fellowship, a conquering victorious Body, and Stewards of the Future. This can be the brightest year in the history of our Convention and moreover, in the Christian Church. In order for the new year to be significant, the Redeemed must respond positively to the "three cheers from the Master."

The Baptist Headquarters Family wishes for you the most prosperous year in Jesus' Name.

O. L. Sherrill

C. C. Craig

Mrs. M. A. Horne

Mrs. M. W. Dunn

Miss Bettie Chislom

Mrs. Captola Latta

Mrs. Gladys Watlington

Miss LeVern Perry

Miss Ivery Williamson

Leo Williams, Jr.

Norman Winston

DR. O. L. SHERRILL TO BE INSTRUCTOR AT BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

The Baptist World Congress has extended an invitation to the Reverend Dr. O. L. Sherrill to deliver lectures to classes on four days when the Congress meets at Stockholm, Sweden, July 7-12, 1975. The topics for discussion are as follows: "The New Person in Christ," July 9; "Our Unfinished Task," July 10; "Christ Breaks Down the Dividing Walls," July 11; and "The Certainty of Our Hope," July 12.

The General Baptist Family of North Carolina is proud of its Executive Secretary, and extends prayers and best wishes for him as he heeds the call of the Master to, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations."

EDEN MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP SPONSORS INSTITUTE

Roy J. Howard

A church-wide Christian Training Institute was sponsored by the Eden Ministers Fellowship, November 18-22 at the Morning Star Baptist Church, Eden.

The sponsoring churches and pastors were: Morning Star, Reverend John J. Simms, pastor; Springfield, Reverend William M. Lea, pastor; Mizpah, Reverend John D. Chalmers, pastor; Mt. Sinai, Reverend Robert S. Geiger, Jr., pastor; and Saint Paul, Reverend Roy J. Howard, pastor.

The Reverend Leo Williams, Jr., Director of Christian Education, General Baptist State Convention, conducted the institute in the following subject areas: Pastoral Ministries; Bible Teaching; Church Training; Church Missions; and Services. Mrs. Willie M. Williams instructed the class in Church Music. The entire institute was challenging and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

On Friday evening a Fellowship Dinner was enjoyed by all in the Fellowship Hall of the Morning Star Baptist Church, under the direction of Mrs. Maxine Morehead, Social Chairman. Honored guest was Dr. E. L. Kirby, Pastor, Zion Baptist Church, Reidsville.

The Institute was closed with a challenging message by Reverend Williams.

The attendance for the week was a total of 430. The amount of money sent to the General Baptist State Convention was \$350.93.

Reverend William M. Lea, President; The Reverend Roy J. Howard, Dean; and Mrs. Patsy Dillard, Secretary.

DURHAM MINISTER ON THE GO

Dr. W. T. Bigelow, pastor of the Greater Saint Paul Baptist Church, Durham, North Carolina is constantly on the go. However, this time, he has received two outstanding invitations, to be the guest speaker for 1975, that we feel would be of interest to many persons.

An invitation comes from Florida Memorial College, Miami, Florida, for Dr. Bigelow, along with Dr. S. F. Ray of Brooklyn, New York, and Dr. F. J. Sampson of Detroit, Michigan, to be one of the guest speakers at an annual convention designed to enhance training in Christian Education, Biblical Doctrine and Theology. The convention begins the first week of January, 1975 and runs throughout the entire week.

Another invitation, for Dr. Bigelow to be the featured speaker, comes from West Newton, Mass., The Universal Christian Association for the Improvement of Black People, Inc. which sponsors annually the World Black Youth Forum—this year featuring Dick Gregory at the Boston University.

As Dr. Bigelow journeys throughout the nation spreading the word of God, we solicit your prayers and best wishes for him.

CHURCH FIRE IS INVESTIGATED

Authorities are continuing their investigation in an attempt to determine the cause of a fire which did extensive damage to the Charlton Educational Building of Providence Baptist Church, Edenton, the Reverend William C. Butts, Pastor.

The fire was located in the furnace room contained in the educational building and burned through to the second floor. There were severe heat and smoke damage to the sanctuary, according to Fire Chief Luther C. Parks. In the meantime, regular services are being held on Sundays at Edenton Housing Authority Community Center on Bladen Street. The Church invites members and friends to remember the work of the church in prayers and support.

LABOURERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

The Apostle Paul preached at Corinth on his second missionary journey to the extent that many souls accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. Five years later, many of the same souls had drifted into gross immorality, and furthermore, they had allowed envying, strife and divisions to come among them. In writing to them, Paul reminds them that it is about time that they are able to eat some solid spiritual food, but they yet must be fed milk.

There is no place for unhealthy competition in this work—no room for one to seek personal prestige—definitely, no time for envying and strife, “For we are labourers together with God.”

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina entered upon a bold venture and met in a Joint Session at the Memorial Auditorium, November 6-8, 1974. The leaders of the two Baptist bodies believed this effort would be fruitful from every angle, but to be doubly sure it would have captivating power, they chose the biblical authority from the words of Paul as he had admonished the brethren at Corinth, “For we are Labourers together with God.”

When the time had fully come, President C. R. Edwards, General Baptist State Convention, and President Allen Bailey, Baptist State Convention, called the Session to order Wednesday, November 6, 7:00 p.m. Mrs. J. B. McLester, President, Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, said the invocation. A most hearty welcome to the city of Raleigh was extended by the Honorable Clarence Lightner, Mayor. President Edwards and President Bailey proceeded to make a statement of purpose and appoint Joint Resolutions Committee. A highlight of the evening was a presentation by Baptist youth using the theme: “Baptist Youth Laboring Together.” We hasten to add that the Raleigh area choirs set the tone with very appropriate church music.

Dr. E. B. Turner introduced Dr. Theodore Adams, visiting professor of preaching, Southeastern Seminary, to be speaker for the evening. Dr. Adams challenged and inspired us to the extent that we are willing to rededicate ourselves to the unfinished task remaining before us. The Benediction was said by L. D. Hall which concluded the Wednesday evening session.

The Brethren and Sisters returned to the Auditorium on Thursday evening with whetted appetites. The appetizer for the evening was music by the choir from Shaw University, the Singing Churchmen, and area choirs, under the direction

of Dr. Harry Gil-Smythe. The Invocation was said by Mrs. Bernice Cross, President, North Carolina Woman's Missionary Union. The theme “The World Needs Christ” was discussed by Reginald Kamara, Africa, Isamu Matsumoto, Orient; Sophia Gomes, South America; and Alice Yates, North America. Brief, but powerful and challenging messages were delivered by the Executive Secretaries, Dr. O. L. Sherrill, General Baptist State Convention, and Dr. W. Perry Crouch, Baptist State Convention on the subject “Reaching Beyond Ourselves.” Dr. John Lawrence introduced the speaker for the evening in the person of Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, pastor Abyssinian Baptist Church, New York, New York. The speaker challenged us to, “Expand our tents—lengthen our cords and strengthen our stakes as we work together with God in the decade of the seventies.” The Benediction was said by Frank Marshall, President of the Laymen's League Convention.

The witnesses returned Friday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. to hear the report of the Joint Resolutions Committee. Following the invocation by Dr. Howard L. Mitchell the Committee made its report. All of the resolutions were adopted with some minor amendments. The convention officials were asked to forward copies of the resolutions to proper authorities in the state and the nation. The afternoon speaker was introduced by Tom Freeman in the person of Dr. Owen Cooper, former President, Southern Baptist Convention. Following a solo by Mrs. Hortense Fleming, Dr. Cooper's dynamic message, the benediction was announced by R. F. Hewitt.

From the observation of the attitudes of persons present, some seed was sown in positive soil which may be expected to spring forth as true “Labourers Together With God.”

Dr. Corbin L. Cooper, director of the Department of Cooperative Ministries, was instrumental in bringing the two state bodies together for this successful Joint venture.

SUPPORT THE UNIFIED PROGRAM

Please support the Unified Program by sending your contributions systematically and monthly to the Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street.

For those of you who wish to send money to designated places, please make your checks payable to the General Baptist State Convention, and we shall forward it to the proper places immediately after having received it. Through this method we will be able to keep better records and give credit where credit is due in the Annual Report.

NEW DIRECTOR OF THE STATE COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL LEGISLATION CHOSEN

Mrs. Leif Valand, President of the State Council for Social Legislation, has announced that the new Executive Director and lobbyist for the Council will be the Reverend Collins Kilburn, Director of Social Ministries for the North Carolina Council of Churches. Mr. Kilburn will continue to hold his position with the Council of Churches which involves directing its legislative program. The two organizations have similar legislative concerns.

Kilburn succeeds Mrs. Ruth Cook who has been elected to the State House of Representatives from Wake County.

The State Council for Social Legislation is comprised of twenty-two humanitarian, religious, and professional organizations which join together to promote progressive policies in state government.

The 1975 program will focus upon services for children and youth. It also includes the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, abolition of the death penalty, and protective services for adults who are neglected or abused.

Kilburn, a graduate of Duke University Divinity School, came to Raleigh in 1960 as minister of the Community United Church of Christ. During that decade he became heavily involved in the civil rights movement and in other social movements of that period. In 1969 while serving as chaplain to the North Carolina House of Representatives he developed a sharp interest in state government. He carried that interest into his work with the North Carolina Council of Churches in the fall of 1969 and has conducted a major effort to help churches relate to state government around issues of social justice.

In recent years he has been an active advocate of reforms in the areas of prisons, juvenile justice, tax policy, and welfare. Kilburn is presently Chairman of the North Carolina Advisory Committee on Religious Ministries in Prison and of the citizen steering committee for Project Reach, the food stamp outreach effort of the Department of Human Resources. He is a frequent speaker on subjects relating to religion and politics.

REMEMBER

As we move into our New Year, it is altogether fitting and proper that we pause on January 15 to pay tribute to the late Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr., the black apostle of non-violence who was called "the moral leader of our nation."

Once more we hear his impassioned voice rise from the unfolding drama of the civil rights crusade he led, beginning with the brilliant but unexpected defiance of Montgomery in 1955 and reaching to the irony-laced tragedy of Memphis in 1968. It has been said of Dr. King, "That kind of man will do what he sees as justice even if the earth yawns and swallows him down and even then his deeds will persist in the land forever."

MODERATOR'S AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S WORKSHOP

In the process of preparing to meet the challenge of the times and moreover, to present a viable program of work for 1975, The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina sponsored a Moderator's and Executive Committee's workshop at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurinburg, December 11-12.

Moderators were called because each Moderator serves as the chief officer in an association of churches in the same general area of the state. Each moderator has a "key" to unlock the understanding of pastors and laymen in his association and solicit their full cooperation and support for the entire work of the State Convention. This responsibility is a must for moderators who wish to serve the present age.

The Executive Committee was called because it is the policy making body of the Convention and has the responsibility of assessing the adopted program, giving direction to the Departments, Commissions, Committees, Auxiliaries, and Districts.

A very provocative program was presented, beginning with an Executive Committee's meeting 12:00 noon, December 11. C. C. Craig helped set the stage for the afternoon session as he very dynamically discussed the topic "What God Wants His Church To Be." A panel discussed "The Role of the Moderator." This was done in three areas of the Moderator's work: "Relationship to Pastors" by R. T. Gilchrist; "Relationship to the Association" by C. R. Trotter; and "Relationship to the State Convention" by R. W. Perry. T. A. Watkins talked on "The J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly."

On Wednesday evening, the assembly was inspired and challenged by President J. J. Johnson as he spoke from the subject "Good Stewardship—The Pastor's Responsibility." The President believes the pastor should not only preach on what the church is about, but he should set the example through his daily living. The last order of the evening was the delivery of a dynamic sermon by

L. D. Parker, Moderator of the Lane Creek Association.

Following a delicious breakfast on Thursday, prepared and served by a group of fine ladies at the Assembly, R. D. Lucas and John Bee Moore inspired the group with a timely devotion at 8:45 a.m. Leo Williams discussed the topic "What God Wants His Church to Do." A workshop on "Our Objectives" was conducted by four panelists: State Missions" by S. A. Raper; "Shaw University" by C. R. Trotter; "Central Orphanage" by Mrs. J. B. McLester; and "Foreign Missions" by Mrs. M. A. Horne. The participants brought to light some new insights which provoked a rededication to the task of more adequately supporting our objectives.

Executive Secretary O. L. Sherrill, presided over the session, and in his devoted manner of promoting the entire program of the Convention, inspired the brethren and sisters to "get at it and stay with it." Corbin Cooper, Director, Department of Cooperative Ministries, Baptist State Convention expressed appreciation for the cooperation given him in the past, and shared information on future cooperative ventures. C. T. Bowen, Moderator, Hammond Creek Association, delivered the closing sermon. Prayer was said and we were on our way to do more and better work "With God."

DUTIES OF SUNDAY SCHOOL GENERAL OFFICERS

Sunday School Superintendent

You are responsible to the church for planning, conducting, and evaluating the work of the Sunday School. You will look to the pastor (and to the minister of education, if there is one) for counsel and leadership in the Sunday School. You may invite the pastor to participate in Sunday School council meetings regularly, or as often as the pastor's schedule permits. Your duties include the following:

1. Lead in determining organization, schedules, and approaches for teaching the biblical revelation; reaching persons for Christ and church membership; and performing the functions of the church.
2. Recommend, and assist when needed, in enlisting workers required by the organization.
3. Interpret to workers the tasks.
4. Lead workers in meeting goals for achievement.

5. Review with department workers and lead in recommending curriculum.
6. Lead in determining training needs and in planning and directing training activities.
7. Cooperate with the appropriate person in the church training program in requesting training awards and maintaining training records.
8. Guide in communicating appropriate information to workers about the work of the church and the denomination.
9. Reflect marriage and family needs of members to the church council for use in planning church family ministry emphases.
10. Lead in planning and evaluating activities related to performing the functions of the church.
11. Maintain records for evaluating progress.
12. Report periodically to the church on the status of the program.
13. Guide other elected general officers in carrying out their responsibilities.
14. Lead department directors to give guidance to workers and members in vocational guidance and family ministry.
15. Receive requests for financial and physical resources from department directors and present appropriate needs to the church.

Assistant Superintendent

If an assistant superintendent is called for in your organizational pattern, he is responsible to the Sunday School superintendent for performing duties assigned to him by the director.

Secretary

You are responsible to the Sunday School superintendent for compiling and evaluating records of the Sunday School. Your duties include the following:

1. Guide enrollment procedures for the school.
2. Maintain a master enrollment file on all phases of the Bible teaching program.
3. Assist appropriate department personnel in maintaining department records and summarize records.
4. Compile requests for literature and other resources from the departments and submit to the person designated by the church to order literature.
5. Record the minutes of the Sunday School council and share copies with council members.

YOUTH WORKER EMPLOYED



Richard Wright

For several years the General Baptist State Convention and the Baptist State Convention have co-sponsored a program to promote opportunities for college youth to serve in church summer ministries. These ministries include 10 weeks of service in activities like Vacation Bible Schools, week day youth ministries, housing projects, assistant pastors, camps and assemblies, music programs, and a new work this year with the Migrant Training Center at Rich Square.

Mr. Richard Wright has been employed on a part-time basis to assist with some of the needs of this growing program. Beginning January 1, 1975, his duties will include interviewing prospective students for church summer ministries, interviewing pastors and others who may desire to use a summer worker, assist with annual Youth Orientation Week at Gardener-Webb College to prepare workers for summer activities, and to assist workers with any adjustments problems during the summer months.

Anyone who is interested in employing and supervising a youth worker is encouraged to contact Mr. Wright. Salary, transportation to and from the place of service, and insurance is provided by the conventions. Room, board, and local transportation are provided by the local group. Appointments may be made by writing him at Box 2264, Southeastern Baptist Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. 27587, or telephone (919) 556-3435.

Those serving in this work are primarily black Baptist young people and some white Baptist youth who express a desire to serve in interracial

ministries. During the summer of 1974 the Department of Cooperative Ministries appointed 29 young people and 7 adults who served throughout North Carolina.

Wright will be sponsored by both conventions and serve directly with the Department of Cooperative Ministries. He is a native of Cleveland, Ohio and a 1974 graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte. During his college he has served actively with the Baptist Metro Ministries in Charlotte, especially with the annual summer program known as "Camp Amigo," an interracial program for underprivileged children. He is single and currently enrolled in Southeastern Theological Seminary.

PLANNING MEETING SCHEDULED

The officers of the General Baptist State Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congresses and the Presidents of the county and district Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Conventions will meet at Baptist Headquarters, Raleigh, Saturday, January 25, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Each involved person is urged to be present.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The positions of Editor of **The Baptist Informer**, State Director of Church Music, and State Director of Laymen's Work are open for application. Interested persons should write to Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N. C. 27601. His office will supply necessary information relative to these positions.

PILOT BAPTIST CHURCH BURNS

As we were preparing to go to press, we were informed, sorrowfully, of the destruction of the Pilot Baptist Church by fire. Pilot Church is located at Zebulon, and the Reverend Frank Bullock, Jr. is pastor. Anyone who wishes to help in their hour of need may send contributions to Mr. Johnny O. Horton, Route 2, Box 95, Zebulon. Checks may be written payable to Pilot Baptist Church.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 11	One Day Session, Woman's Convention, Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh
February	One day Session, Usher's Convention
April	One day Session, Laymen's League Convention
May 6	Moderators' Clinic, Second Calvary Baptist, Charlotte
May 7	One day Session, General Baptist State Convention, Second Calvary Baptist, Charlotte
June 16-20	National Baptist Sunday School and B.T.U. Congress, U.S.A., Inc., Birmingham, Ala.
June 16-20	National Baptist Sunday School Congress of America
July	State Usher's Convention
July 28-31	Woman's Convention, Shiloh Baptist, Greensboro
August 5-7	State Sunday School And B.T.U. Congress, Shiloh Baptist, Winston-Salem
September 1-5	Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Toledo, Ohio
September 8-14	National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., St. Louis, Missouri
September 8-14	National Baptist Convention of America, Philadelphia, Penn.
September 8-14	Progressive National Baptist Convention, Atlantic City, New Jersey
October 27-30	General Baptist State Convention and Laymen's League Convention, Shiloh Baptist, Shelby, North Carolina

BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS TOUR!

P. O. Box 18053

Raleigh, N. C. 27609

July 3-17, 1975 — 15 days for \$1,169

Plan now for an exciting visit with Baptist friends who will be attending the Baptist World Congress in Stockholm, Sweden in 1975.

But there is even more . . . you will visit:

Zurich, Switzerland and shop along the Bahnhofstrasse (the Fifth Avenue of Europe) ;

Copenhagen, Denmark—the city of mermaids and fairytales ;

Stockholm, Sweden and a possible overnight excursion to The Land of the Midnight Sun ;

Paris, France—no details necessary ;

London, England—shopping? a cruise on the Thames? a side tour? the theatre? Take your choice.

All of this for only \$1,169 (plus some incidentals) from New York and return to New York. As usual, rates are subject to change.

Heard enough? Ready to go? Just send a deposit check for \$100 to Baptist World Congress Tour as directed on the form below. Hurry, reservations are limited. Or, if you have questions, please contact O. L. Sherrill or Corbin Cooper.

Baptist World Congress Tour

P. O. Box 18053

Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Please enroll me for the Baptist World Congress Tour, July 3-17, 1975.

My deposit of \$100 per person is enclosed.

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NEW EDITOR NAMED



The appointment of the Reverend I. B. Horton of Goldsboro, as Editor of "The Baptist Informer," was unanimously approved in a recent meeting of the executive Committee of the General Baptist Convention.

Reverend Horton is pastor of the historic First African Baptist Church of Goldsboro, N. C., where the Convention was born one hundred and seven years ago. He is also the newly installed president of the Afro-American Ministers' Conference of Goldsboro and Wayne County. The son of Reverend and Mrs. Avery Horton of Raleigh, N. C., he is a native of Wake County. Reverend Horton has been actively engaged in the Christian Ministry as a pastor, church builder, christian education instructor, revivalist, and civic leader since 1952. His wife, Mrs. Thelma C. Horton, is the second Vice-President, and chair-lady of the publicity committee of the Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Convention of North Carolina. Currently, he is an applicant for studies toward the degree of Doctor of Ministry at Southeastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

In spite of the fact that he is presently engaged in the awesome task of restructuring rebuilding, and relocating the First African Baptist Church, which was recently destroyed by fire, along with the responsibility of being father to six children, Reverend Horton has pledged to give full allegiance to the Baptist family through the Editor's post.

The new editor has been instructed by the convention officials to make the Informer a "Promotional" agent of the Convention's Program. In an effort to meet this challenge; which includes stimulating the Baptist Constituency to raise the \$800,000.00 budget adopted by the convention for 1975; the new editor has called upon every "Baptist Informer" subscriber to: (1) share this and succeeding issues of the Informer with a non-subscriber., (2) Urge that non-subscriber to become a subscriber and help him send his subscription immediately., (3) Every reader is urged to write "Letters to the Editor," offering constructive criticism about the paper and convention program., (sign your name and these letters will be published in a section entitled, "Letters to the Editor") and (4) Officials, Moderators, Pastors, and Church announcers are asked to pass pertinent convention information on to their constituents.

Woman's Page----

MID-YEAR SESSION OF THE WOMAN'S CONVENTION

**MORE THAN 2,000 ATTENDED—\$23,944.39
RECEIVED FOR OBJECTIVES
BAPTIST WOMEN'S PREXY SUGGESTS
NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION**

By Mrs. Thelma C. Horton

Mrs. C. E. McLester, Durham, president of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, auxiliary to the General Baptist State Convention, Inc., urged each of the delegates attending the twenty-second annual mid-year session at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium, Saturday, January 11, to make a single New's Year's Resolution by investing their lives in God by establishing a personal relationship with Christ. She stated that "We cannot launch a campaign to win men to His Cause until we, ourselves begin to make personal improvements. The closer we get to Him, the closer we get to one another. The more genuine and deep our love and experience is of Him, the more patient and tolerant we are of others. Sister, this is the only foundation of salvation; "Justified by Faith, we have peace with God through Jesus Christ." Love, Faith and Hope are the elements of this achievement. "His Message Is Our Hope"; let us make the Year 1975, an acceptable year."

"I am depending on my official staff, she continued, to join me in the effort to get at the "Grass Roots" of our Convention. This is the working level that will bring us success, if we really care. In her conclusion, she urged them to keep up the good work and let God depend on them."

Dr. Joy J. Johnson, president of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc., and pastor of the First Baptist Church, Fairmont, expressed his appreciation to the delegates for the support they had given to the Baptist Family. He called upon them to "unite themselves as a Baptist Family and work for God's Kingdom through prayer." He reminded the delegates that they were on business for the Lord and not for themselves. **"We are going to be one big united Baptist Family, with God at the Head and Jesus our Guide; the Bible our constitution and prayer our direction."**

Emphasizing the theme "One World—One Mission," the group adopted a budget of \$200,000.00 for their objectives (Shaw University, State and Foreign Missions, Central Orphanage, and the

J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly), and pledged to continue their efforts to "go out" and win 200 Souls for Christ." The total amount of income received from all sources was \$23,933.39.

Mrs. M. A. Horne, executive secretary-treasurer, presented "The Woman's Convention In Action." She expressed her appreciation to the delegates for their untiring efforts. She talked about the 1975 annual session, which will meet with the Shiloh Baptist Church, Greensboro, Dr. Otis L. Hairston, pastor. Mrs. Horne awarded the 1974 Certificates for Best Stewardship. Recipients were: Mrs. Prudence Johnson and the Rowan Woman's Auxiliary (Upon receipt of the certificate Mrs. Johnson presented a check for \$7,000.00 to the convention for the Baptist Assembly as a pledge of their continued support). Moderator C. R. Trotter of the Rowan Association was there beaming smiles and support. Mrs. Eva Ellis of Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston-Salem accepted the Certificate for her president, Mrs. Roxanna Pitts; Mrs. Burnell Stackhouse, president of the Roberson County Union and Mrs. Mabel Kelly, president of the Scotland County Union. Mrs. Clara Ballentine, Raleigh, chairlady of the Union and Auxiliary Presidents read poem and presented a token of appreciation to Madams Burnell Stackhouse, Prudence Johnson and Mabel Kelly for their cooperation and stewardship.

Mrs. Horne congratulated Mrs. J. A. Little, Monroe, for a job well done as State Historian. She was presented a Certificate for her outstanding performance in recording The Historical Events of the Woman's Convention. These events have been compiled in a book entitled: The New Epoch" (July 1, 1970-May 31, 1974).

North Carolina women not only exemplify good stewardship at home, but also in the National Baptist Woman's Auxiliary, where many serve in various capacities. In light of this, President McLester requested that the following persons serve in these capacities: Mrs. Horne, 1976 Diamond Jubilee Queen Pageant; Mrs. Cora P. Reid, State Chairlady 1975 National Convention Celebration, recognizing Dr. Nannie H. Burroughs as an Educator and Second President of the National Convention, USA; Mrs. Helen Falls, and President McLester will serve on the 1976 Pageant Committee; Mrs. Ethel Bittle will represent at the "Winter Wonderland" Banquet, Hot Springs, Arkansas. President McLester will represent the WBH&FMC at the Baptist World Alliance, Stockholm, Sweden in July, 1975.

The Young Adult Department met with their new director, Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels, Winston-Salem and their illustrious president Miss Natalie Mitchell, Reidsville. Following a spirit-filled worship service, a tribute was presented in memory of the late Mrs. Amanda Stevens, Lumberton, past president of the Y. A. Department.

A special feature, entitled "In the Midst of Change Young Adults Where Are You? Will Your Anchor Hold?" was led by Second Vice-President Jerrye Griffin, Ms. Eltonza McNair and Ms. Vivian L. Kessler. They challenged everyone to stay with God, and accept each day as a new opportunity.

Mrs. Luella D. Edwards, who served as the first Young Adult Director, was recently elected as fourth vice-president of the Convention. In recognition of her ten years of outstanding service to this department, Mrs. Daniels presented a beautiful plaque to her and Miss Mitchell presented a love offering. In her remarks, she stated Mrs. Edwards should think of the gift as one rose bud from each of the 200 Young Adults assembled.

Mrs. Eva M. Pratt reported that the Youth Department is doing great things. She announced their special projects for 1975 as follows: The Miss Shaw Contest, The Have A Heart Contest and the observance of the Youth Department's Fiftieth Anniversary, which will include "Key 5." Each Supervisor and Youth of their respective County will participate in a Grand March. A special prize will be given to the Supervisor reporting the largest amount over Fifty dollars. All representation fees, etc., should include the Number 5.

Miss Janie Murray and Miss Merelyn Gore, both of Gaston County, received Savings Bonds in the amount of \$100.00 and \$50.00, respectively, for their outstanding contribution to the objectives of the Youth Department. Miss Murray was winner of the Miss Shaw Contest and Miss Gore the "Have a Heart for Mission" in July, 1974. Mrs. Jettie M. Lucas, directress of the Cleveland County Missionary Union Choir, led the choir in the singing of many familiar hymns that stirred the heart and soul of many persons.

The Reverend C. J. Cooper, who has pastored the Solid Rock Church, Laurinburg for 48 years and has served as moderator of the St. John Baptist Association, since its beginning, delivered a most dynamic message. From the subject "Transforming Religion," he described God as the only person able to transform a sinner's life. He challenged the delegates to "Plug In" to God through prayer and He will supply their needs, as He did the men of old.

The 1975 Annual Session, convening with the Shiloh Baptist Church, Greensboro, will feature

the Pre-Convention Banquet, Monday, July 28. Dr. Coleman W. Kerry, Charlotte, Banquet Speaker and recognition of Life Members of the WBH&FMC.

January 11, 1975

Dear Mrs. Horne:

Many thanks for your expressed support and cooperation and the vote by the One Day Session of the Woman's Baptist State Convention today.

You had a Great Day and Program. I am greatly appreciative to have been given the opportunity for expression and to make the presentation of Reverend C. J. Cooper, who preached a great sermon.

We are going to work together for the continued growth and development of the total Convention's Programs and Auxiliaries under the Divine Guidance of the Holy Spirit. I will do nothing to hinder or block the leadership of any auxiliary and above all the Kingdom Work of our Lord.

Yours in Christ,
Joy J. Johnson, President
General Baptist State Convention
of North Carolina, Inc.

BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

(Tax Information)

Reservations are being made by those who plan to attend the Baptist World Congress in Stockholm, Sweden, July 3-17, 1975. Enthusiasm is growing among those taking the 15 day tour which includes five capitals of Europe.

The Internal Revenue Service will allow individuals to deduct that portion of their personal expenses related to the Congress itself. This means that most of the tour costs may be deducted by those pastors or laymen (men or women) who pay their own way, attend the Congress as a representative of the church, or make a report to the church when they return.

Due to heavy restriction concerning hotels and plane reservation, deposits should be made at once. All deposits are completely refundable up to 30 days prior to the tour's departure with no penalty. The cost is \$1,169.00, plus some incidentals from New York and return to New York.

Join your Baptist friends with a deposit of \$100.00 per person or request information by writing to: Baptist World Congress Tour, P. O. Box 18053, Raleigh, N. C. 27609.

GENERAL BAPTIST EXPANDING PROGRAM

While some other religious groups and organizations are reducing their programs and operations, the General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc., is in the process of expanding its outreach.

The Executive Committee and General Board of the General Baptist Convention, meeting in Executive Sessions at the J. J. Johnson Assembly Site near Laurel Hill, N. C., January 9-10, voted approval of the challenging new program presented by President J. J. Johnson. Dr. Johnson is a member of the N. C. State General Assembly, and pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fairmont, N. C.

In November of last year, the convention approved an \$800,000.00 budget, which is a \$200,000.00 increase over the previous year's budget. "This is a bold and challenging undertaking in these inflationary times, but with the cooperation and support of all segments of the Baptist family, it can be realized," stated Dr. Johnson. He called upon Vice-President At Large, Dr. E. Burns Turner of Lumberton, First Vice-President, Reverend J. C. Harris of Statesville, Dr. J. B. Humphrey of Charlotte, and Dr. S. A. Raper of Shelby, to join with Dr. Jerry Drayton, Chairman of the Executive Committee, and Dr. J. Ray Butler, Chairman of the General Board, to assume the role of promoters of the objectives of the convention. He urged them to get out into the field and stimulate the Baptist Family to rise to meet the challenge of "Moral Decay, Social, Political, and Spiritual Degeneration." He called upon the Moderators to open up their Associational Meeting to convention officials, and he called upon the pastors to open their churches to convention representatives so that the people can receive the call to a new commitment.

He called upon all Baptist Convention Auxiliaries to pool their resources to curtail waste. "If the Baptist forces had been able to coordinate their efforts and pool their resources better . . . we could have saved over one million dollars during the last fifty year period. This money could have been used to give Shaw University a Million Dollar Endowment and to have given greater support to our Foreign Mission and Christian Education Programs. It is the Lord's work and the Lord's money and it is our responsibility to see to it that every cent is spent right and wisely" stated Dr. Johnson.

Dr. Johnson thanked Dr. S. A. Raper for pointing out that if every Baptist would give just ten

cents a week or five dollars a year, we could realize nearly one million dollars a year for our convention objectives.

The focal point of the meeting was the development of the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. Dr. Jerry Drayton, Chairman of the Executive Committee, called for unanimous support for the president's new program.

Other highlights of the camp site meeting included the election of Dr. Nilous M. Avery of Asheville as the Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Executive Secretaries Dr. O. L. Sherrill and Mrs. M. A. Horne of the General Convention and the Woman's Convention, respectively, expressed satisfaction about the new promotional ideas of the president. Dr. J. Ray Butler, chairman of the General Board, urged the adoption of the president's recommendations and challenged the men to go back home and teach Stewardship and inspire their members to do more for the cause of Christ. "If we put God first, we find that we can do anything that is necessary to be done," stated Dr. Butler.

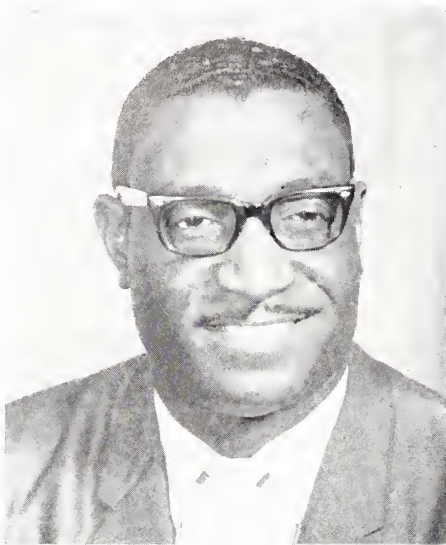
Some new faces and many familiar ones were seen at the meeting. The fellowship was rich and broad as the men spent a night in the 88 bed capacity dormitory. Everyone agreed that the Camp Development is one of the most needed projects that the Baptist Convention has ever undertaken. Ministers were asked to encourage their members to visit the camp.

Members of the Executive Committee gave a \$405.00 contribution to purchase a piano for the Fellowship Hall. General Board members and Moderators gave a \$315.00 contribution to purchase a pulpit set. Board members and Moderators recently gave an offering to purchase a Pulpit Bible so that the Men of God could be thoroughly furnished unto every good work.

The Reverend Leo Williams, Director of Christian Education for the Convention, was named as director of training for the J. J. Johnson Assembly. Mrs. Lillian Pittman, Chairlady of the Executive Board of the Woman's Convention, and Mrs. J. B. McLester, president of the Woman's Convention, had words of high praise for the forward thrust of President Johnson.

As we left the Assembly grounds, we felt in our hearts that this is a program that belongs to all of us and is deserving of our full support.

DURHAM MINISTER IN "WHO'S WHO AMONG BLACK AMERICANS"



Dr. W. T. Bigelow, a Durham resident, among the outstanding ministers of the State of North Carolina and internationally as well, has been informed that his biography has been selected among the outstanding Blacks to be published in the "Who's Who Among Black Americans."

Dr. Bigelow, pastor of The Greater Saint Paul Baptist Church of Durham, North Carolina is also known as the "Radio Pastor" for radio station WSRC of Durham. He is a member of the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. where he serves as one of their board chairmen Vice Moderator for the East Cedar Grove Association of North Carolina, a member of the General Baptist State Convention and numerous other religious organizations and civic affairs as well. He is a powerful and unique preacher, an outstanding evangelist, a dynamic leader, and a recording artist.

Dr. Bigelow is married to the former Lillian Hughes; the father of three children and loves ranching.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND B. B. FELDER OF SYCAMORE HILL BAPTIST CHURCH, GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

The Reverend B. B. Felder began his pastorate of The Sycamore Hill Baptist Church in November, 1967. About this time the city of Greenville was engaged in an Urban Renewal project which included the Sycamore Hill Baptist Church. Because the church site could not meet the parking

specifications of the projected city plan, it faced the problem of relocation. Reverend Felder ably steered the congregation through the gigantic purchase of a church plant, formerly owned by the First Christian Church congregation, located at 226 West Eight Street.

A resume of accomplishments since the move consists of

1. Renovations
 - A. Reroofing of the church and Educational building.
 - B. Expansion of seating capacity in main sanctuary from 600 to 1,000.
 - C. Painting of both buildings inside and out.
 - D. Paneling of the offices and balcony area in main sanctuary.
 - E. Installing a ladies' lounge.
2. Purchases
 - A. Console organ and a grand piano.
 - B. Office furniture, pews, pulpit furniture and carpet in the main sanctuary.
 - C. Amplifying system for main sanctuary.
 - D. 2 Buses, 2 Vans.
3. Other Accomplishments
 - A. Purchase of eleven room parsonage.
 - B. Paving of parking area around the church.
 - C. Recent purchase of additional parking area adjacent to church property, are 279' x 75', bringing the parking capacity to 100 cars.
 - D. Incorporation of church in 1968.
 - E. Hosting the General Baptist State Convention in the fall of 1970 for the first time in forty-two years.
 - F. Hosting the Women's Home Missionary State Convention in 1973.
 - G. Liquidation of mortgage in 1970.

The replacement value of the church property which consists of a church, and educational building and two houses is approximately three quarters of a million dollars.

REMEMBER

February

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 2 | Baptist World Alliance Sunday |
| 3-5 | Statewide Evangelism Conference, War Memorial Auditorium, Greensboro |
| 9 | Human Relations Sunday |
| 18-20 | Progressive National Baptist Southern Region, Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia |
| 22 | One Day Session, State Usher's Convention, First, Wilson |

A TRIP TO CENTRAL ORPHANAGE ALL MISSIONARIES ABROAD

By Mrs. Pearlie Cureton

The Young Adult Missionary Organization of the Mt. Peace Baptist Association took their annual trip to Central Orphanage. Many missionaries were aboard for the trip, including the president of the Woman's Auxiliary of Mt. Peace, Miss Cora Reid, president of the Ministers' Wives, Mrs. H. S. Diggs, and the president of the Young Adults, Mrs. Gloria Smalls.

For many who went it was the first trip to the orphanage. The experience and knowledge will leave many inspired to do more for the children there. The campus is on a spread of many acres. Improvements are being made in the living quarters for the children. Very modern and attractive cottages are replacing the huge and old two story buildings that some of the children are still housed in. Needless, to say an outstanding and good work is going on at Central Orphanage. There are many needs for the orphanage that if met, could make the children who live there more comfortable and happy. Some of these needs can be met with care and dollars. The types of improvement being done at Central Orphanage can be help greatly through more liberal financial support.

Probably one of the best ways of sharing the experience the Young Adults of Mt. Peace had at Central Orphanage is by letting you the reader and supporter, meet one of the children now living at Central Orphanage. Her name is Edna Joanne Wilkerson, age sixteen. She has been living at the orphanage since the age of three. Edna writes poetry which reflects much of her feelings and emotions as a person living in an orphanage. It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you through her poetry, Edna Joanne Wilkerson:

God

God is filled with joy, and love,
He is the Father of Jesus Christ above.
He helps the plants grow green, and tall,
He bless the people one, and all.
God hears me when I pray,
He watches us all day by day.
He loves his work, and that I know,
To see his people run to and fro.

Edna Wilkerson

A Poor Child

A poor little child without a home.
He walks around all alone.
Sometimes I feel like a motherless child,
but then I sat back and think for quite a while.
If you know a child without a home today,
reach out a hand and give him a place to stay.

Edna Wilkerson

Grace

Grace is something I need each day
to help me on my narrow way.
Grace I pray my God and King,
Love, and Charity thats what it brings.
Grace is something we all can keep,
with Love and Charity at our feet.
Grace is one thing you can not beat,
because God has it filled with heat.

Edna Wilkerson

Sermon

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
At all the times you can,
In all the places you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

Edna Wilkerson

Hope

Hope is something we all need,
and love is something we need yes indeed.
I need hope, and you need hope,
please don't be like the crazy people in this
world who take dope.
If you wish for hope as long as we are together,
you have hope for ever, and ever.

Edna Wilkerson

This Place (The Orphanage)

This place ain't all bad,
It's just the staff who makes the children mad.
This place ain't at all bad,
It's just that my sister is gone and I'm sad.
This place ain't at all bad,
But it has to many rules and no good-looking
dudes.
This place ain't at all bad,
It's just the staff who makes the young
children mad.

Edna Wilkerson

Prominent North Carolina Baptist Leaders listed among "1974 Magnificent Men (and women) of Troas" of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention:

C. W. Anderson, Greensboro
 N. M. Avery, Asheville
 J. D. Ballard, Winston-Salem
 J. W. Barnes, Wilmington
 C. T. Bullock, Rocky Mount
 J. Ray Butler, Winston-Salem
 C. Melvin Creecy, Rich Square
 G. W. Dudley, Rocky Mount
 C. R. Edwards, Fayetteville
 John D. Fuller, Fayetteville
 K. O. P. Goodwin, Winston-Salem
 Otis L. Hairston, Greensboro
 D. R. Hedgley, Winston-Salem
 Mrs. M. A. Horne, Raleigh
 J. B. Humphrey, Charlotte
 J. J. Johnson, Fairmont
 E. L. Kirby, Reidsville
 C. C. Lawrence, Rich Square
 O'Kelly Lawson, Wilmington
 Mrs. Lucille Mack, Wallace
 John R. Manley, Chapel Hill
 A. H. McDaniel, Winston-Salem
 Mrs. C. E. McLester, Durham
 C. R. Mosley, Belmont
 H. L. Mitchell, Gatesville
 J. R. Person, Farmville
 S. A. Raper, Shelby
 B. L. Rich, Goldsboro
 L. C. Riddick, Charlotte
 A. J. Ryan, Charlotte
 T. L. Steele, Ahoskie
 O. L. Sherrill, Raleigh
 E. B. Turner, Lumberton
 Mrs. Vera Slade, Aulander
 T. D. Walker, Salisbury
 C. W. Ward, Raleigh
 J. W. White, Asheville
 Mrs. Irene Y. Yeates, Ahoskie

These 38 missionary-minded leaders of North Carolina joined the additional 110 "Men of Troas" from other states making a total of 148 "Men of Troas for 1974." They were inspired by the universal call, Acts 16:9-10.

DAY CAMP CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP

Day camping is learning to develop a love for God's work in an out-of-doors environment, helping children to grow spiritually as they relate to God's creation.

Day camping conferences for those who work with children (grades 1-6) will be conducted in February and April across North Carolina.

A cordial invitation for you to attend these conferences is extended by the Brotherhood Department and WMU of N. C. Baptist State Convention.

All conferences will begin at 7:30 p.m.

February 24—Corinth Baptist Church,
Elizabeth City

February 25—Sunset Avenue Baptist Church,
Rocky Mount

February 27—Calvary Baptist Church,
Wilmington

February 28-March 1—Workshop, Camp Mundo
Vista, Asheboro

April 7—First Baptist Church, Kannapolis

April 8—West Hickory Baptist Church,
Hickory

April 10—West Asheville, Baptist Church,
Asheville

April 11—Sylva Baptist Church, Sylva

For registration and additional information, contact Bob Watson, Brotherhood Department, P. O. Box 26508, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611.



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The staff is asking that all articles of news be in the office before the deadline which is the 10th of the month.



The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, MARCH, 1975

NUMBER 3

BAPTIST LEADER FIRST SINCE RECONSTRUCTION

Dr. Joy J. Johnson, president of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fairmont, N. C., and a third-term legislator in the North



Carolina House of Representatives (D-Roberson), Thursday, January 30th, was named Chairman of the newly created N. C. House Committee on Human Resources. He is the first Black legislator in North Carolina to head an important Committee since Reconstruction days. His committee will oversee the \$1 billion allocation the State will put into its work with the mental hos-

(Continued on page 4)



RESURRECTION!

A few days from now, March 30th, people around the world will be celebrating Easter. In all probability there will be the usual array of events; the fast that we are often called upon to keep, asking that we give up something that we desire in order to discipline our souls. These fasts, when carried out in the right attitude can be of great value spiritually, and are to be encouraged. In some religious groups great significance is given to the Lent Season, which began this year on February 12th (Ash Wednesday). The Holy Week observance which ends on good Friday (March 28) is always the most significant part of the season. It is usually filled with preaching services, ending with the "Seven Last Words" of Jesus being preached on Good Friday at noon. Holy Communion is often observed on Thursday evening before Good Friday, in commemoration of the Last Supper. Of course, there will be the Sunrise Services in various cemeteries throughout the world, along with Easter Programs, Cantatas, dramas, and pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

On the physical side of it, we may rest assured that there will be the Easter eggs, and bunny rabbits with their attendant and the Easter Monday traditional egg hunt. Certainly the entire family will feel mistreated unless they acquire all new outfits so that they can take a proud stroll down the avenue in the Easter parade. Needless to say, it would be a sin not to attend church on

(Continued on page 2)

THE BAPTIST INFORMER
ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

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 Christian Education*
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 A. R. Smith, *Statistician*

RESURRECTION!

(Continued from page 1)

Easter Sunday morning; because all new hats and garments must be compared in order to determine who is most fashionable and up-to-date.

All these and many other activities will be going on in the name of celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

This is not intended to suggest that these things have no value nor significance. However, when such things over shadow the Resurrection Event to the extent that one loses sight of our Lord, great harm can result.

As ministers of Jesus Christ, we must continue to call attention to the Central Truth of Christianity. Jesus said: "I am the resurrection, and the life: He that believeth in me though he were dead, yet shall he live." (John 11:25). This is the very heart of Christianity. For if we have not experienced the Resurrection...if we have not been born again...we have missed it all (John 3:5-7).

Paul said: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Corinthians 5:17).

There is much doubt and confusion in our nation and our world today; men are uncertain about everything. But those who have experienced The New Birth in Christ, know that the Resurrection of Jesus is a reality. They can sing with the hymn writer: "Praise God, The doubts are settled, for I know its real."

The great need in our churches and in our nation today is for a clear voice that has risen above, perhaps, maybe, I hope so, and I don't know, to the level of: "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (II Timothy 1:12). The only hope that the world has is the Truth, the Gospel

of Jesus Christ, and we must have it or forever die. Our youth are hungry and searching for the Truth, even though many of them are not able to realize what it is that they need. Therefore, Easter is a wonderful opportunity for every pastor to interpret anew, the Resurrection, for his people. If ministers believe the Gospel and preach it without fear or favor men will be able to experience the Resurrection.

Men are asking today: "Is there any hope for our nation?" I say yes. Yes, because God loves mankind, man is the best thing that God has left on earth. He is the most precious thing that God has. Christ was willing to die for man on a cruel cross, yes there is hope, God loves us—He is waiting to bless us beyond our wildest dream if we are willing to turn from our rebellion against His will. Not only can we be saved individually, but our nation can be Resurrected, our family life can be resurrected, and our churches can be resurrected. Yes, our violent, doped, divorced, homo-sexual, immoral, misguided society can be saved through the truth of the resurrection.

The official Baptist Family and Baptist Informer Staff wishes to extend greetings to you this Easter Season and hope that yours will be a joyous one. Pray with us that the ministers of God will be granted the courage to allow themselves to "catch on fire" and burn before the people until the Holy Spirit is able to come like a mighty wind and bring life to our cold and dying souls.

We know that the church of the Living God is the answer today...nothing more nor less. For if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away, behold all things are become new.

This is the heart of Christianity: That if you have experienced the resurrection...if you have been born again...if you have Christ...you have all you need.

Woman's Page-----

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 12

State-Wide Leaders' Workshop
Shaw University—Registration \$2.00

MAY 30

Books close

JUNE 2-6

The Missionary Training Conference
Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JUNE 8-JULY 11 (5 weeks)

Youth Bible Camp
Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill

JULY 12

All Baptist Picnic—(The Baptist Family)
Baptist Assembly

JULY 28-AUGUST 1

91st Annual Session WBH&FM Convention
Shiloh Baptist Church, Greensboro
Dr. Otis L. Hairston, Minister

JULY 28—6:00 p.m.

Pre-Convention Banquet
The Hilton Inn
830 West Market Street, Greensboro

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS

The Hilton Inn

LIFE MEMBER PINS:

Send for Your Pin Now!—Recognition of
Life members at Banquet

SEND IN NOW:

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION for STATE-
WIDE LEADERS' WORKSHOP, MIS-
SIONARY TRAINING CONFERENCE
and HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS for
ANNUAL SESSION**

Please Send Your Young People To Camp

**STATE-WIDE LEADERS' WORKSHOP—
APRIL 12**

Theme: "LEADERSHIP—THE JOB—
THE OBJECTIVES—THE METHODS"

Meeting: Shaw University

Seniors—The Student Union
Young Adults—The Campus Church
Youth—Leonard Building
Room 300—3rd Floor

Send In Advance Registration Now — \$2.00

THE 1976 NATIONAL DIAMOND JUBILEE ALL STATES TO REPRESENT

Dr. Mary O. Ross, president of the Woman's National Convention USA Inc., has requested Executive Secretary Horne to represent North Carolina. President J. B. McLester and the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina have gladly granted the request. The major financial objective of the National Diamond Jubilee is to build a much needed hospital in Malawi, Africa. What a Challenge!

SOULS TO CHRIST

DEAR SISTER HORNE:

I am so happy to let you know that three souls have been won to Christ. My little nine-year-old and two adults. Praise God. I thank God for these souls.

Sister R. L. Rucker
Providence Baptist Church, Greensboro

DEAR SISTER HORNE:

I do have a "Story to Tell." In 1972 a young woman was on a tour with the Nesbys to Bermuda. My late husband William M. Nesby asked the young lady to come to Mount Zion and help him in the Church School. She attended a number of Teachers' meetings and stated she might join the church. This young lady had worked in a church but never joined a church.

In 1974 she joined the Mount Zion and has been baptized. She called me afterwards and said, "I had to join Mount Zion because I had promised Mr. Nesby and my God that I would join and live for Jesus. I feel that her membership is a Soul won to Christ due to the efforts of my late husband. With this soul won to Christ, she has influenced her mother to accept Christ and join the church.

I am happy to report two souls won to Christ and I thank God that he has allowed me to use my telephone for His work.

Sister Clara W. Nesby
Mount Zion, Winston-Salem

DEAR SISTER HORNE:

We are reporting two new members won to Christ.

Mrs. Estelle Goodwin, Secretary
First Baptist Circle—Hamlet

BAPTIST LEADER FIRST

(Continued from page 1)

pitals, programs for the aging, day care, deaf, blind and poor. Baptist forces are well acquainted with Dr. Johnson as a leader in the fight against oppression in any form, and are delighted as he is about the appointment. In a recent interview he stated that: "I was really delighted with the appointment, I had asked to be on Social Services, but I didn't expect this."

House Speaker James C. Green, a resident of Clarkton, made the appointment. President Johnson supported Green in his campaign for Speaker and says that their relationship has been "very favorable for several years." Aside from this relationship, however, he is well qualified to Head this Committee, which is so vital to the needs of the underprivileged throughout the State of North Carolina.

He is one of a family of 13, and says that he grew up on the 3-M diet of meal, meat (fatback) and molasses.

His college training was in the Social Services, and he spent 23 years as a minister working with the poor. In his work as a legislator he has worked to repeal welfare-lieu laws and worked for the restoration of citizenship to those who have completed prison sentences. Dr. Johnson is currently serving as Vice Chairman of the Corrections Committee, institutions for blind and deaf, appropriations, education and alcoholic beverage control.

The appointment was a major victor for Blacks and the underprivileged because Human Resources brings together all human service programs in this Department: 1) Administration of all Social Services under one Head, 2) Vocational Rehabilitation, 3, Mental Health, 4) Physical Health Services, 5) Aide to dependent children and 6) Social Services, formerly known as Welfare.

Some of the major objectives which will be of prime interest to Dr. Johnson are: "To eliminate all the red tape... long waiting periods of pre-investigations by case workers, and to make it simple for those in real need to get onto the rolls without delay. Another objective is to "get those Chislers off welfare, these people who are able to provide for themselves and who are making false statements in order to receive aid. He wants to have the food stamp program broadened so that they may be used to pay for utilities. And most of all to get honesty back into the program.

This kind of achievement deserves our congratulations as well as our prayers that God will use him in the re-establishment of justice. Dr.

Johnson says that Baptist and all concerned people can help by supporting the following legislative proposals which he will work to make into law.

Proposed Legislation On Social Services

- I. To eliminate all the red tape—long waiting periods of preinvestigations by case workers.
 - A. Simplify the procedure by having Prospective Recipient to complete necessary forms.
 - B. The Prospective Recipient's eligibility shall be determined initially by the County Director of Social Services.
 - C. If the Director disapproves of the Prospective Recipient's application, he may appeal the decision of the Director to the Local Review Board which shall be composed of three (3) members: The County Director of Social Services, the County Board of Commissioners Representative on the Board of Social Services, and a Member of the Welfare Rights Organization.
 - D. If there is no Welfare Rights Organization in the County, the representative shall come from an inter-racial civic or religious group such as NAACP or Ministerial Fellowship.
 - E. The review of the Prospective Recipient's case must be heard within five days after the director disapproval.
 - F. If the Review Board disapproves the Prospective Recipient's application, he may appeal the decision to the State Board within ten (10) days.
- II. If the Prospective Recipient's application is approved and he intentionally and willfully gave false information on his application concerning (a) income, (b) employment, (c) family status, or (d) any other pertinent false information, he will be charged with a misdemeanor.
 - A. He would be required to repay all the funds he had received from Social Services plus interest at the going market rate.
 - B. If he refused to repay such funds, he would be indicted, and if convicted would be required to repay all funds plus interest, cost of court, and a fine of \$100.00 or jail for 90 days. For the second offense—repay all funds plus interest, cost of court, \$250.00 fine or a six month jail sentence. For the third offense—repay

all funds, plus interest, \$500.00 fine or one (1) year in prison. On the fourth or other offenses, he would receive three to five (3-5) years in prison.

- III. All Prospective Recipients approved shall receive their first check within forty-five (45) days after approval and monthly thereafter.
- A. In case of emergency, the County Director may negotiate a loan from a local civic, religious, or lending agency for the recipient.
- B. The recipient's checks shall show reductions for repayment of loan until amount is paid in full plus interest if required.
- IV. All persons presently receiving Social Services benefits who intentionally and willfully made false statements on their initial application, may return their next check before March 31, 1975 and request that their names be deleted from the Social Service Rolls. They will not be investigated or charged for a misdemeanor, but if they do not and this legislation becomes law, they will be charged, and if convicted, they will be prosecuted accordingly.
- V. A resolution be drawn requesting the United States Congress, President of the United States, and Secretary of Agriculture to expand the use of food stamps to include utilities.

Rep. Joy J. Johnson, Chairman
Human Resources Committee

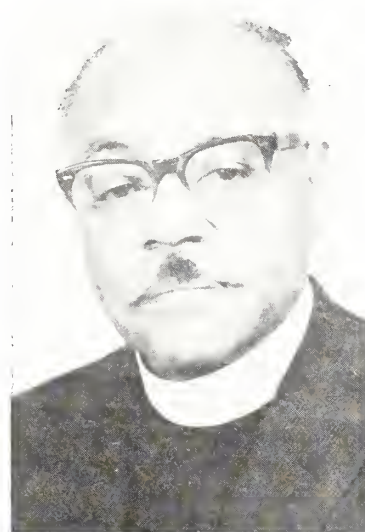
NOTE: IF THIS SOCIAL SERVICES REFORM LEGISLATION IS ADOPTED IT CAN BECOME A MODEL FOR THE NATION.

JOANN LITTLE DEFENSE FUND DAY

President Johnson is making an appeal to all churches that have not contributed to the JoAnn Little Defense Fund to make Sunday, April 6, 1975 "Miss JoAnn Little Defense Fund Day." JoAnn Little will go on trial April 15. The pastors are asked to send to Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary, General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc., 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N. C. at least \$25.00 from his church/churches by April 10 To Help Defend This Innocent Young Black Woman

The President

THE REVEREND WILLIAM T. GRIMES CHOSEN WHO'S WHO AMONG BLACK AMERICANS



The Reverend William T. Grimes, a Rocky Mount minister has recently been informed that he has been selected to have his biography published in the first edition of "Who's Who Among Black Americans."

Reverend Grimes was selected because of his leadership and achievements.

Reverend Grimes is former Pastor of Lillington First Baptist Church, Lillington, N. C., Rocky Point, Baptist Church, Spring Hope, N. C., Elizabeth Baptist Church, Spring Hope, N. C. and Minister of Caledonia Prison.

Reverend Grimes is married to the former Miss Tedia Mae Galloway of Mount Airy, N. C.

Reverend and Mrs. Grimes have two children.

Of this Christian family, Reverend and Mrs. Grimes are faithful members of the Mount Zion First Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, Reverend G. W. Dudley, pastor.

MASSENBURG NAMED TO WHO'S WHO AMONG BLACK AMERICANS

C. Warren Massenburg, Information Officer at Shaw University has been named to Who's Who Among Black Americans.

The announcement was made by the New York based company citing his "outstanding contributions to the field of communications."

Massenburg has attended Shaw University and N. C. State University. He has served as Director of Public Relations at Kittrell College and as News

Director and Coordinator of Public Affairs at WLLE Radio. He is a noted freelance writer serving newspapers in North Carolina and Virginia.

Massenburg is recognized as one of the area's leading market and media specialists. As a consultant he has coordinated the market and media needs of numerous churches, businesses, and individuals including U. S. Representative Shirley Chisholm, D-New York, Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina; Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) and Africana School of the Arts.

He is a member of the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association, the North Carolina Sports-writers and Sportscasters Association, and the National Freelance Photographers Association. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union and Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America.

SHAW MINISTER MEETS CHALLENGE

C. Warren Massenburg

Reverend Ronald Swain has been the University Minister at Shaw University for almost five months and his experiences could easily fill the pages for a best seller.

Swain, a native of Macon, Georgia, spent his pre-teen and adolescent years in a Catholic environment before joining the ranks of the Baptist Church two years ago. "I attended a Catholic school and I guess peer group pressure and a desire to be in with the crowd forced me to join the church." Swain said, "I was very religious until I entered Duquesne University (a Catholic supported institution) in 1966 in Pittsburgh. During my early college days I became involved with civil rights activities and was more political oriented.

Swain attended a Catholic church in Pittsburgh. "The priest was a young, black man with fresh ideas for the Church," said Reverend Swain. The priest brought in African dancers, held civil rights meetings in the church and used various forms of music which upset his congregation who felt the church should stick to traditional ways. A move to oust the priest led to a confrontation with the Bishop, who had the power to remove the priest. "The Bishop was white and it seemed that we (black people) were still trying to solve our problems in a slavemaster way," observed Swain. That's when I began to re-examine my purpose in life. I realized that I had gone through a period of acceptance and I was now at a point of questioning. Reverend Swain graduated in 1972 after obtaining a B.A. in history and a graduate degree

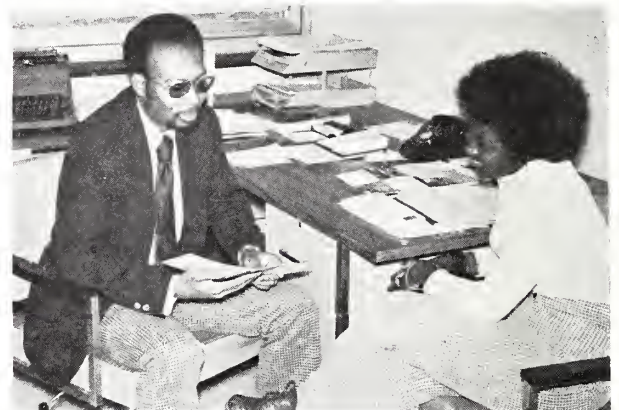
in Counseling Education. Since April 1973, he has been pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at the Shaw Divinity School.

Swain came to Raleigh in 1972 as a dormitory counselor at NCSU.

At Shaw he also serves as Activities Coordinator, a position he claims assists him in developing a rapport with students. Reverend Swain is very excited about young people and the church. Each Sunday he preaches to a capacity congregation of mostly students at the University Chapel and also coordinates religious activities on campus including a radio program on WSHA-FM.

"Many of our students are religious in terms of believing in God or a Supreme Being, but they would never be president of the Christian Fellowship Club," he said. They have seen a need to get back to the basics.

Reverend Swain spends a good portion of the day talking to students on a variety of subjects ranging from financial problems to guilt feelings about pre-marital sex. He is convinced that every institution needs a counseling service, noting that a traditional counseling service does not supply a student's need for advice or just someone to talk to. A counselor must be able to win a student's trust and be sincere about helping the student instead of just needing the job.



SHAW'S MINISTER WITH ASSISTANT—Rev. Ronald Swain, University Minister at Shaw University, spends the majority of each day counseling on a variety of issues. Rev. Swain talks with student assistant, Mary Pegues. He preaches each Sunday at 11 a.m. at the University Church.

DR. FREEMAN TO SPEAK FOR ALUMNI

Dr. J. Jasper Freeman, pastor, Queen Street Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia has been announced as the featured speaker for the Annual Theological Alumni Day which will be held at Shaw University, March 17-19, 1975. President of the Alumni Association, Dr. Willie B. Lewis, has

issued a call to all Theological Alumni to attend this three day meet, which is being held simultaneously with the Second Annual Pastors' Conference.

The schedule of events includes the usual Executive Board Meeting at 2:30 in the afternoon. At 6:00 p.m. The Annual Dinner will be held, at which time recommendations coming from the Executive Board will be considered. On Wednesday, the Theological Alumni will have its Annual Sermon preached at 11:00 a.m. by Dr. Freeman. This will be the closing service for the conference and the association.

OBITUARIES

The Reverend E. R. Singletary, Bryant Swamp Baptist Church, Bladenboro, N. C., departed this life on January 17, 1975. He was killed in an automobile accident. Dr. E. B. Turner, officiated.

The Reverend C. J. Cooper, Solid Rock Baptist Church, Laurinburg, N. C., departed this life on January 29, 1975. We will remember the final sermon he delivered at the Woman's Mid-Year Convention, January 11, 1975. Dr. J. J. Johnson officiated.

BAPTIST PASTORS LOSING 21% ANNUITY INVESTMENT

Most pastors of General Baptist churches are losing the best financial investment of their lives. And many of them do not realize it.

Several years ago the General Baptist State Convention of N. C. adopted a retirement plan for pastors and other staff members of churches affiliated with the convention. The plan is arranged through the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Many laymen and pastors do not know that this plan offers an investment return of at least 21½% on any dues which the church and/or the pastor wish to invest. The percentage is as follows: the General Baptist State Convention adds 7.61% of the dues received; the Baptist State Convention adds 7.61%; and the Annuity Board adds at least 6% per year compound monthly. Also, it is a tax shelter plan.

All dues are held for the pastor under whose name they are paid until he retires. At that time he has several options for receiving the benefits.

The church is encouraged to provide a percentage of the pastor's salary in order to initiate the plan. The two denominations add their share as an incentive to assist the churches and the pastor. Payments are made quarterly.

Benefits are being lost every day by pastors and

churches who delay. For more information contact C. C. Craig, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N. C. 27601, telephone 919-832-8794; or Corbin Cooper, P. O. Box 26508, Raleigh, N. C. 27611, telephone 919-833-1605. Detailed brochures are available on request.

THE CHANGING LIFE-STYLE OF THE BLACK CHURCH AND PASTOR

Dr. David Shannon is one of the outstanding lecturers who will deliver two lectures during the Second Annual Pastors' Conference to be held at Shaw University, March 17-19, 1975. He will lecture on the subject: "The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church and Pastor in Biblical Preaching." Dr. Shannon is Dean of Faculty, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Pittsburgh, Pa.

According to Dr. J. Z. Alexander, plans have been completed for the conference. The Theme will be treated from three perspectives: 1) In Biblical Preaching, 2) In the Pastor's Self-Understanding Relative to His Role, and 3) In the Church-Pastor Relationship.

Other outstanding pastors and educators who will participate as resource persons are: Dr. J. Jasper Freeman, Pastor, Queen Street Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia, who will serve as Conference preacher.



Dr. Samuel Gandy

Dr. Samuel Gandy, who is currently on Sabbatical Leave from Howard University, Washington, D. C. will give two lectures on the subject: "The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church and Pastor in the Pastor's Self-Understanding Relative to His Role."

Dr. Melvin Watson, Chairman of Religion and Philosophy, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia, and Pastor of Liberty Baptist Church, Atlanta, will deliver a single lecture entitled: "The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church and Pastor in the Church-Pastor Relationship."

The lectures and sermons will be delivered accordingly:

Monday, March 17

2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Registration
7:30 p.m. Worship
Dr. J. Jasper Freeman,
Preaching

Tuesday, March 18

9:15 a.m.- 9:30 a.m. Devotions
9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Lecture and Reflection
"The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church and Pastor In Biblical Preaching"
Dr. David Shannon
11:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Coffee Break
11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Lecture and Reflection
"The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church and Pastor In the Pastor's Self-Understanding Relative to His Role"
Dr. Samuel Gandy
12:45 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Dutch Lunch
(you pay)
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Lecture and Reflection
"The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church and Pastor In Biblical Preaching"
Dr. David Shannon
3:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m. Coffee Break
3:45 p.m.-5:15 p.m. Lecture and Reflection
"The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church Pastor in the Pastor's Self-Understanding Relative to His Role"
Dr. Samuel Gandy
7:30 p.m. Worship
Dr. J. Jasper Freeman,
Preaching

Wednesday, March 19

9:15 a.m.- 9:30 a.m. Devotions
9:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Lecture and Reflection
"The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church and Pastor In The Church-Pastor Relationship"
Dr. Melvin Watson
11:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Coffee Break
11:30 a.m. Concluding Service
Sponsored by Shaw Theological Alumni Association
Dr. J. Jasper Freeman, Presiding

A question and answer period will follow each lecture session.

Reservation arrangements have been made with the following motels:

GOLDEN EAGLE

- No. 1 Single (one bed, one person) \$13.78 tax included.
- No. 2 Single (one bed, two persons) \$16.64 tax included.
- No. 3 Single (one person in double room) \$13.78 tax included.
- No. 4 Twin Room (double beds) \$20.80 tax included.

HOLIDAY INN

- No. 5 Single (one bed, one person) \$19.28 tax included.
- No. 6 Single (one bed, two persons) \$22.88 tax included.
- No. 7 Single (one person, in double room) \$20.28 tax included.
- No. 8 Twin Room (double bed) \$24.96 tax included.

You, of course may make your own reservations at the motel of your choice. If you desire to have reservations made for you, you may write to Dean Alexander in care of the Shaw Divinity School, Raleigh.

This conference is again being held simultaneously with the Shaw Annual Theological Alumni Day. Dean Alexander has stated that he believes that a conference has been developed which has genuine contemporary relevance, intellectual depth, and spiritual vitality. All pastors and ministers are invited to attend the conference.

MIDDLE GROUND INSTITUTE

Dr. G. E. Brown, Moderator

Reverend W. R. Alston, Recording Secretary

The Middle Ground Association held its annual training institute at the Roanoke Tabernacle, Gold Point, January 13-24. There was a total enrollment of 479. Instructors for the weeks were: Dr. A. D. Moseley—Minister, Dr. G. E. Brown—Deacons, Mrs. Lucy Gray—Mission, Reverend F. W. Davis and Mrs. Doretha Rodgers—Youth.

Classes were held each day for two hours and thirty minutes. They proved to be successful for all. Following the classes worship services were held with dynamic sermons and inspiring singing. Ministers delivering sermons were: Reverends Oscar Whitfield, J. H. Carroway, T. R. Vines, J. A. Daniels, H. H. Moore, J. H. Chance, W. V. Pridgett, F. W. Davis, J. H. Dixon, and Jesse Williams.

APR 4 1975

SEMINARY LIBRARY

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, APRIL, 1975

NUMBER 4

TO HOST MID-YEAR SESSION GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION



The Second Calvary Baptist Church of Charlotte, North Carolina under the solid leadership of Reverend J. M. Kennedy, will be host to the Mid-year Session of the General Baptist State Convention May 7, 1975.

Second Calvary Baptist Church (picture inside) has moved to a new location because of Urban Renewal in the city of Charlotte. The first service held in the new location was Sunday, August 4, 1974, with communion and Dedication. A motorcade of more than 150 cars marked a mile-stone in the church's history as they moved to their new location in a formerly all-white community. The complex has been appraised at more than half a million dollars. It includes: a 700 seating

(Continued on page 5)

REVOLUTIONARY USHERS



"The Usher as a Revolutionary" was the theme of the twenty-second One Day Session of the North Carolina Baptist Ushers' Convention Auxiliary of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. The Convention, held at the Jackson Chapel First Baptist Church of Wilson, North Carolina, where Dr. Talmadge A. Watkins is pastor, drew representatives from sixty churches across the state. The church was filled to capacity as the session went forward under the progressive leadership of President, Mr. S. L. Fennell of the Mount Vernon Baptist Church of Durham, North Carolina.

One of the outstanding features of the Convention was a First-Aid lecture by Mrs. Ernestine Scott on how to give "Mouth-to-Mouth" Resuscitation and what to do in case of heart-attack, stroke, fainting, convulsions and foreign matter

(Continued on page 6)

THE BAPTIST INFORMER
ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

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 COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

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 J. B. Humphrey, *2nd Vice-President*
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 O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
 C. C. Craig, *Assistant to Executive
 Secretary*
 Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of
 Christian Education*
 Elbert Lee, *Historian*
 A. R. Smith, *Statistician*

“LETTERS TO THE EDITOR”

The “Letters-to-the-Editor” is a new feature in the “Informer” that we hope will be of interest and help to our constituency. All letters must be signed with the understanding that the editor reserves the right to decide which letters will be published. Letters should offer constructive criticism about the “Informer” and the Baptist Convention program in general. All replies to published letters must be signed and will be subject to the same rules applying to “Letters-to-the-Editor.” “Letters-to-the-Editor” express the personal opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of the editor nor Convention officials.

Dear Sir:

Congratulations on your new job as editor of the “Baptist Informer.” May God bless you. In your next edition please add the name of our pastor Dr. C. R. Edwards to your list of great men born in February. We at First Baptist Church of Fayetteville think he is among the greatest.

Yours in Christ,
 Mrs. Lillian Hall
 703 Gillespie Street
 Fayetteville, N. C. 28306

Dear Sir:

Congratulations for accepting this Challenge of the “Baptist Informer.”

I don't know if this is the type of letter that you are asking for, but I will take this opportunity to express some things that have been on my mind for some time. I am a layman in a Baptist Church in Eastern North Carolina. I have watched and tried to support the “leadership” in various programs. I have found, (I hope I am mistaken in what I believe) that most of the people are only concerned about themselves, or a select few. They don't seem to understand the “Commission” of the Church. There are thou-

sands of lay people who are more concerned than it appears they are. There are so many “so-called” leaders holding back progress in churches and associations it is a shame.

Have you looked at the Neuse River Association function the past twenty-five years? Have you seen people try to get involved and help improve only to get knocked in the teeth for trying? Do you know people that ask questions, and if it is a hard question; there is no answer or evasion? You are put on a committee (which is not so bad), but you don't know when nor where the committee meets, even though they have your telephone number, name and address. This association has eighty churches. What, if anything did the organization do for the churches or vice-versa? What is the purpose of the Association? Can a common interest be shared without communication?

When we read the “Baptist Informer,” we see a great state program visualized. When we see so many people concerned about self, it makes you tremble. Is this what is meant by freedom in the Baptist Church . . . free to do nothing.

Here is wishing you much success.

Mr. Dunbar Hilliard
 Route 4, Box 265
 Nashville, N. C. 27856

Dear Sir:

I wish to congratulate you and the Convention upon your selection and election as Editor of the “Informer.” This February issue is one of the best inspiring and informing issues I've read in a long, long time.

May God bless you in all your work. Enclosed you will find a check for the renewal of my subscription to the “Informer.”

Sincerely yours,
 Mrs. Martha J. Brown
 125 Lake Street, Apt. 4GU
 White Plains, New York 10604

Woman's Page - - - -

Dear Co-Worker:

The time is here again for:

THE 38TH ANNUAL SESSION OF OUR MISSIONARY TRAINING CONFERENCE
JUNE 2-6, 1975

THE 24TH ANNUAL YOUTH BIBLE CAMP and CHARM CLINIC
JUNE 8-JULY 11 (5 weeks)

ALL TO BE HELD AT THE J. J. JOHNSON BAPTIST ASSEMBLY, LAUREL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

Now is the time to elect your delegates to the Missionary Conference and the Youth Bible Camp. Begin sending in names and Advance Registration Fee. Make all checks payable to

WOMAN'S BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

Please select your young people of GOOD BEHAVIOR. Youth from the age of 8-17 years may attend. All ages may attend the week that is most convenient. The camp weeks are:

- 1st week—June 8-13
- 2nd week—June 15-20
- 3rd week—June 22-27
- 4th week—June 29-July 4
- 5th week—July 6-11 (if there are Campers)

REGISTRATION AND ROOM ASSIGNMENT EACH SUNDAY AFTERNOON

FEES PER WEEK

LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONFERENCE:

Room and Board	\$40.00
Registration	5.00
	\$45.00

YOUTH BIBLE CAMP:

Room and Board	\$40.00
Registration	5.00
	\$45.00

NO MONEY REFUNDED

The Fees include Accident and Sickness Insurance for all and also Swimming for Campers.

REPORT FOR CAMP EACH SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

WHAT TO BRING: 2 sheets — 1 pillowcase — 1 light blanket—soap, towels—toiletries—flashlight—Bible—money for Study Book—swimming suit—Love and Kindness.

128 Campers can be accommodated each week. The first 128 Campers sending in fees will be accepted for the first week.

DEADLINE FOR CAMPER REGISTRATION
JUNE 1, 1975

JULY 12 — ALL BAPTIST PICNIC — BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

— Your Executive Secretary
Mrs. M. A. Horne

A SOUL WINNING LETTER

Dear Mrs. Horne:

I am happy to report to you that God has blessed our church with one more member won to Christ. She is one of my Sunday School members age 15 years and has been baptized.

I have two more in my class who have not accepted Christ as yet. Please pray with me that God will use me to help them know the need of Christ in their lives.

I think this is one of the most wonderful ideas God has blessed you to bring to our Woman's Convention.

Yours in Christ,
Sister Lillian Hall
First Baptist Church—Fayetteville

SECOND CALVARY MISSIONARY CIRCLE INSTALLED

... With the theme, "His Message—Our Hope," Officers and members of Second Calvary Baptist Church Missionary Circle were installed during a candle-light ritual last Sunday in the church's sanctuary at 114 Nelson Ave. in northwest Charlotte.

... Mrs. Lucille Jones was Mistress of Ceremony for the Installation Service which began at 6:30 P.M. and was preceded by a brief Devotional Service led by Mrs. Mary Maddox.

... The Installation Service Program began with the singing of "Is Your All On The Altar?" by Second Calvary's Choir and the congregation and was followed by a reading of the scripture by Miss Marian McKay, President of the Junior Department.

... Mrs. J. W. Gwin delivered the Invocation before a Responsive Reading was led by Mrs. Gloria Anderson, a representative of the Young Adult Department.

(Continued on page 4)

CITIZENSHIP AWARD



Mrs. Clara Ballentine

Mrs. Clara Ballentine received a special citizenship award from the Raleigh Community Relations Commission.

Mrs. Ballentine, who worked at the Correctional Center for Women for 12 years is a member of the prison's advisory board. She has sponsored 15 women from the center and has persuaded nine other families to do the same.

She also has helped out at rest homes and Wake County Home. In addition to her three sons, Mrs. Ballentine reared three girls, (including a parolee) in her home.

With this busy schedule Mrs. Ballentine has time for the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina. She is Chairlady of all the Missionary Unions in North Carolina, heads up the Johnston County Union and is a member of the District Convention Organization of the Woman's National Convention U.S.A., Inc. Just say "Mission" or think Mission and Mrs. Ballentine is there!

SECOND CALVARY MISSIONARY (Continued from page 3)

... The church choir and congregation joined in the singing of 3 hymns, including "Let The Lower Light Be Burning," before Mrs. Ona Taylor, of First Baptist Church, began the chandle-lighting ritual and procession which formally installed the Missionary Circle Officers and members for the year 1975.

... Missionary Circle Officers for the calendar year of 1975 are: Ethel Bittle, President; Victoria Granger, Vice-President; Dora Davis, 2nd Vice-President; Janie Anderson, 3rd Vice-Presi-

dent; Frances Broadway, 4th Vice-President; Evangelean Norman, Secretary; Ella Norman, Assistant Secretary; Lucia M. Pauling, Treasurer; Ella Norman, Young Adult Leader; Patsy Rice, Young Adult President; Gloria Anderson, Young Adult Secretary; Josephine Jones, Young Adult Assistant Secretary; Jessie Vinson, Young Adult Treasurer; Dorothy Howell, Youth Supervisor; Deborah Williams, Assistant Supervisor; Marian McKay, President; Valarie Bittle, Secretary; and Toni Maddox, Treasurer.

... Mrs. Ethel Bittle, Missionary Circle President, led the candlelite procession through the church sanctuary and made remarks during the program which ended with remarks by Assistant Church Pastor Gwin, and remarks and the pronouncing of the Benediction by head pastor Reverend J. M. Kennedy.

... Others participating in the approximately two-hour long Installation Service were Nola Freeman, Ruth Staten, Estelle Sowell, Dora Davis, and Dorothy Riley who took the offering before Mrs. Bernice Leake recognized the visitors.

FIRE VICTIM NEEDS BAPTIST UNITY

Dear Dr. Sherrill:

We the Organizations, Auxiliaries, and Members of the First Baptist Church of Fifth and Campbell Streets, Wilmington, North Carolina are deeply grieved as a result of the loss of our church by fire more than one year ago. We are working with all of our might, vim, and vigor in an effort to rebuild our sanctuary. We think we have made exceptional progress but we are in great need of your help. Will you please use your influence in the General Baptist Convention to help us secure a financial donation toward the rebuilding of our church? We are praying that you will look upon this request with favor and do what you can in helping us to fulfill our desires and dreams. We will be extremely grateful if you will communicate with us concerning this matter, as we are planning a big program which will climax on the second Sunday in May at 6:00 P.M., 1975, at which time we ask that you please come and share with us the success we anticipate.

Again, may we thank you for whatever you may do in helping us to reach our goal.

Respectfully yours in Jesus Christ Our Lord,
Rev. Claro Dickens, Pastor, Mrs. Hermenia Stokes, Mr. James Stokes, Mrs. Annie Walker, Mrs. Corine V. Pettiford, Mr. E. L. Pettiford, Mrs. Millie Richard, Mrs. Geneva DeVane, Miss Eva DeVane, Mrs. Rosa McZek.

MID-YEAR SESSION (Continued from page 1)

capacity sanctuary, 38 class rooms, administrative suite, a fellowship recreational building, approximately one square block, and three rental houses.

Pastor Kennedy, a firm believer in God, (and God has brought him through many hardships and trials at Second Calvary), has served the Church for 28 years. He has also served as Moderator of the Mecklenburg-General Baptist Association for 18 years, and now serves as Moderator Emeritus. In the city he was on the Minister's Advisory Board of Model Cities; consultant-Urban Redevelopment; and President of the Ministers Conference #1. He has been a supporter of the General Convention for 35 years, and served as President of the first Moderator's Conference.

At present he is a member of the Executive Committee and General Board of the General Convention.

Pastor Kennedy says that he is making plans to entertain the Mid-Year Session on May 6-7th. Dinner will be served on May 6th at a cost of (\$2.50). Lunch will be served at the Church on Wednesday May 7th for (\$2.00).

Dr. O. L. Sherrill, our Executive Secretary is calling on all Baptist to help realize the financial goal of a minimum of \$75,000.00 for the Objectives of the Convention. "We need to realize this goal" stated Dr. Sherrill, "in order to help Shaw meet her pressing obligations." All pastors and churches that have not responded to the Convention's call thus far, are called upon to respond positively to this urgent call.

Directions to Second Calvary are listed below and lodgings may be secured in the following motels:



Second Calvary Baptist Church is located at 114 Nelson Avenue between Rozzelle Ferry Road and Highway 16. For those traveling North on I-85 turn right at Highway 16 exit, go to Nelson

Avenue turn right at Nelson Avenue (Kentucky Fried Chicken) church two blocks from 16 on Nelson Avenue.

For those traveling South on I-85 turn left at Highway 16 exit, go to Nelson Avenue, turn left at Nelson Avenue (Kentucky Fried Chicken) church two blocks from 16 on Nelson Avenue.

For those traveling Highway 74 from Wilmington, Lumberton, Fayetteville, Monroe, etc. Keep 74 to Northwest Expressway, Highway 16. Follow Highway 16 to Nelson Avenue (Kentucky Fried Chicken) turn left on Nelson Avenue—Church two blocks off 16 on Nelson Avenue.

For those traveling Highway 21 South, turn right take I-85 South to Highway 16 exit, follow Highway 16 to Nelson Avenue (Kentucky Fried Chicken) turn left on Nelson Avenue, church two blocks off 16 on Nelson Avenue.

SECOND CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Those desiring accommodations for Tuesday night, May 6, may contact the following motels:

Days Inn—4419 Tuckaseegee Road—Telephone (704) 394-5181

Single—\$9.88-\$12.88 Double—\$15.88

Dollarwise Motor Inn (Downtown)—701 N. Tryon Street—Telephone (704) 372-0200

Single—\$8.50 Double—\$11.50

Golden Eagle Motor Inn (Downtown)—601 N. Tryon Street—Telephone (704) 372-2300

Single—\$16.64 Double—\$20.00

Holiday Inn (Downtown)—900 N. Tryon Street—Telephone (704) 373-0300

Single—\$14.00 Double—\$19.00

Horne's Motor Lodge—Freedom Drive at I-85—Telephone (704) 392-7311

Single—\$10.40 Double—\$16.64

Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge—I-85 at U. S. 21 Exit—Telephone (704) 377-1593

3931 Statesville Avenue

Lemon Tree Inn—4115 Glenwood Drive—Telephone (704) 394-4131

Single—\$15.00 Double—\$18.00

LennHaven Motel — Highway 16 — Telephone (704) 392-4353

Manger Motor Inn (Downtown)—631 N. Tryon Street—Telephone 332-3121

Single—\$17.00 Double—\$24.00

REVOLUTIONARY USHERS

(Continued from page 1)

in the throat. The Convention adopted a resolution to make the lecture available to all who want it through Reverend Leo Williams at the Baptist Headquarters. Another resolution adopted by the Convention provides for a two-day Training Session to be held at Shaw University in June under the direction of Dr. J. Z. Alexander, Dean of Shaw Divinity School.

The outstanding feature for the Youth was an oratorical contest under the direction of Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews. First place winner in the contest was Miss Joan Harrison of Macon, North Carolina, second place went to Miss Yvonne Anderson of Wilson, North Carolina, and third place went to Mr. James M. Seward of Warrenton, North Carolina.

Reverend J. O. Thorne, pastor of the Greater Mount Herman Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, challenged the delegates with a timely sermon based on Ephesians 3:13, 18. Speaking on "The Four Dimensions of Love," he pointed out that our love must include self, our fellowman, and God. It must spread the height, length, and breadth of all the earth.

Dr. J. Joy Johnson, president of the General Convention was present to urge the Convention to do all in its power to promote the Cause of Christ first and then the work of the Convention. He reminded the delegates that the \$800,000 budget cannot be realized unless every Baptist does his or her part. Some other state leaders who attended the Convention and urged the leaders to continue to lift the educational level of our people were: Dr. E. B. Turner, Vice-President at Large of the General Convention, Mr. Arthur Williams, and Mr. H. V. Bryant, Superintendent of the Central Orphanage at Oxford, North Carolina.

All Baptist Churches are urged to send ushers to the Annual Session in July.

SUPPORT THE UNIFIED PROGRAM

Please support the Unified Program by sending your contributions systematically and monthly to the Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street.

For those of you who wish to send money to designated places, please make your checks payable to the General Baptist State Convention, and we shall forward it to the proper places immediately after having received it. Through this method we will be able to keep better records and give credit where credit is due in the Annual Report.

EAST CAROLINA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



The Council Compass award was given to Mrs. Ossie Jenkins Royal, in recognition of exceptional service given in the East Carolina Council during the year 1974. Mrs. Royal is Den Leader Coach Pack 1974, Jackson Chapel First Baptist Church of Wilson, North Carolina. On March 3, she was given a certificate of recognition for her faithful, devoted and untiring service. Her other activities include: Membership in the Senior Choir for many years, Member of Missionary group number two, and President of the ladies board—1964 to 1975, Visiting the sick and shut in, Concocting recipes, and traveling, especially to the Convention.

Mrs. Royal's motto is "See something good in everyone, and count your blessings."

1975 JAMES F. WERTZ B. T. U. ORATORICAL CONTEST

SUBJECTS:

1. "GOOD NEWS IN A TIME OF CRISIS"
2. "SHARING OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH"
3. "BUILDING A LIFE FOR CHRIST"
4. "CHRIST IS THE ANSWER"
5. "CHRIST SPEAKS TO LOVE"
6. "WILL THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH"
7. "NO ROOM FOR QUITTERS"
8. "THE MASTER IS ABLE"
9. "A RECIPE FOR HAPPINESS"
10. "PREPARE TO SERVE"

RULES:

1. The contest is open to high school graduates and college freshmen who are active B. T. U. members.

2. Contestants must be certified by a local B. T. U. Director.
3. Each contestant will choose one of the subjects listed above.
4. Each contestant must compose and learn his speech.
5. Each contestant will have five minutes.
6. Contestants will be judged on content, composition and delivery. Content will count 25%, composition 25% and delivery 50%.
7. The two top winners will receive scholarships. First place \$150.00 and second place \$100.00.
8. Non-winning contestants will receive a certificate of participation.

Each year, young people are encouraged to enter the James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest, sponsored as a part of the State B. T. U. Congress. This, not only, is an opportunity, but a privilege.

Churches, Associations and District Conventions can do much to encourage and inspire young people to take advantage of this opportunity.

Local church contests, associational contests, county-wide contests, district contests, etc., should precede the state contest and the winners of the local contest will compete at the state level.

Mrs. Hazel McLean, Director
Box 185—Calendonia Road
Laurinburg, North Carolina 28352

The final Oratorical Contest with the State Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress of the General Baptist State Convention will be held at the Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, August 5-7, 1975.

STANDARD RAISED IN OLD EASTERN

General Baptist State Convention leaders joined hands with the leaders of the Old Eastern Baptist Association March 3-7, to raise the standard Christian Education higher than ever.

The General Leadership Training Institute is reported to have been of the most inspirational and informative ever sponsored by the Old Eastern Baptist Association. The Mt. Shiloh Baptist Church of Williamston, N. C., where Reverend A. L. Daye is Pastor, was host for the week. Old Eastern Association is under the dynamic leadership of Reverend J. R. Person, Moderator and Reverend W. S. Wilson, Moderator of the Union. The local leadership consisted of Reverend B. B. Felder, Director of the Institute, Reverend A. L.

Daye, Co-Director, and Reverend J. H. Carraway, Secretary.



Shown in the photo above are state leaders and local instructors. Front Row:

Reverend J. H. Carraway, Reverend B. B. Felder, Dr. J. Ray Butler, Chairman of the General Board; Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive Secretary, and Reverend A. L. Daye.

Back Row: Reverend Nahum Harris, Dr. C. R. Edwards, Past President of General Convention, Reverend W. S. Wilson, Reverend J. H. Hyman and Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary.

ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

CHRISTIAN BENEFACTOR OF ISRAEL HONORED BY MEMORIAL FOREST

When Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk died last year, Christian friends of Israel felt that his memory should be preserved in a very living way. Professor Lowdermilk, Rhodes scholar at Oxford University, became one of America's foremost soil and water conservationists and had a special love for the Holy Land. He was sent to the Middle East by the U. S. Government and the United Nations to study possibilities for reclaiming once fertile lands that had become deserts through centuries of neglect.

During World War II Dr. Lowdermilk wrote an important and influential book, "Palestine—Land of Promise," in which he outlined possibilities for reclaiming the Holy Land and suggested a Jordan Valley Authority Power and Irrigation Project. The book had 14 printings and was translated into seven languages. His proposals for the utilization of Palestine's water resources for the benefit of all peoples in the area received wide acclaim and many of his ideas were adopted by the government of Israel.

In 1964 Dr. and Mrs. Lowdermilk were the honored guests of the Israel Government, at which time they pulled the levers and pressed the buttons that started the great pumps on the

shores of the Sea of Galilee, to force the water flowing from the headwaters of the Jordan River to the dry lands of the Negev, around Beersheba, Abraham's home town. Dr. Lowdermilk has rightly been hailed as "the father of the Israel water plan." In a humorous vein, yet in respect, the Israeli refer to their land as "flowing with Lower-milk and honey"!

During the five years that Dr. Lowdermilk worked in Israel he also brought into being the School of Agricultural Engineering at the prestigious Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa. It now bears his name.

Years ago, speaking by radio from Jerusalem, Dr. Lowdermilk ventured the observation that if Moses had foreseen man's destruction of his surroundings, he might have added an 11th Commandment, which he put in these terms:

Thou shalt inherit the Holy earth as a faithful steward, conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, thy living waters from drying up, thy forests from desolation, and protect thy hills from overgrazing by the herds, that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this stewardship of the land, thy fruitful fields shall become sterile, stony ground and wasting gullies, and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or perish from off the face of the earth."

The text, widely quoted, exerted a powerful influence in the cause of conservation.

The late Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk resided in Berkeley, California when he was not traveling and working in other countries. His widow, Inez Lowdermilk, looked upon by many as a great woman in her own right, is still very active at 85 and frequently participates in the promotion of Israel causes. She is noted for her inspiring lectures and has authored a treatise entitled "MODERN ISRAEL—Fulfillment of Prophecy."

The California Christian Committee for Israel, based in Berkeley, has launched the project of planting a forest in Israel as a fitting tribute to the Christian with vision who did so much to fulfill the divinely inspired words of Israel's prophets, in redeeming the land that was desolate.

This project is being carried out in cooperation with the Jewish National Fund. Each tree is \$3.00. For contributions of four trees (\$12.00) or more, a beautiful certificate, suitable for framing, will be sent to the donor. Contributions for trees are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to: "Lowdermilk Memorial—JNF." All who would like to participate in honoring the memory of Dr. Lowdermilk may send their donations for trees to the Jewish National Fund, 2266 Geary Boulevard, San Francisco, California 94115.

SHAW GRAD NAMED WOMAN OF YEAR

Miss Louise Latham, a Raleigh native and a 1926 graduate of Shaw University has been chosen Woman of the Year by Omicron Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. Miss Latham will be honored during the Annual Finer Womanhood Week celebration February 22-28.

Miss Latham was the first black and the first North Carolinian to be elected to national office with the National Association of Women Deans and Counselors.

She graduated cum laude from Shaw University and did graduate work at Boston University, Syracuse University and UNC-Greensboro before coming back to Raleigh to teach at Washington High School. For a time she was on the staff at Howard University and for 20 years was Dean of Women at North Carolina Central University.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill honored Miss Latham with the honorary Doctor of Laws Degree during the May 1974 Commencement.

RESERVATIONS DUE FOR BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

Those who have any desire or expectations for attending the Baptist World Congress in July should make their reservations at once. Airplane seats and hotel rooms may become difficult to secure after April 15. A deposit will hold a place and it is entirely refundable up to 30 days prior to departure.

A 15 day tour will leave on July 3, 1975, and return on July 17. The trip includes five capital cities in Europe. In addition to the Congress in Stockholm, Sweden, the group will visit Zurich, Switzerland; Copenhagen, Denmark; Paris, France; and London, England. The cost is \$1,169.00, plus some incidentals from New York to New York. A brochure is available on request.

Everyone who is interested is urged to send a deposit today of \$100.00 per person payable to: Baptist World Congress Tour, P. O. Box 18053, Raleigh, N. C. 27609.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 19 One day Session, Laymen's League Convention, Charlotte
- May 6 Moderators' Clinic, Second Calvary, Charlotte
- May 7 One day Session, General Baptist State Convention, Second Calvary, Charlotte

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST
MAY 5 1975
SEMINARY LIBRARY

Southeastern Baptist Theological
Seminary Library
Wake Forest, N. C. 27587

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT  TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, MAY, 1975

NUMBER 5

NEW BLOOD AT EBENEZER



Wilmington, N. C.—New blood was injected into the veins of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Wilmington, N. C. when the Reverend Manuel Lamont Dillingham was elected to the pastorate of the 107 year old church in April of this year. He succeeds Reverend O'Kelly Lawson at the 550 member church which has already purchased land in anticipation of relocating in the near future.

Reverend Dillingham, a native of Asheville, N. C. is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hamilton, and is married to the former Myra Glenn French. He is a graduate of Livingstone College, Salisbury, N. C.; and is 25 hours away from the Master of Divinity degree at Hood Theological Seminary, Salisbury, N. C. Professionally, he has taught at the Davie County High School, and has also taught Religious courses sponsored by Davidson Community College in Lexington, N. C. Future plans include study towards the Doctor of Ministry degree or the Doctoral degree in Psychology. Ultimately he hopes to enter upon a full time ministry of Pastoral Care.

Former pastorates include: Shiloh Baptist Church of Mocksville, N. C. and the Morning Star Baptist Church of Hickory, N. C. He is also civic minded and hopes to bring new life to Ebenezer by accomplishing the following: administering plans for the new construction; providing effective pastoral care, administering training in needed areas so that Ebenezer can grow continually towards the throne of God.

3

THE BIG 3

Raleigh, N. C.—The Big Three (3) dates to remember for May are:

1. The Mid-Year Session of the General Baptist State Convention to be held with the Second Calvary Baptist Church of Charlotte, N. C. Wednesday, May 7, 1975. (See April issue of Baptist Informer for detailed information.)
2. The 110th Annual Shaw University Commencement Exercises. The speaker will be Mr. James B. Holderman, Vice President For Education Lilly Endowment, Inc. The Commencement Exercises will be held at Raleigh Memorial Auditorium, 3:00 p.m., May 11, 1975.
3. The Thirty-ninth Annual Minister's Institute and General Baptist State Convention Auxiliaries will meet at Shaw June 9-13.

The Ministers' Institute of the Department of Continuing Christian Education of the Shaw Divinity School will have for a Theme this year: "The Church—Its Mission and Messengers."

Dr. Kelly Miller Smith, Pastor of First Baptist Church and Assistant Dean of the Vanderbilt University's Divinity School, Nashville, Tenn., will be the chief resource person. Dr. Smith will preach the opening sermon on Monday, June 9, and will deliver a daily lecture on the theme through Friday at 10:30 a.m.

The June conference will be expanded this year

(Continued on page 5)

THE BAPTIST INFORMER
ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

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LETTERS-TO-THE-EDITOR

"Letters-to-the-Editor" express the personal opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of the Editor nor Convention officials. All letters must be signed with the understanding that the editor reserves the right to decide which letters will be published. Letters should offer constructive criticism about the "Informer" and the Convention program in general.

The following "letter-to-the-Editor," (About the life of the late Reverend Luther Roy Howell of Marion, N. C.), exemplifies the kind of life that can result from true faith in Jesus Christ. It is first a credit to Christ to have a testimony like this, as well as a credit to marriage, family life, Christian life, and the Baptist denomination.

Dear Sir:

Contrary to popular belief there are still many good people left of good faith and who are dedicated to serving our Father. I believe such a gathering took place three months ago at my father's funeral, the late Reverend Luther Roy Howell. It is my feeling that the people who came must have reflected the attitude which was so much a part of my Dad. He believed that all men are brothers and should look after one another. Fortunately, Dad was given his flowers while he lived. During the forty-one years that I knew him, people seemed to want to be around Dad and he around them. He was encouraging to the youth and older people alike. Whatever was his belonged to his neighbor also. As sick as he was in his last days, he was giving away food to former members of his. Dad was never a private person. Since all that we do comes from the Master, I wonder now that I look back on his last days if it was planned that he have a few days to himself while still on earth. Dad was placed in the inten-

sive care unit where visits were limited to the immediate family and then for only five minutes every two hours. Ironically, this did not stop our relatives and friends from coming just to keep vigil with the family. They prayed with us and cried with us. There were telephone calls, letters and telegrams from so many people whom we thanked at the time. They expressed great love for Dad and sorrow that he was so gravely ill.

Dad affected the staff at the hospital as he had other people all of his life. As sick as he was he offered to pray for the nurses. He never complained about himself. Whenever we visited him, he reassured us that all would be well. He talked of the fifty-four years of bliss that he had experienced with my mother. He felt that perhaps he should remain on with Mom but he had to do the Master's will.

Somehow, I feel that Dad was very good with people because he had a sense of humor with his religion. He seemed to be able to motivate people to do His will. He was so convinced and totally dedicated to doing God's work that a young man whom he had known all of that person's youth has felt a call to go into the ministry.

In someway we, the members of his bloodline want the people in the Baptist Convention to know in addition to our personal expressions of thanks that had Dad lived to April 20, 1975 for his seventy-ninth birthday, he would be about his Christian duty. You certainly helped to make his last days his best days.

Dad left a family lineage that includes a doctor, nurse, teacher, social worker, hospital administrator all of whom are firm believers. Please feel free to call on us at anytime.

Mrs. Allie Howell Freeman
 19 Willowlawn
 Buffalo, N. Y. 14214

(Continued on page 6)

Woman's Page ----

THE LOUISBURG DISTRICT INSTITUTE



1st Row (L-R) J. L. Strickland, Mrs. Strickland, Rev. E. L. Brodie, Mrs. M. A. Horne, Rev. Leo Williams.
2nd Row (L-R) Arthur Williams, H. L. Leonard, Rev. W. D. Johnson, Rev. J. A. Watson, James Keith and Mrs. Nena Edgerton.

THE FRANKLIN COUNTY INSTITUTE MOVES OUT

The 33rd Annual Louisburg District Institute of the Franklin County Sunday School and B.T.U. Convention moved out into one of its greatest and far reaching training programs, March 10-11, 1975 at the Nelson Chapel Baptist Church, the Reverend E. L. Brodie, pastor. Theme: "TRAINING FOR MISSION AND SERVICE." Director of the Institute was the capable and eminent J. L. Strickland. Mr. Strickland was ably assisted by Mr. H. L. Leonard and Mr. James Keith.

The following Classes were taught:

MINISTERS & DEACONS

Reverend E. L. Brodie, Pastor
Nelson Chapel Baptist Church

MISSIONARIES

Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive
Secretary of Woman's Baptist
Home and Foreign Missionary
Convention of N. C.

USHER BOARD

Mr. Arthur Williams, Deacon
Mitchell Baptist Church

BAPTIST TRAINING UNION

Mr. Thomas Richardson, President
Franklin County B.T.U. Convention

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Reverend J. A. Watson, Pastor
Allen Chapel Baptist Church

YOUTH

Mrs. Nena Edgerton
Nelson Chapel Baptist Church

Inspirational messages were delivered by the Revs. W. D. Johnson, J. G. McKnight, J. S. Spruill and J. A. Watson. Each minister was accompanied by his Church Choir. The Reverend Leo Williams, Director of Christian Education GBSC delivered the closing message on a high note. All ministers were at their best and the Choirs sang to the glory of God.

Participating Churches were: Allen Chapel, Main Street, First Baptist, Walnut Grove and Nelson Chapel. Over 200 adults and youths were in attendance nightly. A fellowship dinner supervised by Mr. J. L. Strickland was served Friday evening. This institute has been declared one of the best.

SOUL WINNING REPORTS

Mrs. Dorothy Frink	5
Mrs. Carrie Stanley	6
Mrs. Lucy Gray	4

"This Spiritual Budget that is in effect now by the Woman's Baptist State Convention is one of the greatest efforts ever launched."

—Mrs. Lucy Gray

THE TOTAL WOMAN

Editorially Speaking:

"The Total Woman speaks to the very core of the problem and disease that America is suffering with today. Unfortunately the woman who need to read it the most are the ones unlikely to do so. Simply because the book suggests that there may be something "wrong" with women that ought to be corrected, it will be rejected.

In face of the age old truth that: "The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world, "There are far too many women in America today who refuse to accept one iota of the blame for the dilemma of our home life and disappearing manhood.

This book deals with what a person is, and that is the basic factor in any relationship. "The Total

(Continued on page 4)

THE TOTAL WOMAN

(Continued from page 3)

Woman" is a book that is not only good for women but it would be a blessing if every man in America could read it.

If you don't have enough money to buy it go to the library and borrow it. Good Reading.

Fleming H. Revell Company, century-old evangelical book publisher, announces the sale of paperback reprint rights of its 1974 best seller "The Total Woman" for an advance of over \$500,000. The book by Marabel Morgan was published in November 1973 and has sold over 400,000 copies. Rights were purchased by Pocket Books, a Division of Simon and Schuster, Inc., which plans to publish the book late 1975 or early 1976.

The Total Woman was the #1 non-fiction national best seller of 1974, topping the runnerup, All The President's Men, by almost 100,000. Written by a Miami housewife, Marabel Morgan, wife of an attorney and mother of two young girls, it is directed to concerned women, with motivation and methods for making marriage more rewarding.

INSTALLATION DRAWS NATIONAL LEADERS

By Mrs. Geneva Brown



Winston-Salem, N. C.— Outstanding national religious leaders and local dignitaries, converged at the First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, to participate in the illustrious installation services April 5-6, of the Reverend William Saxe Epps as the eighth pastor of the historic church.

Reverend Epps began his career as a minister at the Calvary Baptist Church, Haverhill, Mass. He has served as assistant pastor at Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City, and has served as an Old Testament teacher at Northern Baptist School of Religion in Newark, New Jersey. He holds a B.S. degree from Bishop College, Dallas, Tex., a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary, a Master of Education degree, Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York. He was also aarticulating student, Andover Newton Theological Seminary, New Centre; also at Boston University, Boston, Mass.; and post graduate program at Columbia Univer-

sity. Reverend Epps has taught in the public schools of Boston, Mass. and Jersey City, N. J. He has served as administrative assistant to the superintendent of District Nine (New York Public Schools).

Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, minister of the Cannan Baptist Church of New York, was the featured speaker at 1:00 p.m. April 5, and Dr. Samuel D. Proctor, minister of Abyssinian Baptist Church, N. Y. delivered the 3:00 p.m. message April 6. The 11:00 a.m. sermon, April 6, was delivered by the new pastor's father, Dr. Charles T. Epps, minister, Zion Baptist Church in Jersey City, N. J.

General Baptist State Convention leaders who participated were: Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary, Mr. Thomas Kee, Vice-President of Shaw; Dr. Jerry Drayton, Dr. J. Ray Butler, Dr. D. R. Hedgley, former pastor, and Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive Secretary, Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Convention.

The Reverend Mr. Epps is successor to some of North Carolina's most outstanding leaders, and has united with a great church, rich in the Christian faith and Baptist traditions. If the gala festivities at the Installation has set the tone for his term of pastorate at First Baptist Church, a high quality of Christian ministry is forth coming. Welcome aboard and we pray that it will be smooth sailing under clear skies.

QUICKIES

Winston-Salem, N. C.—By Mrs. S. A. Salvage.

Hats off to the Quarterly Education and Missionary Union of Winston-Salem and vicinity. The Union, meeting at Galilee Baptist Church March 30, is under the dynamic leadership of Reverend W. C. Hay.

The financial goal for the first quarter of 1975 was \$8,000.00 was reported. The Union, under the leadership of Reverend Hay, exceeded its goal each 5th Sunday in 1974. Mrs. M. A. Horne, Secretary.

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When outstanding and Dedicated Baptist leaders die in your area, please send the Obituary Information to the Baptist Informer so that the Baptist family can make appropriate responses. The deadline of all news is the 10th of the month.

THE BIG 3 (Continued from page 1)

to include programming for the Auxiliaries of the General Baptist State Convention under the Direction of the Reverend Leo Williams, Director of Christian Education for the Convention. Programming is projected for Sunday School and Baptist Training Union workers, ushers, and laymen.

President, Dr. J. J. Johnson, and Executive Secretary, Dr. O. L. Sherrill have called upon each of the member churches of the General Convention to do their best to support these worthy Christian objectives. Our Convention is taking a bold new thrust to meet today's onslaught of evil. We have adopted a budget of \$800,000 this year. We hope to realize \$75,000 of that goal May 7. In a recent interview with the President of Shaw, this news media was informed that the electric service at Shaw is approximately \$29,000 per month. With obligations of this nature, it is absolutely imperative that every Baptist do his or her very best.

LITTLE HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH HOLDS INSTALLATION SERVICES



Weldon, N. C.—The Reverend Jeremiah Webb was installed as the seventh pastor of Little Hope Baptist Church of Rocky Mount, N. C., March 3, 1975. He succeeds Dr. T. V. Foster who served Little Hope and the Neuse River Baptist Association faithfully for many years.

Reverend Webb is a native of Northampton County, N. C. and is married to the former Mamie Boone of Garysburg; they have five daughters and reside Weldon, N. C. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Webb of Gaston, N. C.

The educational qualifications of Reverend Webb include the public schools of Northampton County; a certificate of award from Shaw University in Religious Education, Church Administration, Pastoral Counseling, Theology, and the Black Church in America; he also holds certificates from other colleges, universities, and he has attended various seminars. Presently, he is a student at Shaw School of Religion, and holds pastorates in Rich Square, and Macon, N. C.

The installation sermon was preached by Dr. F. L. Bullock, moderator of Neuse River Association. He admonished the Reverend Webb to be

faithful to his calling, and challenged the Church to accept the new leadership. Reverend Webb, in his acceptance speech, pledged himself to lead, rather than drive the congregation.

Other pastors and leaders who participated in the service were: Reverend Elbert Lee, Jr., Reverend George W. Dudley, Reverend Charles Bullock, Reverend J. B. Moore, and Reverend Morris Shearin.

S. R. JOHNSON AWARDED HONORARY DOCTORATE



Salisbury, N. C.—Sunday, March 9, was a significant day in the life of Reverend S. R. Johnson as he was presented the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Virginia Theological Seminary of Lynchburg, Va. The degree was presented at Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Salisbury during the morning worship, where he was installed as the church's fourth pastor March 16. He succeeds the late Reverend William McKinley Wyatt who served the church for almost a half-century.

Dr. Johnson is a native of Roanoke, Va. and is married to the former Eva Henry of Covington. He attended Livingstone College, and is a graduate of Virginia Seminary and College of Lynchburg. Other schools where he has studied include School of Social Research, New York, Baruch School of Business, New York; Brooklyn College; Pace Business School, New York; Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa.; Faith Bible College, Los Angeles, Calif., Barber-Scotia, Concord, N. C.; and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Former pastorates are: Circuit minister for three churches in Va.; First Baptist, Vinton, First Baptist, Rocky Mount, Holy Trinity Baptist, Brownsville section of Brooklyn, New York. He has been actively engaged in social work in New York, North Carolina, and Virginia.

Presently, he is the Public Relations Director for the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, and is a member of the General Board of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc.

The degree was conferred by Dr. M. C. Southerland, President of Virginia Seminary. The installation message was delivered by Dr. Noel Taylor, minister High Street Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va.

LETTERS-TO-THE-EDITOR

(Continued from page 1)

Dear Sir:

It was nice to have Mrs. Jones come to me and hand me \$2.50 for her subscription for the "Informer" Sunday after service.

I am giving two of these enclosed subscriptions as gifts. I was shocked Saturday to know that some of our young Baptist members know so little about what goes on in our Baptist program.

It is nice to know that the new subscribers have been getting their "Informers" right away. With every good wish for success with all you do for Kingdom Building.

An interested Baptist member,

Mrs. William M. Nesby
1641 Jackson Avenue, N.E.
Winston-Salem, N. C. 27105

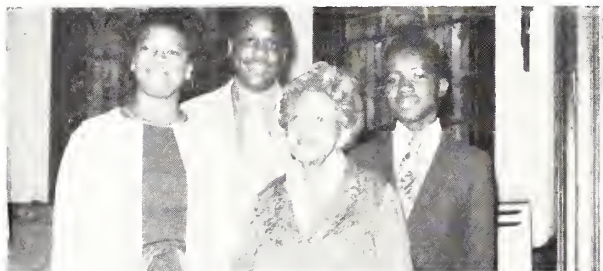
LAST WORDS SPOKEN

By Rev. John B. Moore

Weldon, N. C. — One soul was claimed for Christ in the Holy Week Service sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Weldon, N. C., March 24-28, Reverend John B. Moore, pastor.



The participating speakers, all women were: (Photo—L-R) Mrs. D. N. Doles—Monday—"Father Forgive"; Mrs. C. W. Pritchett—Tuesday—"Woman, Behold Thy Son, Behold Thy Mother, and My God, why hast thou forsaken me?"; Mrs. W. R. Clemonts—Wednesday—"I Thirst"; Mrs. D. M. Fitts—Thursday—"It Is Finished"; Mrs. J. B. Perkins—Friday—"Father, Into Thy Hands I Commend My Spirit.



Music leaders were: (Photo—L-R) Mrs. B. M. Harmon, organist; Mr. L. G. Cooper, Music Director; Mrs. A. C. Matthews, Mistress of Ceremonies; Mr. A. C. Cofield, Jr., Pianist.

SHAW CLINIC SERVES
RALEIGH AREA

In 1968 Shaw University received a grant from the Bureau for the Education of the Handicapped to establish a Speech and Hearing Department. Seven years later the program has an abundance of students enrolled in a broad curriculum and has established a free county-wide clinic to test a person's speech and hearing.

According to Harold Lewis, area coordinator for the department, Shaw has one of the top Speech and Hearing Clinics and curriculums in North Carolina. "We have some of the best equipment money can buy," said Lewis.

A tour of the ultra modern facility produced several cubicles with two-way mirrors and outside sound speakers to test speech patterns. The mirrors and speakers allow students to observe without disturbing the testing procedure. The center also has a sound proof chamber coupled with highly sophisticated equipment to test hearing.

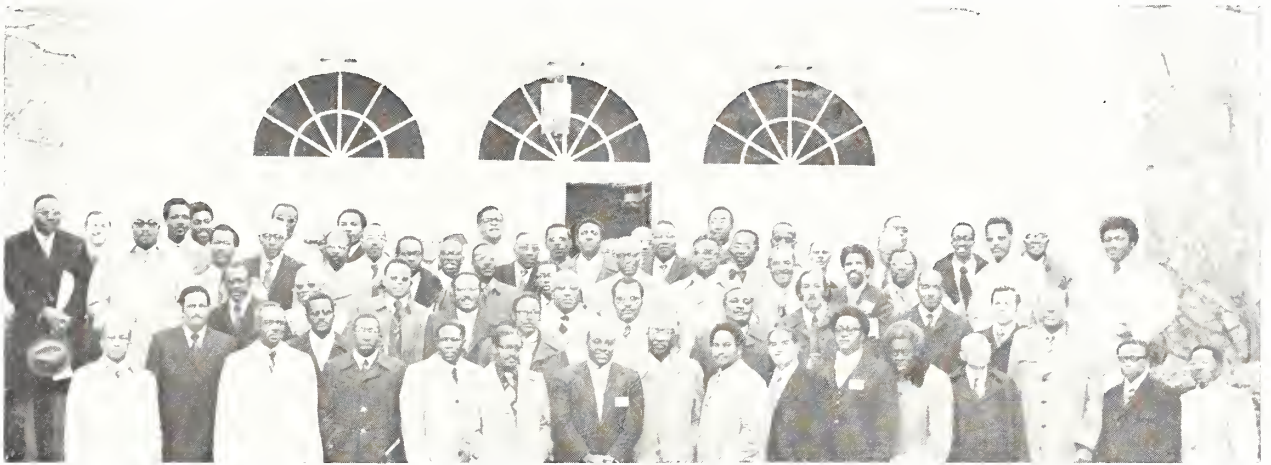
The clinic is primarily run by students under the watchful eye of Lewis and his staff. The clinic tests persons throughout the Raleigh-Wake County area at no cost to the patients. Lewis said, "Most people are misled to believe that hearing losses are usually caused by presbycusis or old age." A hearing loss can affect anyone in any age group and can vary from an almost unnoticeable loss to near total deafness," he said.

There are several phases to the testing procedure. Patients who need treatment or therapy after being tested are helped individually or in small group sessions. Lewis said, "We don't test patients and let them go. We work with our patients until they have reached the highest level of improvement."

Lewis is the only black audiologist in North Carolina. He is a graduate of Shaw and Central Michigan University.

Lewis contends that speech irregularities are difficult to detect. "When testing a person's speech you must consider his environment. Speech patterns begin to develop as soon as a person is born. He listens to the people around him and copies sounds," he said. "Where a person lives and how their parents talk greatly influence speech patterns," he said.

Lewis noted that the curriculum is highly specialized and most students go on to graduate school. Lewis hopes that more minorities will enter the field of Speech and Hearing.



GIVE YOURSELF TO GOD

Raleigh, N. C.—“Give yourself to God.”—“The ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ is a job looking for a man, not a man looking for a job.” Dr. J. Jasper Freeman, pastor of the Queen Street Baptist Church of Norfolk, Virginia opened the Second Annual Pastor's Conference of Shaw last March 17-19 with the deep insight and wisdom expressed in the preceding words.

The Conference, held jointly with the Thirty-fifth Annual Convocation of the Shaw University Theological Association, was attended by more than seventy ministers and pastors from across the nation. The three-day conference was both intellectually stimulating and spiritually inspiring. Dr. Freeman, conference pastor, set the tone of the conference by preaching from the overflow of his deep religious experiences and convictions. He called upon the “Burning-Bush” experience of Moses to focus attention on the fact that: “God is a consuming fire only to that which is evil; but a preserving influence to the Obedient.”

Dr. David Shannon, Dean of Faculty, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, Pa. called upon the ministers to “rediscover Biblical preaching as the answer to the emptiness and hopelessness so prevalent in our world today.” “We smother the Biblical text by super-imposing our own ideas upon it. But we should learn to let the text speak to us and reveal the experience behind the idea. Behind every Biblical idea, there is an experience of human interaction with God. This experience is either through a human personality or through nature. What the human race needs today is to have an experience of interaction with God.”

Dr. Samuel Gandy, Howard University, Washington, D. C., spoke on a sociological level, addressing himself, to the theme: “The Changing Life-Style of the Black Church and Pastor in the Pastor's Self-Understanding Relative to his Role.”

His conclusion and challenge was that Black and white ministers are only on the “fringe” of leadership. “We need to develop leadership that will minister to the “whole peoples’ needs.” This kind of leadership involves a lay-oriented program, with Laymen taking a great deal of the leadership responsibility. Our clergymen are more prone to the dictatorial type of leadership; this is changing.

The one outstanding idea that seemed to pervade the entire conference was: “A minister should learn to distinguish between that which is a clear voice of God directing him to a particular activity: and that which arises out of his own needs, deed within himself.” He should be honest and tell the people where his directive from God ends and where his own views and ambitions begins.

Dr. Freeman admonished the men to “give yourself to God, and he will bless you, and promote you, and protect you.”

OBITUARY

Mrs. Arlene J. Ryans was funeralized at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Charlotte, April 17, 3:30 p.m. Mrs. Ryans departed this life on April 12, 1975.

SHAW GRAD GETS POST

Dunn, N. C.—Reverend Gus D. McNeil, Jr., a 1951 graduate of Shaw University, has been appointed principal at Dunn High School by the Harnett County Board of Education.

McNeil, a native of Dunn, has served in the Dunn School System in various positions since 1954.

McNeil is also a member of the Dunn City Council and recipient of the Distinguished Service Plaque from Shaw University in May, 1972.

COAT MUCH TOO BIG

By 1st Lt. Robert E. Johnson



Naju, South Korea—Late last year torrential rains lashed the Southern portion of the Republic of South Korea. As the rains continued, sandbagging operations began. The defense was not enough, and soon the entire village of Naju was under water. Families suddenly found themselves without food, clothing, shelter, and in some more unfortunate cases, family members. The flood's destruction had been total.

The South Korean government aided in rebuilding the homes, but most of the people's possessions were buried under tons of mud.

Chaplain Solano witnessed the villagers plight and set out to rectify the situation. He wrote to the editor of the Biblical Recorder in Raleigh, N. C., and told him the problem. Editor Grant printed the story and soon help was on its way.

As the truck arrived in Naju, hordes of people swamped the truck. The villagers then gathered in the town schoolhouse where the vice governor of Gwang San County thanked the American "GPs" and the people of North Carolina.

Protocol was over, and suddenly the rush was on. Back outside, people were unloading the boxes

and trying on the clothes. As they drove back over the muddy roads, a small boy of five or six caught the Colonel's eye. In one hand the youngster clutched an American flag, with the other he was struggling to hold onto an overcoat easily four times too large for him.

The two men remarked that, "all in all it had been a very rewarding day."

Photo shows Naju villagers unloading the truck. Chaplain (Major) John O. Solano, who was instrumental in the collection is a Raleigh native.

VIDEO FOR OVERFLOW

By C. R. Edwards

Fayetteville, N. C.—First Baptist Church of Fayetteville has recently installed a closed circuit television system with a video tape recorder. The system will serve at least two purposes: 1) to accommodate the overflow crowds and 2) to make available the Worship Services, both visual and audio, to the sick and shut-in. This service is in addition to the many other outreach services of the Church as it moves toward a total Ministry.

Dr. C. R. Edwards, former President of the General Baptist State Convention and President of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention, is pastor of the church.

The system is a gift in memory of the late Dr. George L. Butler by his widow Mrs. Mae B. Butler. Dr. Butler was a Trustee of the church and President of the church sponsored F.B.C. Corporation which built 150 low and moderate income subsidized housing.

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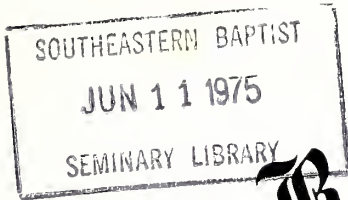
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The staff is asking that all articles of news be in the office before the deadline which is the 10th of the month.



The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, JUNE, 1975

NUMBER 6

Seven Doctorates Conferred:

Three Thousand Witness Conferring Of Degrees At Shaw

By C. Warren Massenburg

Raleigh, N. C.—The largest graduating class in the history of Shaw received degrees Sunday, May 11 during the annual convocation for the conferring of Degrees at Memorial Auditorium. The convocation exercise climaxed three days of activities which were sparkled with celebrities from throughout the country. Over fifty retired educators who are graduates of Shaw were honored Saturday for their outstanding contributions to the field of education. Persons representing classes to the 1950's were present. Over three thousand persons jammed Memorial Auditorium to witness what one bystander termed "history in the making."

During the ceremonies 439 baccalaureate and four Masters' degrees were conferred. Of the graduating seniors, six were graduated summa cum laude, seven were graduated magna cum laude, and fifty-one were graduated cum laude.

(Continued on page 4)



PRESIDENT JOHNSON CITED AT ONE DAY SESSION



Charlotte, N. C.—Dr. J. Joseph Johnson, President of the General Baptist State Convention, was visibly moved and emotionally overcome when he was cited for his achievement during the One Day Session of the Convention held at the Second Calvary Baptist Church, Charlotte, May 7th. The citation, presented by Dr. E. Burnes Turner, read:

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC., RALEIGH, N. C. CITATION

Joy Joseph Johnson, preacher, pastor, humanitarian, philanthropist, representative from Robeson County to the State House of Representatives three consecutive terms, President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

Chairman, Committee on Human Resources
State House of Representatives
North Carolina

You serve your state and your fellowman unselfishly and untiringly. Due to your willingness to serve and due to the fact that your presence adds proficiency to any board; you now serve as a member of the Committee on Institution for the Blind and Deaf, the Committee on Appropriation, the

(Continued on page 5)

Woman's Page----

THE FORSYTH TRAINING INSTITUTE



1st Row (L-R) Mrs. J. B. McLester, Mrs. D. R. Hedgley, Dr. Hedgley, Mrs. M. A. Horne, Dr. Jerry Drayton, Mrs. B. F. Daniels, Mrs. Mary Muldrow. Standing (L-R) Mr. Luther Jones, Mr. H. W. Gwyn, Mrs. Erma Fraizer, Rev. W. C. Hay, Mrs. C. N. Hayes, Mr. Thomas Jackson, Mrs. Dorothy Blount, Dr. J. Ray Butler, Miss Jerrye Griffin.

FORSYTH COUNTY TEAMS UP

The 23rd Annual Forsyth Training Institute was held April 14-18, 1975 at the New Bethel Baptist Church, Dr. Jerry Drayton, pastor.

Theme: "ACHIEVEMENTS THROUGH TEAMWORK"

The following classes were taught:

Senior Mission—Mrs. J. B. McLester, President, WBH&FM Convention of North Carolina

Sunday School—Dr. J. Ray Butler, Pastor Shiloh Baptist Church

Ushers—Dr. David R. Hedgley, Pastor Emeritus First Baptist Church

Deaconess—The Reverend W. C. Hay, Pastor Galilee Baptist Church

Deacons—Dr. Jerry Drayton

Young Adult—Miss Jerrye Griffin Mount Zion Baptist Church

Youth—Mrs. Mary Muldrow Shiloh Baptist Church
Mrs. Dorothy H. Blount First Baptist Church
Mr. Luther Jones Mars Hill Baptist Church

Inspirational messages were delivered by the Reverend R. L. Anderson, pastor Union Baptist Church and the Reverend B. F. Daniels, pastor First Baptist Church, Lexington. The theme was well discussed by the Reverend W. S. Epps, pastor

First Church. Music, the Young Adult Choir of Union Chapel Baptist Church.

More than 300 persons attended the week's training with the Youth Department receiving the average Attendance Banner.

The Institute was sponsored by the Missionary Union, Mrs. C. N. Hayes, president; Deacons Union, Mr. H. W. Gwyn, president, Young Adult Union, Mrs. B. F. Daniels, director; Youth Union, Mrs. Erma Frazier, supervisor; Sunday School, Mr. Thomas Jackson, president; Ushers Union, Mr. M. J. Murray, president.

Mrs. M. A. Horne and Mrs. David R. Hedgley serve as director and associate director respectively.

JULY 12.... PLAN TO ATTEND.... JULY 12

The All Baptist Picnic

The J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly

Laurel Hill, North Carolina

CERTIFICATES AWARDED TO 78

Bladenboro, N. C.—A total of 428 persons enrolled during the Annual two week Institute sponsored by the Lumber River Association, March 10-21, 1975 at the Round Branch Baptist Church, Bladenboro, N. C. The attendance for the institute was 768, with a total of 78 persons being awarded certificates.

An outstanding feature of the Institute was to have an address given on various nights by the president of each associational auxiliary. This was of great value in helping everyone to become more aware of the function of the auxiliaries.

Instructors and officers were as follows:

Dr. E. B. Turner, Moderator

Reverend J. A. Thompson, Director

Brother James Bellamy, Assistant Director

Sister Martha Young, Secretary

Brother Chauncey Singletary, Treasurer

THREE THOUSAND

(Continued from page 1)

Seven Honorary Doctorate Degrees were conferred: Recording Star, Stevie Wonder. In his 12 years as a singer, writer and composer, Wonder, a Michigan native, has sold more than 25 million records. He is also a member of the Shaw Board of Trustees.

William R. Collins, a 1922 Shaw graduate, who is on the trustee boards of Durham College and Fayetteville State University and on the Dobbs School's chapel committee in Kinston.

The Reverend Coleman W. Kerry, Jr., another Shaw graduate, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church in Charlotte since 1947 and the first black elected to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education.

Buena Kelly Berry, organizer of the women's auxiliary of Norfolk Community Hospital and author of several publications on fraternalism.

Lorenzo Robinson, a graduate student at Columbia University, pastor of the Greater Faith Tabernacle Baptist Church in Stamford, Conn., and a member of the Stamford City Advisory Board.

Jacob Jennings, Jr., a 1948 graduate of Fort Worth College who has worked in the Illinois State Board of Higher Education.

Reverend Jordan Clifton Harris, a 1960 graduate of the Shaw University Divinity School, pastor of First Baptist Church in Statesville. Harris is the first Vice-President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. Other degrees conferred included the following:

B. S. Degree University Without Walls—John Coleman, Biology; Jerome M. Dolinsky, Biology, and Solomon M. Pikarsky, Mathematics.

Bachelor of Theology and Master of Divinity Degrees:

Bachelor of Theology Degree—Devlaming A. Peace.

Master of Divinity Degree—George Robinson, A. B. Shaw University; Randy Brown Royal, A. B. Shaw University; Franklin Rush, B. S. Livingstone College; Charles Williams, A. B. Shaw University.

Newark, New Jersey Mayor Kenneth Gibson spoke to an overflow crowd Saturday evening, May 10th, at the Senior Banquet. Gibson received the key to the city from Raleigh Mayor Clarence

Lightner and an award from Shaw University citing "achievement and leadership." Several plaques were awarded at the banquet to Shaw supporters, A. J. Turner, president of T&T Associates for "Yeoman Service and Loyal Support" and John Lucas, president of the N. C. Association of Educators (NCAE) and principal, Hillside High School for his "leadership role as an educator." John Lucas, Jr. star basketball player for the University of Maryland was also present.

The main convocation speaker was Dr. James B. Holderman, Vice-President for Education, Lilly Endowment, Inc. He stressed the impact of the individual to the graduates, using Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Shaw University President, Dr. J. Archie Hargraves as examples. "The impact of one individual—none of us will be the same after he has passed our way. Thank God for that," he said.

Through the decades the University has continued to adjust its goals and objectives within the general framework of its motto, "Pro Christo et Humanitate"—That Religion and Learning may go hand in hand and Character with Knowledge." The institution is recognized as one of the foremost institutions of higher learning in the United States.

The 1974-1975 academic year is over. Shaw staff, faculty, and administration are busily putting on the finishing touches for the throngs of wide-eyed freshman and scores of upper classmen expected in August. There is an almost welcomed silence blanketing the University.

The proud parents have gone home and their beaming graduates. The tearful goodbyes are over the aimless chatter has ceased. The clicking cameras are silenced.

Shaw University yesterday, today and forever.

OBITUARIES

The Baptist Family extends sympathy to the family of the late Reverend S. G. Dunston, of Louisburg, N. C. who was funeralized at Enon Baptist Church, Littleton, N. C., April 28. Another great soul gone to his eternal reward.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of the late Reverend W. L. Reaves of Chadbourn, N. C., who departed this life the week of May 4th. The Lumber River Association will long remember the work of this faithful soldier. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Chadbourn, N. C.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON**(Continued from page 1)**

Committee on Education, the Committee on Alcoholic Beverage Control.

You serve as Vice Chairman of the Committee on Correction and Chairman of the Committee on Human Resources, which Committee appropriates and oversees the Social Services Division of our State and all of its branches expending more than 894 million dollars per bi-annual.

We, the 350,000 Baptists of which you are a vital part and to whom you give yourself as its president, salute you on your achievement as Chairman of this major Committee.

O. L. Sherrill Jerry Drayton, Chairman
Executive Secretary Executive Committee

He also was presented a Plaque which read:

PLAQUE

JOY JOSEPH JOHNSON
THE
GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION
OF N. C., INC.
CONGRATULATES YOU
ON HAVING BEEN
CHOSEN AS
CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE
ON HUMAN RESOURCES
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA HOUSE
OF
REPRESENTATIVES

O. L. Sherrill Jerry Drayton, Chairman
Executive Secretary Executive Committee

Presiding at his first Session as president, Dr. Johnson handled a large volume of issues and business. One of the most significant issues was a report from the powerful Political Action Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Jerry Drayton of Winston-Salem. Outstanding features of the report were: 1) A resolution to encourage Congress to deny the appropriation of 507 million dollars for relocation of Viet Nam refugees; 2) To urge Congress to appropriate funds for public jobs; 3) Request N. C. General Assembly to appropriate funds for the Department of Human Resources for elderly, poor, unemployed and Medicare programs; 4) Support N.A.A.C.P. Voter Education and; 5) Empower representative of the Convention to act for the Convention in the state legislature.

The Convention also adopted a "Standard of Ordination For Ministers" to be recommended to

ordination Boards throughout the state. Another resolution was adopted requesting the state legislature to make January 15, as "Martin Luther King, Jr. Day."

The a.m. inspirational message was delivered by Reverend W. E. Mills, Moderator of the Cedar Grove Baptist Association. His message entitled, "The Church is able to meet the Challenge," was based on Matthew 16:18 and forcibly demonstrated how "The Church of God needs no repair, the building may get in bad repair but the Church is in first-class condition."

The p.m. inspirational message was delivered by Reverend H. A. Chubbs, pastor, Providence Baptist Church, Greensboro, N. C., a native of Virginia, he has been in North Carolina 9 years. His message, "Love's Commitment," challenged the pastors to feed my sheep."

The Convention was royally entertained by Dr. J. M. Kennedy and the good people of Second Calvary. Inspiring and informing greetings came from Mrs. J. B. McLester, president of WBH&FM Convention, Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive Secretary WBH&FM, Dr. Wendell Sommerville, Executive Secretary Lott Carey, former president of the Convention, Dr. C. R. Edwards, other Auxiliary presidents and local leaders.

**NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST USHERS'
CONVENTION AN AUXILIARY
OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.**

Dear Pastors and Ushers:

It is with great pleasure that we take this golden opportunity to remind you of the 26th Annual Session of the North Carolina Baptist Ushers' Convention to be held July 15-17, 1975 at the First Baptist Church, Weldon, North Carolina, Reverend John B. Moore, pastor.

Be well assured that this is going to be a great convention because we are attempting great things for a great God. We request your prayers, presence, participation, sharing and encouragement, for without these there can be nothing of value. However, with these ingredients, there is no telling what can be done if we trust God, believe in one another, work together, and then give God the glory.

Please come and bring some friends along, so that they can learn about the good things the ushers are doing here in North Carolina.

Until and beyond then, we are

Your servants in Christ,
S. L. Fennell, President
(Mrs.) C. N. Arrington,
Corresponding Secretary

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SPEAKS



Raleigh, N. C. — Executive Secretary Sherrill was pleased with the response that was made to his call during the One Day Session, May 7, in Charlotte. The churches responded with a total of \$43,289.60. "We are very appreciative of what we have received stated Dr. Sherrill, "But we have a lot of money to raise in order to realize our goals." "Therefore hit the road Jack, to help us make this a reality."

Dates that should be kept in mind are:

THE FISCAL YEAR Of The General Baptist Convention ends **JULY 31, 1975.**

THE LOTT CAREY Baptist Foreign Mission Convention will meet in its 78th Annual Session in Toledo, Ohio, August 25-29, 1975. Headquarters for the Convention will be the Commodore Perry Motor Inn. **THE FISCAL YEAR** of the Lott Carey ends **July 31, 1975.**

The General Baptist Convention and the Laymen's League Convention will meet in Annual Session at the Shiloh Baptist Church, Shelby, N. C., October 27-30, 1975.

The Woman's Convention 91st Annual Session will be held at Shiloh Baptist Church, Greensboro, July 28-31, 1975.

THE FISCAL YEAR of the Woman's Convention ends **May 31, 1975.**

The Twenty-First Annual Christian Youth Seminar, Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C., June 22, 3:30 p.m. and Friday, June 27, 12:00 noon.

Dr. Sherrill is a constant, and popular speaker. He was the guest speaker for the One Day Session of the Middle District Baptist Daughters of Zion Association which held its session at Keathern Chapel Baptist Church of Harrells, N. C., April 16, 1975.

His sermon was based on II King's 7:1-13 which dealt with the Leprous men.

SANDY GROVE INSTALLS PASTOR

Sunday, March 23, 1975 Sandy Grove held an all day installation service for its new pastor, Reverend Sidney Locks of Atlanta, Ga.

Reverend Cleopatrik Lacy, formerly of Atlanta, Ga., delivered the morning message. The young people were in charge of the musical program. Miss Cynthia Grant and Miss Cassi Taylor

served on the rostrum with Reverend Locks and other visiting ministers.

Dr. E. B. Turner, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lumberton, N. C., presided over the afternoon service. Greetings were extended by Dr. J. J. Johnson, President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., Mr. Gene McComb, city manager of Lumberton, Reverend Larry Shelley of the Morehouse School of Religion and Mr. David L. Thompson, Chairman of the Deacon Board.

A fellowship dinner was served and an informal reception completed the afternoon service.

JUNE FATHERS

June is the month set aside to honor fathers, and children, the 2nd and 2rd Sunday respectively. We need good fathers now in order to have good children. Children look to earthly father as we do our heavenly Father. "Father, I stretch my hands to Thee, no other help I know."

As we honor our fathers, let us hope that it will inspire them to be better, as the need today is greater than ever for good guidance, Christian fathers—to help save our men, our mothers, our nation, our world, our souls.

"WHERE ART THOU?"

Charlotte, N. C.—The Laymen's League Convention, meeting in its One Day Session at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Charlotte were challenged by Dr. E. B. Turner to "find out where art thou?" "This is a question God asked Adam, and we need to know where we are as Christians, leaders, husbands, wives, Baptist, Church leaders, and program wise."

The session was very well attended and all the men seemed to have been well informed and greatly inspired. President McQueen called on all pastors and moderators to please answer his call to help him mobilize the Laymen. Dr. J. J. Johnson said that there would be legislation introduced in the State Assembly to the effect that parents would be responsible for the acts of their children until age 16.

A resolution was adopted changing the Laymen's Session to Friday during its Annual Session with the parent body. Another resolution stated that the laymen would sponsor a program to raise \$20,000.00 for the Unified Program in an effort to raise \$10,000.00 for Shaw.

The convention theme was: "Come Let Us Reason Together." Isaiah 1:18.

All brothers went home greatly inspired by Dr. Leon Riddick's sermon which urged the laymen to let God take first place in their lives.

NO DOUBT ABOUT IT



Tarboro, N. C.—When Dr. G. E. Brown was installed as pastor of the Batts Chapel Baptist Church last March 23rd, the praise and thanksgiving by members and friends left no doubt that they believed that God had blessed them with another great leader. The church, located in Tarboro, N. C., has an illustrious history and has been fortunate to have had a number of outstanding pastors. It is a progressive church that has contributed greatly to the religious growth and development of the Tarboro community.

The Installation sermon delivered by Reverend R. H. Kidd, was quite appropriate for the man and the occasion. The charge to the pastor based on Jeremiah 3:5 . . . “and I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding,” was given by Reverend J. H. Hyman. This is just what Dr. Brown is doing at Batts Chapel. Under his dynamic leadership a B. T. U. and many other auxiliaries have been organized. Because Dr. Brown is a great teacher, pastor, and leader, many new leaders have began working. New members are being added, the missionary department has become stronger and a new annex has been added to the church edifice.

The congregation was moved as they worshiped that day, in an atmosphere of music that was appropriate for the occasion.

Dr. Brown resides in Williamston, N. C. and is the moderator of the Middle Ground Baptist Association and the Middle Ground Union. He is president of the United Eastern District Convention, and a member of the General Board of the General Baptist State Convention.

On the educational side, he earned his Doctor of Divinity Degree from Union Christian Bible Insti-

tute, Durham, N. C. Also Dr. Brown is a teacher of the Middle Ground Association Training Union, and Chairman of the Executive Board of the Old Eastern Association.

There is no doubt about, Batts Chapel Church is blessed with another great Spiritual leader.

SOME DREAMS COME TRUE

By Paul B. Barnette



Shelby, N. C. — The mortgage-burning ceremony, held at the Washington Baptist Church, Shelby, N. C., Sunday, March 10th at 3:00 p.m. was a “dream come true” for Dr. Paul B. Barnette. Pastor Barnette had held a vision of this event in his mind for a number of years before it became a reality.

Members of the church and the pastor have worked hard to realize the goal of retiring the mortgage on their church. The ceremony, pictured below, marks the notable event.

From left to right, Clayward C. Corry, Financial Chairman, kindled the fire; Dock Evans, Treasurer, lighting the mortgage; Hillard D. Ramseur, subcontractor, completed the present building; O. J. Borders, Chairman of Deacons, accepted the mortgage; and W. B. Howell, Chairman of Trustees, presented the mortgage; Rev. Paul B. Barnette, center.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER

Leo Williams, Jr., Director

The time is upon us once more to plan for a banner year in the work of Christian Education with our State Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress. The 102nd Annual Session of the Sunday School Congress and the 75th Annual Session (Diamond Jubilee) of the Baptist Training Union Congress will meet with the Shiloh

Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, Dr. J. Ray Butler, pastor, August 5-7, 1975.

Enrollment of messengers and registration for classes will begin Tuesday, August 5, 9:00 A.M. The opening assembly will begin at 10:00 A.M. There will be sessions on Tuesday afternoon, Tuesday night, Wednesday morning, Wednesday afternoon, Wednesday night, and the closing session on Thursday morning.

The Program Committee has planned a dynamic and challenging program to involve persons from nine years of age and upward. Eight class divisions have been planned with two sections to each class. Four workshop periods will be interspersed throughout the Congress period. Two sermons will be delivered during the meeting: the Annual Sermon on Tuesday night; and the closing sermon on Thursday morning. The B. T. U. Oratorical Contest is scheduled for Thursday morning.

In accord with the Four-Year Program of the National Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress, our General Theme for 1974-77 is "Biblical Images for Contemporary Culture." Our State Theme for 1975 is "The Biblical Image of Man and Contemporary Culture." The Emphases for 1975 are: 1. The Biblical Image of Inter-Human Relations: Man and His Fellowman; 2. The Servant Ministry: Priesthood of Believers; 3. Dealing With Each Other in the Context of the Gospel; 4. Teaching God's Intent for Inter-Personal Relations.

The registration goal for 1975 is to have twelve hundred (1200) Sunday Schools and five hundred (500) Baptist Training Unions pre-register by July 31. Registration forms and information will be mailed to District and County Convention Presidents to be distributed to the personnel in churches in their conventions. There are sixty district Sunday School Conventions and approximately 25 district Baptist Training Union Conventions affiliated with the General Baptist State Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress. Each president is kindly asked to be sure that his convention is properly represented.

Our financial goal is twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00). This is a realistic goal and it can be reached through the cooperation of pastors, superintendents, directors, presidents, and church members in general.

On to Winston-Salem for the greatest year ever in the Lord's work of Christian Education.

Persons attending the 102nd Annual Session of the State Sunday School Congress and the 75th Annual Session of the Baptist Training Congress August 5-7th, 1975 may contact the following motels for accommodations:

Downtowner, 128 N. Cherry Street, Phone 723-8861

Single \$15.00 Double \$18.50

Hilton Inn, 420 High Street, Phone 723-7911

Single \$17.00 Double \$23.00

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Paris, France—no details necessary;

London, England—shopping? A cruise on the Thames? A side tour? The theatre? Take your choice.

All of this for only \$1,169 (plus some incidentals) from New York to New York. All details are available on request. Rates are subject to change.

A group of pastors and laymen are already enrolled. Some room is still available. Ask today!!!

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The Baptist Informer

LIGHT  TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, JULY, 1975

NUMBER 7



MRS. J. B. McLESTER
President

Woman's Convention Issue
THE 91ST ANNUAL SESSION
OF
THE WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME
AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY
CONVENTION OF
NORTH CAROLINA
TO BE HELD AT
THE SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
GREENSBORO
DR. OTIS L. HAIRSTON, Minister

THEME: "REACH OUT
AND TOUCH"



MRS. M. A. HORNE
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

HEADQUARTERS:

The Hilton Inn

Pre-Convention Banquet—

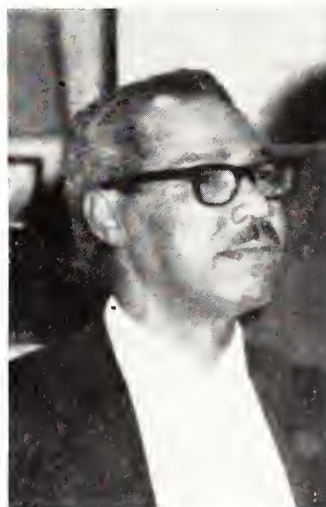
Monday, July 28—6:00 p.m.
The Hilton Inn

Banquet Speaker—

Dr. Coleman W. Kerry, Jr.
Pastor Friendship Baptist
Church, Charlotte
Presiding, Mrs. Bronnie
Daniels

THE ANNUAL REPORT:

Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive
Secretary-Treasurer



DR. COLEMAN W. KERRY, JR.
Banquet Speaker

ADDRESSES:

Mrs. Nettie P. Gaither, President
Lott Carey Woman's Auxiliary
Mrs. J. B. McLester, Senior
Miss Natalie Mitchell, Young
Adult
Miss Audry Kee, Youth

PREACHING AT ITS BEST:

The Reverend W. C. Hay,
Winston-Salem
The Reverend John Bee Moore,
Weldon
The Reverend William Lee,
Pineville
Dr. R. W. Perry, Henderson

(Continued on page 3)

THE BAPTIST INFORMER
ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

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“LETTERS TO-THE-EDITOR”

Letters-to-the Editor” express the personal opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of the editor nor Convention officials. All letters must be signed with the understanding that the editor reserves the right to decide which letters will be published. Letters should offer constructive criticism about the Convention program in general.

Dear Co-Workers:

I enjoy reading the Baptist Informer. Seldom I am able to meet with you in the various sessions.

It makes me happy to learn that you are making progress.

Yours in Christ,
 Mrs. Lillie B. Johnson
 717 South Main Street
 Roxboro, N. C. 27573

**DR. CRAIG CONGRESS
 INSTRUCTOR**

The National Baptist Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress of the National Baptist Convention, Inc. convened June 16-20, 1975 in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. C. C. Craig, Assistant to Executive Secretary Sherrill, and one of the faculty members of the Congress, was assigned to teach Baptist Doctrines. The National Baptist Congress is the largest Black Baptist group in America.

CORRECTIONS

The June issue of the Baptist Informer carried the date of the 78th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention for August 25th-29th. The CORRECT DATE IS SEPTEMBER 1-5, 1975, Toledo, Ohio.

The June issue of the Baptist Informer carried the date of the fiscal year of the General Baptist Convention as ending July 31, 1975. THE CORRECT DATE IS AUGUST 31, 1975.

OBITUARY

Charlotte, N. C.—The late Dr. A. Jackson Ryans was funeralized Saturday, June 7, 1975, at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C.

The passing of Dr. Ryans marked the close of an illustrious career as a servant of our Lord Jesus Christ, a servant to his fellowman, a great pastor, preacher, and Baptist leader. The Baptist family bows in humble submission to the will of Almighty God, who does all things well, and extends deepest sympathy to the Ryans family.

NAME AND ADDRESS CORRECTION
 For Baptist Informer Subscribers

CORRECT NAME

CORRECT MAILING ADDRESS

.....

Return this to the Baptist Informer with your new subscription and renewal remittance.

Woman's Page-----

(Continued from page 1)

MUSIC—The Central Orphanage Choir, Oxford
Shiloh Choirs, Greensboro
Galilee Church Choir, Winston-Salem
The Woman's Convention Choirs
The J. Ray Butler Young Adult Choir,
Winston-Salem

SYMPOSIUM—Reach Out And Touch
In Soul Winning—Mrs. Delois McClain,
Fayetteville
In Reconciliation—Mrs. C. W. Kerry, Jr.,
Charlotte
In World Mission—Mrs. Novella Whitted,
Lumberton

PAGEANT—The Year-Round Committees
Narrators:
Mrs. J. H. Little, Monroe
Mrs. Helen W. Falls, Winston-Salem
Soloists:
Mrs. J. Y. Mims, Henderson
Mrs. Mary Edwards, Kings Mountain

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:
Unique, Distinctive and Powerful
Dr. J. Archie Hargraves, President
Shaw University
Dr. E. Burns Turner, Chairman
Shaw Divinity School

THE MISS SHAW CONTEST—Youth

THE HAVE A HEART FOR MISSIONS—Youth

**PLAYLETT "YOUR CONVENTION AND
MINE"**—Young Adult

THEY WERE THERE

By Mrs. Jettie M. Lucas

Laurel Hill, N. C.—The 38th Annual Missionary Conference sponsored by the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention was held at the Baptist Assembly, June 2-6, Mrs. M. A. Horne, Conference Chairlady. The theme of the Conference—"LEADERSHIP—THE JOB—THE OBJECTIVES—THE METHODS." Textbook studied—CALLED TO MINISTER—Mieburg.

President McLester was at her best as she taught as one having authority. Other activities included out-door sing-inspiration, worship, nature study, talent display, delicious food and comfortable sleeping. Mrs. Mary Smith served as Conference dietician.

The Conference closed on a high note as the

Reverend R. D. Lucas, pastor, First Baptist Church, Lawndale, delivered the spiritual filled closing message. The women wanted to remain another week but the Camping session forced them home.

THE ALL BAPTIST FAMILY PICNIC

READ — REJOICE — PARTICIPATE!

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is Good.

INVITATION

The Baptist family of North Carolina is having an old fashion Baptist picnic. Baptist from all sections of North Carolina must be there (ministers, laymen, women, youths).

Come and see what God has wrought.

What: Baptist Family Picnic

Where: Laurel Hill, North Carolina

J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly

When: Saturday, July 12, 1975

Time: From sun rise _____ sun set

Ages: From Birth _____ 100 years

Charter buses, pool cars, station wagons and even skates.

GAMES

Baseball, basketball, swimming, horseshoe pitching, rope jumping, races.

WOMEN vs. MEN

YOUTHS vs. YOUTHS

Eating (bring old fashion picnic baskets).

COME AND FELLOWSHIP!

SEE YOUR PROPERTY!

"WHY A FOREIGN MISSION DEPARTMENT?"

By Reverend R. D. Lucas

Lawndale, N. C.—The purpose of this article is to discuss the "Why of a Foreign Mission Department: in a local church.

Every age in history man has asked the question "Why?" This question has moved mankind another joint step toward understanding the world in which we live and has created the curiosity necessary for progress.

On January 12th, 1975, the First time anywhere. The First Baptist Church of Lawndale, North Carolina organized a Foreign Mission Group

within its Missionary Department (circle) and the name of that group is the R. D. Lucas Foreign Mission Group Number One, the question was asked then "Why?"

This article shall briefly answer in part the question "Why?"

Christ's commission has echoed through the centuries, transcending time and out living all eras. The commission is contemporary: "Go, then, to all people everywhere and make them my disciples: Baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember! I will be with you always, to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20 R.S.V.)

Christ's commission is a mandate with a world scope—all nations, even unto the end of the world. We feel that the mission he describes is the most demanding assignment ever made. Christ, who commissioned His church and gave his followers their marching orders, describes his work in the world in clear terms. The contemporary (timeless) challenge is as exacting today as the original one: A Church must be able to take hold of its mission on Christ's scale—giving the whole gospel to the whole world.

Although from century to century the nature of world needs may change and have changed but its crushing weight is the same today. And we believe a church's responsibility for lifting the burden of need never subsides. **HUMAN despair** gripped the mind of Christ and helped set the course of His work from day to day. In this century, the human situation, together with God's mandate to teach the nations, is the church's signal to missions advance.

The world view of need can be understood best in human terms. Every where are graphic parallels to the world that Jesus knew the world of Bethsaida, of Nicodemus, of Mary Magdalene, and of lonely lepers. The twentieth-century counterparts are many: An aged patriarch in Yemen who has never seen a doctor; a modern youth in Africa, anguished by the vacuum life from his rejection of tribal religion; hundreds of lepers dying in India without ever knowing why, hundreds in Guyana, South America who do not know who God is; thousands in Liberia Africa who may never finish the first grade in school; thousands in Nigeria, Africa who must meet God on Sunday morning under a tree or brush-arbor instead of a church building; the hostile rebellion of an American youth, not quite sixteen, but in trouble with the law; a shy Oriental mother, bowing low to Buddha and rising with an empty heart; an old woman dying from cancer, cruelly slow to take its toll. These things are happening all over the world while we sit here asking why?

We believe that each church must measure itself in terms of its relationship to a world task. The church must discern what God is doing in the world and share his work in it. Every church must start where it is and ultimately expand its horizon until the scope of its interest and concern includes the world. We believe a church's neighborhood and the world's frontier are both within a church's responsibilities.

The church missions program is committed to helping a church achieve its full potential in proclaiming the changeless gospel to a changing world.

We believe the church was not designed to be a reservoir, ever receiving and retaining for itself God's spiritual blessings, but rather a conduit conveying them on and out to others everywhere. Its true mission was, and must ever continue to be, the same as its Lord's—to seek and save the lost, wherever these are to be found, whether at home or in distant lands.

Are Christians really "the light of the world," as Jesus called them? Then they are surely not meant simply to be enjoying that light, snugly shut up within the comfortable lighthouse of the Church. They are to be flashing out that light far and wide, in order that mariners in peril upon the

(Continued on page 5)

NATIONAL BAPTIST PLANE

The National Baptist Convention U. S. A., Inc. will meet in St. Louis, Missouri, September 8-14, 1975.

The General Baptist State Convention is chartering a first class jet to this meeting on September 9.

The cost of this trip is only \$158.00. A deposit of \$25.00 will reserve a seat for you on the plane, and the remaining amount will be due by July 25, 1975.

For further information contact O. L. Sherrill or C. C. Craig at Baptist Headquarters, Raleigh, N. C.

Please enroll me for the trip to St. Louis, Missouri, September 9-13, 1975. My deposit of \$25.00 per person is enclosed.

Name _____ Date _____

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Make check payable to: National Baptist Plane.

Mail to: Baptist Headquarters, 603 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

(Continued from page 4)

raging sea may see it and be rescued and guided to safety.

Is the church actually an "army of Christian Soldiers?" Then its chief function is to fight, and not merely to maintain drill target practice and dress parade within the barracks. It is designed to be a spiritual army of conquest, engaged in an offensive warfare on a world scale, pressing the claims of Christ and assisting Him in achieving His glorious purpose for the whole human race. We do well to keep in mind that this is still the day of the church Militant; it is not the day of the church at rest.

DO YOU STILL ASK WHY A FOREIGN MISSION DEPARTMENT?—If so, then may this solemn truth search the conscience and move the hearts of everyone of you, convicting of the duty, and persuading of the high privilege, of fulfilling the sacred trust committed to the church, and to every individual member of that church of taking the Bread of Life with all possible speed to a multitude of souls that are dying for the like of it.

"Lord Thou has giv'n to me a trust,
A high and holy dispensation,
To tell the world, and tell I must,
The story of Thy great salvation;
Thou might have sent from heav'n above
Angelic hosts to tell the story,
But in thy condescending love,
On man thou has conferred the glory."

"Let me be faithful to my trust
Telling the world the story;
Press on my heart the woe,
Put in my feet the go;
Let me be faithful to my trust,
And use me for thy glory."

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT

To bring the church's total program in line with the great commission, Matthew 28:19-20, and to strengthen the Cause of Christ by recruiting non-active members for a more effective missionary action.

To offer other opportunities for a more unified and effective service at home and abroad.

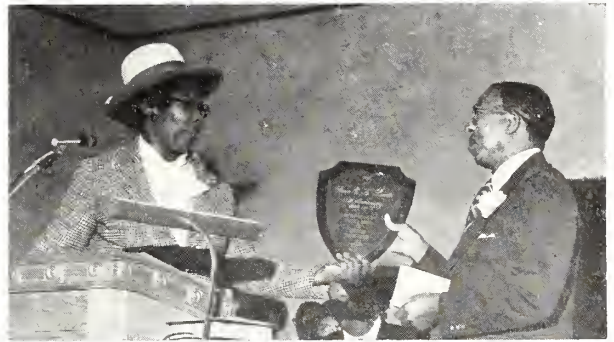
To stimulate a true Foreign Missionary spirit in the church and to awaken a deeper interest in the work of Foreign Mission.

To help support the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missionary Convention.

To strengthen the objectives of the General Baptist State Convention and the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention—Auxiliary to the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

NOTED PASTOR HONORED

By Mrs. Mary Williams



Mrs. Mary L. Williams presents plaque to Reverend E. L. Brodie for thirty-five years of service in the pulpit at Mitchell Baptist Church.

Louisburg, N. C.—The photo shows the deep sense of appreciation on the face of Reverend Earlie Linwood Brodie, noted pastor of Mitchell Baptist Church, as he receives a plaque for thirty-five years in the pulpit.

The plaque was enthusiastically presented to Reverend Brodie by Mrs. Mary Williams, as she ably and eloquently expressed the sentiment of the membership and friends. The occasion was the thirty-fifth Anniversary Service for Pastor Brodie.

The church history, presented by the clerk, Miss Mildred Fogg, revealed that Mitchell Baptist Church originated from a bush arbor. Today it is a large brick structure with twenty-one classrooms, library, office, kitchen, fellowship hall, ushers' room, and pastor's study.

Pastor Brodie began his humble service in March 1940. With his fatherly love and understanding he has made many accomplishments. A few of which are: organized a departmentalized Sunday School with the six point record system; led the church to affiliate with all departments of the General Baptist Convention; organized a Usher Board; set up a training institute; provided a full-year head start program; organized a pastor's aide club; launched a building program 1956; renovated the sanctuary and built educational building 1963; installed an organ and air conditioning unit. The membership has grown from thirty (30) in 1867 to seven hundred (700) in 1974.

In his tribute to the pastor, Mr. Eddie T. Wilson said: "What kept pastor Brodie at Mitchell? He was called by God, kept by God, and sent by the Holy Spirit. He has not only fed His sheep, he has fed His lamb."

The Anniversary Sermon was delivered by Reverend Moses Williams, pastor, Zion Baptist Church, Baltimore, Md. He said that a great man

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

is a servant of God, whose ministry transcends his local area. Pastor Brodie not only has turned Mitchell Church around physically, but has also turned it around spiritually. You are fortunate to have had him come to Mitchell Church and will not find another among millions.

Dr. R. W. Perry, Moderator of the Original Shiloh Association, stated that it is a honor to have a leader like this whose influence is felt in the county, and state.

Soloist for the occasion was Mrs. Hazel Jones of Cotton Memorial Presbyterian Church of Henderson.

The church clubs presented pastor Brodie with a gift of \$1,097.35, and many other gifts.

The occasion drew an overflow crowd, as guest came from the adjoining counties, Washington, D. C., Maryland, and Virginia.

Following the worship service, a fellowship dinner was held in the church fellowship hall. The guest table was covered with a light blue cloth trimmed with white lace, a two-tiered Anniversary cake and two silver candles in silver candle holders graced the center of the table.

Congratulations Reverend Brodie, the Baptist family salutes you.

ARTHUR WILLIAMS HONORED

By Mrs. Margrette Parker



Louisburg, N. C.—

SUBJECT: Expression of Appreciation to Mr. Arthur Williams, Past Moderator Original Shiloh Association.

Brother Moderator, Platform Guests, Ladies, and Gentlemen:

I deem it an honor, as well as a privilege, to have been asked to bring expressions from the Original Shiloh Missionary Baptist Association honoring Mr. Arthur Williams.

Mr. Williams was the first and only layman ever to be elected Moderator by this body. He served in this capacity for seven fruitful and rewarding years—September, 1967 to September, 1974. Therefore, it is indeed proper and fitting that we should pause here to express our sincere appreciation and deep gratitude to Mr. Williams.

I feel that the seven years that Mr. Williams served as Moderator will go down in the historical records of this association as an "Innovative Era," simply because, in my opinion, Mr. Williams envisioned new ideas and was divinely inspired to take that giant step to put them into action.

Let's review some of the innovative ideas brought into play under the leadership of Mr. Williams:

First—Organization of the Association Choir seeking to involve several members of every church choir in the association, under the able leadership of Mrs. J. Y. Mims as Director, and the following organists: Mrs. A. C. Rowland, Mrs. Rachel Jeffrey, and Miss M. M. Martin. In 1969, the Association celebrated its One Hundredth Anniversary. At this celebration the Association Choir was featured in a Musical Concert. The congregation was spiritually uplifted and inspired by the rendition.

Second—The Association Institute and Stewardship Workshops were organized in order to expand the teaching aspect and to explore new avenues in learning and sharing Biblical Truths and Religious Experiences. Outstanding instructors were secured in leadership roles; namely, Rev. R. M. Williams, Baltimore, Maryland; Rev. S. A. Raper, Shelby, North Carolina; Dr. K. O. P. Goodwin, Winston-Salem, North Carolina; Mrs. Annie Filmore; Mrs. J. A. Little; Rev. R. D. Lucas; Dr. E. B. Turner; and others.

Third—Realizing the churches' responsibility to carry out the commission of Jesus Christ, in 1973 the Association Committee on Christian Education was organized. All churches in the Association were urged to feel free to call on this committee in the areas of training and securing financial assistance for worthy students. Special emphasis was placed on assisting students in training for the ministry.

Fourth—In 1973, the Shiloh Developmental Corporation was organized. The purpose of this organization is to give impetus to community needs in order to provide businesses and industries run by blacks to improve the economic conditions of black people.

Mr. Williams left no stones unturned in going

all out and tapping all available resources in bringing to the Association top ministers in the field—Dr. Paul Johnson, Dr. J. W. White, Dr. John Wesley Ship, Dr. C. R. Edwards, Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Dr. O. B. Burson—just to name a few.

Now, let me tell you people, Mr. Williams did not always have it easy in providing such leadership. In the words of Langston Hughes, "Life for him ain't been no crystal stair." It's had rocks in it, and bumps, and detours, and dead-ends; but he was possessed with a **Faith** that would not shrink, though pressed by every foe; That would not tremble on the brink of any earthly woe.

A summary of the services of Mr. Arthur Williams as Moderator of this great body for the past seven years can be realized through the use of the ideas expressed by Edgar A. Guest in his poem entitled, "Sermons We See":

I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me than merely tell the way.
The eye's a better pupil and more willing than the ear,
Fine counsel is confusing, but example's always clear;
And the best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds,
For to see good put into action is what everybody needs.
I soon can learn to do it if you'll let me see it done;
I can watch your hands in action, but your tongue too fast may run.
And the lecture you deliver may be very wise and true,
But I'd rather get my lessons by observing what you do;
For I might misunderstand you and the high advice you give,
But there's no misunderstanding how you act and how you live.
When I see a deed of kindness, I am eager to be kind,
When a weaker brother stumbles and a strong man stays behind.
Just to see if he can help him, then the wish grows strong in me
To become as big and thoughtful as I know that friend to be.
And all travelers can witness that the best of guides today
Is not the one who tells them, but the one who shows the way,
One good man teaches many, men believe what they behold.
One deed of kindness noticed is worth forty that are told,
Who stands with men of honor learns to hold his honor dear,

For right living speaks a language which to everyone is clear.

Though an able speaker charms me with his eloquence, I say,

I'd rather see a sermon than to hear one any day.

BUS CHARTERED TO LOTT CAREY

By Dr. C. W. Ward

Raleigh, N. C.—Dr. W. B. Lewis, pastor, First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church and Dr. C. W. Ward, pastor of First Baptist Church of Raleigh, North Carolina will sponsor a bus to the 78th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention to convene in Toledo, Ohio September 1-5, 1975.

The bus will leave Raleigh at 9:00 p.m. September 1, 1975, and will make stops in Durham, Greensboro, and Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Cost for the trip is \$90.00, including round trip bus fare and hotel accommodations (2 persons per room).

Interested persons should send in reservations to Dr. Lewis, 1515 Cross Link Road, Raleigh, N. C. or to Dr. C. W. Ward, 101 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N. C. or to Mrs. Margarie Dunn, Baptist Headquarters Building, 602 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N. C. The total fare must be paid on or before July 15.

ST. PAUL TO LAY CORNERSTONE

By Reverend Marion J. Wade



Fayetteville, N. C. — Another milestone was reached in the history of St. Paul Baptist Church of Fayetteville, N. C., when their recent renovation program was completed. The church is planning a cornerstone laying ceremony for Sunday, July 13, 1975, at 3:30 p.m.

St. Paul was organized in 1904 and has an illustrious history. The pastor is the Reverend Marion Jerome Wade. He is a graduate of the Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida. Reverend Wade is married to the former Miss Beatrice Parrish of Lakeland, Florida.

The cornerstone laying program is expected to be greatly enhanced by many of the distinguished ministers in the area appearing on program. St. Paul is in the Union Baptist Association, Dr. C. R. Edwards, moderator.

The A. T. Henderson Masonic Lodge #792, Brother Alexander Alford, Worshipful Master, will be in charge of the cornerstone laying.

DR. BUTLER PASTOR OF THE YEAR

By Mrs. Velma Hopkins



Winston-Salem, N. C.—Dr. J. Ray Butler, pastor and Shiloh Baptist Church of Winston-Salem, N. C. were honored on the national level on Sunday, May 25, 1975. Pastor Butler was named "Pastor of the Year, and Shiloh "Church of the Year" during the Annual Musical Awards and Recognition services held at 4:00 p.m. at the Greater Bethesda Baptist Church, Dr. A. Lincoln James, pastor, Chicago, Illinois. Pastor Butler attended these special services at which a trophy and certificate were presented to him.

Under the astute leadership of Reverend Butler, the religious functions and purposes of Shiloh Baptist Church have grown in immediate community as well as the state and nation.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS MADE AT SHILOH UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF PASTOR BUTLER:

1. Contributed \$13,025.00 to Missions and Outreached Ministry to the General Baptist State Convention during the last fiscal year, 1973-74.
2. Twenty-five men added to the Board of Deacons.
3. Twenty persons added to the Board of Trustees, with two persons representing the women of the church for the first time.
4. Two full time secretaries employed.
5. One full time custodian and one part-time custodian employed.
6. Finance Committee reorganized and enlarged. Four women included for the first time. A total of eleven persons are now serving on the Finance Committee.
7. A Church Auditor was appointed in 1970.
8. The Church Budget Income has grown from \$35,000.00 in 1969 to \$206,000.00 in 1974.
9. The Joint Missionary Society was organized in 1970 with eight groups which included the entire parish. The Joint Missionary Society now consists of eleven groups.
10. The Young Adult Department was organized in July, 1970 in order that persons between the ages of 21-40 might become more involved in church work. Persons

19-20 are also associated with the Young Adult Department.

11. The J. Ray Butler Young Adult Choir (named in honor of Pastor Butler) was organized in May, 1972 with 32 chartered members. Over 100 members are now associated with this choir.
12. The reorganization of the Youth Department assures the youth, 13-18 years of age, a greater opportunity for service and growth.
13. A Junior and Intermediate Department for children 8-12 years of age have a glorious opportunity to serve. There is a Department for Tots, 7 years of age and below.
14. The membership has been reorganized and restructured and now includes 13 Auxiliaries, 4 Departments, 3 Missionary Department Groups (Junior, Youth and Young Adult) 1 Joint Missionary Society and 5 important committees, namely:
 - a. In 1970, a Public Relations and Publicity Committee was organized, and a Personnel Committee was appointed.
 - b. In 1971, a Building Committee was appointed.
 - c. In 1972, a New Members and Musical Coordinating Committees were appointed.
15. Each Auxiliary and Department has an assigned Deacon as an Advisor.
16. The present membership has grown from 778, June 30, 1970 to 1,225 in April, 1975. 625 new members, 1970-75.
17. The \$275,000.00 new Annex and renovation program have been completed and the final stage of renovation to the third story of the Educational Building will be undertaken in the near future.

The honor bestowed upon Pastor Butler and Shiloh exemplifies vital Christian Faith. By the GRACE OF GOD, WE HAVE COME THIS FAR BY FAITH AND DEEDS.

TAYLORS CHAPEL REVITALIZED

By Gregory T. Headen

Sanford, N. C.—This small congregation has recently established itself as a stationed church. Two years ago, Taylors Chapel Baptist Church, Route 4, Sanford, was having preaching (worship service) twice a month. Presently service is being held each week.

This church was organized in the 1870's. Since it has been stationed, it has doubled its financial assets. The membership is growing rapidly and work is scheduled to begin on a new sanctuary early this year. The land has been purchased and cleared, the blueprints are drawn, and the well has been drilled; funds are steadily increasing.

We are asking the prayers of the entire Baptist Convention. Reverend Gregory T. Headen is pastor.

Editor's note: Please know that Taylors Chapel has the concern, good will, and prayers of the General Baptist Convention. We congratulate you and encourage you to keep up the good work. Support the Lord's work through the Unified Program as you build, and God will send a greater blessing upon Taylors Chapel.

WHITE MINISTER'S 1ST SERMONS WERE HEARD BY BLACK CHURCHES

By George Sheridan



Left to right Shaw President Dr. J. Archie Hargraves talks with Dr. W. R. Grigg (center) and Dr. E. Burns Turner, Chairman of Trustees of Shaw Divinity School.

Atlanta, Ga.—W. R. Grigg, 65, a white Southern Baptist minister preached some of his first sermons at age 19 in black churches and some of his first close friends in the ministry are black pastors.

That was back in the days when it was a daring and sometimes dangerous thing for blacks and whites to relate too closely.

Grigg recalls, "I just wanted places to preach, "and I wasn't aware that this was not the way it was done." After that, I always had black pastors to preach in my pulpit whenever I wanted.

Grigg's career has been one of promoting cooperation and understanding between black and white Baptists. He is now retiring from the Southern Baptist Mission Board's Department of cooperative ministries with National Baptists.

This retirement does not mean an end to his mission efforts.

The former pastor is going to Shaw University Divinity School, a black institution founded by Baptists in Raleigh, N. C., where he will serve as professor of missions and director of development. "My basic intention in life for many years has been to bring about a more Christ-like understanding of all people and to grow more and better Baptist churches," says Grigg.

Grigg began to develop interracial cooperation in his ministry as soon as he began preaching. He attributes his openness to his parents who always had a concern for people as people.

Grigg obtained degrees at Wofford College, Spartanburg, S. C., and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He has served churches in North Carolina, Indiana, Illinois, and Georgia between 1935 and 1953.

In 1954, Grigg became director of the department of work for Negroes in the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

From 1957-65, Grigg served as director of the department of work with Negroes for the North Carolina Baptist State Convention.

Grigg was a frequent participant in demonstrations promoting desegregation of public services, during the civil rights movement. He wrote numerous articles for general publication opposing segregation.

Grigg notes that throughout his career there has been an undercurrent of opposition to his efforts at interracial cooperation but says that this has been mostly verbal.

There are two times when Dr. Grigg was afraid for the safety of his wife and self. The first incident was at a service station near Enterprise, Ala., where an attendant spotted some interracial tracts in their car, pointed a pistol at the couple and threatened several times to shoot them before finally allowing them to depart with a warning never to return.

Another time, the Griggs were harassed by a deputy sheriff in Warren County, N. C., after he saw them leaving a black church where Grigg had been preaching.

Dr. Grigg has conducted campaigns in Alaska, the Bahama Islands, Jamaica, and Nicaragua.

Dr. Grigg, please know that the General Baptist family welcomes you back home.

WESTERN UNION ASSOCIATION OF SAMPSON COUNTY

The Associational Cooperative Institute of the Western Union Missionary Baptist Association of Sampson County was held with the First Baptist Church of Clinton, N. C., Reverend Clifford A. Jones, pastor.

The Institute opened February 17-28. Classes were held each night for two hours and thirty minutes. Much information was received from the work done in each class.

Instructors for the two weeks were:

Ministers—Reverend J. H. Everett

Deacons and Trustees—Reverend C. A. Jones

Ushers—Deacon A. L. Sampson

Missionaries—Mrs. Emmaline Sampson

Sunday School and B. T. U.—Mrs. A. J. Hall

The Institute Music Choir was provided by the members from different churches. Ministers delivering sermons were: Reverend Charles Matthews, Reverend H. R. Cogdell, Reverend R. W. Lowe, Reverend W. H. Mainor.

The Institute Director for the weeks was the Reverend Jack L. Ezzell.

Officers of the Western Union Association are:

Moderator: Reverend J. H. Everett

Vice-Moderator: Reverend C. A. Jones

Recording Secretary: Reverend F. R. Peterson

Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. Mamie McFaison

DURHAM MINISTER RECEIVES MASTER OF THEOLOGY

By V. T. Walthour



Durham, N. C.—Friday, May 30, 1975, marked another outstanding accomplishment for Reverend W. T. Bigelow, pastor of Greater St. Paul Baptist Church of Durham, N. C. Reverend Bigelow received the Master of Theology Degree from the United Christian College of Goldsboro, North Carolina at the annual Commencement Exercise.

Reverend Bigelow is a graduate of the United Christian College where he also received the Bachelor of Theology Degree there. He is also a recipient of the Doctor of Divinity Degree obtained from the Virginia Seminary at Lynchburg, Virginia.

On Sunday, June 22, Reverend Bigelow celebrated his Tenth Anniversary at the Greater St. Paul Baptist Church. The guest speaker will be Dr. W. Hall, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York.

OPERATION SHEPHERD

By Karen Drum

Raleigh, N. C.—An attempt to reach 85,000 elderly citizens to inform them about supplemental security income (SSI) is in progress.

The N. C. Council of Churches, which sponsors the project called "Operation Shepherd," has distributed SSI screening forms to over 11,000 churches across the state. Ministers of churches will distribute the forms and will return those completed to local social security offices. Appointments will then be made for applicants.

Of the estimated 160,000 persons 65 years of age and over who are below poverty level in North Carolina, only 75,429 were receiving SSI in December 1974.

"We feel that 'Operation Shepherd' is one of the best ways to contact people who need these benefits and are not getting them," said Robert Q. Beard, Director of the Governor's Coordinating Council on Aging, which is providing a \$7,700 grant for the project.

"The project will help us find isolated people who are eligible for SSI and will help the religious segment of the community minister to the needs of the elderly," Beard stated.

In recent months state, federal and private organizations have made a major effort to reach persons who should receive supplemental security income. North Carolina ranks fourth in the nation in the number of new persons filing and receiving SSI benefits.

SSI is a national program for citizens over 65 years old and the blind or disabled, who have little or no income and limited resources.

The basic aim of SSI is to assure an income of \$146 a month for individuals and \$219 a month to couples. This amount varies according to the person's income and living arrangements.

CLERGY CONFERENCE ON AGING

By Dr. J. R. Manley

Chapel Hill, N. C.—The Model Project: Ministries with the aging of North Carolina Council of Churches will host a clergy conference on aging, August 13-14 in Greensboro, N. C. The conference will deal with three main themes: (1) The Church providing a service to the elderly, (2) The church motivating its members to relate to service that are provided for the elderly and (3) The church making its facilities available for service to the elderly.

The conference promises to be extremely important since the population is getting older as a result of people living longer. There will be a limited number that can be served, therefore; if it is extremely important that any person interested in this conference get in touch with the Reverend Richard F. McCleary, Coordinator, Post Office Box 12464, Raleigh, N. C. 27605, who is also the coordinator for the Model Project: Ministries with the aging, North Carolina Council of Churches.

The conference promises to provide expert figures, County by County as well as experts from church and agencies dealing with the ministry to the aging.

Dr. J. R. Manley is a member of the Advisory Committee Model Project, Ministries with the aging, North Carolina Council of Churches.

The main resource person will be the Reverend Albert Cole, Executive Director—Mid American Resource and Training Center on Aging.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES NEED CLERGY HELP

By Robert L. (Bob) White

Washington, D. C.—On Friday, March 21, 1975, Congressman Parren J. Mitchell (D-7th-Md.) announced the introduction of the "Postal Employees' Right to Representation" Bill. The Bill is designed to rectify a Congressional omission in the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970, which the Postal Service and national craft unions have chosen to exploit.

The need for the Bill was brought to Mr. Mitchell's attention by the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees, a largely Black Union with a membership of over 30,000 workers, which has been denied "legitimacy" by the Postal Service.

In his letter to Colleagues in the House urging co-sponsorship of the legislation, Congressman Mitchell explained that when President Kennedy gave Federal and Postal Employees limited collective bargaining rights in 1961, each employee was given the express right to choose his own representative in grievance and adverse actions. In 1970, when Congress reorganized the Postal Service, it neglected to include the same assurance. Mr. Mitchell's Bill, H.R. 5023 is currently pending consideration by the Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

I would certainly appreciate receiving your support for H.R. 5023, the Bill which Congressman Mitchell has introduced. If you feel that you can support this "right of choice" Bill for Postal employees, please write to your Congressman and the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee. Express your interest in H.R. 5023 and urge their support of this Bill.

CLERGY INVOLVEMENT URGED

By D. W. Headen

Ramseur, N. C.—The Deep River Ministers Laymen Union was recently held at Oakland Baptist Church, Ramseur, N. C. Reverend D. F. Brown, moderator presided. The Reverend J. E. Lucas of Robbins, N. C. was host pastor. Sermons were delivered by Reverend A. R. Cheek, and Reverend David Jones. Reverend J. H. Johnson and Reverend James E. Brown discussed the 16th Article of Faith of the Baptist Church, "Civic Government." The young minister pointed out that we as Baptist ministers do have a responsibility in the community in which we pastor work and live. "We should become involved in civic government for the good of our fellow members and citizens." The next Union will meet at First Baptist Church in Carthage, N. C.

OPERATION YOUTH WORK QUARTER

By Rev. T. M. Walker

Gastonia, N. C.—Below is a message delivered by Miss Gloria Garvin, a recent graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, N. C. Miss Garvin's message is directed to the youth and leaders as a challenge at the Friendship Baptist Church, Gastonia, N. C., Reverend T. M. Walker, pastor, during the "Operation Youth Work Quarter." During this quarter special emphasis is on greater involvement of children and youth in the total program of the church. The program is also designed to acquaint the youth with the State Baptist program and its objectives. We feel that this message should not be directed to just the Friendship youth, but to all youth and their parents wherever they attend church. Miss Garvin hats off to you and your parents, they have reared a unique, forceful, and dynamic young woman.

"YOUTH OF TODAY"

By Miss Gloria Garvin

In speaking on the subject of "The Youth of Today," there are two aspects that I feel are important in determining where our youth are today and where they will be tomorrow. To give equal importance to each, I will attempt to give a brief discussion on each.

The first aspect and an important influence on a child is the family. This encompasses the rearing of the child with such forces as the father-mother relationship and the sister-brother relationship. When a child is born into the world he comes to his parents a pure innocent being. He will be at that point, and through life, only what his parents teach him, for a child is the sum product of his parents. They have a responsibility to that child and to God. They have been blessed with a child and God commands that they train that child in the right way, beginning at his birth.

Before a child can walk, he's aware of right and wrong; by the time he's walking and during his early years his environment, which makes up his concept of right and wrong, has made a firm impression on his make-up that will follow him in most instances through life.

That is why those early years are important years. The child is very impressionable. Everything is questioned. He is constantly asking for leadership and guidance for he does not know the way. A parent must set good examples. They must show love, first, among themselves; then among other family members. They must show concern for their fellowman. How to be fair and honest toward all; how to face confusion in life; how to

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 11)

overcome hate among others... to sum it up: God must be in the family. With God's love and guidance, the parents will accomplish the preceding examples. Although the child may often be head-strong and sometimes unruly, he will know that his parents care and love him and God will keep his guiding hand on the family. If God is first in the parents life, then the child will find God in his life.

The second aspect, and also a very important influence on a child is the church, for through the church the parental influence is further highlighted. The church has a very important part to play. Here is where he comes for a deeper and richer understanding of God and his love. Here is where he should meet others to learn more of how to love one another. Here he should learn how to live with life's uncertainties: What and who to turn to in times of despair. The church must not fail to meet the needs of the child.

Again the child is very impressionable, he is a child and will act like one; therefore the guidance must come from the adults. They must reach out to their young people. Since all ages from birth to old age come together in a church, the church must set about finding ways, to teach the young people keeping them firmly grounded in God. As a child grows in age, the world becomes more enticing to the youth. The world will offer such things as night-clubs; the all night parties; the athletic activities and other worldly entertainment. The church must also offer the young people something. If there is nothing for the young people to do in the church, where else have they to go except in the world? What can the church do to enable the young people to use their talents and energies? It can set up organizations guided to enhance Christian learning and at the same time, offer activities to absorb the energy of the young people. These young people must keep busy always doing in God's name. Whether it be the Choir, the Missionary, the Usher board, the B.T.U. or the Sunday School, they must be put to work. These organizations can further be broken down into such recreational activities as rhythm games, skits, fun programs, indoor and outdoor games, camps and craft programs. Without work and some recreation they will simply drift away. Therefore, as adults, Christians have a responsibility to the youth. God holds all of us responsible for our young people. We must work together to have a richer more interesting church program.

The young people are here in Friendship. Their minds are young. They seek guidance. They have the desire to do and with guidance they can make an imprint for God. What the young people are

today is what our church tomorrow will be. If they are left to wander and become engulfed by the world, then the future church will suffer.

In closing I ask the question. Parents are you rearing your children for God so that they in turn will rear their children, or are they finding their own way? Friendship, are you meeting the needs of these young people? Are you setting the examples for the youth or are they going astray? Where our church tomorrow will be depends on you. Which way is Friendship going? God holds you responsible; to him you must answer.

DATES TO REMEMBER

The Fiscal Year of the GENERAL BAPTIST CONVENTION ends August 31, 1975.

The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention will meet in its 78th Annual Session in Toledo, Ohio, September 1-5, 1975. Headquarters for the Convention will be the Commodore Perry Motor Inn. The fiscal year of the Lott Carey ends July 31, 1975.

The 26th Annual Session of the NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST USHERS' CONVENTION will convene with the First Baptist Church, Weldon, N. C., July 15-17, 1975

The 102nd Annual Session of the BAPTIST STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONGRESS and the 75th Annual Session of the BAPTIST TRAINING CONGRESS will convene with the Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N. C., August 5-7, 1975.

Cost of Meals

The cost of meals at the Sunday School Congress to be held in Winston-Salem, N. C., August 5-7, 1975 will be the following:

Cost of Breakfast	\$1.75
Lunch	\$2.50
Dinner	\$2.50
Private Homes	Single \$5.00
Double Room	Double \$3.50

The GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION and the LAYMEN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION will convene in its Annual Session with the Shiloh Baptist Church of Shelby, N. C., October 27-30, 1975.

BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE, Stockholm, Sweden, July 3-17, 1975.

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The Baptist Informer

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Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
 Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, AUGUST, 1975

NUMBER 8

40 North Carolina Baptist Make World Tour:

DR. SHERRILL LEADER AT BAPTIST WORLD CONGRESS

By Dr. O. L. Sherrill



Stockholm, Sweden—"Undertaking bigger and better things for Christian Progress" is the bold new thrust for Black Baptist in North Carolina under the dynamic leadership of Dr. J. J. Johnson, President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The 13th World Baptist Congress provided an opportunity for 40 black North

Carolina Baptist to demonstrate this theme as they attended the 13th World Baptist Congress in Stockholm, Sweden, July 8-13th.

A tour to the Baptist World Congress meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, in July was promoted and directed by O. L. Sherrill and Corbin Cooper. In addition to the congress, the group of 40 people visited Zurich, Switzerland; Copenhagen, Denmark; Paris, France; and London, England.

During a Sunday visit to Copenhagen, the group gathered for a worship service and heard an inspirational sermon delivered by the Reverend W. E. Beamon. Closing remarks were brought by Dr. J. J. Johnson.

The World Baptist Congress is a voluntary association of Baptist from at least 129 countries, which convenes every five years. The Congress, meeting this year in Stockholm, drew some 10,000 Baptist from over the world. The Theme was: "New People for a New World Through Christ." The main sessions were held at St. Erick's Massan Center, a huge place about 4½ miles from downtown Stockholm. The Congress provides an oppor-

(Continued on page 4)

YOUTH CRUSADE ASSOCIATION FORMED

By Reverend Thomas L. Walker

Rocky Mount, N. C.—A blend of recreation, religion and guidance are being made available to Rocky Mount young people this summer in the Youth Crusade's Association Summer outreach program "Save the Children."

The program, developed by the YCA at the suggestion of area college students, from UNC at Chapel Hill and A & T State University, is designed to serve the social and spiritual needs of area young people. It hopes to expose youth to the joy of possessing a full and meaningful spiritual life, while at the same time making them aware of the tragedies of a life of abuse that would eventually cause each of them to use most of their time, energy and talents in fruitless endeavors. It is hoped that through this program,

(Continued on page 5)



Ribbon-cutting ceremony conducted at Youth Crusade Association's Headquarters. Participants in the ceremony were, from left to right, Reverend Thomas L. Walker, director of the Association; Miss Mary Pittman, board member; Thann Young, director of the center; Rocky Mount Mayor Fred Turnage, Miss Renee Faison, staff member; and the Reverend Johnnie Thorne chief advisor.

“Letters - To - The - Editor”

Letters-to-the-Editor” express the personal opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of the editor nor Convention officials. All letters must be signed with the understanding that the editor reserves the right to decide which letters will be published. Letters should offer constructive criticism about the Convention program in general.

Dear Sir:

We receive the “Baptist Informer” monthly and enjoy reading it very much. It informs us of the wonderful work that’s going on at various churches in the State of North Carolina.

The Lord has blessed Saint Luke Baptist Church tremendously under the leadership of Dr. L. D. Parker and we felt that we could not pass up this opportunity to share with our brothers and sisters this good news of joy.

On May 31, 1975 Dr. Parker baptized thirty-five persons and on the 1st Sunday evening in June, 1975 we took forty-two new members in to our fellowship. Our hearts were filled with happiness. It seemed as if our Heavenly Father had opened the windows of Heaven and poured out more blessings than we were able to receive.

We here at St. Luke desire your prayers and we are surely praying for all of you there and everywhere.

Yours in Christ,
Sister Ida Dunston
St. Luke Baptist Church
Charlotte, N. C.

Dear Editor:

Looking through the eyes of faith and at the outward signs too, the three-day revival this past weekend at the N. C. Correctional Center for Women was a huge success.

But the un-sung heros of the day were the correctional center’s matrons, guards, maintenance men and work supervisors. These are the employees who are always underpaid, usually overworked and never recognized by the public. They do have a tough and thankless job week-in and week-out. As volunteer co-ordinators for this

revival, we added to their work and confusion for the past few weeks. At no time, did the volunteers get anything but genuinely enthusiastic co-operation.

I could only wish the taxpayers could glimpse the prison and these dedicated people who serve in jobs most folks wouldn’t take. It represents some of the best mileage we get for our tax dollar. Even more importantly, it’s good to know sincere people handling the hardest social problem we have.

Sincerely,
Mrs. W. C. McGee
Mrs. Lewis Ballentine
1034 Bragg Street
Raleigh, N. C. 27610

The Baptist Informer

VOLUME 97

No. 8

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. General Convention Roster: J. J. Johnson, President; E. B. Turner, Vice-President at Large; J. C. Harris, 1st Vice-President; J. B. Humphrey, 2nd Vice-President; J. R. Manley, 3rd Vice-President; S. A. Raper, 4th Vice-President; W. B. Lewis, Recording Secretary; R. T. Gilchrist, Assistant Recording Secretary; O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary; C. C. Craig, Assistant Executive Secretary; Leo Williams, Jr., Director of Christian Education; Elbert Lee, Historian; A. R. Smith, Statistician; C. R. Mosley, Director of Music.

Staff: I. B. Horton, Editor; LeVern Perry, Secretary.

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Woman's Page-----

1,200 ENJOY ALL BAPTIST FAMILY PICNIC

By Mrs. M. A. Horne

Laurel Hill, N. C.—The First Annual All Baptist Family Picnic was an overwhelming success as more than 1,200 Baptist and their friends streamed into the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Saturday, July 12th. Bus loads of happy, enthused, surprised, Baptist began arriving at the Assembly grounds at 8:00 a.m., coming from the mountains and from the sea shore. The picnickers included Laymen, ministers, youth, women, infants and elders.

The more than 60 acres of camp ground resounded with echoes as the group played baseball, volleyball, horse shoes, and other games. There were so many youth, until they had to organize in order to give all of them an opportunity to use the swimming pool. Other activities included a singspiration, prayer, and a briefing about the Assembly. The camp now has two dormitories that will house approximately 86 persons each. There is a dining room and kitchen, an administration building, a guest lodge for approximately 17 persons, a swimming pool, tennis courts, basketball courts, ball field, and a house for the camp superintendent's family.

There was plenty of good food for everyone; the picnickers brought every kind of food imaginable.

Many of those in attendance expressed surprise at the quality and size of the Assembly: stating that they were unaware that N. C. Baptist owned anything of this nature. Some vowed that they would go home and make renewed efforts to raise money, now that they could see evidence that it was being used wisely for a good and lasting cause. The Assembly at this point is debt free but there is a great deal more that must be done before the facility is complete. The next most needed item is a chapel, and construction of roadways throughout the camp.

By 4:30 the host was exhausted, but they had to be herded into their vehicles for the return trip home. As they left the Assembly grounds, everyone was looking forward to returning in 1976 for the all Baptist Family Picnic.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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The 102nd Annual Session of the Baptist State Sunday School Congress and the 75th Annual Session of the Baptist Training Congress will convene with the Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N. C. August 5-7, 1975.

Representation Fees Local Sunday Schools

0-100 members	\$ 25.00
101-200 members	50.00
201-300 members	75.00
301-400 members	100.00

Each Local Baptist Training Union—\$25.00.

Each District Convention is asked to represent with \$50.00 for every ten churches in the Convention.

Financial goal is \$25,000.00.

Registration Goal—1,000 Sunday Schools—500 Baptist Training Unions—60 District and County Conventions.

Lodging in Private Homes: \$5.00 for singles; \$3.50 for doubles.

Meals: Breakfast \$1.75; Lunch \$2.25; Dinner \$2.25.

The GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION and the LAYMEN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION will convene in its Annual Session with the Shiloh Baptist Church of Shelby, N. C., October 27-30, 1975.

DR. SHERRILL LEADER AT CONGRESS

(Continued from page 1)

tunity for Baptist to come to know each other better and to strengthen their witness to the world at large.

A highlight of the meeting for those attending from North Carolina was the privilege of having one of their own to appear on the program. On Thursday morning of the Congress, Dr. O. L. Sherrill taught a Bible study group with a well prepared text on the subject, "Our Unfinished Tasks."

Those who joined the group for the trip were Mrs. Clara Ballentine, Raleigh; Reverend W. E. Beamon, Kinston; Mrs. Helen Chick, Fayetteville; Dr. & Mrs. Corbin Cooper, Raleigh; Dr. & Mrs. C. C. Craig, Jr., Raleigh; Dr. & Mrs. C. R. Edwards, Fayetteville; Mrs. Thelma Foster, Tarboro; Mrs. Nellie Harris, Raleigh; Mr. & Mrs. James T. Hawkins, Durham; Mrs. Louanna Hennenagan, Laurinburg; Dr. J. J. Johnson, Fairmont; Mrs. Cora McNeill, Rowland; Reverend & Mrs. J. R. Person, Farmville; Mrs. Alzoria Roberts, Raleigh; Dr. & Mrs. O. L. Sherrill, Raleigh; Mrs. Aggie N. Simpson, Maxton; Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Smith, Reidsville; Reverend A. R. Smith, Whiteville; Mr. T. R. Speight, Durham; Dr. & Mrs. E. B. Turner, Lumberton; Dr. J. Ray Butler, Winston-Salem; Mrs. Maxwell Grier, Winston-Salem; Dr. D. R. Hedgley, Winston-Salem; Mr. Frank P. Hicks, Winston-Salem; Reverend H. S. Diggs, Charlotte; Mr. & Mrs. Weddie Gabriel, Sherrill's Ford; Dr. & Mrs. H. L. Mitchell, Gatesville; Reverend & Mrs. J. L. Powell, Nashville, Tennessee; and Mrs. Lewis Morton, Statesville.

Dr. & Mrs. Leon Riddick also met with the group in Stockholm before continuing on a tour to the Holy Land. Also present was Mrs. C. E. McLester of Durham.

The trip was exciting, inspirational, and educational. Many are looking forward to the next Congress which is scheduled for Toronto, Canada.

C. R. MOSLEY— PASTOR OF THE MONTH

Editor's note: This article appeared in "The Belmont Banner" Wednesday, June 11, 1975.

Belmont, N. C.—The Reverend C. R. Mosley, pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, is being honored during June as "Pastor of the Month" by his fellow Belmont Ministerial colleagues.

A 16 x 20 color photo portrait of the Reverend Mosley, by Bob Thompson of Leon Lansing Studios, is on display at the main branch of the

Bank of Belmont. The portrait will be displayed at the bank's other branches throughout the month.

The Reverend Mosley was born in Passaic, New Jersey and attended public schools in the Bronx, New York and Asheville, N. C. He graduated from Shaw University with a A.B. degree and Shaw



Divinity School with a B.A. degree and a Master of Divinity degree.

Prior to coming to Mt. Pleasant in 1966, he held pastorates at Eastern Star Baptist Church in Tarboro and Sycamore Hill Baptist Church, Greenville, N. C.

The Reverend Mosley has served as a member of the Advisory Committee of ASCS State Committee of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He is past chairman of the Belmont Human Relations Committee, and past president of the Belmont Ministerial Association. He has served the South Point Life Saving Crew as a member of the board of directors.

Presently he is a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, a member of Prince Hall Free and Accepted Masons, executive committee of General Baptist State Convention and Associate Secretary of the General Board of the General Baptist Convention, and director of Music for the General Baptist State Convention.

The Reverend Mosley also serves as moderator of the Gaston County Baptist Association, Dean of the Gaston County Cooperative Institute, associate secretary of the executive board of the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention.

Other offices include President of the Gaston County Ministerial Alliance and secretary-treasurer of the Belmont Fellowship Union.

The Reverend Mosley is vice president of the Shaw University Theological Alumni Association.

Married to the former Lue Alvia Riddick of Raleigh, the Mosleys have two children, Charles

Ronald II, a student at Page Elementary School, and Sybrennah Antanette, who will enter the first grade at Sacred Heart Grade School this fall. Mrs. Mosley is a graduate of Shaw University and teaches school at Carmel Junior High, Charlotte, N. C.

The Reverend Mosley has made extensive travels in Europe and the Holy Lands.

YOUTH CRUSADE

(Continued from page 1)

young people will be given an opportunity to learn to trust God, adults and themselves.

The program includes a recreation center, a fellowship choir of 300 voices, (13-25), regular Saturday night evangelistic services and a variety of special activities. This is an interracial and interdenominational effort. About 25 churches participated in the organizational meeting held in May.

The YCA Headquarters, located at 1400 E. Virginia Street, will house the recreation center, including ping-pong, football and record players, and an education with literature and films on christian education and drug abuse. A formal opening was held at the Youth Crusade Association Headquarters, on June 28, 1975, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Phil Ford, a former Rocky Mount Senior High School Basketball Star on the University of North Carolina Basketball Squad, was the principal speaker. Also present for the ceremony was Mayor Fred Turnage. The Mayor has shown his interest on numerous occasions in the Youth Crusade Program.

The YCA has a staff of three local college students, Reverend Thann Young, Ms. Margaret Farr and Miss Renee Faison. They are employed to man the center and to serve as community workers and counselors.

Reverend Thomas L. Walker is the director of the YCA, and Reverend Thann Young is the director of the YCA center. The center is opened daily from 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

The summer program budget is set \$6,700.00 which the YCA hopes to meet through the support of churches, businesses, civic organizations and fund-raising activities.

The first project, already underway is a bottle drive. Also planned are car washes, a basketball game, a testimonial dinner and a Miss YCA pageant. The pageant will be August 30, 1975. Each church will sponsor a young lady, and the one collecting the most donations for the program will be crowned Miss YCA. She will receive a \$100.00 scholarship. Fifty and Twenty-five dollar

scholarships will be awarded respectively to the first and second runners-up.

The members of the Board of Directors are:

Reverend Thomas L. Walker
 Reverend Johnnie O. Thorne
 Mr. Bernard Bulluck
 Mrs. Margaret Wade
 Reverend Jeremiah Webb
 Thurman Dortch
 Ms. Mary B. Pittman
 Reverend Edmond R. Bynum
 Mr. James Grant
 Mr. Pierre Bulluck
 Mr. George Brown
 Mr. Griffin Sumner
 Mr. Wayne Hines
 Reverend Charles Bullock
 Mr. Gerald Neece

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Winston-Salem, N. C.—The 102nd Annual Session of the State Baptist Sunday School Congress and the 75th Annual Session of the State Baptist Training Union Congress promises to be one of the most informative sessions ever held. The sessions, to be held at Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, Dr. J. Ray Butler, pastor will have for a theme: "Biblical Images for Contemporary Culture."

The president of the Sunday School Convention, Mr. J. W. Martin has issued a call to all pastors and Sunday School superintendents to put forth every effort to attend. President Clifton Stone of the B. T. U. Convention states that there will be many meaningful workshops.

The Annual Sermon will be delivered by Reverend C. R. Mosley, of Belmont and the closing sermon will be delivered by Dr. R. Irving Boone of Elizabeth City. An outstanding feature of the Convention is the Annual James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest. (Subjects announced in the April issue of the Informer.)

Instructors for the classes will be:

Ministers: Dr. L. C. Riddick and Dr. Percy High
 S. S. Supt.: Dr. R. W. Perry
 B. T. U. Directors and Con. President: Mrs. Ineas
 T. Wicker
 Vacation Bible School: Miss Delores Esters
 Young Adults: Rev. G. T. Headen
 Young People: Mrs. Hubert M. Barnes
 Youth: Mrs. M. W. Grimes
 Baptist Doctrine: Dr. D. A. Costner
 "The New Morality": Mrs. Gwendolyn Rainer
 "Christian Stewardship": Dr. J. W. White
 "The Unified Plan": Dr. A. D. Mosley

MONEY SCARCE AS SHAW'S ADMISSIONS BOOM

By Steve Adams

Raleigh, N. C.—(Editor's note: The following article was published by the Raleigh, N. C. News and Observe July 7, 1975. The writer raises serious questions about the future of Shaw and should arouse every Baptist to do more to support our school.)

Financial problems are not new to Shaw University.

The school once had a medical school and a school of pharmacy, but both had fallen to financial pressures by 1918.

Shaw is now a small, almost entirely black, liberal arts college tucked behind Memorial Auditorium here in a cluster of turn-of-the century brick and more recent concrete-and-glass buildings. An old white frame church stands in the middle of the campus.

Unlike many other North Carolina private colleges and universities, Shaw has not suffered declining enrollments. In fact, since 1964, its enrollment has soared from 721 to 1,625 students—or 125 per cent. Shaw has grown more than any other private college in the state and more than most state-supported schools.

Nevertheless, it is caught in the tuition squeeze that other private colleges say is driving their students to public universities.

As of May 30, Shaw officials said, last year's students still owed Shaw \$431,528. And, facing an anticipated operating deficit of \$118,000 for the fiscal year that ended June 30, the school has cut the salaries of everybody from the president to the secretaries for next year.

Administrators making more than \$20,000 a year will take a 15 per cent pay cut. Most faculty members will lose 5 or 10 per cent, depending on their salaries. Those making less than \$10,000 will lose 2 per cent. Only those making less than \$5,000 will get no pay cut.

The salary cuts, totalling \$192,000 for the year, are part of an effort to trim nearly \$250,000 from a \$5.7 million budget.

Despite these cuts, the school has been forced to raise tuition—its primary source of revenue—by \$100 to \$1,980 for next year.

If this year's retrenchment seems drastic, Shaw has seen worse years in the 1970's, President J. Archie Hargraves said in a recent interview. Hargraves said that when he was appointed in 1971 the school faced a \$1 million operating deficit. Since then, he said, expenditures have drawn steadily closer to receipts.

Hargraves said that he hoped next year's

budget cuts would be enough to pay off this year's deficits and to restore salaries in 1976-77.

"I hope we can go back to that," he said. "It depends on which soothsayers you listen to... I don't know whether to listen to the soothsayers of doom—the apocalyptic boys—or the Alan Greenspans."

Even Shaw's 1974-75 salaries ranked below more than 60 per cent of the four-year colleges in the country, according to a recent American Association of University Professors survey.

Nevertheless, Hargraves said that he did not expect professors to resign because of the salary cuts.

"I don't think that will be a problem at this particular point," he said, adding that the faculty was informed of the possibility of pay cuts "very early" and that the professors had been involved in the decisions to make the cuts.

In its successful effort this year to persuade the General Assembly to double state aid to private higher education, the N. C. Association of Independent Colleges and Universities persistently argued that declining enrollments were the main reason for economic problems in private higher education in North Carolina. Moreover, the association argued, high tuitions at private colleges were the reason for the enrollment declines.

In addition, Chancellor Albert N. Whiting of predominantly black N. C. Central University in Durham recently told his board of trustees that the integration of predominantly white schools was draining top students from black schools.

Shaw seems to suffer from neither problem, although it is in somewhat of a quandry as to how hard to press students for overdue bills.

"It really becomes a question of whether or not you're going to insist that all tuition money be paid in September or in installments in October and November," Hargraves said. "If you allow them to pay in installments, by November they may be in a crunch and not be able to pay."

Much of Shaw's enrollment increase was a direct result of its University Without Walls program, which was begun in 1971 and now accounts for about a quarter of the school's enrollment.

The university runs UWW centers in Raleigh, Atlanta and Miami, with a coordinator from Shaw and cooperative arrangements with other universities.

But the UWW program was aimed mostly at students older than those who usually go to college, and Hargraves said that he did not think predominantly white schools had saped away Shaw's best students.

"It is my inclination to believe that no one is getting the really gifted youngsters," Hargraves said. "I don't find any evidence that they're going

either to the state universities or to the small colleges. I don't think they're going to college at all or they're getting most of them somewhere in the Ivy League."

Hargraves said that there seemed to be fewer students who "read with vigor" and "write with vigor and power" than there once were.

However, Shaw does attract most of its students from out of the state and has even gained the attention of foreign countries.

Iraq, for example awarded the school a \$40,000 grant in 1973-74 and a \$20,000 grant in 1974-75. Shaw has several Arab professors and students as well, but Hargraves said that their presence was unrelated to the Iraqi grants.

"I've been to Iraq and was well received," he said. "We talked about the school, and they liked the school's program in international relations. Their students have felt welcome here, but there was no agreement in terms of X, Y, and Z."

Shaw's support from Middle East nations was the subject of a News and Observer story last month that prompted some criticism of the Shaw campus.

President Hargraves said some professors had complained about the article but that he did not wish to go into detail and referred a reporter to Thomas Kee, vice president for university relations.

Kee said the story contained "undertones and innuendo that Shaw was doing something wrong."

He also noted a statement in the story that "Arab nations, backed by petrodollars, are stepping up their shipments of professors, students and money to the financially troubled school." Kee said the word "shipments" carried "bad connotations."

Urabi Mustafa, head of Shaw's International Studies Department, also complained about the use of the word "shipments," saying it gave the impression Arab governments were sending students and professors to Shaw.

"The governments have nothing to do with our students and professors," Mustafa said, adding that Shaw was in no way being "used by Arab governments."

Mustafa said he had received "some but not many" complaints from faculty members about the N&O story.

Mustafa also said the story was incorrect in stating that there were 14 Arab professors on the Shaw faculty. He said there was apparently a "misunderstanding" between him and the N&O reporter and there are actually six or seven Arab professors at the school. The reporter had been told by two Shaw officials that there were 14 Arab professors on the faculty.

The presence of Arab students and professors

is only one aspect of the variety to be found at Shaw.

In a recent issue of the student newspaper, there are side by side, an essay on the pernicious effect of the sexual double standard through history and an open letter from Miss Shaw University. There is a moral diatribe against skimpy fashions and a polemic calling for black solidarity. On the same page are dark musings in blank verse about oppression and Muhammad Ali-like doggeral in praise of the trash man.

But, whether its apparent contradictions, Shaw offers its students a "black perspective," Hargraves said.

"We are a predominantly black institution, which means in an integrated world, it becomes our primary mission to make certain that the world is plural," he said. "We're saying that there is a historically black perspective . . . but in terms of a different kind of perspective that we hope gets into every part of the North Carolina and United States ethos.

"It would be unfortunate to say of the white majority—at least in the United States—that that's the only perspective."

SHAW RECEIVES \$29,000 GRANT

By C. Warren Massenburg

Raleigh, N. C.—Shaw University officials have announced the receipt of a grant totalling \$29,780 to strengthen its International Studies Program. The grant was awarded by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Several courses will be developed or incorporated to include an international perspective. In addition, instructors will make use of library materials, films, slides, and foreign dignitaries as lecturers to create a vivid learning experience. The program will focus on human problems that cross geographic boundaries and effect all peoples.

In 1966 the International Studies Program was created. Conceptually it is designed to give students a basic foundation in international studies and affairs and provide for travel and study abroad. A basic principle of the program is that communications is the tool by which faculty, students and staff seek greater truth and understanding of the needs and aspirations of our society. The mastery of language serves to increase and clarify communications.

Since its establishments the goals of the program have been: to effect an interdisciplinary approach across school lines; to project the mission of the university beyond geographic boundaries; to encourage minority students to enter

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(Continued from page 7)

diplomatic careers; to inject new international dimensions of traditional discipline; and to increase the relevance of foreign language study by using it for communications.

In realizing the above, the program has conducted many activities, such as, developing relevant curriculum; bringing many speakers to the campus—diplomats and well-known academicians; showing numerous films and slides on various international topics; and conducting international panels.

26TH ANNUAL USHERS CONVENTION: DEMONSTRATION OF LOVE FOR PEOPLE

By Mrs. Ruby D. Amos

Weldon, N. C.—The 26th Annual Session of the North Carolina Baptist Ushers' Convention, convening at the First Baptist Church of Weldon, July 15-17 was indeed a "Demonstration of Love for People." President S. L. Fennell called upon the well-attended convention to, "show our love and concern for others . . . there is a strong desire on the part of many to see love in action." Throughout the challenging annual address, he called upon the ushers to demonstrate what Christ commanded—"love for all mankind."

Workshops were conducted by Dr. Harold Cobb of Durham, Reverend R. D. Lucas, Asst. Dean, of Lawndale, and Mrs. Beatrice D. Branch of Murfreesboro. There were some very inspiring sermons preached by Dr. Percy L. High, Durham; and Dr. F. L. Bullock of Enfield. Greetings from the General Baptist State Convention were given by Dr. Jerry Drayton.

There were re-elected and newly elected officers, they were as follows: President Mr. S. L. Fennell; 1st Vice-President, Mr. J. A. Grant; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. C. B. Chadwick; 3rd Vice-President, Mr. Fred Johnson, 4th Vice-President, Mr. Charlie Rhodes; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Lois Henderson; Asst. Recording Sec., Mrs. Ruth M. Hawkins; Corresponding Sec., Mrs. C. N. Arrington; Asst. Corr. Sec. Mrs. Ruby Amos; Chairman First Aid Dept., Mrs. Ernestine Scott; Dean, H. S. Diggs; Asst. Dean, Reverend R. D. Lucas, Chairman Oratorical Contest, Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews; Treasurer, Mr. W. M. Kilgore; Young People Dept., Mrs. Missouri Baker; Asst. Young People Dept., Mr. Carrye Pritchett. They were installed by Reverend I. B. Horton of Goldsboro.

The number of churches that represented financially at the Convention was 54, however, there were representatives from a number of other churches. The number of Unions, Associa-

tions, and Conventions representing financially was 11.

The hospitality was excellent, as we concluded the convention, delegates were heard saying that it was one of the best sessions ever.

GOD WILL HEAR AND ANSWER PRAYER

By Mrs. Lugenia Jones

Smithfield, N. C.—During these days of world turmoil, it is a grand idea for some one to decide to pin flowers on a person who has lived a Christian life and helped fellow humanity.

It is surprising sometimes to know just what people are thinking, but occasions of this kind give friends an opportunity to express themselves. There are people who try to live right and strive to make others happy.

This is what happened at the Wake Memorial Hospital. The president of the Johnson County Missionary Union, Mrs. Clara Ballentine, decided to let Mr. Percy Nichols and wife, Mrs. Leora Nichols, know how much their religious services had been appreciated. So she called a few of the missionary sisters around the bedside of Mr. Nichols and took his case of sickness to the Master. This was done in a very quiet way, so no one would be disturbed. Mr. Nichols was uplifted and felt much better. The missionaries all joined hands, including Mr. Nichols and the president prayed until we all felt that God will strengthen the patient.

Following the prayers, a plaque was given them, along with their picture being made. This was a happy occasion as Mr. Nichols always says he will always work for the Master. He doesn't want to rust out, but wants to work till Jesus comes.

Mr. Nichols was able to leave the hospital the next day and has been improving every day.



SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST

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The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, SEPTEMBER, 1975

NUMBER 9

Vacation Season Profitable As:

Baptist Conventions Call for Deeper Commitment to Christ

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Superintendent H. V. Bryant of the Central Orphanage at Oxford, N. C., along with other Baptist leaders, was clear in his call as he challenged North Carolina Baptist to a deeper commitment to the Cause of Christ. Speaking at the Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress meeting at Shiloh Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, Mr. Bryant related the following incident.

Some well-meaning individuals brought a box of used clothing to the Orphanage in an effort to assist the underprivileged children. The box was taken to the storeroom, where later in the day Superintendent Bryant overheard a heated discussion going on. Upon investigation he discovered that the children were trying to decide what kind of cow had gotten into the storeroom. When Mr. Bryant looked into the box of clothing he discovered a large rat. He left it to our imagination to conclude what condition the clothing was in.

Continuing his message he related many incidents in which well meaning individuals express an attitude that orphanage children are not suppose to have anything but hand-me-downs and second rate facilities. He challenged Christians to "lift their level of thinking," and begin to understand that even though a child may have had the misfortune of losing his parents; that this child is still a person, entitled to every consideration that any other person is entitled to. He raised the question: "What does an orphanage home child suppose to look like?"

A great number of Baptist people and friends attended the three Baptist Conventions that met during the month of July and August. Namely, the Woman's, Sunday School and B. T. U. Con-

ventions. Many persons were observed combining their vacations with their Convention activities. This is a wonderful idea for those who feel that they cannot take a vacation and attend the Conventions too. But what ever the case may have been, those who attended the three sessions were greatly inspired and informed as well as challenged.

Mr. Bryant's challenge was just one among the many that called upon Baptist to take a fresh look at what they have been doing, thinking and feeling. There seemed to be one point that all

INVOLVEMENT REQUIRES REAL MINISTRY

By Mrs. Hellene McCall

Lexington, N. C.—The Department of Christian Education of the Missionary Circle of First Baptist Church, Lexington, N. C. held its annual Institute May 12-16, 1975.

The theme of the Institute was: "Involvement Requires Real Maturity." Instructors were Miss

(Continued on page 4)



First Baptist Church, Lexington

“Letters - To - The - Editor”

Dear Sir:

I am so happy that at last I have obtained my goal, which was to get at least ten (10) new subscribers for the year. My involvement with my many activities has hindered me, but I was determined to go through. I am quite happy for the response I received.

With every good wish to all the staff.

Mrs. W. M. Nesby
1641 Jackson Ave., N.E.
Winston-Salem, N. C. 27105

Washington, D. C.—We were happy to learn through the Baptist Press that the new Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), Forest David Matthews, is a very active member of the Missionary Baptist Church. Matthews, appointed by President Ford Aug. 8, is a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, Ala. At 39, he has a 20 year history of Christian activity. Our prayer is that this Christian influence will be felt throughout the nation.

DR. J. RAY BUTLER TO BE NATIONAL CONVENTION SPEAKER

Chicago, Ill.—When the National Baptist Convention U. S. A., Inc. meets in St. Louis, Missouri, September 8-14th, the North Carolina delegation can take pride in the fact that one of their own will deliver the Sermon on Wednesday evening. This is a signal honor that has come to Dr. J. Ray Butler, pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston-Salem.

President of the National Convention, Dr. J. H. Jackson, in his letter of invitation to Dr. Butler stated: “I have taken the responsibility for suggesting you to preach the sermon on Wednesday evening, September 9th, at our Convention. I hope you will be able to serve. Best wishes to the family.”

The N. C. Baptist Family is proud to share this high honor with Dr. Butler and will be praying that the benediction of God will be upon him as he delivers this forth coming vital message.

HAPPENING AROUND ST. DELIGHT

By Mrs. Minerva C. Evans

Walstonburg, N. C.—On July 12, the Missionary Dept. of St. Delight Baptist Church of Walstonburg sponsored a trip to the “J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, N. C. Seventy-two persons attended including pastor, Roosevelt Taylor and his family. The occasion was the first Annual All Baptist Family Picnic. Our trip was safe and enjoyable. We visited the buildings on the campus, took part in games, and the children enjoyed the swimming pool. Sister Horne gave highlights of the camp and future plans—we were also greeted by Dr. J. C. Harris, Director of the

Youth Bible Camp, and Rev. and Mrs. John Daniels, the new director of the Assembly.

All of us are grateful to Sister Horne and all other workers who made all of this possible. Nothing in life that is of value is ever too hard to achieve. If one will work hard, have courage, and try, there is nothing that God cannot do... so start out today with faith in your heart... climb until your dream comes true.

EBENEZER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION HOLDS INSTITUTE

By S. A. Raper

Shelby, N. C.—The Ebenezer Baptist Association held its 12th Annual Leadership Training Institute March 25-April 5, 1975 at the Shiloh Baptist Church in Shelby, N. C. Our theme was strengthening the Black Church Through Teaching and Training.

Special workshops feature for all adults proved to be very successful. This workshop was led by Reverend Charles Freeman, minister at Gardner Webb College, Boiling Springs, N. C. and Dr. Isaiah Harvey, Lancaster, S. C.

The youth classes were led by Mrs. Lucille Evans, Mrs. Maggie White and Mrs. Aileen Ford.

The junior class was led by Mrs. Corine Cabiness and the primary class was led by Mrs. Lizzie B. Ponder.

Our leadership training Institute emphasized basically studies on Stewardship and the Ministry of the Black Church.

The total enrollment for the two weeks was 572 with 102 person receiving certificates.

Reverend D. A. Costner—Moderator
Reverend A. A. Ponder—Dean
Miss Eva Coleman—Secretary
Reverend R. F. Kilgore—Treasurer

The Baptist Informer

VOLUME 97

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Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. General Convention Roster: J. J. Johnson, President; E. B. Turner, Vice-President at Large; J. C. Harris, 1st Vice-President; J. B. Humphrey, 2nd Vice-President; J. R. Manley, 3rd Vice-President; S. A. Raper, 4th Vice-President; W. B. Lewis, Recording Secretary; R. T. Gilchrist, Assistant Recording Secretary; O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary; C. C. Craig, Assistant Executive Secretary; Leo Williams, Jr., Director of Christian Education; Elbert Lee, Historian; A. R. Smith, Statistician; C. R. Mosley, Director of Music.

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Woman's Page

BAPTIST WOMAN'S CONVENTION "REACH OUT AND TOUCH"

By Mrs. Thelma C. Horton



Greensboro, N. C. — The five day setting of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of N. C. aux. to the General Baptist Conv., Inc., was held with the Shiloh Baptist Church, Greensboro, Dr. Otis L. Hairston, minister; the St. Phillips Baptist Church and the St. James Baptist Church, Rev. P. E. Graves, minister. This setting was a clear indication of the commitment the missionaries and fulfilled in their efforts to demonstrate their theme "Reach Out And Touch." Their concern for the 81 persons on N. C. Death Row was expressed through a petition to Governor Holshouser. He was urged to exercise his constitutional power and commute the sentences of all those waiting in Death Row. This act of commutation was viewed by the petitioners as an appropriate part of a celebration of their forebearers' attempt to free America from injustice two hundred years ago.

Further demonstration of their commitment was viewed when the executive secretary-treasurer, Mrs. M. A. Horne, Raleigh and Winston-Salem, praised the group for exceeding the Spiritual and Financial Goals for 1974-1975. The Spiritual Goal: Winning 200 Souls For Christ was exceeded by 52, and the Financial Goal: Proposed Budget of \$200,000 was exceeded by 17,383.75. The total income for the week was more than \$82,284.37. She also reported that six buildings and a swimming pool had been completed at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Laurel Hill, with assets totaling \$251,914.75 and no indebtedness.

Greetings were extended by many Baptist Officials. Among them were the president of the Woman's Convention, Mrs. J. B. McLester, Durham; and the president of the General Baptist State Convention, Dr. Joy J. Johnson, Fairmont. They offered congratulations to the delegates for their outstanding stewardship record and urged the continued support of the objectives, namely, Home and Foreign Missions, Central Orphanage, Shaw University and the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. Dr. C. R. Edwards, Fayetteville, expressed appreciation on behalf of the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, U. S. A., as its illustrious president. Superintendent H. V. Bryant of

the Central Orphanage gave a report and presented the Central Orphanage Choir in Song.

Mrs. B. F. Daniels, Winston-Salem, State Young Adult Directress, introduced Dr. Coleman W. Kerry as the speaker for the Second Pre-Convention Fellowship Banquet on Monday evening, the pastor of the Friendship Baptist Church, Charlotte.

Our success, he stated is never measured on the scales of our potential but upon goals we set for ourselves. He urged the group to: Aim high, set goals whose fulfillment can be measured, Aim at results that will endure and, most importantly, Keep whatever we do-God-centered. As he closed, he cried out, "Oh, ye Women of North Carolina, why stand ye here gazing, "Reach Out and Touch!"

In her second annual message, President McLester delivered a most inspiring and informative address, using "A Touch of Faith," as her subject. She stated that women need a clear vision of their role in order to meet the spiritual and physical needs of others. She stressed the necessity of having a vision of the great missionary task; a vision of what God can do for this world, if His message is given a chance. She urged the delegates to "listen to the voice of Jesus and sense its sincerity of purpose and the authority with which he documents His bold statements." "By this one can know if he has heard the Master's Call." She recommended the forgetting of self and the need to remain sensitive to the individual needs that might be overlooked, unless one listens. She also stressed the urgency of bringing the Bible to the front, that one may become fully equipped to do the Lord's work. In closing, she described Faith as the largest element in our missionary effort, which is necessary, if one wants results from his prayers and some evidence of success in his undertakings. Faith removes mountains, she exclaimed, it surmounts difficulties, overcomes the world and brings sure success and victory. "We must realize that the Magnet and Jesus are natural counterparts for they will draw us if we "Reach Out And Touch" in their direction."

The Young Adult Department, which was organized in 1968 to bridge the gap that existed between the Senior and Youth Department doubled their attendance and pledged to continue their project "Young Adult Dollars." It was recommended that this self denial offering be given as a Memorial to Mrs. Amanda Stevens, Lumberton, second State Young Adult President, and to Shaw University, Memorializing Mrs. A. J. Ryans, Charlotte.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued)

Highlighting their session was a Playlet "Your Convention and Mine, Our Task," presented by the Union County Young Adult Department. The choir, featuring Mrs. Georgia Guest as soloist and the fellowship social sponsored by the Guildford County Young Adults, added much to a most inspiring and heartwarming session.

The Youth Department session was described by many as a "time of spiritual renewal." Many experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit and re-dedicated their lives to Christian Service.

President, Audrey Kee, Durham, delivered her final message in a most unique and provocative manner. Using the subject, "What Kind Of Touch Do I Have?", she stressed the importance of self examination and urged her contemporaries to "touch Jesus, who is able to fix them that they may reach out and touch those in need."

Outstanding events that thrilled all the winners included the "Key 5 Grand March" and the "Have A Heart For Mission Contest," both in support of J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. The winners were Wayne County and Gaston County, respectively. Gaston County was also the winner of the "Shaw Contest." The Youth Concert, directed by Miss Rosalind Turner, Lumberton, was a real moving experience. She was assisted by Miss Walteria Mack, organist and Michael Lemon, Winston-Salem, Master of Ceremonies. Mrs. Lavine McGrier, State Consultant and Mrs. Eva M. Pratt, State Supervisor, challenged the youth to return home and touch others that they may be saved.

A Resolution, presented by President Johnson, relative to naming of the buildings at the Baptist Assembly as a living tribute or monument to those who gave their all for the spiritual, economic and educational growth and development of this Convention was adopted by the body.

All officers were installed by GBC President, Dr. Johnson. New officers elected were Mrs. Luella D. Edwards, Fayetteville, third vice-president; Mrs. A. B. McCleave, Siler City, third vice-president emeritus; Mrs. Eva Johnson, Salisbury, fourth vice-president; Mrs. Clara Hayes, Winston-Salem, Chairman Exec. Board; Miss Elizabeth Brooks, Gastonia, Youth President; Vice-presidents are David Lucas, Garland Brice, Winston-Salem, Miss Letita Lewis, Raleigh and William Kerry, Charlotte, Gregg Moss, Statesville, parliamentarian; Miss Linette Horton, Goldsboro, Editor, Miss Deborah Johnson, Fairmont, Co-Editor; Miss Paula Smith, Fayetteville and Essex Fields, Durham, Editorial Assistants and Miss Rosalind Turner, Lumberton, Choir Directress.

The One Day Session will meet January, 1976, at the Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh and the 1976 Annual Session will meet in the All Baptist Assembly, details to be announced later.

TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY WBH AND FMC

Dear Mrs. Horne:

My visit with you, the members of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention and visitors at your recent banquet held at the Hilton Inn on Monday, July 28, was most enjoyable. I have never been treated so royally. Congratulations for the dedicated and unselfish leadership which you are giving to the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention. This past year has pointed out very clearly that you and the good sisters are deeply committed.

I pledge to you my continued cooperation and support as we go forth in making this and each year a banner one.

May God continue to bless you mightily.

Sincerely,
O. L. Sherrill

INVOLVEMENT (Continued from page 1)

Jerrye Griffin, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Mr. Thomas Jackson, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Mrs. Bronnie Daniels, Winston-Salem, N. C., and Mrs. Hellene McCall of Lexington, N. C., also Rev. B. F. Daniels, Pastor of Lexington, N. C.

Invitations were sent to all area Missionary groups, Deacon Boards, Young Adult Departments, Youth Departments, and Sunday School Workers to participate in the Institute.

Individuals who attended every session were given certificates, the Sr. Missionaries of First Baptist Church had the highest daily attendance and received a certificate and Union Baptist Church had the largest enrollment of visiting churches and were also presented a certificate.

The Naomi group of the Missionary Circle of First Baptist, Lexington, conducted a drive during the month of April to win souls for Christ.

Members reporting successfully were: Mrs. Dorothy Knotts, who won Mr. Vachery Hopkins, Deacon Owen Henderson who won Mr. Baxter Henderson and Mrs. Lizzie Gaddy who won Mrs. Marian Reid.

Each month special projects will alternate with soul winning.

The groups next project is to fill "Thank You Bags." Each member has been asked to offer a prayer of thanks, when she returns from a safe trip spent away from home, and drop a coin into the bag. At a designated time the bags will be emptied and placed in our treasury.

We are looking forward to future Institutes and trust that there will be higher interest and greater participation.

I'M CAUGHT UP, INVOLVED AND COMMITTED IN A CHANGING SCENE

By Mr. J. W. Martin

Winston-Salem, N. C. — (Editor's Note: The following address, delivered to the 102nd Annual Session of the State Baptist Sunday School Congress, meeting at the Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N. C. was delivered by retiring president J. W. Martin. According to Mr. Martin his four years of tenure have been, both a joy and painful challenge." But he has served well and ended his tour of duty in the spirit of true nobility.)

The role of life is played by all persons today. The stage is set in life for us to view it's performance and each of us play our part, but soon the scene must change. But in the changing of scenes, the work and program must go on.

The main character who stars in this program never changes, Jesus Christ. But for me, the scene changes here today and I find myself Caught Up, Involved, and Committed to the task, to continue working for the principals on which our work today is based.

I find myself involved today, yes involved to the point to know I can't stop here. For to stop here and relax, and thrive on and over the past progress and success we've had in this Congress together, may find ourselves drifting into failure.

I see a great need for those of you who haven't accepted the challenge and assumed your places and responsibilities. But whether you accept your share of work or not, I have the confidence that the program of God will and must go on. So, if not already, why not accept the challenge and let us go forth in this work together. God made us free in order that we could be normal, there are personal responsibilities for each of us, regardless of what man thinks or says about it. Many of us find it hard to accept the truth that we are responsible for what we do, but we so easily blame circumstances and pass on responsibilities to someone else.

We should be dedicated to this work and involved so until the changing scene will not alter us, but will elevate us to heights of progress yet unknown to us.

Yes we make changes, and I am aware of the fact that all changes are not good, but some change is inevitable, for in a living situation, changes must come for us to become mature. We cannot afford to become stagnant. For as humans we change, change in size, appearance, age and strength. So, then this Congress is very much

alive; and any living thing must grow and change from time to time in membership, leadership and directions in a way that will be helpful to all concerned.

No matter how much we may wish that things might remain the same, the change must come, and we must continue to work. That is why I'm caught up, involved and committed to the task, even if the scene is changing.

We as Christian workers, must oft times evaluate changes, and review our part in the movement of Sunday School work, continue to involve ourselves with the functions.

We must continue to reach people, teach and train them so they can provide leadership in the growth of the total program. Yes, let us stay involved, committed and caught up in this task, whether leading or following. . . . Let us get the job done. We can do the work and do it well. I'm confident today this Congress will continue to support the objectives of our parent body, the General Baptist State Convention, namely: State and Foreign Missions, Central Orphanage and Shaw University should be our upmost goal and through the Unified, thanks to you, it is a working plan.

And to this Congress, let me make the appeal and the Administrative head, I hope you will not overlook and push aside the zoning program which will work, and is working if we'll stop trying to do the job alone, but give our Vice-President a responsible position, rather than just having the title. God's power is not limited to any certain group, certain people, races, religions, certain notions, but is God over all mankind everywhere. Then we should strive to do the work of him maintaining a brotherly concern for each other as we involve ourselves in the Sunday School work, for this should be our upmost goal.

But when we are faced with personal responsibilities, we have the excuses ready as to why we don't respond to the Cause. We have the excuse as to why we don't share with others, but everyone of us is accountable for our actions, whether good or bad. Excuses, excuses, excuses . . . there's no escaping the reward for excuses.

Why I don't support the program of the Sunday School. . . . Why I don't go to church. . . . Why I don't bother about the condition of mankind. . . . Why I don't visit the sick . . . prison, concern for those who are hungry. We are quick to say, Let them come up like I did, let someone else take care of the situation. Let those who have been caught up as they are suffer the consequences. But I have been taught and the Bible states . . .

(Continued on page 6)

I'M CAUGHT UP (Continued)

That when the son of man shall come in his glory and all the Heavenly Angels with him, then shall God sit upon the throne of his glory. And before him shall be gathered all nations not just America, not just the Baptists, not just this Congress, but all nations. And it states, He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. Tell me, the sheep will go on the right and the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto the right, come, come ye blessed of my Father inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

For I was hungered, ye gave me meat
 For I was thirsty, ye gave me drink
 For I was a stranger, ye took me in
 For I was naked, ye clothed me
 For I was sick, ye visited me
 For I was imprisoned, ye came unto me
 Lord when saw we "Thee" in these conditions?

... In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. You, that wish to remain selfish, you know what'll be said—depart. . . . So if we are not caught up, involved and committed to this work, we do not have a chance. But if you are already Caught Up, Involved and Committed, You Can Go Away This Day Saying:

Why should I feel discouraged
 Why should the shadows fall.
 Why should my heart be lonely,
 For I've got Jesus for my Portion
 A constant friend is he
 For his eye is on the sparrow
 And I know he watches me.

THE NEW MORALITY

By Mrs. Gwendolyn Rainer

Winston-Salem, N. C. — (Editor's Note: The following address was delivered to the 75th Annual Session of the State Baptist Sunday School Congress, meeting at the Shiloh Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N. C., and is reprinted here by order of the Sunday School Congress.)

I have had the opportunity to speak to a number of congregations on various topics. It is always a challenge to try and leave a strong message to so many people whose ideas and opinions differ in so many ways. And when we begin to discuss morality—what is right and what is wrong—we run into more ideas and opinions than we can sometimes handle. For this reason, I have found it a particularly difficult challenge to relay a message that will find favor with every person present

here today. So, I have decided to speak the things that are on my mind and—as the expression goes—let the chips fall where they may.

My hat is off to the person or persons who chose the topic for today. "The New Morality." It is a topic that has been pushed aside for too long—nobody wants to talk about morality anymore. Nobody wants to be called old fashioned. Nobody wants to be immoral, and unfair and wrong. Instead we have decided to let the wind of the majority blow us and sway us to any direction it so desires. For some reason we as a united and (so called) together people have made the tragic decision that the majority is the best judge of what should be acceptable. Wrong isn't wrong unless everybody or almost everybody thinks so. We have begun to add too many unlessees and buts to our age old rules of morality. To do this is wrong unless—or to do something else is right but—Now . . . where do we draw the line. How do we justify our disobedience to those rules of morality sent down by the Almighty. Are we to make excuses for bending those moral commandments set up by God himself—those rules of right and wrong delivered to us cradled in the arms of Moses. Will God accept and excuse our new morality because we have accepted it. I don't think so—but let us see how this new morality fits in the commandments of God.

And God spake all these words saying I am the Lord thy God, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage, thou shalt have no other God before me—unless it is the God of drugs and alcohol, because it is not your fault that nobody understands you. And these are your only means of escape. God excuse me but I've got to use this money to get the drugs I need, I can't give it to you this Sunday.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain—unless you're angry and then it's alright to lay your religion down.

—Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy—unless you're having a weekend vacation on the beach. Everybody knows that if you leave for the beach Saturday night there is just no way to get home in time for Sunday service. And it's not your fault that there are no churches on the beach.

—Honour thy father and thy mother—but when they start getting on your nerves with those old fashioned lectures—it's alright to ignore them—or when they refuse to understand that you have got to do your thing (no matter what it is) then it is alright to yell at them and argue.

—Thou shalt not kill, but sometimes you get so angry until you just can't help it.

—Thou shalt not commit adultery unless you're just not happy at home. Your spouse just doesn't

understand you and besides, you're just so much in love with someone else. Surely, God could understand that—and it must be alright because you've seen it happen to your favorite TV characters on "All My Children."

—Thou shalt not steal unless you're stealing from some rich person who doesn't really need so much anyway.

—Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor unless you've gotten yourself in a difficult situation where it is better to throw guilt toward someone else rather than accept blame yourself.

—Thou shalt not covet thy neighbors house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbors wife—but surely there is no harm in wishing to be as well off as your neighbor.

And thus ends the reading of the commandments written according to the new morality. And with it, ends the original codes of life that have passed through generations. It is a sad thing to think that a great majority of people follow the commandments according to the new morality—But it is tragic to think that we as Christians have allowed them to do so. We shake our heads and give up on those stubborn hearted young people who insist that they know what they are doing. But Christians don't give up a holy battle because they are out numbered. Christ was one against a whole world of sin but he never surrendered to the majority.

Let us not confuse what is acceptable with what is right. There is much work to be done if we are to mold this new morality into a way of life that we can proudly present to our God as proof that Christians are still fighting battles—that Christians have not yielded to the majority—and that Christians are easier to keep.

I have said at the beginning of this little talk that I would let the chips fall where they may. So if anyone here has been offended, if any of you had to look away, or down when we talked about adultery, or stealing, or drugs—If you felt just the slightest bit uneasy on the subject of alcohol—if there was a time when you felt that I talked directly to you—well that's good. You will definitely remember that part of the message. And if I'm wrong to believe that the majority should not rule my life/or if I'm wrong to meddle in your private affairs when I think that you need my help or advice—then I'm glad to be wrong.

Christians it's time to start speaking up and acting up when we see the world about us falling apart or we can be put in the same category as the man in the popular song—"He's a real, nowhere man, sitting in his nowhere land, making all his nowhere plans for nobody."

REVEREND D. M. FERGUSON INSTALLED AT FRIENDSHIP

By Mrs. Rosenell McLendon

Rockingham, N. C.—The members of Friendship Baptist Church of Rockingham, N. C. after a period of worshiping without a pastor, prayerfully deliberated, and called Reverend Daniel Murdock Ferguson of Southern Pines, N. C. as pastor. He was formerly of Mattituck, Long Island, New York.

Reverend J. H. Ferguson, pastor of Poplar Spring Baptist Church, Rockingham, N. C., Moderator of Pee Dee Missionary Baptist Association, and brother of Reverend D. M. Ferguson, delivered the Installation Message.

The occasion was marked with many impressive moments that shall be remembered by the membership and those present. It was a day of praise and thanksgiving to God for sending such a man to become the leader; one who could bring about unity and a progressive spirit out of the stormy period which hovered about the congregation.

The afternoon service was under the inspirational guidance of the Reverend R. T. Gilchrist, Hamlet, N. C. Other ministers present and participating were: Reverend W. H. Gatewood, Reverend Ortra Murphy, Reverend J. F. Sawyer, Reverend W. F. Carson, Reverend Deacon Leroy David, and Mrs. D. M. Davis were also present.

Reverend D. M. Ferguson, dedicated to the service of God, and the administering of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, fully endowed with the eternal love of his fellowman takes up his duties with only one notable degree. He is carrying a B.A. degree (Born Again) from above, preaching Jesus Christ, born, crucified, dead and resurrected, a conquering Savior that has paid the price, and won a crown of Glory.

Former pastorates include assistant pastor Popular Spring Baptist Church, Rockingham, N. C., and Unity Baptist Church, Mattituck, Long Island, N. Y. He is a member of the Pee Dee Missionary Baptist Association, Eastern Baptist Long Island Association of New York, Vice-President Concerened Parents and Citizens Club; NAACP Christian Leadership Conference and the Southern Pines Civic Club.

He is married to the former Ruth Jackson of West Palm Beach, Florida, and they have nine children.

The Friendship Baptist Church cordially invites one and all to visit and enjoy an inspirational service under the humble leadership of Reverend D. M. Ferguson.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SPEAKS OUT

By O. L. Sherrill

Raleigh, N. C.—Brethren, please be reminded that the fiscal year for our Convention closes Aug. 31st, 1975. Even though the books are closed, Aug. 31, we urge you to keep your contributions coming so that they may be reflected in our report to the General Convention next month.

Your response to the call has been gratifying and we urge you to keep up the good work. Our Unified Plan is unique among church groups, and has worked beautifully to provide support for the Lord's work through the General Baptist Convention.

DATES TO REMEMBER!!!

- Sept. 1- 5 Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missionary Convention, Toledo, Ohio
- Sept. 8-14 National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., St. Louis, Missouri
- Sept. 8-14 Progressive National Baptist Convention, Atlantic City, N. J.
- Oct. 27-30 General Baptist State Convention and Laymen's League Convention, Shiloh Baptist Church, Shelby, N. C.

I am looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible in these forthcoming Sessions. Urge your people to come and bring a liberal contribution for the Lord's work.

Remember that Pastor R. E. Devoe is making special preparation for our comfort in Shelby and we do not want to disappoint him and his good people at Shiloh.

Our budget for this year is \$800,000 and in order to realize this goal we need to send up and bring up as much as we possibly can. Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School is in dire need of immediate help. With our nation and world in desperate need of spiritual revival, we must keep Shaw alive at all cost. Religious Education is a must today. So on to Toledo—On to St. Louis—On to Atlantic City—On to Shelby—Strengthen Religious Education—Support the Unified Plan. . . Save our Nation's Youth—On to Victory in Christ.

SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN

1975-1976

BAPTIST CONVENTIONS (Continued from page 1)

speakers agreed upon: That we need a more serious commitment to Christ in order to meet the needs of a sinsick and weary society. Dr. J. J. Johnson, president of our General Convention called upon all Pastors and leaders to "Grow up in Christ" and stop "using the church to bolster your ego, and to achieve selfish ends." There was a general call for Unity, love, and a greater willingness to support the Unified Program. Dr. S. A. Raper said that it is a disgrace that we boast of having 350,000 Baptists and can't raise a million dollars for the Cause of Christ. He pointed out that there are hundreds of Churches that don't even know about the Unified Plan because they have pastors who are out of touch with the Convention program.

On the bright side, leaders were praised for their loyalty and support of the work and program of our Convention.

We have many fine pastors who are leading their people to a deeper commitment to the Cause of Christ through our Convention program. Dr. Leon C. Riddick, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church of Charlotte, was dynamic in his teaching at the S. S. Congress as it relates to pastoral involvement in Social Ministry. He encouraged Laymen and Ministers alike to open their hearts and begin to understand that the Gospel of Christ is preached through its social out-reach as well as through the prayer meetings and worship services. He pointed out that the implementation of the Christian ministry is not a choice between the spiritual and materialistic approach, but it is a vital balancing of these two approaches to make Christ available to suffering humanity.

New officers for the B. T. U. are: President, Mr. James Bellamy, Jr.; First Vice-President, Mr. Richard Turner; Second Vice-President; Mrs. Inease Wicker (S); Third Vice-President, Mr. T. B. Jiles (N); Fourth Vice-President, Mr. J. W. Grimes (E); Recording Sect. Mrs. Yvonne McGraw (S); Asst. Rec. Sect. Miss Beatrice Carter (E); Director of Oratorical, Mrs. Emmeretta Felton (S); Asst. Dir. of Oratorical, Mrs. Beatrice Branch.

New officers for the Sunday School Congress are: President, Mr. James L. Lassister; First Vice-President, Mr. Althorn Canada (E); Second Vice-President, Mrs. Hazel McLean (S); Third Vice-President, Mr. U. S. Hamilton (N); Fourth Vice-President, Mr. W. M. Hartley (N); Rec. Sect., Miss Beatrice Martin (N); Asst. Rec. Sect., Mr. J. T. Dockery (S); Pianist, Mr. Ivan McKinney (W); and Director of Music, Mrs. Josephine Dunn (E).

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, OCTOBER, 1975

NUMBER 10

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION ISSUE

Theme: "Responsive Stewardship: Adequate
Resources Through Christian Unity"



Dr. Nelson H. Smith
Prayer Breakfast
Speaker

Raleigh, N. C.—The One Hundred and Ninth Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., and the 26 annual Session of the Laymen's League Convention have elements which indicate the Sessions will be interesting, stimulating, and exciting.

The forth-coming Session is scheduled to be held October 27-30, with the Shiloh Baptist Church of Shelby, N. C., where the Reverend R. E. Devoe is pastor.

A new and outstanding feature of the Convention will be a Presidential Prayer Breakfast at the Holiday Inn at 8:00 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 30. The speaker for the occasion will be Dr. Nelson H. Smith, newly elected president of the Progressive National Baptist Convention. He is pastor of the New Pilgrim Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama. Active in civil rights activities, Dr. Smith is also an educator as well as being a national and international personality.

Banquet tickets are available for \$5.00. Dr. Johnson, President of the Convention is requesting that all Baptists make a special effort and sacrifice to help make this new feature a success.

Shelby is approximately twenty (20) miles west of Gastonia by way of Highway 74. Persons traveling from Wilmington: take Highway 74 to Shelby. From New Bern: take Highway 70 to Raleigh, Highway 64 to Asheboro, Highway 49 to Char-

(Continued on page 4)

FIRST IN HER FIELD

By Corbin L. Cooper



Priscilla A. Brodie

Franklinton, N. C.—Miss Priscilla A. Brodie of Franklinton, N. C. is the first Black woman and the second woman to receive the Doctor of Ministry Degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, at Wake Forest, N. C. Dr. Brodie is the daughter of Reverend and Mrs. O. H. Brodie of Franklinton, N. C.

She received her early education at B. F. Person High School, Franklinton, continuing at Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C., she received the B. A. Degree in English. After teaching a few years she further studied at Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., where she earned the Master of Divinity with Religious Education Degree. The Doctor of Divinity Degree was earned during the second semester of 1975.

Dr. Brodie has held teaching positions at B. F. Person-Albion High School, Franklinton; Shaw University; and J. B. Dudley High School, Greensboro, N. C. At present she is in search of a position as an instructor of Religious Education or a director of Christian Education.

Miss Brodie is to be congratulated upon her achievement, she has accomplished what most pastors, black and white are only able to dream of. Deeply involved in the work of Kingdom building, she has served as junior organist, director of Church School, and assistant supervisor of Youth at First Baptist Church in Franklinton, N. C.

EDITORIAL

The Unified Plan is the most unique program of any state convention in the United States today. It has made the General Baptist State Convention of N. C. Inc. one of the most effective and outstanding conventions in the nation. Those who follow the Convention and keep abreast of what is going on in the Religious world, know that North Carolina is second to none in her support of the Lord's work, both at home and throughout the world. This fact alone should inspire each of us to be justly proud of what has been accomplished, and to lay aside any, personal grievance that may hinder one from doing his best for the Cause. There are literally hundreds of Baptists laymen and laywomen as well as many pastors and ministers who are unaware of the Unified Plan. Far too many others are slothful in implementing the Unified Plan in their churches. The need is too urgent for any of us to drag our feet. We have seen that the physical and social solutions alone cannot redeem society: Mankind must have Christ as a foundation stone. The Church of Christ is the only agent on earth charged with the responsibility of bringing Christ to a world perishing in sin. Let us rise up O men of God and strengthen the work of the Church through support of the Unified Plan.

When you support your "Baptist Informer," you strengthen the entire Baptist Convention Program. The Informer is the thread that ties all the Baptist Forces together. It keeps the Baptist family informed about what is going on at our school, Shaw University, the Central Or-

The Baptist Informer

Volume 97

Number 10

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. General Convention Roster: J. J. Johnson, President; E. B. Turner, Vice-President at Large; J. C. Harris, 1st Vice-President; J. B. Humphrey, 2nd Vice-President; J. R. Manley, 3rd Vice-President; S. A. Raper, 4th Vice-President; W. B. Lewis, Recording Secretary; R. T. Gilchrist, Assistant Recording Secretary; O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary; C. C. Craig, Assistant Executive Secretary; Leo Williams, Jr., Director of Christian Education; Elbert Lee, Historian; A. R. Smith, Statistician; C. R. Mosley, Director of Music.

Staff: I. B. Horton, Editor; LeVern Perry, Secretary.

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phanage, the Woman's Convention, The Laymen League, The S. S. and B.T.U. Congress, the Foreign Mission Program, the involvement of our Headquarters staff and Convention officials, and the work of Baptists the world over.

Each member of the Baptist Church should know what is going on in his or her denomination. You can know this by reading the Baptist Informer. You can help your Informer be a better publication by: 1) Keeping your subscription renewals up to date, 2) Sharing your Informer with a non-subscriber, 3) Getting one new subscriber for the Informer each month, 4) Sending worthy news items to the Informer office, and 5) Writing helpful letters to the Editor with constructive criticism.

Subscribe To The Informer Today

PASTOR DIES AFTER HEART ATTACK IN THE PULPIT

By Baptist Press

San Francisco (BP) — Frederick Douglass Haynes, Jr., pastor of Third Baptist Church and a student at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, died September 3 following a pulpit heart attack the preceeding Sunday. He was 46 years old.

Haynes, who was to have been graduated from the Southern Baptist Seminary next June, collapsed while giving announcements to his congregation, the largest black Baptist church west of the Mississippi and the oldest church founded by blacks in the same area. He never regained consciousness.

Although Haynes spent most of his life serving as an assistant to his father, the late Frederick Douglass Haynes, Sr., he became pastor when his father died in 1972. He was pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church, Palo Alto from 1967-72.

He was treasurer for the Home and Foreign Mission District Association and first vice president of the California State Baptist Sunday School and Baptist Training Union (American Baptist Churches). He was also a member of the Baptist Ministers' Conference of San Francisco.

Harold K. Graves, president of Golden Gate Seminary, participated in the funeral services, Sept. 8.

Haynes is survived by his wife, Lunetta; a son, F. D. Haynes III; daughters Michelle, Helena, and Francine, all of San Francisco; his mother, Mrs. Annette Jordan; and stepmother, Charlie Mae Haynes; two brothers; and a sister.

Woman's Page-----

MEET THE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

OF

THE WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA

Elected During The 91st Annual Session



4th Vice President
MRS. EVA H. JOHNSON
of Salisbury



Chairlady of Executive Board
MRS. CLARA N. HAYES
of Winston Salem



Youth President
MISS ELIZABETH F. BROOKS
of Gastonia

Mrs. Johnson is the wife of Dr. S. R. Johnson, minister of the Mount Zion Baptist Church in Salisbury. She is an executive board member of the Lott Carey Women's Auxiliary. The newly elected official is a Staff member of the Youth Bible Camp of the Woman's Convention and the Lott Carey Youth Seminar, directing Charm Clinics for both organizations. She is a dynamic speaker and well versed in leadership.

Mrs. Hayes is the wife of Mr. J. P. Hayes and is known as the Missionary Leader of Forsyth County, a member of the new Bethel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, Dr. Jerry Drayton, Minister. She is president of her Church Circle and also of the Forsyth County Missionary Union. Mrs. Hayes is a member of the executive board of the Lott Carey Women's Auxiliary and the

board of directors of the National Woman's Convention U. S. A., Inc., and serves on its Music Committee.

Elizabeth is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Brooks of Gastonia; a member of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, where she devotes much time to the functions of her Church as well as the Youth Department of the Woman's Convention. She is a Senior at the Ashbrook High School; affiliated with numerous school activities. Miss Brooks recently completed a Six weeks program at the Governor's School of North Carolina, studying in the discipline of Social Science.

WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS

REACH OUT AND TOUCH

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION ISSUE

(Continued from page 1)

lotte, Highway 85 to Gastonia, Highway 74 to Shelby. From Elizabeth City: take Highway 17 to Williamston, Highway 64 to Asheboro, Highway 49 to Charlotte, Highway 85 to Gastonia, Highway 74 to Shelby. From Greensboro: take Highway 85 to Gastonia, Highway 74 to Shelby. From Winston-Salem: take Highway 40 to Newton, Highway 321 to Gastonia, Highway 74 to Shelby.

The Shiloh Baptist Church is located at 914 Frederick Street, Shelby, N. C. Delegates may write to Rev. R. E. Devoe for information about meals and overnight accommodations.

Some outstanding features of the Convention will be: The featured message by Dr. William J. Shaw, Pastor, White Rock Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Penn., Wednesday evening, October 29 at 8:45 p.m. The Annual Sermon by Dr. Coleman W. Kerry, Pastor, Friendship Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C., Monday, October 27 at 8:30 p.m. A sermon by Dr. C. W. Ward, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Raleigh, N. C., Tuesday evening, October 28 at 8:20 p.m. A sermon by Rev. O. T. Tomes, pastor, New Mount Olive Baptist Church, Asheville, N. C., Wednesday afternoon, October 29, at 3:15 p.m. The Annual Address of the President by Dr. J. Joy Johnson on Wednesday morning, October 29 at 11:00 a.m. The Annual Laymen's League Presidential Address by John W. McQueen, Tuesday morning, October 28 at 11:00 a.m.

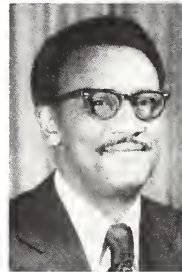
There will be a workshop for laymen on Monday afternoon October 27 at 2:45 p.m. Baptist Leaders across the state and nation will report the condition of the world and progress in the Baptist work. Dr. Allen B. Bailey, president of the Baptist State Convention of N. C. will be among those who will bring greetings. The closing sermon will be preached by Reverend J. L. Morgan on Thursday morning.

Accommodations for the Convention will be as follows: The Holiday Inn, corner West Dixon and Nelson Streets, Highway 74 West. They have confirmed 70 rooms for October 27-30. All reservations will have to be made by October 15. Rates are: 4 persons per room \$19.00 (tax not included) 2 persons per room \$15.00; 1 person per room \$12.00. Royal Villa Motor Inn, I-85 Highway, Kings Mountain, N. C. 1 person per day \$7.00, 2 persons per day \$14.00.

Private homes are available at \$6.00 per day, meals in private homes will be in addition to the \$6.00. Write to Reverend R. E. Devoe for private home accommodations. Meals at the Church (Lunch and Dinner) shall be approximately \$1.70 per meal.

You will recall that the budget of the General Convention for this year is \$800,000.00. In order for us to reach that goal, we urge every pastor and auxiliary leader, to inspire those under your leadership to send up a liberal contribution for the Lord's work.

O'KELLY LAWSON ACCEPTS PASTORATE OF CORNERSTONE



Rev. Lawson

Greenville, N. C.—The Reverend O'Kelly Lawson has recently accepted a call to the pastorate of the Cornerstone Baptist Church of Greenville, N. C. He is a native of Roxboro, N. C., but has maintained a residence in Henderson for the last 25 years. His wife is the former Miss Johnsy Ruth Terry of Henderson, N. C. They are parents of one daughter, Laurel, who is

a counselor with the State Department of Correction.

Reverend Lawson is a graduate of Shaw University, and of the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science of Pittsburgh, Penn. He has held pastorates in Oxford, Lumberton, and Wilmington, N. C. For the past year he has been engaged in the funeral business in Henderson.

Other positions of service include, Moderator of Reedy Creek Association 1963-66; President, County Line Minister's and Deacons Union 1962-1966; Member General Board of the General Baptist Convention of N. C. Inc; Founder of Sandy Grove Day Care Assn., Inc. Lumberton; Secretary-Treasurer Lumber River Housing Development Inc.; Human Relations Commission of New Hanover County, N. C.; and a member of the board of directors of Travelers Aid/Family Service, Wilmington, N. C.

In 1969 he was honored as "Man of the Year" in Lumberton, N. C. In 1973 he was guest speaker for the Ecumenical Christmas Celebration, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

BIOGRAPHY OF DR. JOHNSON TO BE PUBLISHED

Fairmont, N. C.—Dr. Joy Joseph Johnson, president of the General Baptist State Convention of N. C. Inc. recently announced the publication of a Biography of his life. Preliminary sketches of the forth-coming book were released during the State S. S. and B. T. U. Congress, held in Winston-Salem, N. C. last August.

Dr. Johnson stated the book would be available during the Forth-coming Session of the General

Baptist State Convention, to be held in Shelby, N. C., October 27-30. A copy of the Biography will be given to each individual, who purchased a Biographical Sketch, without charge.

The book, entitled "From Poverty to Power," traces the life of Dr. Johnson from his birth as an obscure son of a sharecropper, to his election to the Powerful Chairmanship of the 1975 N. C. State Legislature's Human Resources Committee.

A VERY THANKFUL MOTHER AND FATHER

By Reverend J. W. Wallace



Rev J. W. Wallace



Mrs. J. W. Wallace

Kannapolis, N. C.—We are thankful to God for choosing the third preacher out of our six sons.

Brother Wade Wallace preached his first Sermon, Sunday evening, August 31, 1975 at Rose Hill Baptist Church, Kannapolis, N. C. His twin brother, Rev. Waylon Wallace, preached his first sermon in this pulpit the second Sunday in June 1969, and presented his twin brother to the congregation for his first sermon. Reverend Waylon Wallace is the very fine pastor of the Gold Hill Baptist Church, Lowesville, N. C. and Editor of the Church News for the Charlotte Post Newspaper.

Reverend J. W. Wallace, Jr., the elder son was the director of this Service. He is the pastor of the Greater Providence Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C. He is director of the Religious Education of the Mecklenburg General Baptist Association and director of the Greenville Neighborhood Center.

J. W. Wallace, Sr., the glad father is pastor of this church, and Watts Grove Baptist Church, Monroe, N. C. He is pastor of another Rose Hill Baptist Church, Tradesville, S. C., and is moderator of the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Association in S. C.

The words of Mrs. J. W. Wallace: "God will answer prayers, we can tell the world. God entrusted to us nine children, and we have given them all back to him, and he is using them in his service; Three preachers, one Deacon, one major in singing, and the daughters are all good workers in Church for our Lord and Master."

DR. HEDGLEY HONORED

By Dr. S. R. Johnson



Greensboro, N. C.—Reading from left to right, Dr. C. R. Trotter, Raleigh, N. C., Moderator of Rowan Baptist Association and Dr. C. W. Anderson, extreme right, pastor of United Institutional Baptist Church, presents a thirty year service plaque to Dr. David R. Hedgley, in center, Winston-Salem, N. C., Executive Secretary of the Rowan Baptist Association, meeting here at its 109th session at the Institutional Baptist Church.

O. L. SHERRILL HONORED BY HOME CHURCH

Troutman, N. C.—"A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house." (Matt. 13:57) While this Biblical declaration is true more often than not, it was certainly not true Sunday, August 24th, at the St. James Baptist Church in Troutman, N. C. St. James is the home church of O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary, General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc., where he got his start in Christian ministry.

Dr. Sherrill was guest speaker for the day, and it was a high day, when he remembered how he rose from a humble beginning in this small community to the highest office in the General Baptist Convention. His work has afforded him the opportunity to become a national and world personality.

The event was highlighted with the presentation of a Plaque to Dr. Sherrill citing him for his outstanding achievements. The Plaque reads: "Executive Secretary, General Baptist State Convention—Outstanding Member, St. James First Baptist Church, August 24, 1975."

COUNTY LINE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Oxford, N. C.—The County Line Baptist Association held its fiftieth session with the New Light Baptist Church, July 15-17, 1975. The theme "Our Greatest Stewardship" was discussed throughout the conference. The Reverend U. R. Booker, moderator, presiding. The Woman's Auxiliary, the Sunday School Union and Ushers' Union participated in the program. Special messages were brought by Rev. Alex Peace, Dr. Harold Timberlake and Reverend Carl H. Jones.

As a part of the Fiftieth Year celebration, special sessions were held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Music for the occasion was furnished by a Mass Choir composed of members from various churches under the direction of Mr. L. L. Bartlett. Other groups appearing on the program were the Ever Ready Choir, the Gospel Chorus of St. Matthew, Whetstone Baptist Church Chorus and the Gospel Stars of New Grassy Creek.

To highlight the program for the occasion, Dr. Paul Johnson of Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, N. C. was guest speaker.

The object of this association is to support Foreign Mission, Home Mission, Central Orphanage and Shaw University.

MOSELEY CELEBRATES 14TH PASTOR'S ANNIVERSARY

By Mrs. Shirley F. Taylor

Durham, N. C.—The Reverend Dr. Alexander D. Moseley of Durham, N. C. celebrated his 14th pastor's anniversary of the Mount Gilead Baptist Church, Sunday, August 3, 1975 during both the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. service.

Rev. James Turner was the speaker for the 8:00 o'clock service. He preached a dynamic sermon on "Giving Honor To Whom Honor Is Due." Rev. Glenn Pettiford, a young minister and member of Mt. Gilead, delivered a touching 11:00 a.m. sermon.

The anniversary celebration climaxed with a fellowship dinner held at the Ramada Inn.

Dr. Moseley came to Mt. Gilead in 1961 from the First Baptist Church in Weldon, N. C. During his pastorate in Durham, he has been an active civil rights worker, a political worker and a community worker. He has led Mt. Gilead into supporting the unified program. By his guidance and

leadership, he has led the church to building a parsonage, burning the mortgage on the church building, and purchasing five lots, two of which have been converted into paved parking lots.

Since his pastorate, the Mt. Gilead Church has become affiliated with the Center City Church Council, General Baptist State Convention, American Baptist Convention U.S.A., United Campus Christian Ministry of NCCU, and the N. C. Council of Churches.

Also during his pastorate, more than 400 persons have been led to Christ. Mt. Gilead has led, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, three young ministers into the ministry during the pastorate of Dr. Moseley; the Rev. Clifton R. Stone who is now a successful pastor, Rev. Glenn M. Pettiford who is now in the seminary, and the Rev. Dr. Earle E. Thorpe who is a faculty member of the history department of North Carolina Central University, and was formerly chairman of the history department from 1964 until 1974.

Dr. Moseley is married to the former Earle Cleaves and they have one daughter, Alexis Moseley Randolph.

VACATION BIBLE CLASSES HELD AT FRIENDSHIP

By Rev. D. D. Williams

Rocky Mount, N. C. — Friendship Baptist Church in Rocky Mt., N. C. recently held one week of Vacation Bible School. This year's theme was "Clap Your Hands, Jesus Is Lord." Classes were held on four levels: Adults, Youth, Intermediate and Primary.

Sis. Shirley P. Gupton and Sis. Mae B. Johnson were Chairman and co-chairmen respectively. The week's activities led up to the Annual Youth Day Service. Certificates of attendance and appreciation were presented to all teachers and students. The assistant pastor, Rev. D. D. Williams, was instrumental in beginning the classes and assisted throughout the week. Rev. T. H. Rand is pastor.

SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN

1975-1976

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SPEAKS OUT

By O. L. Sherrill



O. L. Sherrill

Raleigh, N. C.—The “Associational” season has arrived again and Associations are meeting from the mountains to the coast of our great State.

I am urging all pastors, laymen, and auxiliary leaders to attend their forthcoming associational meetings, and to use their influence to get as many of the local Baptists and friends as possible to attend the sessions. Let us work and pray together to strengthen the Lord’s work on the local level. Our state, national and world-wide ministry can be no stronger than our local ministry will allow.

We believe that we have planned one of the greatest sessions ever for our General Convention. I am looking forward to seeing all of my co-workers and friends in Shelby at Shiloh Baptist Church, October 27-30, 1975.

Brothers, the need is vital and the need is urgent. Please use your influence to get your Association, your Auxiliary, your department, your Church and your friends to bring or send liberal contributions-for-the-objectives.

CORRECTION!!!

The August issue of the “Informer” carried a front page article entitled “Dr. Sherrill Leader at Baptist World Congress” by Dr. O. L. Sherrill, in which the letter “s” was left off the word “Baptist” in several places. This was an editorial error.

NEW DAMASCUS CELEBRATES HOMECOMING

By Mrs. Lorene H. Anderson

For the second time in many years, Sunday, July 20, the New Damascus Church celebrated Homecoming. A committee was appointed and went to work immediately. Announcements were sent out to non-residential members along with the request for donations on a new organ that was to be purchased, installed and dedicated.

The response was overwhelming. Contributions and pledges were received. A special speaker was contacted. He was one of our own. The relatively young, Rev. Millard Harris, Jr. He had recently received the Master Divinity Degree at Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va., and was be-

ginning work on his Doctorate. He was introduced by a member of the committee, Mrs. Lillie W. Barber.

Mrs. Lorene H. Anderson gave the history of the church, which had been begun, by her late mother, Mrs. Bessie E. Harris, when she was church clerk. Mrs. Anderson had kept it up to date. It was interesting to be able to reminiscence over a period of more than 100 years, from its organizations up to the present time. From a small log cabin to our present edifice, which consists of a large sanctuary, 10 Sunday School classrooms in an educational department complete with baptistry, fellowship hall, kitchen and dining facilities.

The morning worship service was conducted, as usual, with the pastor, Rev. W. N. Rowe, in charge. The famed Damascus Choral Club rendered the music all day with a number of solo selections. There was “Dinner on the Grounds.” The old fashioned way, which brought back many memories from the old Damascus Church site.

Well remembered pastors who have served us long and well are: Reverends G. W. Parker, A. B. Clark, R. B. Watts, V. A. Parks, Robert Grinton, L. J. Carlton, R. W. Barber, L. R. Howell and presently, Rev. W. N. Rowe.

We are blessed with air conditioning and sound systems, which extend into the parsonage where our pastor resides. Mr. Dawkins Barber served as Chairman of this Homecoming event and, of course, as usual, was at his best in rendering solos. Not only our own membership, but many friends and well wishers, both white and black contributed. One who should be mentioned for her generosity over the years is Mrs. Mary Moore Hix, North Wilkesboro, N. C.

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BAPTIST INFORMER

603 S. Wilmington Street

Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

The staff is asking that all articles of news be in the office before the deadline which is the 10th of the month.

TRAGEDY MARS LOTT CAREY TRIP

Princeton, W. Va.—One man was left dead and at least five others were hospitalized, Saturday, Sept. 6 at 3:00 a.m., after a chartered bus to Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, returning from Toledo, Ohio, overturned on a W. Va. turnpike. Dead was the Reverend Frank Kelly of Selma, N. C., who suffered a broken neck. Hospitalized in Princeton, W. Va., was two Raleigh, N. C. residents—Mrs. Katie Scott, and Mr. Joseph Whitaker. Also injured was Dr. W. B. Lewis, pastor of Raleigh's First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, co-sponsor of the bus trip, who is credited with restoring calm to the disaster scene. Several others sustained minor injuries including Mrs. Margarie Dunn, Secretary to Dr. O. L. Sherrill, who suffered strain muscles in the neck.

The accident occurred during a rain storm on a two lane stretch of a turnpike where numerous accidents have occurred, particularly during bad weather.

The Southern Coach was one of two buses that were sponsored by Dr. Charles W. Ward, pastor of First Baptist, Raleigh, and Dr. W. B. Lewis.

Shortly before the tragedy occurred, the group had attended the 78th Annual Session of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, which convened at the Commodore Perry Motor Inn in Toledo, Ohio. Everyone was in a jovial mood prior to the accident, and justifiably so, because North Carolinians play a great role in the life of the Convention. Dr. W. C. Somerville, a N. C. native and Executive Secretary of Lott Carey, reported that the Convention exceeded its budget in that over \$500,000.00 had been contributed by its constituency for Missions, making a 218% increase. Dr. Somerville stated that Lott Carey will extend its boundaries during the next fiscal year. Work of the Convention includes missions in Guyana, Liberia, Nigeria, and India.

Dr. C. R. Edwards of Fayetteville, N. C. was re-elected President of the Convention. Mrs. Nettie Gaither, McKeesport, Pa. was re-elected President of the Woman's Auxiliary. Joseph Manker, Pittsburgh, Pa., was elected to head the Laymen's Department, and Howard Parker of Winston-Salem, N. C., was elected as President of the Youth Department, with Mrs. Louise Slater of Philadelphia, Pa., directing. Dr. J. D. Bussey of Washington, D. C. was elected as 1st Vice-president; Dr. G. L. Bowick, Pittsburgh, Pa., 2nd vice-president; Dr. J. Jasper Freeman, Norfolk, Va.,

recording secretary; Dr. L. J. Shipman, Youngstown, Ohio, statistician; Dr. C. H. Jordan, Portsmouth, Va., Chairman Executive Board, succeeding Dr. W. L. Ransome of Richmond, Va. who has served as Board Chairman for 50 years; Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive Secretary of Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Convention of N. C. was elected as Chairman of the Woman's Executive Board.

Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc., presided over the "Memorial Session" on Wednesday morning. The service was very impressive which included silent prayer, a litany of commemoration, music, an address and prayer.

Other outstanding personalities appearing on the program were: Mr. John McQueen, Fayetteville, N. C., during the Laymen's hour; Rev. Louis Wade, White Plains, N. Y.; Rev. William Hairston, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Mrs. C. E. McLester, Durham, President Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Convention of N. C. Inc., Dr. S. A. Raper, Shelby, N. C.; Dr. Joy J. Johnson, President of General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Rev. Thomas Kilgore, Los Angeles, California; Convention preacher; Dr. Carlye Miller, a medical missionary in Guyana for 25 years; and Dr. Otis Hairston, Greensboro, who delivered the Annual Sermon on Wednesday.

It was a very inspiring session. The 1976 Session is scheduled to meet in Richmond, Va. with the 5th Street Baptist Church as Host.

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I. B. Horton, Editor

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The Baptist Informer

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Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 97

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, NOVEMBER, 1975

NUMBER 11

State B. T. U. Oratorical Contest Winners Announced:

YOUNG PEOPLE ENCOURAGED TO WITNESS FOR CHRIST

Winston-Salem, N. C.—Speaking on the subject, "Will There Be Peace on Earth," Miss Vera Walton of Raleigh, was declared the winner in a tightly contested Oratorical Contest held during the recent meeting of the State B. T. U. Congress. Miss Walton was one of ten (10) young people from across the state of North Carolina who participated in the Annual James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest, sponsored by the B. T. U. Congress. She received a \$150.00 scholarship as first place winner. Second place was won by Miss Marvena Connelly of Valdese, N. C., who received a \$100.00 scholarship.

The Oratorical Contest is sponsored each year by the B. T. U. Convention to encourage young people to stand up and speak out for Christ. It provides an opportunity for high school graduates and college freshmen to develop their talents as well as offering them an incentive to continue their education.

Competition was especially keen this year. All of the contestants gave an excellent account of themselves, and the contents of their messages were rich in Christian thoughts. It was an inspiration to listen to young people witness so enthusiastically.

(Continued on page 3)



Seated (L-R) Vera Walton, 1st place winner and Marvena Connelly, 2nd place winner; Standing (L-R) Carven Springs, Hettie Lodsine Taylor, Louella Tew, Mrs. Emaretta Felton, Asst. Directress, Mary A. DeBerry, Linda Herring, Vinesee Davidson, Cora LaDaris McNeill, Mrs. Hazel McLean, Directress, Mr. Clifton Stone, President B. T. U. Congress and John Lee.

REDEMPTION AND SALVATION: REASONS FOR THANKSGIVING

By I. B. Horton

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever." (Psalm 107:1)

How can I be thankful? My situation in every respect is adverse to say the least and getting worse. Our nation and the world seems to be on the brink of economic, moral, and physical collapse. So what, if anything, have I to be thankful for?

As we approach the traditional celebration of Thanksgiving, countless individuals will be "locked-in" the above attitude and find it impossible to lift their souls in praise and thanksgiving to God. For others, their attention will be focused on the Traditional Turkey dinner that must at all cost be perfect. Some will grasp the opportunity to see the football games and others will get in that long-overdue hunting trip. Still others will feel that they are entitled to some much needed rest. What it all adds up to is that there simply will not be any space left for praise and thanksgiving to God. There are some (praise God) who will have experienced the redemptive power of the Lord Jesus and will have reasons for giving thanks to God.

It is difficult to praise and thank God when one is in the midst of trouble and hurtful conditions. Nevertheless, theologians have pointed out that the Biblical record tends to indicate that our greatest blessings are realized out of affliction and trouble. There is a strong belief among theological scholars that God places a "tension" or "anxiety" between Himself and His people in order to bring them into a closer fellowship with Him. They say that this is God's method or way of leading His people into spiritual growth and maturity. When "tension and "anxiety" are removed, spiritual and emotional growth come to a halt.

In this light the stress and strain of today's world is a blessing not a curse. These hard and trying times can and will teach our nation and our world that there is a God, who requires Justice and Righteousness, who rules the world. If God would allow America to have peace and security through the oppressive systems in operation today, no one would be justified in worshipping Him. How could we worship a God who would bless a society so sin sick as ours? A society in which our people no longer are able to tell the difference between good and evil because so many so-called leaders are afraid to teach the truth. Come now, let us reason together; is it not the

parents' duty to teach their child what is good to eat and what is harmful? If a mother did not teach her child not to eat a snail or worm, we would say that she had neglected to do her duty. Leviticus 10:10 says that it is the duty of God's representatives to "teach the people the difference between holy and unholy, and between the clean and unclean." Our sin is that we have failed to do this (may God forgive us). This is

(Continued on page 7)

"LETTERS-TO-THE-EDITOR"

To the Editor:

Dear Sir:

I am happy to report twelve (12) new subscribers to the "Baptist Informer" which represents a fraction of my goal for this year.

I wanted to have a part in sharing with others the fine work which you are doing in keeping Baptists of our State and Nation informed.

May God continue to bless and inspire you in this sacred task.

Yours in Christ,
(Mrs.) J. A. Little
406 Sunset Dr.
Monroe, N. C. 28110

The Baptist Informer

Volume 97

Number 11

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. General Convention Roster: J. J. Johnson, President; E. B. Turner, Vice-President at Large; J. C. Harris, 1st Vice-President; J. B. Humphrey, 2nd Vice-President; J. R. Manley, 3rd Vice-President; S. A. Raper, 4th Vice-President; W. B. Lewis, Recording Secretary; R. T. Gilchrist, Assistant Recording Secretary; O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary; C. C. Craig, Assistant Executive Secretary; Leo Williams, Jr., Director of Christian Education; Elbert Lee, Historian; A. R. Smith, Statistician; C. R. Mosley, Director of Music.

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CORRECTION!!!

The October issue of the "Baptist Informer" carried an article entitled "Biography of Dr. Johnson to Be Published," in which it was stated that all persons who had purchased a preliminary Biographical Sketch would receive a copy of the book without charge. This should have stated that the \$1.00 would be deducted from the total price of the book.

Dear Sir:

I am writing in regard to getting news from our church into the "Baptist Informer." Last year I wrote some information concerning our church activities at Lewis Chapel Baptist Church and it was never put in the paper. To us it was important news (special days and events, personalities from the General Baptist Convention who visited us for the first time).

I don't know what you have to do to get news in the "Informer." If it is something special such as guidelines that we should follow, please let me know. I am sending another report that we want to go in the "Informer" this year if possible.

The month you publish our write up, I want about 15 or 20 copies of the "Informer" to sell to our members. Perhaps this will encourage more church members to subscribe.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lorine C. McLeod
1310 Robeson St. Ext.
Fayetteville, N. C.

DR. C. R. EDWARDS, RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF LOTT CAREY



Dr. C. R. Edwards

Toledo, Ohio—The Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention again honored the General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc., and the State of North Carolina by re-electing Dr. C. R. Edwards of Fayetteville, N. C. as president during its recent session held in Toledo, Ohio. Dr. Edwards is a former president of the General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc., and pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fayetteville, N. C.

North Carolina Baptists have played an important role in the life history of Lott Carey. It's present Executive Secretary, Dr. W. C. Somerville is a native of North Carolina.

Baptist have made an outstanding contribution to the foreign missionary efforts through the years. Today they support missions in Guyana, Liberia, Nigeria and India. According to reports heard in the 78th Annual Session the income of the Convention is greater than ever.

The next session of the Convention is scheduled to be held in Richmond, Va. with the 5th Street Baptist Church as Host. Dr. Edwards has our congratulations and we look forward to another inspiring session in Richmond in 1976.

THE BIBLICAL IMAGE OF THE CHURCH AS IT RELATES TO OUR CONTEMPORARY CULTURE, STUDY AND TRAINING-TOWARDS COMPETING IN THE PRESENT AGE

Winston-Salem, N. C.— (Editor's note: The out-going President of the State B. T. U. Congress, Clifton Stone was at his best when he delivered the following address to the 75th Annual Session of the Congress voted overwhelmingly to publish the message in the "Informer".)

To the President of the GBSC, Presiding Officer, President of the Sunday School Congress, brothers and sisters. This brings to a close my tenure as your President. The first year in Raleigh I didn't get a chance to deliver an address but I had one and it was entitled "Church Training In the Midst of Social Change." During my second year at Ahoskie, I delivered an address entitled "The B. T. U. Meeting the Challenge of Social Change." Last year at Fayetteville I talked about "Biblical Images for Modern Culture: Redigging the Old Wells," and tonight as we come to my final address, I feel very conscious of the falling away from the Church and the lack of commitment as well as the tendency of most pastors and deacons to de-emphasize the Training Dept., therefore, tonight let me talk to you very briefly from this subject, keeping in line with the National and State Theme: "The Biblical Image of the Church As It Relates to Our Contemporary Culture."

First let us define the words: Biblical—That which pertains to the Bible; Image—Reproductions of a person or things; Church—The fellowship of persons redeemed by Christ and made one in the family of God; Relate—To connect with; Contemporary living—occurring or existing at the same period of time; Culture—the act of de-

(Continued on page 8)

Woman's Page ----

THE WOMAN'S CONVENTION REACHING OUT ---- IN THE LOTT CAREY AND NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

LOTT CAREY CONVENTION

- Mrs. Vera M. Slade, Ahoskie
First Vice President
- Mrs. M. A. Horne
Chairperson of the Lott Carey Women's
Executive Board
- Mrs. J. B. McLester, Durham
Financial and Corresponding Secretary
- Miss Bettie Chislom, Raleigh
Member, Finance Committee
- Mrs. Irene V. Yeates, Ahoskie
Member, Finance Committee

NATIONAL WOMAN'S CONVENTION, USA, INCORPORATED

- In 1922 declared the Best Stewardship Convention
in the Nation. — Woman's National Convention
USA, Inc.
- Mrs. M. A. Horne, Co-Director of all Finance
- Mrs. Helen W. Falls, Winston-Salem, Co-chairper-
son of Loyalty Fund Committee
- Mr. Ethel Bittle, Charlotte, Co-chairperson of
Layton Memorial Fund
- Mrs. Essie M. Wilson, Winston-Salem, Deacons'
Wives Committee
- Mrs. Clara Ballentine, Raleigh, District Conven-
tion Committee
- Mrs. Pearl Cooper, Charlotte, District Convention
Committee

PLEASE NOTE
MID-YEAR SESSION OF THE
WOMAN'S CONVENTION WILL BE HELD
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1976
RALEIGH MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM—
HOURS 8:45 A.M. - 2 P.M.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BEAR CREEK WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

By Minerva C. Evans



Mrs. Mabell Brown,
President

Mrs. Magdalena H. Jones,
Treasurer

Kinston, N. C.—The 68th Annual Session of the Bear Creek Woman's Auxiliary was held September 18-20 with the Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Kinston, where Rev. R. B. Sykes is pastor. Mrs. M. Brown of Goldsboro, President of the Auxiliary, presided over the session.

The session was highlighted by two classes which were instructed by Mrs. Thelma C. Horton of Goldsboro, 2nd Vice President of WBH&FMC of N. C. The moderator of Bear Creek Association, Rev. E. L. Daniels, Vice Moderator, Rev. W. C. Cotton and other ministers of the Association were there to give support to the work. The Thursday morning message: "Following Jesus" (John 4:4), was delivered by Rev. L. D. Bizzell. Thursday afternoon's message: "The Goodness of God (Acts 2:2), was delivered by Rev. Spencer Williams of Goldsboro. Thursday evening's message "Being Ready" (II Timothy 2:15), was delivered by Rev. Roosevelt Taylor of LaGrange. We enjoyed the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The president's address, "Reach Out and Touch," delivered by Mrs. Mabell Brown was another highlight of the Session. It was both informative and inspirational. Reports from missionary department presidents from various churches revealed that the missionary departments were in a state of progress. The officers of the Auxiliary were installed on Friday evening in an impressive service conducted by Rev. R. B. Sykes and Rev. W. I. Lee of Goldsboro.

The session was concluded Saturday, beginning in the morning with the Youth in Action. The

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Youth President, Miss Ruby Laverne Grantham, taking time out from her studies at Winston-Salem State University, presided over the Session. She challenged the youth in her address: "Reach Out and Touch Some Lost Soul," concluding that "if all reach out and touch someone that needs a helping hand, what a line that will be."

Attendance was good, finance was good, and we are thanking God for a successful session.

DEDICATORIAL SERVICES HELD AT ANTIOCH

By A. E. Watson

Charlotte, N. C.—The 400 membership of the Antioch Baptist Church of Charlotte had reason to be jubilant when they motorcaded to their new edifice recently for the initial service and Dedication. The service climaxed a four day celebration in which the entire Charlotte community participated. Rev. C. R. Neal, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Chester, S. C. was the guest speaker.

The modern edifice is located on two and a third acres of land, consisting of 9,000 square feet which includes a 400 seat capacity sanctuary, two classroom wings, a kitchen and dining room. The church has been relocated on Skyland Avenue. It formerly was on Monroe Road. The new church is valued at more than \$200,000.

The Reverend Preston Pendergrass, a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University is pastor. He succeeded the late Dr. D. F. Moore who pastored Antioch for 41 years. Rev. Pendergrass is married to the former Miss Lois Gist of Chester, S. C. They are the parents of four children.



Antioch Baptist Church

REV. HOWELL ACCEPTS PASTORATE AT ARARAT

By Officers of the Ararat Baptist Church

Taylorsville, N. C.—Rev. Thomas Howell, accepts pastorate of the Ararat Baptist Church at Mt. Airy, N. C. Rev. Howell dedicated to the

service of God and the administering of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, fully endowed with the eternal love of his fellowman, took his duties as pastor on September 20, 1975. Former pastorates include 8 years at New Zion Baptist Church, Taylorsville, N. C. Assistant Missionary of the Yadkin Valley Baptist Association and Missionary of the Sunday School Convention.

LEWIS CHAPEL DEDICATES NEW EDIFICE

By Mrs. Lorine McLeod



John D. Fuller

Fayetteville, N. C.—The newly constructed edifice of Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Fayetteville was dedicated to the Lord last July 13th. The dedication took place during an impressive service in which the keynote speaker was Dr. J. Z. Alexander, Dean of the Shaw Divinity School. His theme was: "Let us go into the House of the Lord." Following the sermon, the cornerstone laying ceremony was conducted by the Eureka Lodge #3 A. F. and A. M. This service was followed by a week of Pre-Dedicatory Services in which area pastors and their congregations were present.

The 600 seat sanctuary was built by D. F. Tolley and Sons Construction Company of Fayetteville, N. C. The edifice is constructed from brick, has exposed beams, carpet, and cushioned pews. It is equipped with a pastor's study, secretary's office, conference room, baptistry, and a balcony. The lower level is composed of eleven classrooms, a fellowship hall and a kitchen. The church complex is valued at \$261,000.00.



Lewis Chapel Baptist Church

The pastor is the Reverend John D. Fuller, of Fayetteville who began his pastorate at Lewis Chapel in October 1973. He is a graduate of

(Continued on page 6)

Fayetteville State University and a student at the Shaw Divinity School. He is married to the former Brenda Avery of Fayetteville, N. C. and they are parents of three children.

Under the leadership of Rev. Fuller, Lewis Chapel which is sixty-five years old, became a full time church. In the last twenty-two months two hundred and twelve new members have been received into the fellowship. The church is on its way to having a banner year in financial receipts. It is expected that the income for the fiscal year 1974-1975 will exceed \$66,000.00, an eighty per cent increase over 1972-1973. Because of his unusual leadership the church in 1974 contributed more than \$1,000.00 to Foreign Missions. For this effort, he was cited by the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention as one of its "Magnificent Men of Troas."

On the third Sunday in August, the church observed Women's Day. The guest speaker was Mrs. J. B. McLester, President of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Convention of N. C., Inc. Financial receipts for that day were \$5,185.35.

LILLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH DEDICATES NEW EDUCATIONAL FACILITY

By Queen B. Penny



Lillington, N. C. — Lillington First Baptist Church, Lillington, N. C., formally dedicated its new educational annex, and had a cornerstone laying, during Homecoming Services October 26, 1975.

Services began with Sunday school at 10:00 a.m. followed with the 11:00 a.m. worship service, at which time Memorial Tributes were paid to its

deceased members. A fellowship dinner was served in the educational annex at 1:00 p.m.

Dedication services began at 3:00 p.m. with Dr. C. R. Edwards as Homecoming-dedicatory speaker. Dr. Edwards is pastor of First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, N. C., and the President of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention.

The Annex contains a pastor's study, Baptistry, space for Sunday School classrooms and kitchen.

The church was organized in 1937, a dream of Mrs. Carrie L. Atkins and the late Mr. W. T. Fuller. Thirty-five members moved into a new brick building, dedicating this sanctuary under the guidance of our Shepherd the late Rev. A. A. Heartly. The Rev. J. A. Raye of Fayetteville, N. C. is the present pastor. The membership has now doubled.

SHAW RECEIVES \$915,000

Raleigh, N. C.—Shaw University officials have announced the receipt of a supplemental grant of \$915,000 from the Advanced Institutional Development Program (AIDP) of the U. S. Office of Education. Shaw earlier received a grant from AIDP totaling \$2,000,000. The supplement grant provides funding for five projects.

The funding will aid Shaw to implement several projects including a Comprehensive Institutional Research Plan which will enable the university to coordinate and conduct an institutional research program. The program will enable Shaw to develop research data, store it in computers, and retrieve the data whenever needed for sound decision making.

The Division of Humanities and Arts plans to develop and renovate curriculum in three areas: History and Afro-American Studies, Comprehensive Music Education and International Studies Program.

The thrust of the history and Afro-American program is to renovate the traditional history curriculum and incorporate the history of Black American and Afro-Americans. Such curriculum plan is not only desirable in an institution serving Black students but also will bring in a proper perspective in the history curriculum.

Program implementation is proposed for the professional training of the handicapped education teachers and recreation leaders. The program will also provide laboratory experiences for the prospective teachers. The program will be developed within the department of health and physical education.

The Basic Academic Skills Development Program proposes to develop the basic academic skills in communication, reading, writing, quantitative

reasoning and cultural awareness for an academically deficient student. An innovative approach in teaching and learning method will be developed and implemented.

AIDP funds projects are designed to move institutions more rapidly toward the mainstream of education. According to a statement issued by the Office of Education AIDP awards are made to a selected number of "developing institutions" that show positive trends in financial stability and strength.

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YOUNG PEOPLE

(Continued from page 1)

astically about Christ and His power to redeem the world. All of them appeared to be sincere as they delivered their messages with deep feeling.

At the close of the contest, the Congress voted to have all of the messages published, so that these vital truths could be shared with others across the state and nation. (The publication date of the Oratorical Contest messages had not been announced.) Other contestants were Craven Springs of St. Pauls, N. C., Vinesee Davidson of Huntersville, N. C., John E. Lee of Southport, N. C., Hattie Lodsine Taylor of Lumberton, N. C., Linda Herring of Clinton, N. C., Louella Tew of Clinton, N. C., Mary A. DeBerry of Laurinburg, N. C., and Cora LaDaris McNeil of McCain, N. C.

Mrs. Hazel McLean of Laurinburg is Directress and Mrs. Emaretta Felton is Assistant Directress.

REDEMPTION AND SALVATION

(Continued from page 2)

why our people young and old alike are unable to tell the difference between the dress of a "public" woman and the dress of a decent woman. This is why so many are unable to distinguish between a night club dress and a church dress. This is why so many of our young men are unable to tell whether they want to marry a female or a member of his own sex. This is why so many are unable to understand the difference between music for worship in the church and music for the Saturday night dance; (you name the rest of the list of confusion).

Therefore, I say thank God that affliction has come upon America! Cry out, I say, like the

Psalmist "Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word." Yes, we should thank God and rejoice because of the calamities that have come to pass. These conditions tell us that God is yet in control of the Universe; for if man could do so, he would commit every kind of evil imaginable and still prosper. Thank God over and over because these trying times are revealing that human nature cannot be trusted in its unregenerated state. They are teaching us that only when human nature has been put under Christ, only when a man has been born again (John 3:16) can he be trusted. Thank Him because we have another chance every day to be redeemed. "O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever."

As we come to the Thanksgiving Season, let us come together all across the nation and focus our minds upon the mighty redeeming acts of God in this our day, giving thanks.

**MORNING STAR OBSERVES
33RD ANNIVERSARY**

Rev. Samuel R. Spencer

Raleigh, N. C.—The thirty-third Anniversary celebration of the Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church was one of the most significant celebrations in its history in that it was held in a new edifice that was dedicated during a week long series of Services, September 15-21. Morning Star has come a long way since its inception in a small wooden building in the early 1940's. The church grew out of a Sunday School of which Mrs. Bessie Holloway was the first Superintendent. Since there was no church in the community the Sunday School grew larger and in 1942 Morning Star was organized with Rev. Samuel R. Spencer as its first pastor.

The first building was located on Quarry Street. Since there was no water in the house, water was brought from a spring in Joe Louis park. A baptistry pool was dug and cemented by Rev. Spencer. Thirty-five candidates were baptized.

The church is a member of the Wake Association.

The church has grown from an original membership of about fifty-five members (55) to its present membership of about three hundred and fifty (350). The present edifice, completed this year, is constructed with brick, and contains a full basement with provisions for a day care center. It contains a pastor's study, classrooms, baptistry, and kitchen. It is valued at \$150,000.00

Rev. Spencer came to Raleigh from Pee Dee in Anson County in 1925. He married the former

(Continued on page 8)

MORNING STAR

(Continued from page 7)

Maggie Ridley of Raleigh and they are parents of eight children. He attended Shaw University in 1927. He attended Pee Dee Institute, Hamlet, N. C. 1935-38; Shaw University 1945-48 Northern University School of Religion, Long Branch, N. J. 1949-50; while in New Jersey he pastored Community Baptist Church. Other pastorates include: Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Cary, N. C.; First Baptist, McCuller, N. C.; Bethlehem Baptist, Carthage, N. C. and Henderson Baptist Church, Clayton, N. C.

The Anniversary Program included the following speakers:

- Mon., Sept. 15, Rev. P. Jones, Cokesbury United Methodist, Raleigh, N. C.
 Tues., Sept. 16, Rev. C. B. Walton, Oak City Baptist, Raleigh, N. C.
 Wed., Sept. 17, Rev. E. Mason, Mt. Zion Baptist, Cary, N. C.
 Thurs., Sept. 18, Rev. B. C. Young, Rush Metropolitan AME ZION, Raleigh, N. C.
 Fri., Sept. 19, Rev. T. V. Carter, Wilson Temple United Methodist.
 Sun., Sept. 21, Anniversary Sermon by Rev. Fred Smith.

THE BIBLE IMAGE

(Continued from page 3)

veloping by education, training and/or discipline a particular stage of advancement.

1. Let us look at the Biblical Image of the Church. A church must discover people as they are and seek to lead them into God's fellowship. It must be a responding community in which the will of God is discerned and makes it work in the world. The church must not change the message, but it must find new methods of reaching people so they can get the old message. In the midst of this depression, inflation and social upheaval, the church should provide fellowship for the poor and the wealthy, both can help. If necessary, the church must become radically inclined, so it can reach the lawyers, physicians, the political leaders and the social (do-gooders). The church must be relevant to human needs, it must feel the human heartbeat of the youth, the eccentric, the deviate, the social outcast and the average person (Jesus feeding the 5,000). When the church ceases to have this revelancy, it loses its power and becomes just an empty building and it will meet the lost people, both going the wrong way. God's church is His plan for redeeming lost men and if that is so, then it must meet men where they are, and who they are. This church must not

only know who it is but also what it must be doing, it has both a mission and a message, and the greatest problem it has is that of converting its faith into action.

2. Man's Relationship to the church—He must first discover himself, his opportunity, his strength, the needs of the church and the church needs for him. Secondly he must discover his personal call, thirdly he must face challenge of achieving a churchmanship (loyalty, knowledge and what it is all about), fourthly he must work out a Christian pattern for himself. And finally he must make a great decision, whether to accept his responsibility and move out into the mainstream or reject it and play the hypocrite.

3. This Contemporary Culture, where did it come from and why? First, the condition of family life—parents neglects—de-sacredness of marriage parent children relations and the failure of the man to act and be the head of the house; secondly from community isolation, church bank service station; thirdly, from the church isolating from the resources in the community—governmental agencies—social agencies—labor unions, welfare agencies; fourthly, the church's failure to cooperate with other churches in the community (each trying to outdo and kill the other).

4. How does God's Man relate to this culture—First he must have an encounter with himself as to who he is, why does he exist and does he have a special gift from God; secondly he must have a special encounter with God through worship, praise, adoration, confession, repentance and involvement and finally he must have an encounter with other people that belong to God, he must understand their culture, their belief, etc.

5. Finally The Future of the Training Process. First there must be a quest for a new spirit, there must be a willingness to talk, preach but also to do more, secondly there must be an accelerated effort to involve the entire membership of the church. Too long we have taken members into the church and in the shuffle they have been lost; thirdly we must take time out from fundamentalist preaching emotional shouting, hand clapping, singing, and mouthwatering eating to train each and every member as to his or her duties and obligations as a church member; fourthly we need to insist that our church leaders be well trained before they are selected or appointed. Unless this is done, we might as well join the YMCA and other social agencies that are slowly and surely taking over this very important work of God. Study to shew thyself a workman; and we need coordination, cooperation, and communication.

The Baptist Informer

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Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

Volume 97 Number 12

Raleigh, North Carolina, December 1975

8 PAGES

30 CENTS

Convention Adopts President's Reforms

UNANIMOUS DECISION
RESTRUCTURES CONVENTION

SHELBY — In a unanimous decision, the General Baptist State Convention of N.C. adopted thirty (30) far-reaching recommendations that will completely restructure the organization of the Convention. Dr. J. Joy Johnson, President of the Convention, presented the recommendations in his annual address to the Convention, held recently at Shiloh Baptist Church here. Declaring that "we are at the brink

of spiritual bankruptcy in America," he challenged the delegates, "to have just a little faith, in God, ourselves, our President, and Christian Baptists."

The recommendations were adopted and referred to the powerful executive Committee for implementation. The Executive Committee - by Dr. Jerry Drayton of Winston Salem, N.C. The Convention took place on October 29.

Johnson Recommends Sweeping Reforms

A mere ten months after his inauguration, President Joy J. Johnson called for sweeping reforms in programs of the General Baptist State Convention. He advised the Convention to "reevaluate her plans, programs, methods, structure, and even objectives" and offered recommendations for doing so.

Delivering his first annual address to the 350,000 member body, at its 108th session Johnson outlined a plan for restructuring the organization into five (5) regional service

centers which would "coordinate and promote programs ... more effectively, efficiently, and fiscally ... plus render greater services to local churches, associations, auxiliaries, pastors, and moderators." Johnson indicated the establishment of these centers would yield "greater accountability, responsibility, and serviceability."

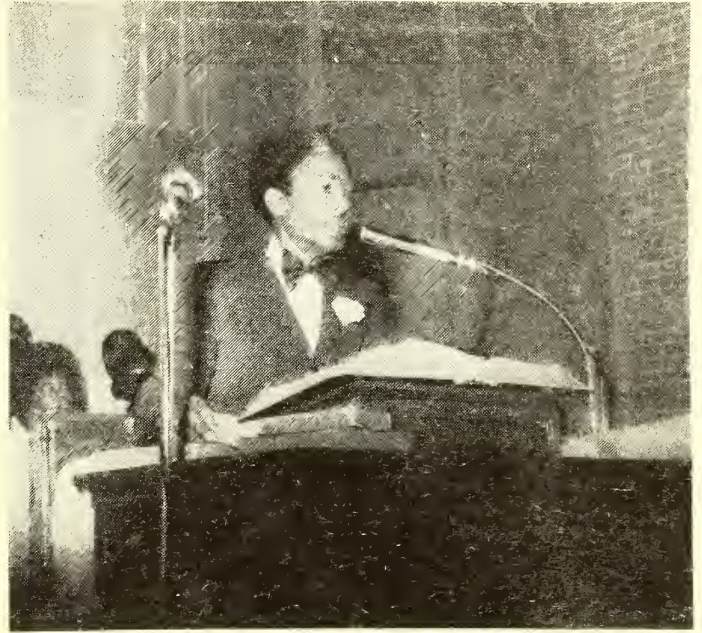
The address called for ten regional evangelistic crusades. "To save souls with proper emphasis on church music, techniques in soul-winning and

follow-up training of converts".

Greater concern for protecting church pastors, laymen was emphasized. The Convention was urged to initiate a \$100,000 drive to construct a housing complex for retiring or recuperating churchmen.

For protection of pastors who retire or become disabled, recommendations provided that each General Baptist Association contribute two (2) percent of participating pastors' salaries to the Southern Baptist Pension Plan ... or to the federal

(Continued-On Page 2)



Pres. Joy J. Johnson

Shiloh Hosts 108th Annual Session

SHELBY — The President's address highlighted the General Baptist State Convention's 108th Annual Session held at Shiloh Baptist Church here on October 29.

The address entitled, "We Came This Far By Faith" was delivered to the Convention body in the church sanctuary at 11:30 a.m.

Delivering his first annual address as head of the 350,000 member body, Dr. J. Joseph Johnson charted its course for

the future.

The Convention set "5,000 souls saved and one million dollars raised as its goals for 1976." The president points out that "the Christian church must begin to utilize and channel the most talented and trained minds of the community and church in order to do its business of preaching, teaching, and healing."

The Rev. R.E. Devoe is pastor at Shiloh.

Black Baptist Seek Increased Minority Employment

By Harold G. Troy, Sr.
LUMBERTON — For N.C. Black Baptist, the upcoming Bicentennial year will be one of constant activities designed to influence the state's political leaders and business executives, to significantly increase minority employment. Recently, General Baptist State Convention leaders adopted plans and programs to this effect.

Specific plans which will have a direct bearing on the labor market are: organizing a highly selective buying and banking pattern by Blacks and organizing state-wide church credit unions.

Other plans favor greater political awareness and involvement. A state-wide voter

registration and candidate awareness program is to be established. A political involvement campaign which will groom Blacks to run for elective office and prepare them for appointive office in local state and national government is planned.

Still other adopted "positive action" programs will formally recognize and honor Black leadership, while addressing minority needs. The January 15, banquet honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and former presidents of the General Baptist State Convention, will not be just a fund-raising affair. It will also serve as "political opportunity" for Baptists state-wide to hear major candidates

for state offices. A state-wide NAACP membership campaign will be launched.

Baptist leaders will move to advocate "supporting and voting for candidates that practice the principles of equality, justice, love, and freedom for all people regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, sex or party — candidates who adhere to the divine principle of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man."

To assign responsibilities and duties to officers and leaders in the work and promotion of the convention, a "Summit Meeting" of all Baptist officers and leaders in planned for November 24-28 at the J.J. Johnson Assembly, Laurel Hill.

Mrs. Coretta King

Possible Banquet Speaker

FAIRMONT — Pres. Joy J. Johnson recently revealed that Mrs. Coretta Scott King has been invited to speak at the General Baptist Convention Banquet honoring her late husband.

Mrs. King, since the assassination in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has continued his legacy through appearances of this type. Currently, she is coordinating fund-raising for and construction of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center For Social Change in Atlanta.

According to Pres. Johnson, "Having the widow of perhaps the most well-known Baptist in

the world as guest speaker at our banquet in his honor, would be a fitting tribute to his memory and to the work of the Convention."

The \$25.00 plate banquet will occur on January 15 at the Royal Villa Hotel in Greensboro. Along with honoring Dr. King, it will be the "kick-off" of a fund-raising drive for the construction of \$100,000 complex for retired ministers and missionaries. Former General Baptist State Heads will also be honored at the affair.

Pres. Johnson eagerly awaits Mrs. King's affirmative reply.

The President's Annual Address

"WE CAME THIS FAR BY FAITH

BY JOY JOSEPH JOHNSON,

A.B., D.D. LL.D

FELLOW CHRISTIAN SERVANTS AND STEWARDS:

Since the birth of the first black baby, William Tucker, in 1619 in Jamestown, Virginia and our involuntary departure from Africa, we have had constant battles for freedom. Even in our tremendous struggle in slavery through revolts, protests, insults, lynchings, brutality and the raping of our women, we kept on praying, having faith, singing and working for freedom. After the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 we were not free, not even after the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1865 to abolish slavery, neither after the Supreme Court's Decision of 1954, nor the March on Washington, nor the enactment of the Civil Rights Voting Act of 1965, nor the extension of that act in 1975; and furthermore when it expires seven years hence in 1982. In spite of these blood baths, battles, brigades and bombs, we have come by faith this far, leaning on the Lord.

We have come a long way religiously, economically, educationally and politically. We have come from brush arbors to temples, synagogues, shrines and modern sanctuaries; from mud moques to marble monasteries. We have experienced tremendous financial growth. We have come from the cotton and corn fields to factories and firms; consumers to companies and corporations; maids to merchants and machinists and manual laborers to manufacturers and distributors, shabby shanties to split-level mansions and castles with summer cabins and ranches. We have moved from the lower class to the middle class, from muslin to minks, and from gingham to gaiety. Our mode of living has changed.

We have moved upstairs, but our model of conduct is still in the basement. We have Ph.D.'s, masters, and millions with our undergraduate degrees and high school diplomas. We have trained heads, but our hearts are still unchanged and unconverted. We have made significant strides in the political world. We have come a long way since John Mercer Langston of Lorain County, Ohio became the first black to win an elective office in the United States in 1855. We have seen in the last decade, blacks move into high positions in county, city, state and national governments. General Daniel James of the United States Air Force, Colorado Springs, Colorado, became the first black full general in the nation's history, on August 29, 1975. We have seen black office holders triple. Presently, we have seventeen blacks in Congress and one in the Senate, one on the Supreme Court, several judgeships, mayors, hundreds in the state houses across the country, and six in North Carolina. Three are Baptists, two laymen and a preacher. And yet we hold less than 1% of all elected positions in the country.

From this small number, we have seen black leaders crumble from these positions because of corruption, graft, creed, and lust; in fact, just plain sin. There is still no guarantee for justice and equality in this country. There are still bigots and racists in our own state. There is a dual system of justice—one for the rich and the poor; one for the whites and the blacks; and even one for the Indians.

On January 20, 1900, George Henry White, North Carolina's lone black congressman, three-term legislator and an eight-year state prosecuting attorney, introduced the first congressional bill to make lynching a federal crime. However, that same year North Carolina amended the constitution to include a poll tax, a literacy test, and a

"grand father clause" that denied the suffrage to blacks. Years later, the courts declared these repressive acts unconstitutional. But in spite of these rulings, North Carolina still has many more repressive acts primarily aimed at minorities and the poor. The nearly one hundred on death row are enough "proof for the 'pudden'."

With all of this, the black churches must practice brotherhood and build bridges of understanding and goodwill among those of the human race. We must hold on to the

Since 1773, when the First African Baptist Church was organized in Savannah, Georgia, with The Reverend Andrew Bryan as pastor, a slave, we have been marching up the King's highway to progress and freedom, with faith in God and in spite of the hurts and hindrances of man.

The Philadelphia Association with a dozen slave churches and ministers gave impetus to our movement by organizing in 1707.

The black church in America as an institution can not be properly understood without reference to the scores of clergymen who have contributed to its development.

The pioneer ministers of the early churches were not only responsible for their spiritual needs, but were also primarily forced into promoting the national abolitionist fights, welfare programs, slave freedom train, establishing educational institutions, newspapers, and social reforms. Since that time the black church and black Baptist leaders have been the local and vocal points of practically every significant political, social and civil rights movement in America for black people. The black Baptist church has been concerned with what's happening right now, over here, not by and by in the sky.

A century ago from Goldsboro to Shelby was a long way. Now it is seconds away. The distance has not changed, but the mode of travel and communication have brought them into a neighborhood. The horse and buggy methods are outmoded. Now it is a jet-propelled and limousine age. Telephones, T.V.'s and mass media have connected the two cities for mutual good.

So in 1867 at the First African Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina, the first missionary and educational convention was born to ex-slaves and ministers. My, how we have grown under dynamic, dedicated, intelligent leadership of my contemporaries. All in their unique roles made significant contributions to the growth and development of the general convention. Commendations and congratulations must go to these distinguished clergymen and laymen. Their record speaks for them. "The moving finger, having writ moves on". They built bridges for us to cross. The sainted leaders like Drs. O.S. Bullock, P.A. Bishop, G.W. Watkins, W.H. Davidson, J.T. Hairston, R.M. Pitts, C.E. Griffin, and J.F. Wertz are with the great cloud of witnesses watching around the throne with countless others beckoning to us to be faithful to the end and keep on working. The distinguished, dedicated and devoted immediate predecessors like Drs. White and Edwards have been coaching on the side line after performing and playing their roles as concerned leaders in the spiritual and financial explosions of this convention along with Drs. Sherrill, Craig, Cooper, Williams, Sommerville, Kilgore, Clanton, Riddick, Coley, auxiliary presidents, Executive President Horne, administrative staff, pastors and laymen.

It is now time to stop the rhetoric and start the action - the show must go on. The cast and characters of today must be more Christian, competent, capable and coopera-

tive because of the times. The people and God demand more - we know more.

Every profession, vocation, trade, firm and business utilize their most skilled, talented and trained to excell in craftsmanship and production. Therefore, the Christian church must begin to utilize, challenge and channel the most talented and trained minds of the community and church to plan and promote her programs. Cosmonauts and astronauts have explored the moon. Now America has spent a billion dollars to send the Viking spaceship to Mars to determine if life is on the planet. The Viking will travel 505 million miles at 24,000 miles per hour.

It is time that the church be about the Master's business of eradicating sin, poverty, ignorance, superstition, crime, immorality, illegitimate births, alcoholism, drug addiction, pornography, abortions, divorces, corruption in prisons and government, juvenile delinquency, poor housing, health and educational facilities. The Master's business of preaching, teaching, and healing must never be neglected or postponed. It demands daily commitment and carrying the cross through Christian witnessing and serving. We are at the brink of spiritual bankruptcy in America because we are derelict in our moral duty and responsibility.

In recent months the Master's business
(Continued On Page 7)

Johnson Recommends

(Continued From Page 1)

individual retirement account.

Also, provisions directed member churches "that widows and children of deceased pastors be compensated the pastors full salaries for three months after the pastor's death."

Formation of a state-wide credit union was included in the recommendations. "Church bodies could receive loans at lower interest rates ... while providing opportunities of employment and training for our members," President Johnson advised.

He indicated that such an effort would "stop loan sharks from robbing our membership with exorbitant interest rates."

Several other reforms were included in 30-point list of recommendations. Among them were:

+Putting the BAPTIST REFORMER, the Convention newsletter, on a sound fiscal

footing

+Teaching basic English in church institutes

+Providing a full-time prison chaplain

+Providing voter education

+Providing more accurate record keeping

+Launching Baptist Banquet (Jan. 15) honoring Dr. Martin Luther King and Convention Past Presidents.

All reforms, according to President Johnson are aimed at putting together "one soliciting, unified effort in which all agency workers tell the story of the unified program." Of primary concern, he stated, are our obligation to Shaw University Divinity School, Central Orphanage, Lott - Carey Convention, J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly and State Missions.

The 108th session convened at Shiloh Baptist Church here. Rev. R.E. Devoe is pastor.

The Baptist Informer

Volume 97

Number 12

Organ of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. General Convention Roster: J. J. Johnson, President; E. B. Turner, Vice-President at Large; J. C. Harris, 1st Vice-President; J. B. Humphrey, 2nd Vice-President; J. R. Manley, 3rd Vice-President; S. A. Raper, 4th Vice-President; W. B. Lewis, Recording Secretary; R. T. Gilchrist, Assistant Recording Secretary; O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary; C. C. Craig, Assistant Executive Secretary; Leo Williams, Jr., Director of Christian Education; Elbert Lee, Historian; A. R. Smith, Statistician; C. R. Mosley, Director of Music.

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New Programs, Plans, Policies, . . .

**NEW PROGRAMS, PLANS,
PROJECTS and POLICIES
of the GENERAL
BAPTIST CONVENTION
of NORTH CAROLINA,
INC.**

**ADOPTED AT
THE 108TH ANNUAL SESSION on
OCTOBER 29, 1975
at SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH
SHELBY, NORTH CAROLINA
THE REV. R.E. DEVOE is PASTOR**

I. Restructure the organization of the General Baptist State Convention to establish five (5) Christian regional service centers: thereby designating counties, churches, auxiliaries, associations and district conventions to each region wherein located or circumscribed. Pastors, moderators, and officers of auxiliaries by virtue of their office would automatically be assigned to the respective region. The regional, educational, evangelical, and economical centers would be established to coordinate and promote the programs, plans and objectives of the total Baptist family more efficiently, effectively, and fiscally and to avoid duplication of services and cost plus rendering greater services to the local churches, associations, auxiliaries, pastors, and moderators, and all facets of the local church: in turn, providing for greater accountability and serviceability.

II. The administrative committee, executive secretaries (both), and presidents of auxiliaries initiate and implement the establishment of the five (5) regional Christian centers with approval of the executive committee. (We must establish regional centers, or associations will build inadequate headquarters just for semi - annual and annual meetings.)

III. The administrative committee, executive secretaries, and auxiliary presidents shall work cooperatively with regional pastors, moderators, and auxiliary officers in establishing Christian regional centers.

IV. The personnel committee shall search, seek, and screen for the most competent Christian, dedicated and experienced person for regional director. After locating such a qualified person, the committee shall make such recommendations to the executive committee for consideration for employment.

V. The personnel committee shall have authority to seek a person or persons who may have combined qualifications, experience, and ability to occupy one or more positions. That is one who may be certified and qualified in the fields of Christian education, religion, music, or laymen activities. A person with such certifications and qualifications would be an asset to the convention plus an economic savings.

VI. The plans, programs, projects, policies and promotions by the regional director for objectives shall be under the direct supervision and administration of the president, executive secretary and the administrative committee.

VII. There shall be ten (10) regional Christian crusades - with emphasis on evangelism.

A. These crusades shall follow the same format of the regional structure and supervisions as all other plans, programs, projects, policies and promotion of the regions.

B. The regional director shall reside or live in the proximity of said region working in each region at least two (2) months.

C. He shall work closely with all pastors and moderators, arrangements for working space and activities shall be worked out with the local pastor or pastors, or moderators in consultations with the executive secretary.

D. The Christian crusade shall be a cooperative effort by the evangelistic committee and regional director.

E. The crusade objective shall be to save souls with proper emphasis on church music, techniques in soul - winning and plans for follow - up training of the new converts.

VIII. The Baptist Informer shall operate on sound fiscal basis under a publication board.

A. The publication board shall be appointed by the president and approved by the executive committee.

B. The board shall be adequately funded in a line budget item for the operation and promotion of the informer on an annual basis.

C. The board shall have the responsibility to

promote the programs and objectives of the convention and auxiliaries, sales of church - related advertisements, (materials and products).

D. It must provide good church news stories with personalities without cost to churches like all other news medias. It must be competitive, as well as competent.

E. If the Baptist Informer is to be self supporting and sustaining, it must produce the goods or stop.

IX. The editor and the publication board must be adequately provided with essential modern visual aid equipment and materials (cameras, slide projectors, sound cameras and screen).

A. These are essential requirements for our history and heritage with pictures and recordings of all major Baptist events. The covering of all annual auxiliary and convention and major local church activities.

B. To establish regional center libraries with resource information. We must do more than ask; we must offer services, center resources - such as religious books, films, magazines, plans, programs, pictures, arts, crafts, hints and helpful aid and assistance to local church leaders in the region.

C. To wait is chaos and calamity. Now is the hour! Now is the accepted time! Tomorrow will be too late. A cult would have taught and caught our youths, as well as, our adults.

X. The president shall be provided an adequate line item budget to promote, implement and executive programs, plans, projects and policies of the convention.

XI. The All Baptist Assembly in 1976 shall go to the city that offers the best advantages including accommodations and services to delegates and constituents at the least possible cost.

XII. I further recommend that all Convention and auxiliary reports be combined into one booklet or minute in 1976; to be completed following the close of the All Baptist Assembly in 1976. Each auxiliary minute will be designated in the combined booklet.

XIII. That the General Baptist Associations contribute 2 percent of participating pastors' salaries to any bonified plan or the Southern Baptist Pension Plan through the office of the Executive Secretary or to the Federal Individual Retirement Account, which permits 15 percent or up to \$1,500.00 to be put in an individual retirement account until age 65 or disability. The president and administrative committee shall designate regional banking institutions for pastors or churches individual retirement accounts and church credit unions accounts. Only institutions that are equal opportunity employers in practice as well as policy shall be designated.

XIV. That this Convention initiate a \$100,000.00 drive to construct a housing complex with efficiency one - bedroom apartments for retiring or recuperating pastors or laymen near or on the Baptist Assembly lands.

Presently, there is a dire need for both of these programs. There are long - time dedicated pastors, laymen, and widows suffering and dying without sufficient income or decent homes. They have been forced out of churches because of age, disability, mental illness and frustrations with no income or insufficient income plus no decent place to live. Some cannot afford a decent burial. This should not exist in the Christian family. I know this to be a fact. Some pastors spent fifty years at one church serving without a decent income, were voted out, left to die without social security. They tried to get social services, but they died from frustrations before the first check and food stamps were available. A public offering had to be taken for their burials. This is a sad commentary, but a true one.

XV. The General Baptist Transportation Committee composed of representatives of several auxiliaries, executive secretaries and cooperative ministries shall be responsible to arrange trips, tours, and accommodations for all the General Baptist Family at the least cost to members and representatives of the Convention plus make annual reports of their activities. Today one trip has been conducted to the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc., meeting in St. Louis, Missouri. Presently, an international tour of Africa is in progress which is co - sponsored with Mrs. M.A. Horne by Drs. C.R. Edwards, E.B. Turner and J.J. Johnson at a

total cost of \$1,289.00 from New York, November 22, 1976. "Come and go with us, and we will do thee good" I request that we give half ticket fare to Drs. Drayton, Butler and Harris. It is understood that the president's will be Gratis. All other trips and tours shall be General Baptist Convention sponsored and conducted.

XVI. We shall conduct again this year, a winter workshop and study session on our work and objectives on December 8-11, 1975, Monday evening through Thursday noon at the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly for convention and auxiliary officers, committee chairmen, moderators, concerned pastors, county and state laymen, and missionary workers. This is urgent because leaders cannot teach what they do not know nor lead where they do not go. The study sessions were grand last year. They gave an opportunity for many to visit the Assembly for the first time.

XVII. We shall conduct a 1976 religious census to secure a more accurate count of our membership, churches, associations, auxiliaries, district conventions, pastors, moderators, ministers, church officers, and to get a net total of our worth in property, cash bonds, other assets, religious facts and figures.

XVIII. We shall organize a state - wide credit union to assist our members, pastors and struggling churches to stop loan sharks from robbing our membership with exorbitantly high interest rates. Many churches, associations, auxiliaries, and pastors have millions of dollars in accounts with Banks with an without interest that could help to provide loans to churches, members and pastors at lower interest rates plus the church bodies can receive the regular going rate of interest plus render a valuable service to the churches, pastors and members, while providing opportunities of employment and training for our members.

XIX. We shall purchase life memberships in the NAACP for the following former presidents: Drs. P.A. Bishop, W.H. Davidson, J.T. Hairston, R.M. Pitts, J.W. White and C.R. Edwards in 1975. These distinguished servants and stewards deserve the honor and recognition. The first four will be memorial memberships. We will also be helping the cause of freedom. (Some funds are available for three (3) of the life memberships.)

XX. We shall have a state - wide \$25.00 banquet, January 15, 1976 to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and present life membership pins and plaques to the members of the deceased presidents' families and honorees. We shall launch the \$100,000 drive for the pastor's and laymen's retirement and recuperation complex. 200 pastors and laymen are to sell ten (10) tickets at \$25.00 by January 1, 1976.

XXI. We shall provide funds for one full - time prison chaplain since more than one - half of the state's prison population is black. None should be deprived of religious services because of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, religion or imprisonment. This chaplain could be the missing link between the pastor and the prisoner. He could assist in Christianizing, rehabilitating and securing employment and work - release privileges for the inmates. The chaplain could rotate from one correctional institution to another each Sunday, preaching and teaching the word of God. Caldonia Prison is the only correctional institution with a full - time chaplain. The prison ministry was a major ministry of emphasis by the Master. Each Baptist church would take a mission prison ministry offering weekly and report weekly or monthly to the executive secretary the funds for the chaplain.

XXII. The entire Baptist Family, associations, auxiliaries and churches shall utilize the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly year round for workshops, seminars, Bible - study sessions, and Christian education conferences - Education, fellowship and fun.

XXIII. All financial records of the Convention including all auxiliaries shall be audited by a certified public accountant annually. This is fiscal responsibility.

XXIV. General Baptist Convention churches will contribute to widows or children under 18 the full three months salary of the deceased pastor.

XXV. The Convention, auxiliaries, associations and churches shall begin to teach

(Continued On Page 7)

108th Annual Session In A Nut Shell

SHELBY—SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH,
REV. J.E. DEVOE, PASTOR—
OCTOBER 27-30TH

Five regional Christian service centers to be erected.

The state-wide organization of a church credit union for members to experience banking, budgeting, buying, borrowing, managing and lending their own money. Only banking, borrowing and buying from those who employ minorities.

All Convention churches and associations contribute to a pastor's pension or retirement plan.

All Convention churches contribute to the widow and minor children of deceased pastors his full three months salary.

All Convention churches, associations and auxiliaries teach basic English in church institutes utilizing services of qualified retired teachers.

Royal ambassadors and laymen to have week-end retreat Friday, December 5 - Sunday, December 7 at the Baptist Assembly. All Baptist leaders will meet for study and spiritual enrichment Monday, December 8 through Thursday the 11th.

A \$25.00 plate dinner celebrating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and honoring of six immediate past Convention presidents, January 15, 1976 at the Royal Villa, Greensboro at 7:00 p.m.

Provisions for adequate retirement and replacement of Convention employees.

Funds for a full-time prison chaplaincy ministry.

United appeal for all objectives by all agencies for 1976 goals: 5000 souls saved and one million dollars raised.

Baptist Informer placed under a publication board.

An annual audit of all convention and auxiliary records by a certified accountant.

To Save 5,000 Souls

Million Dollar Budget Adopted

Shelby — "We have trained heads, but our hearts are still unconverted. We have moved upstairs, but our mode of conduct is still in the basement." Charging that "we have been derelict in our moral duty and responsibility", Dr. J. Joy Johnson led the General Baptist State Convention to adopt a one million dollar budget for the fiscal year 1975-1976.

Dr. Johnson, who is a firm believer in the social implications of the Christian Gospel, has also called upon the Convention "To be about our Father's business". Many of the items included in the budget are concerned with improving the political, social, economical, and educational conditions of Black people. He is a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, and Chairman of the Human Resources Committee. He said the Christian church must begin to utilize and channel the most talented and trained minds of the community and church in order to do its business of preaching, teaching and healing.

The 1974-75 budget for the

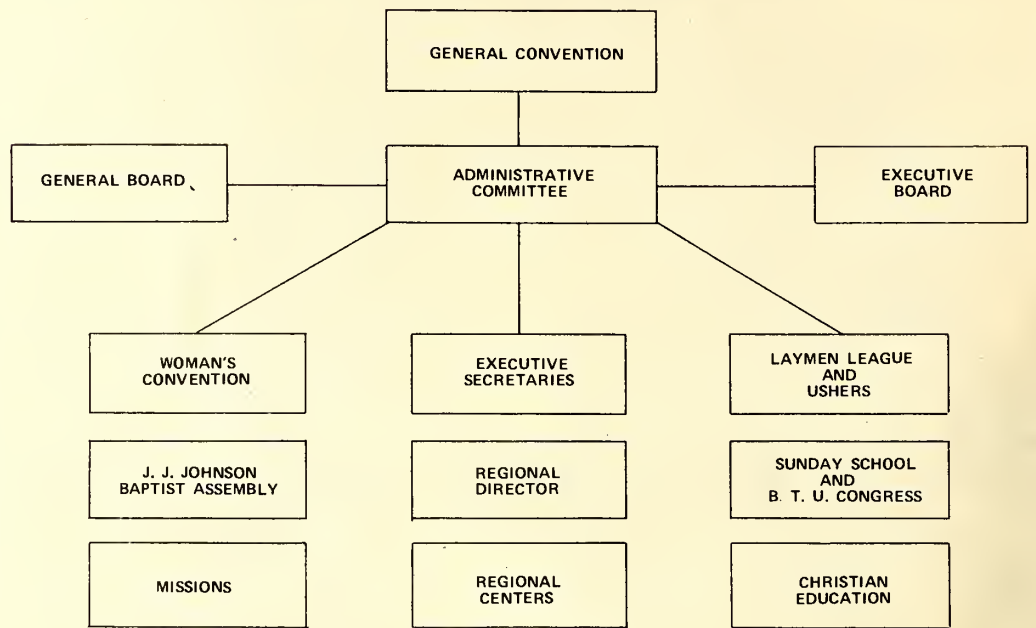
Convention was \$800,000. Although only \$676,034.58 of that budget was raised, Dr. Johnson is confident that with the new program in operation, the one million dollars can be raised. During the 108th Annual Session the delegates and churches raised a total of \$40,912.39.

The first major effort directed towards the financial goal will be a state-wide \$25.00 a plate Banquet. The Banquet will be held January 15, 1976, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday. He has called upon 200 pastors and laymen to sell (10) ten tickets each. The Banquet will be held at the Royal Villa, Greensboro.

By setting a spiritual goal along with the financial goal, Dr. Johnson believes that God's unlimited power will be released. The saving of the souls of mankind in the first order of business for the church, and will open the way for God's blessings will be realized in every area of our lives. He is calling upon every Baptist to do his best to lead 5,000 souls to Christ during the next (12) twelve months.



The songleader for the convention, the Rev. "Singing" Wesley Grant of Asheville, provided inspiration throughout the convention. Dr. C.R. Mosley, pastor of the Nazareth Baptist Church, Asheville, is the director and coordinator of the Convention music.



PROPOSED GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION STRUCTURE

The structural outline above is a bird's eye view of the shape that the organization of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will take when the implementation of the proposed restructuring is completed. A resolution recommending the restructuring was adopted at the Convention's 108th Annual Session held recently in Shelby, N.C.

Shaw University Marks 110th Anniversary

By Linda Williams

Raleigh, N.C. — Shaw university celebrated its 110th anniversary here recently with touches of the Southern black religious tradition that brought the audience to its feet at one point during ceremonies at Spaulding Gymnasium.

The reaction was to the singing of black spirituals by the Shaw Choir. Members of the audience stood and there were shouts of "Amen."

An important function of black institutions is to provide "essential spiritual nourishment," convocation speaker Lucius Walker, Jr., told the audience of students, faculty members and alumni. Walker is a 1954 graduate of the predominantly black school here and is now associate general secretary of the National Council of Churches' Division of Church and Society.

"I'm not simply speaking of religion but the broader spiritual context on which our culture is based," he said. "This is a tradition we have known throughout our years."

But the university's most important function is to educate, he said. "This is the first and primary function of our existence. Some students forget this. Some of us who were here from 1950 to 1954 didn't understand this," he said.

Another function of the university is to "assist in the pursuit of progressive political development", in the larger community, he said. "I know we dress better, drive bigger cars and make more money. But the truth is we have not progressed far enough from where we were 110 years ago."

Walker and five others received honorary degrees from the university Friday. Receiving honorary doctor of laws degrees were James V. Mangana, chief administrator of the New York Supreme Court and former New York state legislator, and Mort Levi, director of the Southern Consortium for Teachers in

Durham.

Receiving honorary doctor of divinity degrees were: John H. Foster, pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Norfolk, Va.; Charles R. Mosley, pastor of the First Nazareth Baptist Church in Asheville, and John R. Stanford, president of the New England Baptist Convention.



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Prayer Breakfast Climaxes 108th Session

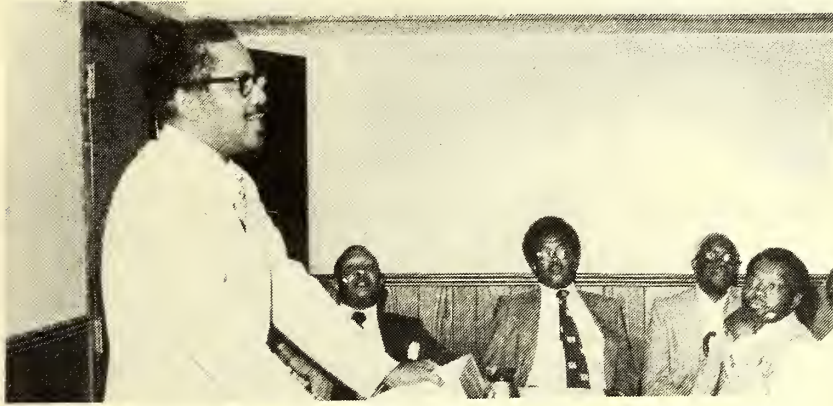
Shelby — The Presidential Prayer Breakfast was the climax of the Session, with the Brotherhood Awards going to Dr. Corbin L. Cooper, The Chaplaincy - Counselor Award to the Reverend J.E. Arnette and

The Human Relations Award to the Reverend A.J. Johnson. Dr. Nelson H. Smith, President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, delivered a sermon that spell bound the jam - packed

Holiday Inn Breakfast Room. Without opening a Bible or looking at a note on the subject, he delivered "Now A Word From the Sponsor". It thrilled the hearts of all. In fact all the

Convention preachers were at their best. Local legislators were recognized by President Johnson; Honorables: Robert Falls, Jack Hunt, Ollie Harris, and William K. Mauney, Jr.

The success of the Convention can be contributed to the host churches, pastors, associations, messengers, program participants and planners, with the Holy Spirit in control of the Convention. Amen.



Speaking on "Now a Word from the Sponsor," Dr. Nelson H. Smith, president of National Baptist Progressive Convention addresses an overflow crowd at the Presidential Prayer Breakfast on October 30 at the Holiday Inn. Listening intently are the following: (Left to Right) Chairman Jerry Drayton (Exec-Com.); 1st Vice Pres. Convention, Rev. J.C. Harris, visiting minister; Rev. O.B. Burson, of N.Y.; and Rev. R.N. Lockhart of Charlotte.



Rev. M.H. Bostic, Jr., Charlotte and Rev. S.R. Johnson, Salisbury (left to right) could be accused of doing a serious tango. But the pose is misleading. They are in deep thought provoked by the contents of "From Poverty to Power", autobiography of their colleague, Pres. Joy J. Johnson.



Some N.C. legislators joined their colleague, Representative Joy J. Johnson of the 21st District, at the Presidential Prayer Breakfast. Pictured are Senator W.K. Mauney Jr., Senator Ollie Harris, Johnson, Representative Robert Falls, and Representative Jack Hunt. Looking on are Rev. Aaron J. Johnson and Dr. J. Ray Butler.



Layman Elihue Sinclair of the First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, receives the Man of the Year Award from Frank Marshall, past president of Laymen's League Convention. Looking on is John McQueen, president of the Laymen's League Convention. Dr. C.R. Edwards is pastor of the First Baptist Church.



Posing with awards presented at the Presidential Prayer Breakfast are the following: the Rev. Aaron Johnson, pastor of Mt. Sinai, Fayetteville and recipient of the Human Relations Award; the Dr. O.L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention; the Rev. Corbin L. Cooper, Secretary of the Cooperative Ministries and recipient of the Brotherhood Award; Johnson; and the Rev. James E. Arnett, pastor of the Metropolitan Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, chaplain, and recipient of the Counsellor Award.



The stastical report is delivered at the 108th by Rev. A.R. Smith of Whiteville.

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The staff is asking that all articles of news be in the office before the deadline which is the 10th of the month.

SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN
1975-1976

Upward Bound Finds Its Success

By C. Warren Massenburg

Raleigh, N. C.—Just a short time ago, Cornelia Settle had never considered going to college.

That was before Miss Settle started participating in Upward Bound, a federally financed program aimed at helping underachieving high school students continue their educations.

Next fall, Miss Settle who graduated from Broughton High in June, will enroll at Shaw University.

Miss Settle's success with Upward Bound isn't unique. All 20 seniors enrolled in the program sponsored by Shaw University will go to college next fall.

"These are the students who have been labeled low achievers and predicted unable to enter college," said Carol Adams Gartrell, Upward Bound director at Shaw. "Not many people would have been surprised if individuals in the group hadn't finished high school."

A total of 60 Wake high school students participate in the program. On Sunday they arrived at Shaw to begin summer school. Classes begin today.

Students in the program receive free room and board on campus, expense-paid field trips and a \$7.50 per week stipend.

To be eligible for the program, a high school student must be from a low income family with a C or less grade average in school. The student must also have the potential to improve his academic performance.

The seven week summer school program includes classes, recreation, workshops, field trips and cultural events.

Lavoisier Smith, a Wake Forest-Rolesville graduate, plans to attend Elizabeth City State University in the fall.

"I wouldn't have even thought about college with Upward Bound," Smith said. "I just hadn't thought about college being an opportunity for me."

"But being in the program helps to build up your confidence. We live on campus and tour other campuses and begin to understand what college life is all about," Smith said. Smith, beginning his third year in the program, said his grade average had come up from a C to a B+.

Virginia Peebles, a Broughton High graduate who plans to attend Saint Augustine's College, said she'd always wanted to attend college. But she credits Upward Bound for improving her grades and making it possible for her to be accepted.

The fiscal year's budget is \$81,600. The summer staff this year includes eight full-time employees and six part-time teachers.

the Lord's will. The Union sent its president, Rev. J.O. Thorne, to represent it at the Annual Session of the Convention in Shelby. Donations were made to the Laymen League and the Parent Body.

On The Nat'l Scene

Pastor — Administrator Eases Church Staff Conflicts

LOUISVILLE (BP) —

Acceptance of the pastor as the chief administrator of a church with multiple staff would ease much of the anxiety and tension which was surrounded church staff relations in recent years, Grady C. Cothen said here.

Cothen, president of the gigantic Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, cited the problem of church-staff conflicts which have grown as the number of churches with multiple-staff situations has grown.

"As the multiplicity of staff members has grown, particularly in the larger churches, the problems have become more acute," Cothen said in the first of this year's series of Gheens Lectures at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"There has been considerable confusion in the minds of both staff and congregation concerning the role and function of ministers; the lines of authority have been unclear," added Cothen, a former pastor, former state Baptist executive secretary and former university and seminary president.

One of the major problems, Cothen explains, lies in "widely divergent concepts of leadership roles." If staff members and congregation do not clearly understand the role and function of each minister, he says, "confusion is inevitable."

The accepted practice among Baptist, says Cothen, is for the pastor to serve as the chief administrative officer of the church. A significant problem arises "when there are other ministers — staff members — involved in leading the congregation in specified areas for which the chief administrative officer also feels responsibility."

The Sunday school Board head believes that "the ministers in the congregation are likely to relate their role, function, and position to the call which they have received from God and to the call which they have received from the congregation."

But, Cothen warns, "they must also relate themselves to the lines of administrative authority and decision-making."

He expressed dismay at the "amount of suffering" that has resulted from misunderstanding of church-staff relationships. "It probably would be frightening to know how many called, dedicated and frustrated servants of the Lord have left various facets of the ministry because of these problems," he says.

That situation is not necessary, however, according to Cothen. "The multiple ministers need not wind up in administrative confusion or role competition. God has given to the saints differing gifts."

In Cothen's model of the modern multiple-ministry church, the pastor is recognized as chief administrative officer and other ministers have "clearly designated functions with very clear lines of communication, reporting and responsibility. The clearer the delineation of responsibilities



The J.J. Johnson Young Adult Singers of the First Baptist Church, Fairmont sing praises at the 108th Convention. The chorus is named for the illustrious Convention president. The Convention theme was "Responsive Stewardship: Adequate Resources Through Christian Unity."

Training Institute Held

By Rev. J.O. Thorne

Rocky Mt., N.C. — The Tar River Union, an auxiliary to the Neuse River Missionary Baptist Association in eastern North Carolina, had a most enjoyable church training institute the second week in October at the North End Baptist Church in the city of Rocky Mount, N.C. Dr. E. Lee, pastor, Rev. J.O. Thorne, president, Rev. C.M. DeLoatch 1st vice president, Rev. Nelson

Johnson, 2nd vice-president, of the Union along with the great missionary workers, Sisters Lena Keys, Lillian Pittman, Luch Gray, and Letta Anthony just to name a few gave whole hearted support in making the 3rd Annual Institute a glowing success.

We had instructors for all departments of the church, for ministers, Rev. T. Watkins; for deacons and laymen, Rev. C.M.

DeLoatch, for missionaries all 3 levels Sister Lucy Gray, for ushers, Brother Arthur Williams; for Sunday School and B.T.U., Rev. E. Lee, for church music, Mr. Walter Plemmer and Bernard Bullock, following class each evening.

Different pastors and their congregations led us in worship services, Monday night the Rev. W.E. Battle and Mt. Carmel Baptist; Tuesday night, Rev. R. Brown and Bethlehem and Harts Chapel, Thursday night, Rev. G.E. Battle and Mt. Olive Baptist, Friday night, Rev. T. Watkins and North End Choir.

We closed on a high note looking forward to next year if

Western Roanoke Holds Inspiring Session

By Chester A. Hart

Colerain — The 91st Annual Session of the West Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association met with the First Baptist Church here on October 1st and 2nd.

The session was called to order by its Moderator, Rev. C.A. Hart at 10:00 a.m. The theme for the occasion was: "Christ For the Nations". Three persons were assigned to discuss the theme under the sub-topic as follows: Rev. J.W. Law; "Go Ye Into All The World" St. Mark 16:15; Dr. H.L. Mitchell, "Teaching Them to Observe All Things", St. Matthew 25:20; and Rev. A. Jackson Cherry, "Lo, I Am With You Always", St. Matthew 28:20. These pastors gave very inspiring messages in the course of their discussions.

One of the outstanding contributions to the service was the moderator's address. The

moderator fitted his message within the concept of the nation's bicentennial celebration. He gave a survey of the Association's objectives; Shaw University, State Missions, Central Orphanage, and Lott Carey Foreign Missions. While he challenged his hearers to support the latter three he made special emphasis on the need for every Baptist Christian to turn in a new direction in his giving more largely to our Baptist College, Shaw University. He called upon his hearers to join him in a group to be known as "Disciples of Henry Martin Tupper, the man who founded the School in 1865.

To join this group one would have to give to Shaw \$50.00 - \$100.00. Those who gave in this bracket are Rev. C.A. Hart, \$100.00, Dr. W.C. Somerville, \$100.00, Mrs. Katie M. Hart 50.00, Mrs. Virginia M. Hart 50.00, Mrs. Queen Varner, 50.00, Mrs. Brusie F. Biggs, 100.00, Rev. J.A. Davis, 100, Mr. H.D. Cooper, 50, Mrs. Christine Sharpe, 50., Mr. Bryant Savage, 50., Rev. W.B. Westbrook, 50., Dr. J. Jasper Freeman, 50., Mr. M.W. Coleman, 50., Mrs. W.A. Mountain, 50., Mrs. Mary Riddick 100., and many others gave to make the total amount \$1,500.00 plus; in the Special Shaw Rally Mrs. Martha Wynn \$50.00 and Dr. Ruben Watson 50.00.

This was the best year we have had a quite some time. Fifty of our fifty-five churches reported. Our grand total receipts were \$5,000.00 plus. We hope to increase this amount as others complete their gift to make the Tupper Disciples group by the time of our state Convention.

and the lines of authority the more functional the system would be."

The Southern Baptist administrator disagrees with putting a minister under the direct authority of a committee rather than the pastor administrator. "Good administrative procedure requires that the pastor, as the chief administrator, should be the supervisor of the staff," he stresses.

Cothen believes that all church-staff relationships and problems must be dealt with under the leadership of God. "The ministers need total Christian commitment to one another, to the church, and to God."



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SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN

1975-1976

Pastor Praised For Dedication

By Dr. Leon C. Riddick

Lawndale, N.C. — There are many pastors in North Carolina who are members of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, who are doing an excellent job in their pastorates and community services, but whose labors go unreported and unnoticed until their demise. The Reverend R.D. Lucas, minister of the First Baptist Church of Lawndale, N.C. is one such pastor. Since becoming the pastor of First Baptist Church of Lawndale, N.C. is one such pastor. Since becoming the pastor of First Baptist Church five years ago the income has tripled and the income for Mission and Christian Education has more than doubled. However, the money that a church raises does not tell the whole story; but, it does indicate that there is a reason or reasons for the increase. The reason at the First Baptist Church, Lawndale is the energetic pastor, R.D. Lucas, who believes in a teaching training Ministry. At the First Baptist Church, the membership is constantly given the opportunity for learning and training in every phase of church membership.

In an effort to serve the needs of the community, the First

Baptist Day Care Center was organized in June of 1973.

In 1974, Rev. Lucas led the church in becoming a member and supporter of the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention and now has a total mission budget of \$3,341.50 compared to about \$600.00 when he assumed the pastorate of the church.

Pastor Lucas serves as: members of the Executive Committee of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C.; Board of Directors of the J.J. Johnson Baptist Assembly; Fourth Vice-President of the State S.S. and B.T.U. Congress; Assistant Dean of the State Ushers Convention; member of the Executive Board and Ordaining Council of the Ebenezer Baptist Association, and Dean of the Leadership Training Institute of the Association.

The Reverend Mr. Lucas is also a teacher of dressmaking and tailoring at the Cleveland County Technical Institute where he has served for ten years. He was trained at the Cleveland County Technical Institute, Gaston College, and the National School of Dressmaking, Chicago, Illinois.

He is assisted in his varied ministries by his devoted wife, Jettie Mae.

Autobiography Reflects Era Of Tar Heel Growth

By Florence Gilkeson, Laurinburg Exchange Staff Writer

Laurinburg, N.C. (Editor's Note: This article was carried by the "Laurinburg Exchange" and is reprinted here by permission. Laurinburg is the home of Dr. Johnson).

Joy Johnson introduces his biography by stating that he was born "in obscure poverty" in the sandhills of Scotland county.

Even so, no one has ever made poverty seem quite so good.

"From Poverty to Power" in many ways is more a memoir than an autobiography, but any argument over semantics is useless in the light of the book's colorful message of memory and sermon. The "power" of the title refers not to political power but to Christianity.

Dr. Johnson, who has served Fairmont's First Baptist church since 1951, is a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives and is president of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

He recalls that the homeplace was air-conditioned all year round and that the family dined on such sumptuous poverty fare



J.J. JOHNSON

as sweet potatoes, biscuits and molasses cakes, and corn fritters which were sopped in butter molasses.

From his early childhood Dr. Johnson moves into his education, which from a formal standpoint had its beginning in the one-room schools of Scotland county. Later he found himself at the Laurinburg Institute, at that time the only high school education available to blacks in Scotland County.

By graduation time the young Johnson had determined the direction he wanted life to take - he wanted to become a minister of the Christian gospel. In 1941

he entered Shaw University in Raleigh under a \$250 work-aid scholarship.

During that freshman year Johnson met the girl who was to become his wife, Omega Johnson, and he tells of the ups and downs of his romance with this dimpled beauty.

From personal experience and early maturing and professional growth, the writer describes a more profound relationship with his world in the later chapters of the book. He relates his rapid climb in the ministry and his growth as a politician and statesman, positions he used to reflect concern for the minority races, the poor, the oppressed, the troubled.

In later chapters he explains his favorite efforts and crusades in the North Carolina General Assembly and his work in a multitude of community projects and programs.

"From Poverty to Power" is generously illustrated with photographs and sketches.

Johnson has successfully coupled his own spiritual growth with a native humor which makes his chronicle a message both entering and inspiring.

Ed. Note: for copies of from "Poverty To Power" mail a \$3.00 check or money order to:

Joy J. Johnson
P.O. Box 455
Fairmont, N.C. 28340

Proceeds from sales will be utilized in a special General Baptist program.

New Programs

(Continued From Page 3)

basic English, sentence structure and simple grammar in our church institutes, because adult basic education should be a primary concern of black Baptists. We should join the all out effort to eradicate illiteracy. We are the major victims. We have sufficient human resources and retired qualified teachers in every community that we can utilize in eliminating illiteracy. There are persons ready to serve. Let us use these skills and abilities for Kingdom work.

XXVI. The General Baptist Associations donate copies of, *From Poverty to Power* to school libraries and public libraries (in their boundaries).

XXVII. The General Baptist State Convention donate five hundred copies of *From Poverty to Power*, to the State Department of Correction and the Youth Services division; that the presentation be made here at this convention to Chaplain R.A. L. Walker, Director of Prison Ministry.

XXVIII. The personnel and administrative committees shall draw up adequate plans for the retirement of General Convention employees, including the executive secretaries and set up requirements and criteria for their replacement.

XXIX. The Convention shall employ an official

Convention stenographer, photographer, and reporter to assure accurate records of our total family activities and actions for our posterity, history and heritage; so that when another Bicentennial Baptist celebration is held there will be no question of the authenticity of contributions of black Baptist leaders, churches and conventions to America and the world. For our significant accomplishments would be on file in the Department of Cultural Resources, Raleigh, North Carolina.

XXX. Mrs. Georgia Guest, concert contralto artist of Shelby, N.C. was elected soloist.

Many of these recommendations are far reaching, but they are significant and progressive plus fiscally sound and responsible.

My Christian brothers and sisters: I to effectuate these programs, projects, policies and plans we need just a little faith in God, ourself, our president, Christian Baptist family. It is no secret what God can do when we give him our little bit.

All of these proposed programs, plans, projects and policies shall be implemented and executed by the president, administrative committee and executive board expeditiously.

The President's

(Continued From Page 2)

has become a greater joy for me due to my visitation of other countries who boasted of their low crime rate, but said nothing of their high sin rate and their ability to provide free medical care and education for all of their citizens. I would rather be a slave for Jesus than a master for satan.

Practically every country I visited, I saw tombs of dead heroes and martyrs.

In West Minster Abbey there were the tombs of kings and queens, poets and heroes. In Notre Dame Cathedral there were replicas of disciples and popes; also in Paris, Napoleon's tomb; in Cairo the tomb of the Pharaohs or Ramses; and in Rome at the Vatican there were statues of Peter, the first pope

and many other martyrs. But the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem was empty. Jesus was alive. He was Judah's Yanweh, Israel's Eloheiom, Jacob's Jeohvah, John's Comforter, Peter's Rock, Paul's Noon Day Sun, and Calvary's Christ and my Savior.

The Convention must re-evaluate Her plans, programs, methods, structure and even the objectives in view of the times, changes, communication, circumstances and conditions. Therefore, I present this Positive Action Program in the form of recommendations to charter this Christian space ship on a new course of action and direction under an old captain, but new pilot.

SUMMIT MEETING OF BLACK BAPTIST HEADS CALLED

Raleigh — To begin implementation of the thirty (30) Recommendations that were adopted during the 108th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of N.C., President Johnson has called a "Summit Meeting" Thursday, November, 24-25, 1975, at the Baptist Headquarters, Raleigh.

City-Wide Revival In Durham

By Percy L. High

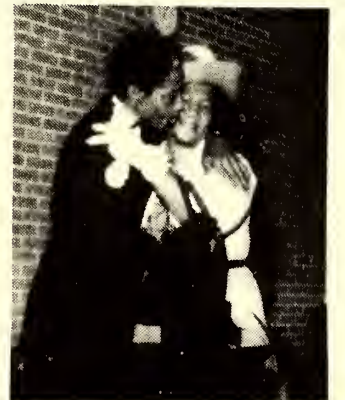
Dr. Robert H. Wilson, eminent pastor of the Saint John Baptist Church of Dallas, Texas, will be the guest revivalist in the city of Durham during the week of January 5-9, 1976.

These celebrations will be engaged in at the Saint Mark A.M.E. Zion Church on South Roxboro Street beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Z.D. Harris serves as president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Durham, the sponsoring agent, and Dr. L.A. Miller serves as pastor of the host church.



Convention soloist, Mrs. Georgia Guest, pours her feelings to the attentive audience in a rendition of "Amazing Grace."



President Johnson greets his sister, Mrs. Cora Lee Breeden of Laurel Hill, at the convention, the two embrace following the morning session as the convention applauds.

Coming Your Way

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.
1976 CHURCH CENSUS

Name of Church _____
 Address _____ Zip _____
 Pastor _____ Number of years served _____
 Address _____
 Year Church Organized _____ Membership _____
 Name of Association _____ Moderator _____
 Number of Active Auxiliaries _____ Worship Sundays _____
 Number of Ordained Ministers _____ Number of Licentiates _____
 Number of Deacons _____ List All Active Auxiliaries: 1. _____
 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____
 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____
 Number of Associate Ministers _____ Average Monthly Church Attendance _____
 Number Enrolled in Church School _____ B.T.U. _____ Laymen League _____
 Senior Missionary Department _____ Young Adult Department _____
 Youth Department _____ Number of Institutes _____ Number Enrolled _____
 Number of Revivals _____ Name of Director of Christian Education or Superintendent _____
 Minister of Music _____
 Name of Associate Minister _____
 Value of Church Property: Sanctuary \$ _____ Educational Facilities \$ _____
 Recreational Facilities \$ _____ Furniture \$ _____ Parsonage \$ _____
 Other Property (buses, cars or houses and land) \$ _____ Total Value of
 All Property \$ _____ Total Amount of All Insurance Coverage \$ _____
 Annual Church Budget \$ _____ Total Contributions to Convention Objectives
 \$ _____ Association \$ _____ Union \$ _____ National Baptist
 Bodies \$ _____ Total Annual Contributions \$ _____
 Average Monthly Offerings \$ _____ Annual Range of Pastor's Salary:
 (Check appropriate range) (1) \$3,000-\$5,000 (2) \$5,000-\$7,000 (3) \$7,000-\$10,000, (4)
 \$10,000-\$12,000 (5) \$12,000-\$15,000 (6) above \$ _____ Does Pastor have retire-
 ment benefits? _____
 COMPLETE AND FORWARD ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1976
 To: Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary
 GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N.C., INC.
 603 South Wilmington Street
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601



NEW EDIFICE DEDICATED AT REIDSVILLE

Reidsville, N.C. — The First Baptist Church of Reidsville, N.C. held its Dedicatory Service for a new church edifice on Sunday, November 2, 1975. The Dedication Sermon was delivered by Dr. O.L. Sherrill, who brought a great message from the Lord.

Reverend Earl M. Brown, who accepted a call to the church in March 1972, is pastor. Construction of the church was begun in August of 1974.

Additional \$3,000 Appropriated

By Harold G. Troy, Sr.

A recent appropriation of an additional \$3,000 for the state Migrant Burial Fund came in part at the insistence of the originator of the bill - Rep. Joy J. Johnson. (D).

His concern for the welfare of deceased Migrant workers is reflected in the following letter: The Honorable David R. Flaherty
Secretary of Human Resources

Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I read of a tragic story in the Raleigh News and Observer that the Migrant Burial Fund has been depleted, following the burial of five Migrants and two not having funds to be buried.

It was the intent of the original bill that the Department of Human Resources would make available all necessary funds for

a decent burial of Migrant Workers. Since this has not been done, please request the Advisory Budget Commission or the Secretary of Human Resources to appropriate the necessary funds.

Your diligent cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Joy J. Johnson

5,000 SOULS SAVED, ONE MILLION DOLLARS RAISED IN '76

From The President's Pen:

In 1976, "5000 Souls Saved and \$1,000,000.00 Raised" is the greatest challenge and opportunity Black North Carolina Baptists have ever confronted and accepted. Yet, it will be a simple and easy task under the Restructuring and Organizing the State into Five Regions.

Possibly these regions being as follows: (1) Asheville-Charlotte, (2) Greensboro - Winston-Salem, (3) Raleigh - Durham, (4) Fayetteville - Wilmington and (5) Greenville - Rocky Mount. In other areas of the State as these regions grow

there could be satellite regions.

Thousands of Regional Christian Workers could be involved in the Convention's Plans, Programs, and Projects that are not now involved. There would be one General Coordinator - Director over all the regions and each region would have a local director. All under the supervision of the Administrative Committee, Executive Board and Executive Secretary as the Administrative Officer.

This would result in all objectives and activities geared toward the 1976 goals and unified appeal for the total budget. In

short this simply means we have the necessary machinery and technique to promote the Programs and Plans that will reach 350,000 Baptists. This will cost less than three (\$3.00) per Baptist state-wide.

Our other primary concerns are: (1) establishing a state-wide Church Credit Union or Regional Credit Unions, (2) A Pension or Retirement Plan for pastors, widows, and minor children, (3) The construction of a Retirement or Retreat Complex for ministers and Missionaries. A place where they can rest, relax and be free

Our 1976 church census form above has been adopted as the means by which we bind ourselves closer together.

Let us answer the President's call for a "move accurate count of our membership, churches, associations, auxiliaries, district conventions, pastors, moderators, ministers, church officers and the net total of our worth in property, cash, bonds, and other assets."

Baptist Headquarters needs facts and figures to make our goal of "5,000 Souls Saved and \$1 - Million Dollars Raised" a reality.

Return your form promptly.

from fear, frustrations and high cost with only utilities and upkeep for a few days each year.

(4) create a state-wide Ministers and Members Mutual Benefit Club to provide volume buying that will result in tremendous savings and discounts and (5) possibly establishing Regional Book Stores to provide adequate supplies, materials and religious

books for the Regional Churches and Pastors at reduced prices and discounts.

All of these can be realities if we are Called, Commissioned and Committed and we are willing to go serve; give a tithe and gain a soul for the kingdom. To do this we Must Put Christ First, our Fellowman Second and our Self Last.

Yours for the Kingdom,
Joy J. Johnson, President



Symbolizing unity and Christian humility, the delegates clasp hands at the altar during the concluding prayer of the session. Thus the

108th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention closed with new goals and increased determination.