

March 6, 1960

**Liquor Hearing Held
By Mississippians**

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--Several hundred Mississippi Baptist pastors and other church leaders from every section of the state packed the state Senate chamber here in the State Capitol during a public to protest a local option liquor bill now before that body.

Local option legalization bills have already been approved by the temperance committees in both houses of the state legislature and are scheduled to come before the two houses in the near future.

Leaders speaking at the public hearing included Chester L. Quarles, Jackson, Baptist state executive secretary-treasurer, and C. M. Day, state director of temperance activities. Also speaking were leaders from Methodist and Presbyterian groups. Mississippi is the only state in the union with statewide prohibition.

-30-

**200 Music, Education
Men At Wake Forest**

(3-5-60)

WAKE FOREST, N. C.--(BP)--More than 200 Baptist leaders in the field of church music and religious education ended a three-day workshop at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Professor John T. Wayland of the Southeastern faculty warned workers about the dangers of constructing divided chancels in Baptist churches. Said Wayland, "Our Baptist churches should consider very carefully the dangers to a fruitful evangelical witness to be found in the adoption and use of the divided chancel. It divides the written and spoken work, promotes a strong division between the clergy and laity, and takes the communion table away from the people."

Other workshop leaders included F. L. Lee Whittlesey, Highland Park Methodist Church, Dallas, Tex.; S. L. Stealey, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest; Loren Williams, W. L. House; and Donald Minton, from staff of Baptist Sunday School Board of Nashville, Tenn.

Presiding officers were: Verl Capps, First Baptist Church, James Berry, Myers Park, Charlotte, N. C.

The North Carolina Baptist Religious Education and Music Association voted unanimously to conduct another such workshop at Southeastern Seminary next year.

-30-

**Alabama 1959 Annual
Received From Press**

(3-6-60)

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--(BP)--The 1959 Alabama Baptist State Convention Annual was published here, listing a record number of members, churches, and organizations.

The annual shows all time high of 691,135 Alabama Baptists in 2,805 churches. This is compared with 668,830 members of 2,785 churches in Alabama in 1958.

Other figures listed 501,045 in Sunday school, breaking the half million mark for the first time, and 216,958 in Training Union nearly 14,000 over the previous year's total.

The Woman's Missionary Union of Alabama has 101,856 members for an increase of 6,000 and the Brotherhood showed a gain of about 200 members.

-more-

Total gifts for all causes hit a record of \$28,496,233, a gain of \$2 million over 1958. Cooperative Program gifts for Alabama were \$2,982,742 for more than \$200,000 increase. Designated gifts were \$1,001,669.

-30-

Carlson Asks Question
Of Presidential Role

(3-6-60)

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--Do Americans expect the President to give them religious leadership or does their concept of separation of church and state relieve him of that responsibility?

That question is raised by C. Emanuel Carlson, Washington, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in the latest issue of the Brotherhood Journal published here.

Writing on the topic of "The Religious Role of the President," Carlson says the distinction between civic and religious leadership has become cloudy lately and some churchmen are looking to the White House for religious leadership.

With the growing prospects of the White House becoming first prize in a religious contest, Carlson suggests Americans think seriously on the question of just what religious leadership they do want from the government.

The significance of the President's influence on religious life can be seen, he indicates, when one considers that it touches the military and the judiciary and is felt around the world.

Carlson suggests Southern Baptists consider these principles:

1. The intent of the Constitution is to have a government that does not involve itself in the religious programs of the American people.
2. Respect both the letter and spirit of the Constitution when it prohibits religious tests for public offices and leave Americanism as a non-religious series of values which can be defended by any free and local American.
3. Base the selection of Presidential candidates on values which go beyond the narrow political prospects of party success or economic advantage.
4. Apply "separation" to the administration as well as to Congress.

"People should respect the President's position for what it is and restrain their temptation to ask more and more of him," Carlson writes.

The Brotherhood Journal is a quarterly magazine of the Brotherhood Commission, Southern Baptist Convention

-30-

Foundation Says 1950's
A Decade Of Growth

(3-6-60)

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The Southern Baptist Foundation here reports that its average rate of return on invested funds during 1959 was 5.09 per cent, the highest percentage in the agency's history.

It distributed net earnings in excess of \$150,000 to beneficiaries which include individuals as well as agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The average rate of return on annuity funds--6.01 per cent--was the greatest of any accounts. It enabled the foundation to make all payments to annuitants out of earnings, according to Executive Secretary J. W. Storer of Nashville.

Trust assets of the Foundation now stand at \$4,131,999 and will probably pass the \$6 million mark by Dec. 31, 1961, Storer adds. These funds are entrusted to the SBC agency by donors to Baptist causes and also include reserve funds of Convention agencies.

-more-

The trust fund increased \$1,469,207 during 1959. The Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, accounted for \$921,000 of that amount when depositing its printing reserve. Individual trusts and gifts made up most of the remaining \$500,000.

Withdrawals from the trust fund were \$687,780, chiefly funds held by the Southern Baptist Foundation for building and campus development at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City and Carver School of Missions and Social Work in Louisville, Ky.

The 5.09 per cent was on approximately \$2½ million in its pool account, funds for which the Foundation seeks the best investment sources. It has other funds which it services but only in the manner directed by the person or agency. It has no discretion as to investment of these serviced funds.

About \$1 million of Southern Baptist agency reserves are serviced, and the foundation invests another approximately \$1 million for the agencies.

During the decade of the 1950's, the Foundation reports that its net increases in trust fund assets and net increases in returns from investments increased rapidly. At the same time, according to Storer, operating expenses increased at a rate much less than income and assets.

Here are the comparisons:

| | <u>1950</u> | <u>1959</u> | <u>Per Cent</u> |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Net Trust Fund Balance | \$392,048 | \$4,131,999 | 1054 |
| Net Earnings | \$ 13,162 | \$ 150,174 | 1141 |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 12,278 | \$ 31,064 | 253 |

-30-

Folks & facts.....

.....Miss Neta Stewart, for the past seven years an associate in the Mississippi Baptist Training Union department, Jackson, will become director of Junior and Intermediate Baptist work at First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., effective Mar. 15.

-0-

....."Youth's World in the Light of God's Word" is an evangelistic radio program recently inaugurated by a group of students from Ouachita College of Arkadelphia, Ark. Aim of the program is to spread the Gospel to the youth of Arkansas. It consists of testimonies, music, and brief gospel messages. The program is broadcast over station KVRC, Arkadelphia, and station KTCS, Ft. Smith, Ark.

-30-

Pollard Lauds Teletype
Service Now Operating

(3-6-60)

NASHVILLE--(BP)--President Ramsey Pollard of the Southern Baptist Convention praised the Convention's new teletype network as a means of "spreading the good news."

The Knoxville, Tenn., minister said the service would "undergird every agency and institution we have."

Here is the full text of his message on the teletype network, first of its kind to be installed for religious organizations:

"This is a most significant occasion. For the first time in history, a denomination has installed its own teletype network linking together agencies, news media, and institutions of every kind. Baptists have not heretofore taken full advantage of the tremendous power of public relations. Other denominations have far surpassed us in many areas of this nature. Some have criticized newspapers, television,

-more

and radio stations for our lack of coverage of our tremendous Baptist activities. And the fault was our own. We did not give the news to the proper people at the right time.

Now the picture is changed. Southern Baptists are delighted with this momentous step in the right direction. The world will know what we are doing. Our own people will have a new sense of comradeship. This service will increase the already wonderful spirit of co-operation.

This teletype network will undergird every agency and institution we have. Our people need and want information concerning our world-wide ministry. As information is given our interest and participation will increase. We have much to tell. It is not in the spirit of braggadocio or unworthy pride that we tell of our accomplishments. We praise God for our six seminaries with 6134 students, and for our 51 Baptist colleges and universities with the enrollment of 43,000. We are proud of the multiplicity of children's homes and hospitals owned and operated by Southern Baptists.

Southern Baptists and the world need to know that we are 9½ million strong, that we are 31,906 churches held together not by ecclesiastical chains but with the tender and strong ties of common interest and convictions.

Let the teletype spread the news that last year we won and Baptized 419,000 souls.

Spread the good news that Baptists believe in complete and absolute religious freedom for all men. Let the wires sing of our fight for the separation of church and state and our continuing battle against compulsion in religion. Let the world know of our good will for men of every race and creed.

This network will tell of the evangelistic victories around the world. It will proclaim the power of Christ's redeeming blood. The words flashing across the miles will speak of his reforming might.

Now, let us use this modern invention, let us give news when it is news. The editors of our state papers will find the teletype network an important help in giving our people interesting and vital news.

Our agencies have a new friend. Tell Southern Baptists of your conquests. Let them know the news. Let us be grateful to God for giving us leaders who are alert, who are not afraid of doing the unique in providing this essential service. Trust God and tell the people is our motto. Welcome teletype network to our fellowship. You have come at a good time. We need you.

Ramsey Pollard,
President of the Southern Baptist Convention

-30-

Amarillo Woman Left Baptists Estate Funds

NASHVILLE--(BP)--An Amarillo, Tex., woman--Mrs. Ethel H. Proper--- left part of her estate to the Southern Baptist Foundation here to benefit Baptist causes.

J. W. Storer of Nashville, Foundation executive secretary, said that the final settlement has not been reached but that the will probably provides more than \$50,000 for Baptists.

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., will receive the income from the Baptist bequest, set up in the form of a trust. It will be known as the Ethel H. Proper Trust Fund.

-30-