

May 19, 1961

For Release: June 1, 1961

Editor's Note: The following is an adaptation of a chapter in a new book, entitled "The New-Time Religion," published June 1 by Prentice-Hall and written by Claire Cox, a staff member of United Press International in New York City and writer of a weekly UPI column on religion. The chapter, which follows one on ministers entitled, "View from the Pulpit," is called:

"Meanwhile, Back at the Manse..."

Busy, Yet Lonely Is
The Preacher's Wife

By Claire Cox for Baptist Press

The minister's wife may be the busiest woman in town--and the loneliest.

While her husband works up to 80 hours a week at an average salary of around \$4500 a year, she puts a good part of her life into the church, too, at NO salary at all.

The clergyman's wife is limited in the friendships she can make within a community and the confidences in which she can indulge. And yet, her life is far from her own. She is constantly being studied by women in the congregation to determine whether she is dressed properly, has her hair combed right or is wearing too much make-up. She cannot wear slacks or hair-curlers to the supermarket or indulge in an afternoon of bridge.

At the same time, she must participate in church activities without seeming to take over. Her home is merely lent to her by the congregation and may be in a state of perpetual activity, with women bursting in to borrow her treasures for a church social as if they were in their own homes.

In the religious upsurge that has swept America since World War II, young women have sought ministers for husbands and parsonages for homes. They harbor naive notions that clergymen make better husbands; that they are more loving, ethical, reliable and understanding than other men; that they have a more sympathetic and less demanding approach to sex. Young women who flock to theological seminaries in search of such husbands have only themselves to blame for any resulting manse misery.

Bill West, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Okmulgee, Okla., has found that every meeting of preachers has brought word of another minister's wife about to break down. He believes the preacher's wife must combat the stresses pulling her in every direction by learning to be herself and educating the congregation to accept her as she is.

What do the ministers' wives themselves say? That is what Mrs. Louie Latimer Owens, of Greenville, S. C., one of the founders of the ministers' wives organization of the Southern Baptist Convention, has tried to find out.

"I have made a survey or two on the most difficult aspect of the minister's wife's life," she said in a letter to the author. "From these I believe that the lack of family life leads all the rest of the complaints. Next to this comes a restricted life imposed on ministers' children, especially socially."

Mrs. Owens said that some ministers' wives participate "much too much in the life of the church," adding: "Most of them hold three church offices besides an average of one denominational office."

As a rule, she said, ministers' wives are expected to do more than they should. Some wives are not trained at all, but more are trained than not.

Mrs. Owens hopes for a brighter future in which wives can make bigger contributions through supporting roles rather than trying to "wear half the harness."

"We've overdone this in the past," she said.

But Mrs. Owens also sees a bright side to the ministerial wife's life. She finds it gives a woman position in the community and provides her with an opportunity to lead and the fulfillment of a desire to serve.

A number of seminaries have allowed wives to audit courses. The Berkeley (Calif.) Baptist Divinity School urges wives to take courses as preparation for their husbands' careers. Several Baptist schools have active student wife groups, which engage in social, educational and spiritual programs. There are lectures on the tasks and responsibilities of the minister's wife and courses in how to conduct a Bible study class, counseling, home decoration and "how to help your husband." There are even some courses for prospective brides of ministers.

One such candidate for basic training in parsonage life was a young woman who also served to prove that clergymen may be right when they say that the girls who turn up on seminary campuses are prettier than run-of-the-mill husband-hunters. This young woman appeared in a beauty contest, and in a low-cut bathing suit, at that.

She was Christine McSwain, of York, S. C., "Miss Tennessee" in the 1960 Miss Universe Contest at Miami Beach. Miss McSwain was a student at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn. She made it clear that, more than being acclaimed the world's most beautiful beauty, "I'd really like to be a pastor's wife."

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE
LLOYD WRIGHT, regional editor
103 Baptist Building, Dallas 1, Texas
Telephone: Office — RIVERSIDE 1-1996
Residence — BLACKBURN 4-6221

May 19, 1961

Scales Named Oklahoma Baptist University Head

SHAWNEE, Okla. (BP)--James Ralph Scales, executive vice president of Oklahoma Baptist University here for the past seven years, was named president of the university by its board of trustees here.

Scales will succeed Dr. John Wesley Raley who recently resigned as president to become chancellor of the university.

The new president has served on the Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU) faculty for 18 years, joining the staff as an instructor in history and government in 1940.

After three years' service as an officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II, Scales returned to OBU as dean of men in 1945.

In 1950 he was named vice president of the university, and elevated to executive vice president in 1954.

President Scales was educated in the Miami, Okla., public schools, Oklahoma Baptist University, Oklahoma University, the University of Chicago, and the University of London.

His father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. Grover Scales, live in Shawnee where the elder Scales is associate pastor of the First Baptist Church.

Scales said on his appointment, "The honor that has come to me today enlarges the debt I already owe to the university. It can be repaid," he said, "only by a renewed dedication to the purpose that gave birth to a struggling college in Shawnee half a century ago."

Chancellor Raley said that his successor is "brilliantly qualified" for the OBU presidency.

Scales is on the board of directors of the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club, and the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). He is also a member of the Oklahoma City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Scales, who is part Cherokee Indian, is active in the work of the Association of American Indian Affairs.

--30--

Folks and facts.....

(5-19-61)

.....Charles Wellborn, pastor of the 3,800-member Seventh and James Baptist Church across the street from Baylor University in Waco, Tex., has resigned effective June 11 to enter Duke University in Durham, N.C., where he will work on the doctor of philosophy degree in religion and Christian ethics. (BP)

--30--

SW Grads Told Space Age
Demands Concept Of God

FORT WORTH (BP)--The secretary general of the Baptist World Alliance told 229 graduates of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here that the current space age demands a more adequate conception of God.

Josef Nordenhaug of Washington, D.C., told the seminary graduates in the spring commencement address that most people today have an inadequate concept of God.

"No one knows God perfectly," Nordenhaug said, "but some think that God is just a chum whom you can slap on the back."

He told 1,600 persons attending the ceremonies that people today also need a new meaning of grace and a new conception of faith.

"Faith isn't trying to believe something that is unreasonable, neither is it just believing a set of doctrines or magic," he said. "Rather it is a commitment to what one believes."

Nordenhaug criticized Baptist churches for settling down and becoming "a company of cautious souls calculating the cost before acting. Our fight isn't real, but is only a show," he charged.

"In the space age our wistfulness brings us back to a slower age, yet we don't live with it," he said. "Our sufficiency is in God for the space age."

Dr. Robert E. Naylor, Southwestern Seminary president, presented diplomas and degrees to the graduates.

--30--

Leonard Hollaway Named
VP Of Church PR Firm

(5-19-61)

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Leonard L. Hollaway, former public relations director for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, has been named executive vice president of Arthur Davenport Associates, a public relations firm here specializing in church promotional materials.

An ordained Baptist minister, the 38-year-old public relations man will create and design new church promotional materials and serve as public relations consultant for special accounts.

Hollaway will assist the firm's president, Arthur Davenport who is the former public relations director for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, in improving and expanding existing services and materials. He assumes the post June 19.

For the past two years Hollaway has served as executive secretary for Christian Men, Inc., a national layman's research organization, and as executive vice president of the H. E. Butt Foundation in Corpus Christi, Tex. He programmed and coordinated the 1960 and 1961 international Christian Leadership Conferences in Miami Beach, Fla.

Hollaway, a past president of the Southern Baptist Public Relations Association, is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and holds a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma.

--30--

Folks and facts.....

(5-19-61)

.....Robert E. Naylor, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, delivered the baccalaureate address at Hardin-Simmons University graduation exercises in Abilene, Tex. (BP)

--30--

Baylor Grants Doctorate
To Texas Baptist Leader

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Baylor University conferred an honorary doctor of laws degree upon Edward N. Jones, secretary of the Texas Baptist Christian Education Commission, during 1961 commencement exercises here.

Jones, who served on the Baylor science faculty and as dean of Baylor's college of arts and sciences for a total of 17 years, was commencement speaker for the world's largest Baptist school.

Baccalaureate sermon was delivered by Brooks H. Wester, pastor of the Park Place Baptist Church in Houston.

Before becoming head of the vast Texas Baptist Christian education program, Jones served as president of Texas College of Arts and Industry in Kingsville, Tex., and as president of Texas Technological College in Lubbock, Tex.

Jones holds the bachelor of science degree from Ottawa University, Ottawa, Kans., the doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Iowa in Iowa City, and an honorary doctor of laws degree from Ottawa University.

--30--

Seminary Speaker Fears
Misconception Of Ministry

(5-19-61)

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Expressing a fear that many people misunderstand the modern ministry, the principal speaker at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary commencement exercises told 134 graduates that they must never forget the minister's main business is preaching the Gospel.

Chester L. Quarles of Jackson, Miss., executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, warned the young preachers in the commencement address that "there are many prices to pay in being a true and faithful follower of the Lord Jesus."

Earlier during the two-day commencement program, George C. Capps, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Parsons, Tenn., told an Alumni Day audience that "our supreme concern is that others may come to faith in God through Jesus Christ."

Speaking on "The Spirit of a Christian Minister," Capps said that everyone must recognize his own personal responsibility to God.

In the commencement address the following day, Quarles said that the way for anyone to be successful in this "fearful life" is to depend completely upon the Lord.

Stressing the necessity of the modern church worker being "many things to many people," Quarles said that the minister must be an educator, a counselor, a promoter, an administrator, a civic worker and a student.

"Therefore," he said, "he must study diligently and constantly in order that he might be able to effectively and intelligently present the Word of God."

He warned, however, that many times the faithful minister or servant of God would feel that he is all alone in the stand of conviction.

Degrees and awards were presented to the 134 candidates by seminary President Leo H. Eddleman.

--30--

Folks and facts.....

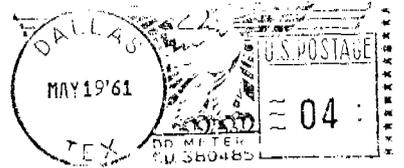
(5-19-61)

.....Mrs. C. E. Matthews, wife of the late director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Dallas, died May 17 of an apparent stroke. Funeral services were held at Travis Avenue Baptist Church here.

--30--

BAPTIST PRESS

103 BAPTIST BUILDING
DALLAS 1, TEXAS



FIRST CLASS

Mr. Theo Sommerkamp
127 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville 3, Tennessee

A CO-OPERATIVE TEXAS AND SOUTHERN BAPTIST NEWS SERVICE
WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE