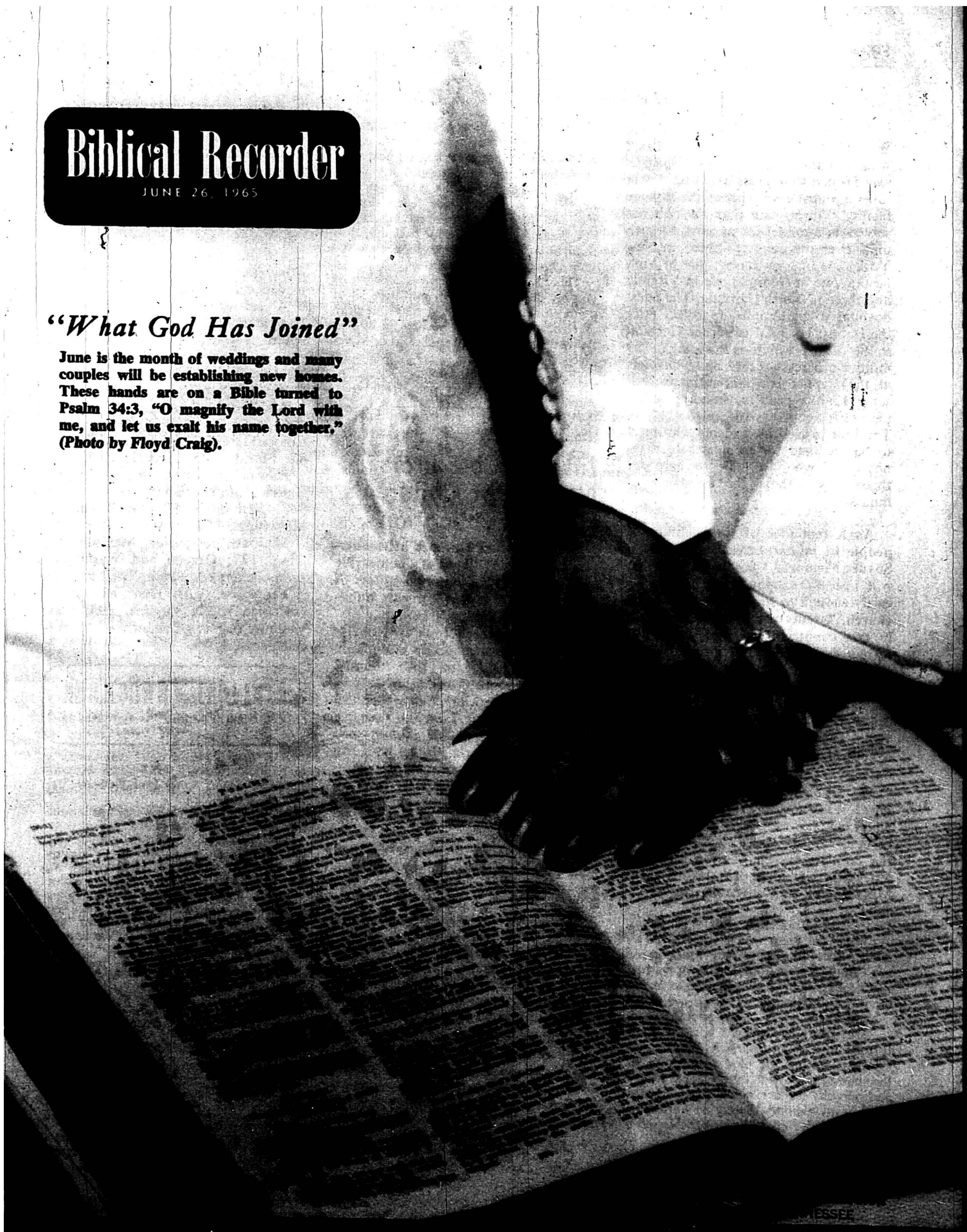


Biblical Recorder

JUNE 26, 1965

"What God Has Joined"

June is the month of weddings and many couples will be establishing new homes. These hands are on a Bible turned to Psalm 34:3, "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together."
(Photo by Floyd Craig).



Unit Continues to Draw People

The progressive care unit of the Baptist Hospital continues to attract wide attention and interest. Since it was opened four years ago, 261 out of town groups have visited the unique facility. During that time the unit has served as a model for at least 10 such units over the country—three in New York, one in New Jersey, one in Minnesota, one in Georgia, one in Virginia and three in North Carolina. The latest hospital to pattern its approach after the Baptist Hospital is Barnes Hospital in St. Louis which is building a \$9 million progressive care unit. Officials at the Baptist Hospital estimate that some 12,000 using the building in the past four years have saved \$500,000. The unit is used by patients who need to be on hand for medical care diagnosis but who are able to care for themselves without the assistance of nurses.

As a reminder of the mobility of people in military areas of our state, Snyder Memorial Church, Fayetteville, will lose 52 members this month — easily enough to start a new mission or church. Twenty per cent of the people in this country move each year, but 65 per cent in Fayetteville move their residence each year. Although membership at Snyder Memorial is 1,667 at the present time, the church has had 3,379 people to join it in the last 15 years. This gives some idea of the turnover in membership.

We never had the privilege of meeting C. W. Bazemore's mother, but those who knew her were high in their praise of her. Typical of the communications the family received was the following letter from a resident of Aulander where Mrs. Bazemore lived before her death June 6:

Dear Miss Laura's Family,

"What are these which are arrayed in white robes—these are they which come out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

Well, there she is—your good Mother.

Some years ago when I had the good fortune to meet your lovely Mother, instantly, I found the explanation for all the members of your family. The beauty and serenity of her countenance is still clear in my memory. Surely all who knew her could "rise up and call her blessed."

Such a person, your Mother, has passed from the scenes of time and place and is now among that great angelic host John envisioned in the Revelation.

So it is for you and all who knew her, heaven is a richer place, even tho we may feel the poorer for her having passed.

I cannot express how wonderful I thought your gracious mother was. To know her was to love her.

This little note is to convey to each of you my deepest sympathy and urge all of us to emulate her noble virtues and pray that the mantle of her sweet spirit may richly descend upon all she loved and who loved her so well.

Most Sincerely,

A very dear friend—

Gardner, Williams

Interim Co-Editors Named for Children's Homes Publication

Dr. E. Norfleet Gardner of Henderson and Roger Williams of Thomasville have been named interim co-editors of "Charity and Children," weekly publication of the Children's Homes.

They will succeed John E. Roberts who will become associate editor and business manager of the "Baptist Courier" in South Carolina on July 1. Mr. Roberts' associate, Lloyd Pendergraft, resigned June 1 to join the staff of Pembroke College. Mr. Roberts will complete his editorial duties with the July 1 issue.

Dr. Gardner returns to a post he held for several months in 1960 before Mr. Roberts came as editor. Mr. Williams, pastor of the Mills Home Church for nearly a decade, has had wide experience in writing, including a weekly column in "Charity and Children."

No "Recorder" Next Week

In keeping with a standing policy, the BIBLICAL RECORDER will not be published the first week in July. This means the July 3 issue will be missed, but publication will be resumed July 10 with a special issue devoted to the Baptist World Congress in Miami Beach. Only two issues are missed each year, the first week in July and the last week in December.

Only 564 N.C. People At Dallas; Texas Had 5,448 (No Surprise!)

Just as many suspected, Tar Heel attendance at the Dallas Convention was far below normal. In fact, it was only 564, placing North Carolina ninth in the attendance listing by states.

More than that number of North Carolinians are expected in Miami Beach this week for the Baptist World Congress. This meeting affected attendance at Dallas.

A recheck of registration showed a final total of 16,053 messengers — a record. Texas provided 5,448 messengers, or more than a third of the total. Next came Oklahoma with 1,137. Other state totals:

Alabama, 933; Alaska, 5; Arizona, 129; Arkansas, 534; California, 404; Colorado, 195; District of Columbia, 42; Florida, 451; Georgia, 647.

Hawaii, 9; Illinois, 226; Indiana, 53; Kansas, 130; Kentucky, 505; Louisiana, 967; Maryland, 128; Michigan, 37; Mississippi, 877.

Missouri, 595; New Mexico, 226; Ohio, 127; Oregon and Washington (combined), 63; South Carolina, 515.

Tennessee, 770; Utah and Idaho (combined), 20; Virginia, 293; West Virginia, 6; foreign countries, 16; miscellaneous, 1.

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Some Name-Changing in Order, Beginning With SBC

THE TIME HAS COME for Southern Baptists to consider name changing in several areas, beginning with the convention itself.

The question of a name change came up in the recent convention at Dallas and was referred to the SBC Executive Committee. This is not something new because there has been considerable agitation in recent years for a name that would more accurately describe the geographical boundaries of the convention. With Southern Baptist churches and missions now in every state of the union, the *Southern* identification is misleading as a territorial designation. In some sections the name may even prove to be something of a handicap. This is something that needs priority attention. The big difficulty is that no one has yet come up with a name that is acceptable to a majority of Southern Baptists.

As Dr. Gaines S. Dobbins of Golden Gate Seminary points out in a recent article, there are other examples of outmoded terminology in Southern Baptist life. He uses the Sunday School Board as one example. "The name was meaningful 70 years ago when the newly established institution had one main responsibility—to promote and facilitate the Sunday School," Dr. Dobbins says. "Now the Board has over 20 other lines of activity and promotion involving its far-flung coopera-

tive services at home and abroad. Apart from sentiment, what reason is there for maintaining this mis-representative title? Would its potential not be more fully realized if the title were changed?"

Dr. Dobbins also points out that Training *Union* and Woman's Missionary *Union* have misleading connotations semantically when *Union* as a title is applied primarily to a labor organization. "Would not Training *Service* and Missionary *Service* indicate more clearly the functions of these two important church organizations?" Dr. Dobbins asks.

"Change of names would involve practical and sentimental difficulties," Dr. Dobbins admits. "What is essential is that the constituency recognize that theirs is a General Baptist Convention, not just Southern; that they have a General Board of Education and Publication; that their churches operate a teaching service, a training service, a woman's missionary service, a men's stewardship and missionary service, a music service, not as apart from but as integral parts of the church to which they belong. Such recognitions and operation will save a church from fragmentation and will constitute a church and nothing but a church."

The distinguished professor at Golden Gate has sounded a note that cannot be ignored.

A Continuing Program of Training for Our Pastors

A CONTINUING PROGRAM of pastoral training is a need that should have practical and intelligent study by Baptists.

We are not necessarily referring to Seminary Extension work, but rather to an approach which will help the local pastor devise new and imaginative ways of doing a better job. We would like to see our colleges and seminaries experiment with a program, perhaps working through local Pastors' Conferences. We believe that pastors are hungry for knowledge and guidance that will make them more effective. Once a pastor believes that he is through with the educational process, he is on his way to ineffectiveness, whether he realizes it or not. This must not happen.

The Western N. C. Methodist Conference has inaugurated a program that has great potential. It is the brainchild of Bishop Earl G. Hunt of Charlotte who impresses us as a man to watch. Called the Institute for Homiletical Studies, the program will be developed through five projects: A reading program in homiletics, clinics in preaching, an award sermon challenge, lectures on preaching and bishop's back-talk sessions with young pastors. Purpose of the institute is to stress the importance of preaching, challenge and stimulate preachers and to inspire and sustain an eagerness to preach and hear preaching. A \$100,000 endowment is being sought with a Charlotte man, D. Marvin King, having already contributed \$10,000.

We confess there are several gaps in this rather sketchy proposal, but we'd like to see those far more qualified take the idea and go with it. Pastors will respond and in doing so, they'll become better pastors and preachers. Since Southeastern Seminary is within our state borders, perhaps it is the logical institution to undertake a pilot project.

In the meantime, Wake Forest College has an excellent Summer Conference for Ministers slated July 26-30. For a short-term course in preaching and Biblical interpretation, this conference has much to offer. Out of it could come some ideas that would be helpful in developing a year-round "post-graduate" program for pastors. Any suggestions?

The Last Line

Try though we may, typographical errors do slip into the columns of this newspaper. One of the most annoying is omission of the last line. All publications have the problem. Recently the Georgetown, Ky., *Times* discussed the situation editorially. In keeping with the customs of this particular day, we quote the *Times*, verbatim:

"Last week as often happens in printing a newspaper, a line was inadvertently, left off an item. It reminds us of the reader who complained to his editor that the most frequent error of papers is "leaving off" the last line of a story. The editor asked another veteran newspaperman why so many bottom lines are left off stories, and he gave this most interesting reply:"—*Memphis Commercial Appeal*

Jack Bagwell Resigns to Accept Nashville Post; Richard Smith Named to Succeed Him

Jack Bagwell, secretary of the Department of Church Building Planning, has resigned to accept a position with the Architectural Department of the Sunday School Board in Nashville.

Succeeding Mr. Bagwell will be Richard D. Smith, associate in the Sunday School Department. This change takes effect July 15.

In another personnel change, Miss Ruth Williams of Winston-Salem has been named secretary to Dr. W. Perry Crouch. For the past 5½ years, Miss Williams has been administrative assistant at Ardmore Church, Winston-Salem. Prior to that time she served as associate associational missionary in the Pilot Mountain Association for 4½ years. She is a graduate of Lee Edwards High School in Asheville, Erskine College, and has her M.A. degree in religious education from Southwestern Seminary. In 1957, she completed the six weeks course in clinical training at the Baptist Hospital.

Miss Williams succeeds Mrs. Anne Warren. Mr. and Mrs. Warren recently adopted a baby girl.

Mr. Smith has been an associate in charge of training and enlargement for the Sunday School Department since Feb. 15, 1961. A native of Mecklenburg County, he is a graduate of Wake Forest College and Southeastern Seminary. His pastorates included Spring Branch in Sampson County and Round Hill Church in Rutherford County.

Dr. Crouch paid tribute to the "excellent job Mr. Bagwell has done and he will be missed by North Carolina Baptists." Mr. Bagwell joined the staff of the convention as an associate in the Sunday School Department and upon the retirement of L. L. Morgan was named secretary of the Church Building Planning Department.

CORRECTION

The article in the May 29 **RECORD** reporting the establishment of a memorial fund with Baptist Foundation in the name of the late Joseph Clarence Moore stated that he was pastor of Adamsville Church at the time of his death. This is not accurate. It should have read Calvary Church, Goldsboro, and the **RECORD** regrets the error.



Richard D. Smith



Jack Bagwell

Interim Director Named For Dan Valley Center

Miss Melva E. Hailman, age 22, of Falls Church, Va., has been elected interim Director of Weekday Activities at the Dan Valley Mission Center in Spray. Miss Hailman replaces Miss Dorothy Milam who transferred to a similar position with the Kansas Baptist State Convention as of April 1, 1965.

Miss Hailman is a recent graduate of Mars Hill College with a major in English and a minor in secondary education. Miss Hailman will assume her duties at the Mission Center immediately.

The Dan Valley Mission Center is a co-operative ministry of missions of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the Home Mission Board, along with the Dan Valley Baptist Association. This work is directed by the Church Development Department in co-operation with co-sponsors.

Want Convention in '67?

Interested in entertaining the Baptist State Convention in 1967?

If so, get your invitation in to the Committee on Place and Preacher as soon as possible. Dr. T. L. Cashwell, Jr., is chairman and may be addressed at P. O. Box 6098, Raleigh. One city has already made plans to invite the meeting, but Dr. Cashwell says the committee is open to other invitations.

Charlotte will be host to the 1965 convention while Winston-Salem will entertain it in 1966.

46 Prepare for Work In FMB Missionary Journeyman Program

RICHMOND — Forty-six young people from 15 states have begun eight weeks of intensive training here for overseas mission service to 25 countries under the Foreign Mission Board's first "Missionary Journeyman Program."

The project is designed for college graduates, single and under 27 years of age, who do not wish to make a career of missionary work but would like to use their talents and vocations in overseas work for two years.

During this non-repeatable term, they will work with career missionaries in many assignments.

The first 46 were selected from applicants during the first year of the program adopted by the board in April, 1964. More than half will teach in elementary and secondary schools and colleges.

Others will serve as agricultural advisers, a commercial artist, a goodwill center worker, a nurse, librarian, secretaries and student and youth workers.

The training program is maintained at Westhampton College, University of Richmond. The curriculum includes Bible study, evangelism, missions, comparative religions, the Baptist denomination, linguistics, world affairs, race relations, specific job techniques, health and first aid.

At the end of the eight-week study period the students will be dedicated to their new posts in a special ceremony on Aug. 10.

Dr. W. F. Howard, director of student work at the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will direct the training School.

Joining other denominational and mission board staff members in teaching assignments will be Dr. Paul Geren of the U.S. State Department, Lloyd Wright of the U.S. Information Agency and Miss Esther Cummings, professor of missionary linguistics at the Biblical Seminary in New York.





MR. AND MRS. Estrada are shown in front of the new SBC Radio-TV Commission Building in Fort Worth, Texas. Mr. Estrada is preacher on "La Hora Bautista," the Spanish Baptist Hour radio program.

Leobardo Estrada

2nd V-P of SBC Built Church In New York From "Ground" Up

A native of Mexico who was shining shoes and selling hot tamales on the streets of San Antonio, Texas, when he became a Christian, is now second vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Hard work and concrete results in souls won to Christ placed Leobardo Estrada in this position. He has served as Southern Baptist director of language missions in New York City since 1962.

Prior to his nomination at the Dallas session, SBC president Wayne Dehoney used Mr. Estrada's achievements as an illustration in his address which called for a major evangelistic thrust. He said, "One day the Lord called Leobardo Estrada to New York City where one out of every 10 people walking the streets speaks Spanish. Estrada started to work without a church, without a pulpit, without a building, without a congregation, without a single church member.

"On a rainy night less than three years ago he went down into the subways to witness and distribute evangelistic tracts. With each tract he extended an invitation to attend preaching services the following Sunday. Four

people appeared at the services. Today that church has over 250 members, eight other missions and preaching points as well as a fine new building."

In New York City, Mr. Estrada works through existing churches and leads in establishment of new congregations with language groups.

The energetic Home Mission Board worker has aided the spread of the gospel in 14 Latin American countries as speaker on "La Hora Bautista," the Spanish Baptist Hour radio program. He has written three books in Spanish and has taught in the Mexican Baptist Theological Seminary in El Paso Texas.

This "Southern" Southern Baptist should not have too much difficulty presiding over the Convention in Detroit next year when he is called upon to relieve the president. To his list of achievements Mr. Estrada can add two years as president of the Mexican Baptist Convention of Texas and first vice-president of the Baptist General Convention of California.

He is a graduate of Mexican Baptist Theological Seminary, El Paso; Southern Methodist University, Dallas; and Southwestern Theological Seminary,

Mrs. Harry D. Wood to Work in Hawaii This Summer; Pilot Project

Mrs. Harry D. Wood, Jr. of Leaks-ville, is one of six initial appointees of the Home Mission Board in its Christian Service Corps. Mrs. Wood will work in Hawaii this summer doing Woman's Missionary Union work, Vacation Bible Schools, and Music.

Mrs. Wood is the wife of the pastor of the First Church, Leaksville. She has had varied experience in church work and is a member of the Executive Committee of the W. M. U. of North Carolina. She is a graduate of Meredith College in music and has taught public school music. These qualifications fit her for the work she is doing for the Home Mission Board. This work is volunteer, so she is not on the payroll. Room and board is furnished in the churches with which she will be working.

These six, selected as a first year pilot group, fill selected requests from missionaries. After this summer, the corps will expand to a short-term service throughout the year. The mission agency created the corps to meet mission needs through use of mature adults who have experience in church leadership. They are the first appointees under the Christian Service Corps program. In age they range from 46 to 74. They will work in Ohio, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Alaska, and Hawaii.

Howard Knights on Furlough

Mr. and Mrs. Howard C. Knight, Southern Baptist missionaries, returned to the States June 6 for furlough following their first term of service in Argentina, where they work with English-speaking people. They may be addressed at 22 Balsam Ave., West Asheville, N. C. He is a native of Asheville; she is the former Joyce Wheeler, of Miami, Fla.

Fort Worth, with B.D. and Th.M. degrees.

Mr. Estrada has pastored Spanish and Mexican churches in California and Texas, served as evangelist in several countries in South and Central America, and as student pastor at a good will center in San Antonio.

He is married to Isabel Avila and they have four children; Priscilla, Leobardo, Irma, and Omega.

Educators Assail Traditional Ideas on Convention Control, Federal Aid, Trustee Selection

By Theo Sommerkamp

NASHVILLE (BP) — Traditional Baptist ideas on taking federal aid to higher education, on convention control of Baptist colleges and on selection of Baptists as trustees for these colleges were assailed here by educators inside and outside the denomination.

Harold W. Tribble, president of Wake Forest College, started the discussion when he told other Baptist College officials:

"Baptists need to adjust their thinking to the fact that education is a major part of our national life and that when we (Baptists) render service to the government, so it is right and proper to accept compensation from the government for that service."

In his 50-minute address to the Southern Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools, Tribble had this to say about control of colleges by state Baptist conventions:

"You can not operate an educational institution on the basis of directives issued in a convention which meets annually just for three days. If the convention exercises veto authority over the trustees, you have an impossible situation in operating educational institutions."

Francis W. Bonner, vice-president of academic affairs at Furman University (Baptist), Greenville, S. C., later seconded Tribble's position that Baptist colleges should be able to accept federal aid.

Declared Bonner: "Few Baptists appear to understand that a college which refuses to accept federal funds is creating for itself a difficult future. It makes academic excellence nearly impossible."

The Furman vice-president described it as a "false assumption that financial assistance brings federal control and interference." He said there is a "proper, businesslike understanding" of how federal money is to be spent.

Tribble had earlier played down the spectre of federal control as a factor to consider in taking federal financial aid. Vice-president Bonner went on to criticize the state Baptist conventions, which operate the Baptist colleges, for being reluctant "to trust the trustees" they have elected. He said an institution subject to majority vote each year on the convention floor "can never achieve a position in the first rank."

His assigned topic to speak on was "Can Southern Baptists Operate A First-Rate College?"

An educational consultant and former president of a college related to another Protestant denomination told the association still later that he "does not agree that all trustees of Baptist institutions should be Baptists."

"Distinguished people of other faiths ought to be on your boards," declared

Follow the
Baptist World Congress
in the RECORDER

Theodore A. Distler of Lancaster, Pa., former president of the Association of American Colleges.

"No major denomination places any restriction as you Baptists do" on limiting trustees to people within the sponsoring denomination. "I think you are dead wrong," Distler said.

Although there was no opposing viewpoint voiced openly at the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools, there was some disagreement as well as agreement with the position of Tribble, Bonner and Distler as their fellow educators huddled for chats in the hallways or walked to and from their motels.

The Southern Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools brings together the presidents, vice-presidents, deans and other administrators of 73 Baptist institutions including Bible schools, junior and senior colleges and seminaries.

Both Tribble and Bonner spoke out of experience with their sponsoring state conventions in recent years on the points they criticized.

Wake Forest College last year spearheaded a drive in the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina to win permission to accept federal grants and to allow a limited number of non-Baptists and people from outside North Carolina to serve as trustees.

The move would have affected all seven Baptist colleges in the state. It lost decisively on both counts during the three-day 1964 convention in Greensboro.

Furman began admitting Negro students this year despite a non-binding popularity vote in the South Carolina Baptist Convention session last fall opposing integration. Furman also recently took a grant of \$611,698 under the Federal Higher Education Facilities Act to help complete its science building.

Another Baptist educator commented during discussion of Bonner's speech about "lack of communication between the college and its constituency over the aims of the Baptist colleges."

Bonner also deplored the ruse to establish new Baptist colleges "while old and venerable Baptist colleges lack sufficient financial support."



NEW PRESIDENTS — New presidents of three Baptist colleges confer during a meeting in Nashville with the chairman of the Education Commission. From left are Gordon W. Blackwell of Furman University, Greenville, S. C.; Warner Earle Fusselle of Truett-McConnell College, Cleveland, Ga., and John A. Hamrick of Baptist College at Charleston (S. C.). At right is John A. Fincher, dean of Howard College, Birmingham.

Oxford Calls Clarence Godwin

Clarence E. Godwin, pastor at Lakeside, Rocky Mount, for the past 10 years has accepted a call to Oxford Church, Flat River Association, effective Aug. 1.

Ramseur has called O'Neal Weeks as its new pastor. He comes from Wilmont Church, Charlotte. He and his family will move July 5.

Tom Barnes, pastor at Big Lick Church in the Stanly Association for the past 4½ years, has resigned to accept a call to Riley Road Mission near Fort Bragg. Under Mr. Barnes' leadership, Big Lick built a modern new parsonage valued at \$23,000. His change of pastorates is effective June 27 and two days later the family will move to Fayetteville.

Charles Lemley has resigned at Milford Hills, Salisbury, to become pastor at Morningside in Asheville. . . . James W. Roberts, former pastor at Highland Church, Hope Mills, assumed his new work at First Church, Marietta, S. C., on June 21. . . . Clyde H. Stanfield, Burlington, is interim pastor at Somerset Church, Roxboro. Mr. Stanfield is former pastor of Peters Creek, Stuart, Va., until his retirement last January. He lives at 202 Highland Ave., Burlington.

Leon W. McKeithan who formerly served Council Church in the Bladen Association is now pastor at Sutton Park, Monroe.

Jimmie Tutor is the new minister of music and education at Grove Park Church, Burlington. A native of Fuquay-Varina, he is a recent graduate of Campbell College with a degree in music. His wife, Gwin, is from Supply and will teach at Turrentine Junior High School in Burlington this fall.

F. W. Gales has resigned as pastor of Mt. Moriah Church, Union Association, and is now serving Holly Mount, Montgomery Association and New Haven of the Moriah Association in S. C.

Mel T. Luther has assumed his duties as minister of education and music at First Church, Garner. Educated in the Raleigh Public Schools, he attended Mars Hill and Greensboro Colleges where he majored in voice and church music. He has served churches in the Greensboro area, in Liberty and Millbrook in the Raleigh Association.

Taylorsville Pastor's Wife Killed in Auto Accident

Mrs. Norma Johnson, wife of Herman I. Johnson of Route 2, Taylorsville, died June 17 in the Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, from injuries received in an automobile accident two days before near Taylorsville. Mr. Johnson is pastor of Little River Church. Another person, Jerry Dean Anderson, 18, of Route 3, North Wilkesboro, was killed in the same accident on N. C. Highway 16 south of Taylorsville. Investigating officers said Anderson lost control of his car on a sharp curve and skidded into the car driven by Mr. Johnson.

Georgia Undertaking Studies on Federal Grants for Colleges

ATLANTA (BP) — The Education Commission of the Georgia Baptist Convention has agreed to recommend to the convention that it study proposals for use of federal grants by convention-owned educational institutions.

Action of the committee was taken at a meeting called to consider requests from Mercer University, Macon, and Norman College, Norman Park, two of six convention-owned colleges.

The schools requested that the convention "consider the wisdom of Baptist colleges receiving federal grants for educational purposes."

The Education Commission, which acts as an advisory body to the convention in this area, authorized the following statement:

"1. While Baptist colleges are facing serious problems, these problems are not so critical as to conclude at the present that any of the six Georgia Baptist colleges should be discontinued or released for operation as a private institution.

"2. Efforts are being made to continue through the Cooperative Program the convention's support of the colleges through a capital improvements and endowment program, as well as with appropriations for operating expenses.

3. In response to the request of the Georgia Baptist Convention at its 1964 session, the boards of trustees of the several Georgia Baptist colleges are making a responsible study of their faculties and programs, and reports concerning their findings will be presented to the convention in November.

"4. In response to the request of the boards of trustees of Mercer University and Norman College, the Education Commission is prepared to recommend that the Georgia Baptist Convention consider the request of these institutions to receive federal grants for educational purposes, and that individual Baptists make a careful and prayerful study of the question in light of prevailing circumstances as well as historic precedent.

"5. The attention of Georgia Baptists is called to the fact that gifts through the Cooperative Program are shared in equitable proportion with Georgia Baptist colleges, and that increased gifts are necessary to assist these institutions in solving their financial problems."

Students Begin Work In Churches; Part of Baptist Youth Corps

Twenty-two students began work this week as members of the Baptist Youth Corps sponsored by the Student Department and Training Union Department of the Baptist State Convention. This is the first summer the plan has been in effect.

Students participating in the project are as follows, with their names, hometowns, college (in bold) and church in which they are working:

Joyce Hendley, Ocala, Fla., **Duke**, Ardmore Church, Winston-Salem; Emily Faye Long, Edenton, **Chowan**, First Church, Bladenboro; Dianne White, Woodland, **Chowan**, China Grove Church; Alma Jo Hall, Raleigh, **Meredith**, Drexel Memorial, Drexel; Bob Ward, Cary, **Wake Forest**, Dublin Church.

Paul Early, Jr., Greensboro, **Mars Hill**, First Church, Dunn; Judy Tripp, Burlington, **Columbia Bible College**, East Baptist, Gastonia; Matilda Masana, Miami, Fla., **Wingate**, New River Church, Jacksonville.

Mary S. Monfalcone, Newport News, Va., **East Carolina**, North Rocky Mount Church; Elaine Clary, Dumfries, Va., **Wake Forest**, Parkwood Church, Gastonia; Cynthia Still, Mount Airy, **Wake Forest**, Pleasant Hill, Elkin; Lavonne Murdock, Burnsville, **Mars Hill**, Sparta; Rodney Poole, Raleigh, **N. C. State University**, St. Pauls Church.

Alethea Humphrey, Gold Hill, **Appalachian**, Swepsonville Church; Regina Davis, Wadesboro, **High Point College**, Tuckasee Church, Mount Holly; Maxine Moore, Four Oaks, **UNC at Greensboro**, Weldon Church; Mary Edwards, Winston-Salem, **Wake Forest**, Western Avenue Church, Statesville; and Joe Killen, Indian Head, Md., **Mars Hill**, Caroleen Church.

Students working in churches who are not members of the Youth Corps officially, but related to it are as follows: Don Tesh, Winston-Salem, **Mars Hill**, Beck's Church, Winston-Salem; Larry Oldham, Clayton, **Campbell**, Enka; Dwight Hooker, Asheboro, **Campbell**, Grove Park, Clinton; John A. Mann, Concord, **Wake Forest**, Leaksville; and "Jay" Womble, Lillington, **Wake Forest**, Second Church, Fayetteville.

Sunday School Lesson

The Foundation of Christian Growth

**Scripture: I Corinthians 3: 3-11;
II Corinthians 5: 14-17**

This lesson marks the beginning of a new quarter and a series of studies on the theme "growing as Christians." A more appropriate area of investigation could hardly be found. The level of Christian understanding and practice by church members increasingly is a matter of concern, even alarm. Tests on Bible knowledge, doctrine, ethics, and similar subjects, given to varied groups for one reason or another, are falling into a saddening pattern of ignorance.

Many reasons might be cited. First, there have always been many spiritually shallow people, but they are more obvious in an age of easy communication, which is also given to much testing and analysis. Second, most churches make virtually no demands and enforce few standards for membership, providing little motivation toward applied Christianity and continued spiritual growth. Third, the proclamation of an abbreviated gospel has left many people ignorant of the possibility and necessity of progress toward higher levels of Christian maturity. Emphasis upon one great experience of surrender to Christ without equally clear teaching about daily enthroning him as Lord of life and about the personal guidance of the indwelling Holy Spirit can only produce spiritual dwarves.

The church at Corinth illustrates well the problem of immaturity. Paul's letters indicate that this church was more troublesome than any of the others he founded. Perhaps behind the trouble lay the fact that Corinth was one of the most pagan cities in the world. Christian converts had to overcome a difficult background. The Corinthian letters show that Paul exercised great patience with them but in the early verses of chapter three concludes that they are still spiritual babies, not ready for meatier matters of faith and doctrine.

Rebuke and Challenge

The first segment of the lesson, I Cor. 3: 3-9, contains both rebuke and challenge as Paul compares what the Corinthians are with the will of God. He describes what they are as "carnal" or dominated by the flesh. In Paul's writings flesh means more than merely a physical thing and doesn't refer primarily to physical appetites, as so many people seem to interpret the term. "To Paul the flesh

means human nature apart from God, that part of man both mental and physical which provides a bridgehead for sin, that part of man which answers to sin and which gives sin its chance and which responds to sin. So the fault that Paul finds with the Corinthians is not that they are made of flesh—all men are—but that they have allowed this lower side of their nature to dominate all their outlook and all their actions." (William Barclay)

How did Paul know that the Corinthians were shallow Christians, that their lower nature still dominated their lives? The Bible consistently teaches that a man's relationship with God is reflected in his relationship with his fellowman. Their envy, strife, and division made their immaturity evident. The man who can not love his brother but constantly displays self-centeredness has not passed the fundamentals of Christianity.

The Corinthians were demonstrating their pettiness by choosing up sides in a popularity contest. One man's pride was that he was converted under the missionary ministry of Paul. Another gave his allegiance to Apollos, a gifted speaker who was converted through Paul's co-laborers. Aquila and Priscilla, and later preached in Corinth. One can almost hear the debates on the talents of various preachers.

Paul's answer pointed out the foolishness of personality cults, showing that varied abilities among God's messengers simply indicates that they were intended to fulfill different but equally necessary tasks. Paul and Apollos had not promoted these divisions. They considered themselves mere servants of God, fellow workers in his garden, which is the Church. The challenge carried in this passage is to growth. The figures of speech employed—a field or garden and a building—suggest growth or increase. The Corinthians had to learn that God's purpose for them was not fulfilled until they had moved on to spiritual maturity and borne fruit in changed lives and a positive witness for Christ. To this end God had sent servants to plant and water; perhaps still others would cultivate and harvest.

Firm Foundation

In verses 10 and 11, Paul makes one additional statement about his ministry among the Corinthians. His distinctive calling, as in other places, was that of masterbuilder or architect—to lay a sound foundation in the faith. Typically,

**By
Roger
Branch**



Mr. Branch is associate to the editor of the RECORDER in news and editorials.

he had them moved on because such was the nature of his primary ministry. He welcomed the services of later builders, but with the assurance of one who knows what he believes, he warned them to build the walls plumb. They must lay no other foundation. This one was firm and true because his message that produced Christians in Corinth had been Jesus Christ himself—his life, words, works, Cross, and Resurrection.

The foundation for every Christian's spiritual life is the same. Each can be assured that his spiritual foundation is sound if it is centered around the person of Jesus Christ and he is the Lord of Life. A foundation, however, is only the beginning; building must continue.

Man in Christ

The last portion of scripture for this lesson, II Cor. 5: 14-17, is best approached from the last and keystone verse. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation." (RSV) What a dramatic summary of eternal truth!

The highest goal is to be a man in Christ. "In Christ" is one of Paul's favorite terms. It means being united with Christ, living in communion with him, doing his will, following his example. To be "in Christ" is to be a Christian. Such a man is a transformed being, a new creation. He is (verse 14) constrained, or as the RSV better states it "controlled" by the love of Christ. That self-giving love is the power behind and guidance for all thought and action. Christ's cross of death leads every believer to his own cross where he sacrifices his old life and is given a new one. It is a life in which the spirit is nurtured under the continuing love of Christ.

The term "creation" emphasizes the workings of divine grace. The new man is as much a product of God's creative power as are the earth and stars. He cannot bring himself into being but is called into existence by creative, sacrificial love. He does not arise full grown from his old life but as a babe in Christ. He is a new creation ready to move toward maturity under the daily nurture of Christ through the Holy Spirit. Both birth and growth are gifts of his love.



PARTICIPANTS in the Meredith School of Christian Studies were Dr. Herbert Gezork (seated), Robert Short (right), Dr. John Bright (left) and Dr. Harmon Holcomb.

OT Essential to Understanding Of NT, Meredith Speaker Asserts

Four renowned theologians discussed contemporary thinking in the fields of Old Testament problems, Christianity and crucial issues, modern philosophy and theology and religion as portrayed in the arts June 13-18 as Meredith College held its 13th annual School of Christian Studies.

Speaking on the problems confronting preachers and laymen today in explaining the Old Testament was Dr. John Bright of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. Dr. Bright said he feels the Old Testament is essential in preaching the gospel and that so-called liberals who would dispose of parts or all of the works are not facing the issue squarely. The Old Testament is essential in understanding the New Testament, he said. It provides the background for the action led by Jesus Christ and such an integral portion of the gospel cannot be dismissed, Dr. Bright feels.

Dr. Herbert Gezork, president of Andover-Newton Theological School, Boston, spoke on Christianity as related to sex, nuclear war, the technical society and higher education. Dr. Gezork said Christians should approach all these dilemmas with an unconditional love. He feels the church should integrate sex into its philosophy without either repressing or emancipating it. On nuclear war, he feels Christians should realize that man would be

usurping the power of God if he should create a war that might destroy civilization. He is almost a nuclear pacifist, Dr. Gezork said.

Dr. Harmon Holcomb, professor at Colgate - Rochester Divinity School, spoke on "Cross Currents in Modern Theology," including the theories of secular theology that discount the "transcendent power." He explained and refuted the reasoning behind the recent theological works that have been referred to as "the death of God." These disturbing theories are a reflection of the climate in a technological age, Dr. Holcombe said. They reflect a searching by theologians Dr. Holcomb feels is good since the church must take its place in the world, he said.

Religion as seen in a comic strip was discussed by Robert Short, theology scholar at the University of Chicago. Short gave an illustrated lecture showing how he feels the comic strip "Peanuts" portrays the Christian gospel. He said the cartoonist obviously has much to say, as well as other artists. This he approves, Short said, since many people who will not discuss the message of the church will discuss the message in various art forms. Short feels the church has as much right to interpret art as any other group. He is the author of the recent volume "The Gospel According to Peanuts."

Dr. E. L. Copeland to Speak To Ministers' Wives Retreat

When wives of North Carolina Baptist ministers meet for their spiritual retreat July 19-21 on the campus of Southeastern Seminary, one of the featured speakers will be Dr. E. L. Copeland, professor of Missions at the seminary. The theme for the retreat is "Personal Spiritual Enrichment." Dr. Copeland will deal with "Patterns of Spiritual Growth."



Pastors' wives who have not yet reserved a place for the retreat may contact Mrs. David M. Wooten, 3024 Shenandoah Avenue, Charlotte.

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Life in Churches

Maiden Plans New Sanctuary

First Church, Maiden, has voted unanimously to authorize its building committee to accept bids for the construction of a new sanctuary. Estimated cost of the new building is \$225,000. Organized in 1891, the church will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 1966. The congregation hopes that it will be able to occupy the new building sometime during the latter part of its anniversary year. Simultaneously through the work of the building committee, the church's historian is compiling a comprehensive history of the church. Richard E. Hicks is pastor.

Pleasant Home Church of Millers Creek, Brushy Mountain Association, burned the mortgage note on its parsonage recently. A similar service was held exactly 11 years ago when the church made the final payment on the sanctuary and educational building. The second phase of the building program is already under consideration by the church. Plans call for a three story educational building adjacent to the church. Renovation of the existing sanctuary and educational building will complete the proposed plans.

West Hendersonville Church held a dedication and noteburning service for its new parsonage on June 13. In January, 1960, the church purchased a lot on the corner of Willow and Hebron streets for \$12,500. Since that time, the church has paid for the lot and for a parsonage containing three bedrooms, living-dining room, kitchen, study, two baths, garage and a utility room. The relocation project was begun during the pastorate of Ralph Banning. The church received great encouragement during the interim pastorate of M. L. Lewis. The building of the parsonage and the retirement of the debt have taken place during the pastorate of Roy D. Keller. The church is now looking forward to raising funds to complete the relocation project by erecting an adequate building.

Mt. Olivet Church, Franklinton, will observe its Centennial June 27. Key-note address will be delivered by Dr. Sankey L. Blanton, pastor 1929-1931, who is currently director of Public Relations at Meredith College. "The church realizes that its close proximity



WEST HENDERSONVILLE is proud of its new parsonage. Shown left is J. U. Queen, chairman of the trustees with Pastor Roy D. Keller.

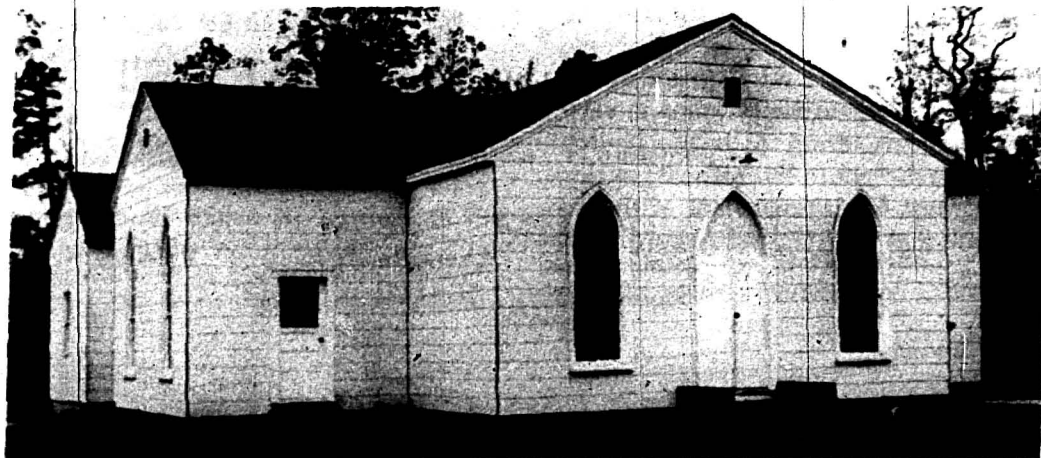


YOUNG PEOPLE of First Church, Bladenboro, turned out in large numbers for the recent Youth Seminar at that church. Part of the group is shown here with State Convention President Howard J. Ford, left, and Pastor Thomas C. Womble. Mr. Ford was one of five visiting speakers at the Seminar.



PLEASANT HOME Church in the Brushy Mountain Association recently completed payment on this \$20,000 parsonage for the pastor, Clinton Bailey. The home is of brick veneer construction consisting of a kitchen, den, dining room, and three bedrooms with one and one-half baths on the living level. The basement level contains two additional bedrooms and a bath.

MT. OLIVET Church, Franklinton, will have a Centennial observance Sunday, June 27. A church history has been prepared to commemorate the occasion. Byard Houck, Jr., is the new pastor.



Life in the Churches

(Continued from page 10)

to Durham, the Research Triangle and Camp Butner has destined it to look to the future," Byard Houck, Jr., new pastor, said this week. "While proudly standing on their past record, our people do not desire to turn back the clock."

Dysartsville Church, Blue Ridge Association, R. L. Crawford, pastor, recently voted to go from half time to a fulltime ministry.

First Church, Bladenboro, enrolled 108 young people in its Youth Seminar with average attendance of 91. Pastor Thomas C. Womble said the week was characterized by informality and a breaking down barriers by an interchange of dialogue with the speakers. "Adults in the community have requested, and plans are being made, for sequel sessions that they may be better informed and in touch with their responsibility," Mr. Womble said.

"The most revealing statements made by the young people during the week indicated their concern about the breakdown of communications with their parents, and the greater need for parents to give time and guidance to their problems. The feeling among the young people was that parents consider their problems a childish phase that will soon pass away."

Seminar speakers included Ned Beatty of Jacksonville, Director of Military Personnel ministries of the State Convention; C. M. Bryan, special agent with the SBI; Dr. Davis Fort, Lumberton obstetrician and gynecologist; D. P. McFarland, director of the Christian Action League and State Convention President Howard J. Ford of Wilmington.

A building plan for a new church to cost an estimated \$213,000, with furnishings, has been adopted by members of **Cross Mill Church, Marion**. The church building burned to the ground last October. Construction is expected to begin the first of September. The new building will be erected some 300 yards from the old church site. A four-acre plot of land has been donated by Eugene Cross, Jr., of Cross Cotton Mills Company. The auditorium in the new church will have a seating capacity of 289, plus a balcony seating 119 and a choir area for 43 persons. Pastor B. M. Strickland said the church has \$97,000 on hand and will



NEW EDUCATIONAL BUILDING for Stevens Chapel Church near Selma was dedicated recently. It provides facilities for nursery through young adult classes and two baths in 2,000 square feet of floor space and cost \$16,500. This amount also included a new heating system. Taking part in the dedication were Charles Vernon Braswell, former pastor of the church now at Trenton; R. E. Moore, Johnston Association's missionary; and Lawrence D. Evans, pastor, inset.

borrow the balance needed for the new church. Since the church burned, the congregation has been using the Eugene Cross School in Marion for its services.

North Rocky Mount Church dedicated its new educational building recently with Jack Bagwell of the State Convention staff bringing the message. An open house was held in the afternoon. The church has been using the new facility for several weeks.

Oaklawn Church, Winston-Salem, has voted to build another educational unit. Work is expected to begin in a few days with completion anticipated by the first of the year. Estimated cost is \$110,000, exclusive of furnishings. The existing educational space was completed in 1962 and a \$97,000 building and renovation program. The church has 532 members and 538 persons enrolled in Sunday school. John Compere is pastor.

First Church, Troy, has gone on record as officially opposing the proposal to legalize ABC stores or the sale of beer, wine or other alcoholic beverages in Montgomery County. The action grew out of the announcement by the county commissioners that an election would be held sometime this year. Marion Parker, pastor of the Troy church, in commenting on the church's action pointed out that "the church, of course, cannot determine the personal action of either the members of the congregation or the community. This would violate a generally accepted Baptist principle one must interpret the Bible for himself under personal guidance from God. But such official action by the congregation is in line with the Church Covenant adopted by the Troy church in 1956 in which a member is expected to abstain from the sale of, and use of,

intoxicating drinks as a beverage."

Dr. John Ithel Jones recently preached expository sermons from the Letter to the Colossians at **Parkwood Church, Gastonia**, where the president of the South Wales Baptist College and his wife were guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Owens, Jr. Dr. Jones is to preach the Congress sermon in Miami on June 28. While in the Gastonia area, he spent three days on the campus of Gardner-Webb College and three days as guest lecturer at Furman University. He also preached two morning services at Myers Park Church in Charlotte and a night service at First Church, Gastonia. He also spoke to the Baptist Ministers Conference of the Gaston Association while Mrs. Jones spoke to the pastors' wives. "His messages are superb examples of what expository preaching ought to be," Mr. Owens said. "Those who hear him in Miami have a treat in store."

Lakeside Church, Rocky Mount, observed its 10th anniversary June 6. The church was organized June 5, 1955. Dr. W. Perry Crouch was visiting speaker for the 10th anniversary services. The church began 10 years ago with 252 members. Today membership is 600; property is valued at \$303,000; and approximately \$590,000 has been given for all purposes in the last decade. Of the total gifts, approximately \$100,000 was designated for mission causes. Clarence E. Godwin has been the church's only pastor. Dr. John W. Kincheloe, Sr., was interim pastor when the church was being organized.

More than 4,000 Southern Baptist churches used stewardship materials during the past year which were prepared with Cooperative Program dollars.



TRANSYLVANIA Association had two outstanding missionary speakers at the annual WMU meeting. They were L. V. Neil, medical missionary to Nigeria and Miss Mildred Blankenship, literacy worker with Home Mission Board. The Transylvania Association has been an honor WMU for three years and two of the churches, Pisgah Forest and Morning-side, have also achieved this honor. Mrs. Jim Peterson is associational WMU president.

75th Anniversary for Jacksonville First; Financial Goal Unique

First Church, Jacksonville, observed its 75th anniversary last Sunday, June 20, as Dr. Julian Hopkins brought the morning message. L. Grady Burgiss, missionary in the Yadkin Association and pastor of the Jacksonville church from 1945-49, spoke at the night service.

Among the unique features of the day was a financial goal of \$2,735.50, all of which will be given through the Cooperative Program to worldwide mission causes. The goal represented 10c per day for each day the church has existed. Members were urged to tithe and, in addition, give \$7.50 per family or 10c per year for each year of the church's life.

In connection with the observance, an attractive brochure was published and distributed among the membership. It was entitled "Seventy Five Years of Grace and Glory." Miss Kathryn Orem, church clerk, wrote a history of the church which is included in the brochure, along with other pertinent information. Deceased deacons R. P. Hinton and A. G. Walton, Sr. were recognized on the first page of the brochure for having served a combined tenure of 82 years as deacons.

The church was organized June 22, 1890, with a nucleus of eight members. The church grew and progressed and by 1930, the small group of 122 members completed a new building of brick veneer at a cost of \$9,000. When the new building was constructed in 1950, the old structure was born down and moved to Nine Mile and is now known as Bethany Baptist Church. The church has had its greatest growth in the last 20 years. In 1945, there were 299 members while today membership is 1,247. Robert Nation has been pastor since 1963.

John W. Hughston, Jr., is the new president of the Home Mission Board. Pastor of Northside Drive Church, Atlanta, he succeeds **W. A. Duncan**, a retired pastor in East Point, Ga. Mr. Duncan rotated off the board following the recent meeting of the SBC in Dallas. The election of Mr. Hughston took place last December to be effective when Mr. Duncan rotated off the board. . . .

Ray Roberts to Preach Convention Sermon In Detroit; Two Colleges Name Presidents

Ray E. Roberts, executive secretary of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, will preach the convention sermon when Southern Baptists hold their 1966 convention in Detroit. A former pastor in North Carolina and Kentucky, Roberts came to Ohio in 1952 as a pioneer missionary. When the Ohio convention was formed in 1954, he was elected executive secretary. **E. Warren Rush**, pastor of Tower Grove Church, St. Louis, was named alternate. . . .

Two Baptist colleges have named new presidents. The new Maryland Baptist College at Walkersville will have **Conwell A. Anderson**, 39, of Marion, Ala., as its first president. He has been president of Judson College, a senior Baptist college for women operated by the Alabama Convention. The college hopes to open during 1967.

. . . **Harold Fisher** of Jackson, Miss., has been elected president of Blue Mountain (Miss.) College, coming to the senior women's college from the Mississippi State Department of Education where he has been assistant director of the division of instruction. Fisher succeeds the late Wilfred C. Tyler who died last April after a brief illness. . . .

Lawrence R. Payne, administrator of Baptist Memorial Hospital, Jacksonville, Fla., since a year before it opened in 1955, has been named to the newly-created position of director of development and expansion for the hospital. . . . **Robert J. Hastings**, secretary of Stewardship and Promotion for Kentucky Baptists for the past five years, has accepted the pastorate of University Baptist Church, Carbondale, Ill., a church he served from 1950 until 1955 when he accepted a staff position with the SBC Executive Committee in Nashville, Tenn. . . .

634 Students Take Up Home Mission Tasks

ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptist Home Mission work this summer will be strengthened by the addition of 634 student summer missionaries.

The students, all with more than two years of college, will work in most states, including 15 in Hawaii, six in Alaska, and three in Panama.

For the first time, Puerto Rico was on the list, with a married couple and a single youth assigned to the Island.

The student home missionaries come from varied and interesting backgrounds and will go to interesting and varied places.

Miss Nella Popow of Miami, Fla., will serve in New York City. She was born in Germany and she speaks German, Russian, and English. Her father preaches to Russian-speaking groups in Florida.

Then there's Mr. and Mrs. David Wyman, students at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

She has a master's degree in psy-

chology and he worked three years as a student mathematician at the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. They will serve in Oregon and Washington.

Dorothy Garrott of Jefferson City, Tenn. and daughter of missionary Max Garrott in Japan, will use her ability to speak Japanese in California.

Not that the experience will help her much, but Floria Broom of Charleston Heights, S. C. has appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show and the Mickey Mouse Club on television.

Floria shouldn't have any trouble getting the attention of juniors during Vacation Bible Schools in Arkansas.

Announcement of the appointments of the student missionaries was made by Beverly Hammack of Atlanta, secretary of the special mission ministries for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The board assigns and directs the work of the student missionaries.

24 N.C. Students in HMB Summer Projects

Twenty-four students from North Carolina are participating in various Home Mission Board projects, this summer. Here is the list the Board provided the RECORDER, with name, hometown, college, and area assigned (in bold face) given in that order:

Martha Carol Allen, Valdese, Mars Hill, **Kansas**; Edwina Bishop, Sylva, Blue Mountain, **Texas**; Deloris Blackwell, Oxford, Campbell, **Oklahoma**; Jacquelyn Bounds, Powellville, Mars Hill, **California**; Norma J. Brown, Greensboro, Guilford College, **Ohio**; Linda Hensley, Bryson City, Carson-Newman, **Illinois**; Joan Hill, Clayton, East Carolina, **New Orleans**; Bette Jackson, Durham, East Carolina, **California**; Rosetta Madison, Brevard, Barber Scotia, **Texas**; Nancy Matheson, Toccoa, Ga., Mars Hill, **Arizona**; Billie Miller, Lenoir, Appalachian State, **Maryland**; Lillie Madison, Brevard, Bennett College, **North Carolina**; Marie Moorefield, Lexington, Wake Forest, **Illinois**; Ernest Ozmore, Jr., Colonial Heights, Va., Campbell, **Virginia**; Mary Lou Stanley, Warrensville, Lees-McRae, **Ohio**; Martha Penley, Hildebran, Mars Hill, **Oklahoma**; Virginia Rogers, Decatur, Ga., Mars Hill, **Ohio**; Ernestine Stowers, Atlanta, Ga., Southeastern Seminary, **Georgia**; Gloria Waterson, Fort Bragg, Campbell, **Cal-**

ifornia; Sandra Wells, Henderson, Mars Hill, **California**; Penelope Crayton, Asheville, Mars Hill, **Georgia** and Hilda Dean, Walkertown, **Arizona**.

Pastors Announced for Music Weeks at Assembly

John R. Link, pastor of the Warrenton Church will serve as Camp Pastor for the Junior Music Camp to be held at the North Carolina Baptist Assembly, Southport, the week of July 5-10. About 400 Juniors are expected for this week of music training in voice, hymnology, choir, theory, worship, and recreation. Reservations can still be made by writing Mr. Fred Smith, Manager.

R. Eugene Owens, Assistant Professor of Preaching, Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest will be the preacher and worship leader for the Church Music Conference at the Assembly July 12-17. This week has come to be one of the highlights of the summer. Approximately 900 will be in attendance.

R. Eugene Owens John R. Link



Mission Accomplished, Mills Home Pastor Says Of Crusade in Brazil

(EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK: A group of North Carolina pastors recently participated in an evangelistic crusade in Brazil. Here are the impressions of one member of the group, Roger Williams, pastor of Mills Home Church, Thomasville.)

Mission accomplished. It isn't always true that such a statement can be made without fear of contradiction; but it is the unanimous feeling of a group of seven North Carolina Baptist ministers who recently participated in the "All Brazil Evangelistic Crusade," sponsored by the Brazilian Baptist Convention.

What would you say of any crusade in a land dominated by other religions, when the results of an evangelistic campaign show a three months gain of more than 50,000 professions of faith? Many churches registered more professions of faith than the total membership of the church at the beginning of the revival. And even though the results all over Brazil show a 20 per cent ratio of new professions of faith when compared with church membership, in Equatorial Brazil (where our North Carolina pastors preached) there was an astonishing 43 per cent professions of faith.

Group director was Herbert M. Baker, pastor of the First Church, Denton. Other Tar Heel pastors were Douglas Farmer, First Church, Erwin; John Solano, Mount Zion Church, Raleigh; Leonard Rollins, Liberty Association missionary, Lexington; Travis Styles, Grove Park Church, Burlington; Thomas Wolfe, Northside Church, Burlington; and the writer.

Adding spice and youthful enthusiasm throughout the journey were two 12-year-old boys: Grey Baker, son of the group director; and Randy Ward, son of Hiram Ward, Baptist deacon and civic leader in Denton.

Also sharing in the evangelistic effort, but not travelling with the above group, was Adrian E. Blankenship of the Derita Church, near Charlotte. Mr. Blankenship, a former missionary to Brazil, was accompanied by his wife and mother.

It is the opinion of each of us, based upon our brief but meaningful experience, that the opportunities of spiritual growth and for harvesting souls are as great in Brazil as they could possibly be anywhere on earth.

Our Continuing Response to Christ

By Roger Branch

Lesson for July 11

Scripture: Philippians 3: 7-16;

Colossians 3: 1-3

Christian life begins with conversion and commitment, but is intended to develop and unfold in constant growth through a continuing relationship with Christ. Like last week's lesson, this one is taken from the writings of Paul and continues the theme of personal Christian development. However, while last week's material was written to Paul's most difficult and rebellious congregation, the bulk of the material in this study was written to the church which gave him the most joy. The words to Corinth were mainly rebuke but these are warmly personal, providing insight into Paul's understanding of the Christian faith and the man himself.

The letter to the Philippians was written near the end of Paul's ministry while he was a prisoner in Rome. It had been a full and fruitful ministry, and he might well have taken pride in what he had achieved. On the contrary, however, the keynote of this passage is aspiration—he had his eyes on spiritual heights yet to be climbed.

True Values

In the verses immediately preceding those used for this lesson, Paul discusses some of the things he once regarded as most valuable. They represent achievements that were already his before his encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus. They include a proper ancestry as a circumcised son of the tribe of Benjamin of the stock of Israel, religious orthodoxy as one bearing the sign of the covenant (circumcision) and faithful to the law, the right religious-political party as a heresy hating and zealous Pharisee, and a moral life as one who carefully observed every aspect of the law and oral religious traditions as well.

Paul's encounter with Christ, however, completely overturned his old sense of values. Those things which he had regarded as accomplishment he now viewed as worthless, even destructive since they tend to produce pride. Furthermore, he gladly surrendered all these gains in exchange for the joyful salvation that he found in Christ.

The reward Paul wanted never changed; it was righteousness. What he gave up was the "righteousness of the law," which is self-achieved by disciplined, perfect observance of every provision of the law. What he gained was "the righteousness of God," which is bestowed as a free

gift by a loving heavenly Father and made effective by that complete personal commitment which is known as faith. No doubt, Paul did suffer great loss of friends, position, power, prestige, ambitions, perhaps family and wealth. He says that he did in fact suffer the loss of everything but considered it useless rubbish. If these stand in the way of the fullest possible fellowship with Christ, they are to be treated as refuse, with contempt and disdain, according to Paul. These things no longer figured in his purposes, because his ambitions were centered upon Christ.

New Aspirations

What goals then did Paul seek? Verses 10 and 11 from the heart of this entire passage because they indicate the direction in which Paul's life was now moving. Several goals are named and they are progressive, but the first is essential. "My object is to know him. . . ." (Barclay)

Knowing Christ, in the Biblical sense, does not mean having all the information about his life. It means knowing him in intimate, personal relationship, and therefore, is open to continuing development just as one comes to know more fully a loved one through shared experiences.

Such knowledge of Christ leads to a knowledge of the power of his Resurrection, which means experiencing that power displayed in the Resurrection focused upon one's own life. It is the power that changes personality, brings victory, instills hope.

Fellowship with Christ also leads to sharing his sufferings, for he clearly teaches that the more like him his followers become the more they can expect to share his fate of antagonism and rejection. Paul saw through to the final step—sharing Christ's suffering can mean sharing his death—and the Apostle was preparing himself for that depth of moral and spiritual courage necessary to follow the Master through that final step.

Beyond the cross a crown! Knowing Christ "means to be so united with Christ that day by day we come more to share in his death, so that finally we share in his Resurrection." (Barclay) Such were Paul's aspirations.

Short of the Goal

The whole point of this lesson is that the great Apostle, for all that he was and had done, did not think of himself as having "arrived" in his spiritual pilgrimage—far from it. After stating his goals, he immediately declares that he has not reached them, that he is not perfect. Perfect here means complete, mature, full-

grown. Therefore, he steadily pressed on toward his objective. But what does Paul mean about trying to "apprehend that for which also I am apprehended by Christ Jesus?" It probably is a play on words meaning Paul is seeking to grasp and fulfill the ministry for which Christ "apprehended" or called him.

The course was clear for Paul, "Lift the eyes, press on and never look back." Past glory, victory, sin, failure or the things that might have—all are fruitless. His eyes were on the marker at the end of the track and the prize to which God was calling him, the prize of final perfection in the likeness of Christ and eternity in his presence. Some people apparently believed that they had already reached perfection, but Paul advised them to maintain an attitude similar to his. He concludes that conduct should always be at least consistent with the level of maturity already reached. Lacking full light, man is obligated to walk in the light he has.

Necessary Conclusion

The passage from Colossians (3: 1-3) is an admonition to spiritual growth by focusing attention upon spiritual matters. The starting point is the Resurrection. The Christian concept is that a man joins Christ in death by putting aside the old selfish, sinful, guilt-laden personality and then is raised with Christ to new life. In essence verse 1 says, "If you are raised with him, if you are new men, act like it." A profound spiritual experience of communion with Christ should produce men of great spiritual interest with Christ at the center of their devotion and aspiration.

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Cross Was Given to Be Borne, Not Burned, Raleigh Pastors Say in Statement on KKK

The Raleigh Baptist Pastors' Conference has approved a strong resolution opposing the Ku Klux Klan. The statement follows:

A STATEMENT OF CONCERN

We the members of the Raleigh Baptist Pastor's Conference wish to warn and advise our fellow citizens of the present dangers posed by the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan is desperately trying to achieve a resurgence, but we believe it will be short-lived. No house built upon the sands of hatred can long survive. While membership in the Klan is relatively small, their bigotry and hatred are infectious and can cause the whole community to suffer.

Contracts Awarded for Physical Education Building at Mars Hill

A long-awaited gymnasium-physical education building at Mars Hill College is about to become a reality. Bids totaling \$1,340,965 for construction of the huge new building were opened June 16. Dickerson, Inc. of Monroe was low bidder on the general contract.

The new building, as yet unnamed, will be the fifth major building erected on the campus within the last 10 years and the 10th one erected during the administration of President Hoyt Blackwell.

Construction is expected to begin July 1 on the 75,000-square-foot building. Henry Gaines, head of Six Associates, Inc. of Asheville, the architect, estimates completion will take 15-18 months.

Dr. Blackwell has emphasized to alumni that the structure will not simply be a place to play basketball but that it will be a physical education building. It will contain a full-size basketball court with seats for approximately 3,000 spectators, but it will also contain other courts, playing areas, dressing rooms, classrooms, rest rooms and offices.

Financing the construction of the building will require an extensive fund-raising campaign, Dr. Blackwell said. Although some funds are on hand and the college has been authorized to borrow \$750,000, a substantial amount still must be raised from alumni and friends.

We defend the right of members of the Klan and everyone else to openly protest and openly demonstrate for their political, social, and religious convictions. However, we regard as anti-Christian and undemocratic any group that preaches hate and has a reputation for violence and the threat of violence to achieve its purposes—whatever these may be.

We regret the exposure of our fellow citizens to the possibility of financial exploitation which has characterized the activity of the Klan in the past.

We protest the efforts of the Klan to pose as a Christian organization. No organization that preaches hate can truly claim to be a part of the Body of Christ. We believe it is sacrilegious for such a group to invoke the name of the God of love and mis-use the cross, the Bible, and the hymns of the Christian faith. The cross was given to be borne, not burned.

We call upon all who follow Christ to have no part in an organization that dishonors His name. Membership in, or support of such an organization is clearly inconsistent with membership in the Body of Christ—His Church.

Southern Baptists are now working with National Baptists in 27 states in which 18,000,000 Negroes reside — a ministry of the Cooperative Program.

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Jacksonville Pastor First to Apply For Health Benefit Plan

The first application for the Health Benefit Plan the Annuity Board has received from North Carolina came from a Jacksonville pastor.

Benjamin M. Smith, Jr., pastor of New River Church, submitted his application May 24, the same day he received information about the new plan.

The Health Benefit Plan is open to all salaried ministers and denominational employees.

Baynard F. Fox, director of the Life and Health Benefits Department of the Annuity Board, said applications are coming in steadily for the Health Plan, which is underwritten by Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Texas.

The Health Plan is more than a usual hospital-surgical plan since it includes major medical benefits also, Fox said.

He added that two unusual features are included in the plan. These are: the same cost to the member regardless of where he may serve and continued protection after retirement at the same cost.

The Health Plan will go into effect as soon as 5,000 members are enrolled, Fox said. Enrollment is expected to close Sept. 1.

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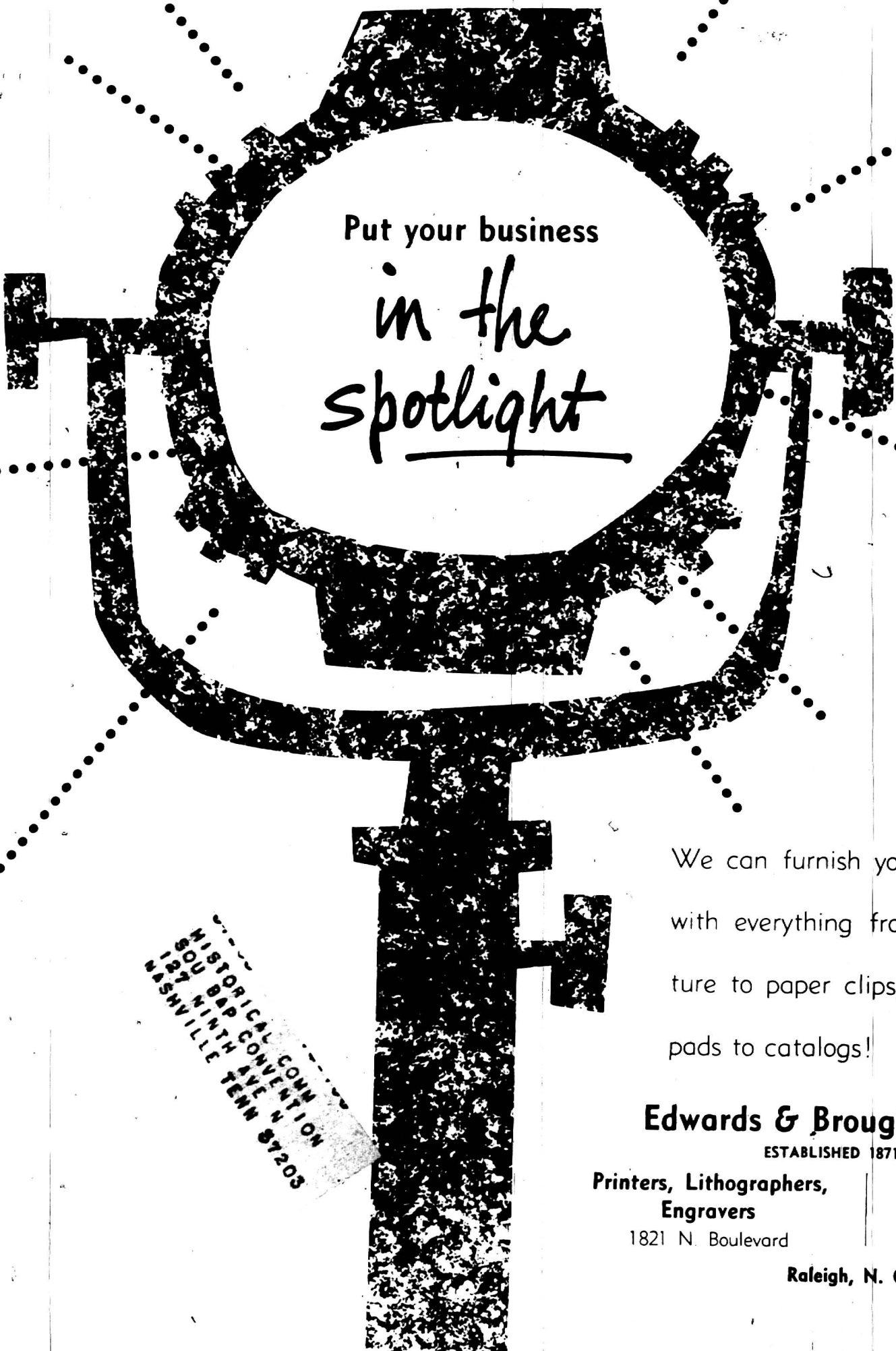
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