

December 13, 1953

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

MAJOR BAPTIST BUSINESS SESSION  
CONVENES IN NASHVILLE, TENN.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—(BP)—Two major meetings and twenty-one subsidiary meetings will bring 500 Southern Baptist leaders to Nashville this week. The men and women will come from twenty-five states in which Southern Baptists have most of their churches, including Oregon, California, Florida, and Maryland.

Two major meetings are required by their by-laws to meet in Nashville at this time, the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Baptist Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Executive Committee will convene Wednesday and Thursday. The Sunday School Board will meet Tuesday and Wednesday. The other meetings are held in Nashville this week because many of the members serve on more than one committee or board and by scheduling them close together, excessive traveling by the members can be avoided.

The Executive Committee, C. C. Warren, Charlotte, N. C., president and Porter Routh, Nashville, executive secretary, will meet Wednesday morning, December 16, 9:30 a.m. at the Baptist Sunday School Board. The Committee will consider the 1955 Southern Baptist Convention mission and education budget which is expected to be near ten million dollars. It will also hear reports from sub-committees and secretaries. The Committee has thirty-two members.

The Baptist Sunday School Board will meet Tuesday evening in an executive session and Wednesday, December 16, at 9:00 a.m., W. F. Powell, Nashville, is president and James L. Sullivan, Nashville, executive secretary. The Board will consider progress made in 1953 and plans for 1954. Special consideration will be given to enlargement of the summer assemblies at Ridgecrest, N. C., and Glorieta, N. Mex. The Board has forty-seven members.

One of the largest of the other meetings will be the Evangelistic Conference that will meet at the First Baptist Church for a two-day session, beginning at 9:30 a.m., Monday, C. E. Matthews, Dallas, secretary of evangelism for the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be in charge. Plans will be discussed for a national simultaneous revival crusade in the

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spring of 1955 and for the new program of co-operation in evangelism with the National Baptist Convention, Inc., a Negro group. Approximately 100 evangelistic leaders will attend.

Another group of equal size, the Stewardship Promotion Conference, will meet Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon at the Baptist Sunday School Board. J. Norris Palmer, chairman, and Merrill D. Moore, associate secretary of the Executive Committee, will preside.

The program includes an address Tuesday evening by H. C. Brearley, Peabody College, Nashville, on "The Changing South and Baptist Leadership," and an address Wednesday afternoon by Albert McClellan, associate secretary of the Executive Committee, on "Get Ready for Tomorrow." Moore will report on the extent of co-operation of Southern Baptist churches in the stewardship revivals for 1953, and will propose a program for advance in stewardship in the fall of 1954. More than 100 leaders in promotion will attend the sessions.

Other groups to meet include:

SUNDAY SCHOOL SECRETARIES, Monday, December 14, 9:00 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board Chapel, J. N. Barnette, Nashville, chairman. The secretaries will discuss plans for completing the drive to add a million new people to the Sunday school rolls in 1954.

INTER-SEMINARY COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST SEMINARIES, Monday, December 14, 9:00 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board. Roland Q. Heavell, New Orleans, La., chairman. The conference will discuss ways and means of unifying the administrative policies of Southern Baptist's five seminaries. Five seminary presidents and ten professors will take part in the discussions.

TRAINING UNION SECRETARIES, Monday, December 14, 9:30 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board Building. J. E. Lambdin, chairman. State workers will lead discussions on age-group work, Nursery through Adult, and associational work. Plans for the organization of Training Unions in 3,000 additional Baptist churches were set up in the state Baptist Training Union planning meetings held in October and November. Twenty will be present.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, A sub-committee of the Executive Committee. Tuesday, December 15, 9:00 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board. The Committee will consider the 1955 Southern Baptist Convention budget. There are five members of the Committee.

CHURCH MUSIC SECRETARIES, Monday, December 14, 9:30 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board Building, W. Hines Sims, Nashville, chairman. The secretaries will plan an advance program for betterment of Southern Baptist music. Approximately fifteen will participate.

COMMISSION FOR SEMINARY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT, Tuesday, December 15, 9:00 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board, Lee Gallman, Jackson, Miss., secretary. The Commission will discuss new courses of study to be offered by correspondence to ministers in states where the extension does not have work, and will hear a progress report from Secretary Gallman. Ten seminary professors will attend.

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THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES, Tuesday, December 15, 9:00 a.m., Hermitage Hotel. Auguste Henry, Oklahoma City, Okla., president. The group will report on total investments and earnings and will discuss promotion of a will making month for Southern Baptists. Seventeen secretaries will attend.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY ROYAL AMBASSADOR WORK, Tuesday, December 15, 9:00 a.m., First Baptist Church, Robert E. Naylor, chairman. This Committee is considering a plan for transferring the special work being done for boys by the Woman's Missionary Union to the Baptist Brotherhood. Approximately ten members will attend.

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION SECRETARIES, Tuesday, December 15, 9:00 a.m., Sam Davis Hotel, Kearnie Keegan, Nashville, secretary. Various phases of the student program of work will be covered and goals and dates for the 1954 conventions will be outlined.

COMMITTEE ON ORDER OF BUSINESS, Tuesday, December 15, 3:00 p.m., Baptist Sunday School Board Building, Dale Cowling, Little Rock, Ark., chairman. Formation of the program for the annual Southern Baptist Convention to be held in Saint Louis, Mo., next June 2-6 will be considered. Ten members will be present.

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION COMMISSION, Tuesday, December 15, 5:30 p.m., Sam Davis Hotel, Louie D. Newton, Atlanta, Ga., chairman. A special committee to consider the future of the problem of ministerial education. Ten will attend.

COMMITTEE ON DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR, Wednesday, December 16, 5:15 p.m., Sam Davis Hotel, Albert McClellan, Nashville, chairman. Plans for the calendar of activities for the denomination in 1955 will be made. Twelve will attend.

STATE BROTHERHOOD SECRETARIES CONFERENCE, Opening session Thursday, December 17, 9:30 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board, A. S. Newman, Alexandria, La., president. The secretaries will discuss (1) a proposed plan for sponsoring organization of boys in church work, (2) promotion of young men brotherhoods. A highlight of the two-day meeting will be a dinner at Belmont College under the auspices of the Tennessee Baptist Brotherhood, E. N. Melzell, Nashville, secretary. Twenty state secretaries will attend.

INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL, Thursday, December 17, 7:30 p.m., Baptist Sunday School Board Building, Clifton J. Allen, Nashville, chairman. Annual meeting for discussion of related programs of work of the co-operating agencies. Ten are expected to attend.

THE COMMITTEE ON PROPOSED SOUTHERN BAPTIST ENCYCLOPEDIA, Monday, December 14, 7:30 p.m., Baptist Sunday School Board, Charles W. Pope, Nashville, chairman, Norman W. Cox, Nashville, convener. The Committee will discuss plans for financing, size of the encyclopedia, editorial procedures, and scheduling. Forty members will attend.

PRESS AND PUBLICITY REPRESENTATIVES, Tuesday, December 15, at 7:30 a.m., Sam Davis Hotel, Joe Abrams, Jackson, Miss., convener. The group, state and convention-wide press and publicity representatives, is expected to form a permanent organization. Seventeen will attend.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST PRESS ASSOCIATION, Wednesday, December 16, 7:00 a.m., Sam Davis Hotel, W. Parry Garrett, Phoenix, Ariz., president. The group will complete plans for their annual meeting at Biloxi, Miss., February 9-11. They also are expected to consider resolutions relating Christianity to present day moral and social life. Twenty state Baptist editors will attend.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE FOR RURAL CHURCH CONFERENCE, Monday, December 14, 10:00 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board Building, S. F. Dowis, Atlanta, Ga., secretary. The group will plan for the first national rural church conference in Atlanta, May 11-14, 1954, to be attended by 3,000 rural pastors. There are ten members of the Committee.