



# --- FEATURES

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75-69

Man Need d A Friend; So He  
Called 'Friendship House'

By Tim Nicholas

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Frank needed a friend.

He was out of work.

While looking up another religious group in the phone book, he found the name Friendship House here.

"It caught my eye," he says. "I really wanted to talk to someone."

So he called John Campbell, director of Friendship House, one of approximately 40 Southern Baptist centers operated by the Home Mission Board across the country.

Campbell helped Frank get rent money, and began counseling with him on a regular basis, helping him hunt for a job.

"A lot of people come off the street because of our name," says Campbell, a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Kent School of Social Work, both in Louisville, Ky.

"It's catchy when they're looking for a friend," he said.

Besides the counseling, Friendship House offers other crisis ministries including clothing sales, food distribution, and occasionally financial assistance, as do most of the other Baptist centers.

Friendship House, only four blocks from New Orleans' French market, doesn't just minister to people on a drop-in basis.

Extended ministries include tutoring, a state-licensed day care program, and age-group clubs in the spacious center whose classroom complex resembles a motel.

"We visit in the homes of the children who come to our programs," says Campbell.

"Parents know this place only as a great big building and seldom get here. But when they need help, they'll turn to people they know."

The staff, which includes Judy Lide, and Linda Pierce, Campbell's associates, and several student interns from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and other local colleges and seminaries, tries to get to know the children and parents.

The day care program, which accommodates 35 children (with play therapy available for children with mild emotional disturbances) provides two daily food supplements prepared by the state department of education, and uses U.S. commodities such as turkey, flour and peanut butter.

Campbell reels off ideas and plans for ministry. "We want to be more task oriented to particular needs, such as parents with children who have disciplinary problems.

"We've volunteered the center for the beginnings of a nutrition program for senior citizens."

"From early morning to late at night," he smiles through his beard, "I'd like to hear people noises in this building."

## Mobile Crusades Reach Kenya's Rural People

NAIROBI, Kenya (BP)--The month-long, nationwide, evangelistic crusade needed to be mobile to reach Kenya's primarily rural population. So, mobile it was.

The crusade team, headed by E.J. Daniels of Florida, found itself preaching not only in the stadiums of Kenya's five or six main urban areas, but at the foot of a mountain and on a sugar-plantation.

The service at the foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro was attended by 15,000 with 1,500 definite decisions made for Christ. Attendance at the sugar plantation reached 8,000, mostly workers there, and the decisions numbered 600-700.

The stadium meetings were extremely well received, too, according to Southern Baptist missionary Dale G. Hooper. Held for three to five days in four places, plus a one day meeting in another, attendance usually ran about 5,000 per meeting.

More than 15,000 decision cards were completed in the stadium meetings and church services, with more than half first-time decisions.

Included in the evangelistic team were nine pastors from the United States who preached in the churches of each area immediately prior to the rally meetings. In preparation for the crusade, special days of preaching were held throughout the country in November and December.

In all areas of the crusade, follow-up by Baptist churches was underway immediately. Leaders seemed determined the crusade would not end with the departure of the team, Hooper said.

Miss Skeeter Davis, country and western singer, was the most popular member of the team, Hooper said. The Grand Ole Opry star sang to a near-full house the first night in Nairobi and to an overflow crowd the second. She also performed in Mombasa. During the concerts, she shared her Christian "testimony and witness" through music.

A distinctive feature of the Mombasa crusade was the involvement of the Baptist seminary in Arusha, Tanzania. Classes closed and the entire student body and most of the faculty helped with the meeting. They "witnessed" door to door and held preaching meetings anywhere and everywhere they could find a group of people, Hooper said.

The E.J. Daniels evangelistic association underwrote the finances for the project with churches in the United States making it possible for their pastors to come.

On the last afternoon as Daniels preached outdoors, a collision between a bus and a pickup truck just 110 yards from them lured away a crowd of 2,500 people who rushed to see the accident.

Miss Davis came forward and began singing. The crowd quietly returned to their places, leaving only a few to attend the accident.

Daniels continued his sermon and 250 responded to the invitation.

He was preaching on "you cannot predict the future."



## BAPTIST PRESS

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### "Pressure Campaigns" Not Effective With Broadcasters

FORT WORTH (BP)--Although proper protest can be effective, the thousands of letters mailed to TV networks by irate church people may not have been worth the stamps it took to mail them, a broadcast executive said here.

Mike Shapiro said that the networks, program sponsors and members of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recognize such letters for what they are--"church pressure campaigns"--who don't give them the attention the writers hope for.

Shapiro, president of Belo Broadcasting Corp., which owns WFAA-TV in Dallas and KFDM-TV in Beaumont, Tex., as well as two Dallas radio stations, addressed participants in the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission's second annual media consultation.

"To inform your congregation, from the pulpit, of what to say in the letter or to hand out forms requesting your members to copy and sign them, or even to solicit petitions with 100's of names on them, is not one-tenth as effective in getting your message across as simply telling your church members to write--in their own words--a good, constructive letter," Shapiro said.

Such a letter would be treated as an individual expression and not one from an organized pressure approach, he said. "Advertisers pay a great deal of attention to a constructive, well written letter outlining the writer's feelings.

Shapiro urged pastors to tell their members to support good children's TV programs. "If th program is beneficial to children, tell the congregation to write a complimentary letter sometime," he said.

Shapiro said the country has been described frequently as living with a "new morality" but that "Americans in ever-increasing numbers are now expressing very deep and serious concern about the new morality displayed on the TV screens in their homes."

Broadcasting has a responsibility, he said, to keep in mind what kind of programs are beamed into the living rooms of the country. "We ask, who is responsible--the parents, the networks, the station, the FCC, Congress--for what the young people see.

"Well, all of broadcasting must be responsible and responsive and broadcasters must make the decisions, not somebody in Washington.

"The strong moral values that we all grew up with and that made this country great are being shattered. TV didn't start the new morality but by portraying it nightly, it certainly is fanning the flames and making it seem acceptable."

Shapiro cited a speech evangelist Billy Graham made during a National Association of Broadcasters meeting when Graham said that TV, as the most powerful medium, can do more to return this country to stability, unity and basic moral values than any one other force.

The Dallas broadcast leader sounded a solemn note in describing the churches use of "that most powerful medium:"

"For too many years the churches have been talking to themselves," he charged. "Since the early days of TV, most religious programming has been anchored to Sunday morning and the church remote (broadcasts) are beamed to the shut-ins who are normally church goers who already have the churches' message.

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"No longer will the mass TV audience respond to the pulpit, the minister, and the stained glass window behind him. When you tell the viewer in advance that he is going to be preached to, that he is going to receive moral or cultural values, or that he is going to be educated, he will jump up and change the dial before the opening credits are even finished," Shapiro said.

He said the Radio and Television Commission's work has been "on the right track for years. The Radio and TV Commission couches moral values and a belief in people and God within the confines of a professionally-produced program which can compete with any entertainment programming on other channels," he said. "This is the only way to take advantage of TV," he emphasized.

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Son of Missionaries named  
Ambassador to South Africa

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WASHINGTON (BP)--William G. Bowdler, son of emeritus Southern Baptist missionary Ruth (Mrs. George A.) Bowdler and the late Mr. Bowdler, has been named U. S. Ambassador to South Africa.

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where his parents were missionaries for 37 years, Bowdler is a graduate of the University of Richmond, a Baptist school in Virginia, and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.

Bowdler began his career with the Department of State in 1950 and has held various positions in the field of international and foreign relations. He has been stationed in Washington, Cuba, Guatemala and El Salvador, and he holds the rank of career minister.

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Hinson Gets Grant To Study  
Protestant Teaching Authority

Baptist Press  
4/30/75

LOUISVILLE (BP)--E. Glenn Hinson, professor of church history at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here, has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada to do a year's sabbatical leave field research in Rome examining the teaching authority of the Protestant church.

Hinson will also serve as interim pastor of Rome Baptist Church.

He chose Rome as the site for his study because of the teaching authority of the Catholic Church. "I will be in the midst of where Christianity had its beginnings," said Hinson, who holds earned doctorates from both Southern Seminary and Oxford University.

Final authority in the Roman church has been pinpointed, according to Hinson, and from this base he hopes to isolate the connection between the individualism reflected in Protestantism and the delineated authority of Rome.

From his research, the church history professor plans to write a book about the teaching authority of the Protestant church.

The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada was formerly the American Association of Theological Schools.

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