

June 18, 1959

Minister's Last Words:
'I've Been Promoted'

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The last words of the late Dr. William F. Powell, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church here, were recounted during funeral services held in the church he had served for 34 years.

On the night of his death, Dr. Powell had been to nearby Smyrna, Tenn., for the commencement exercises of the vacation Bible school of its First Baptist Church, where Dr. Powell was interim pastor.

The 81-year-old minister was on his way back to Nashville with friends when their car passed a state highway patrol station on the outskirts of the city.

"You know, I've been a chaplain in the highway patrol, don't you?" Dr. Powell observed. In his familiar, grandiose way of expressing things--and adding a touch of humor--Dr. Powell continued, "They've just informed me I'm an honorary inspector. That means I've been promoted."

The couple in whose car Dr. Powell was riding chuckled and continued to drive into the city. After a few minutes, they addressed a remark to Dr. Powell and received no answer.

It was then that they discovered Dr. Powell had suffered a fatal heart attack only a few seconds after uttering the words, "I've been promoted."

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Executive Committee
Charter Member Dies

MEMPHIS--(BP)--James Carl McCoy, 74, one of the few remaining charter members of the reorganized Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, died here June 12.

A pastor and denominational worker in Tennessee most of his life, McCoy was serving a church in Albuquerque, N. M., at the time he was elected to the Executive Committee in 1927. It was in that year the Executive Committee took on status as an organization with a full-time executive secretary.

McCoy was a native of Batesville, Arkansas but was reared in Colorado. His early ministry was in Oklahoma territory. He was a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

For over 16 years he served as superintendent of missions for Shelby County (Memphis) Association, retiring Jan. 1, 1957. Remaining active in associational life, McCoy last fall introduced new pastors at the annual session of the association.

Survivors include his widow, a son, and other relatives.

Funeral service was conducted here at Temple Baptist Church, where he was pastor for almost 10 years.

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Seminary Extension Has
Pacific Area Worker

(picture for Baptist editors enclosed)

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--D. Eugene Wallace of the extension department, California Baptist College, Riverside, Calif., has been named associate in the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension Department. He will serve the Pacific coast area.

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The appointment of Wallace was announced by Lee Gallman, Jackson, director of the Seminary Extension Department here. The department is supported by the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries.

Wallace will cover the western states of Arizona, Nevada, California, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. The Seminary Extension Department will work co-operatively with Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz., and California Baptist College in promoting work in these areas.

Wallace has a B.A. degree from Grand Canyon College, a B.D. and Th.M. from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Berkeley, Calif., and a Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh. His major was theology and evangelism.

He has been pastor of churches in Texas, California, and Arizona, and worked as a student missionary in northern California under the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

During the 1958-59 session, Wallace taught Bible in California Baptist College and also served as director of the extension program.

For the present, Wallace and his family will continue to live in Riverside. Later they will locate in central California.

Gallman said that an associate for the east coast area will be announced soon.

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Brooks Hays To Get Lay Churchman Award

ST. LOUIS--(BP)--An inter-faith committee of 500 religious leaders and writers has chosen Brooks Hays, immediate past president of the Southern Baptist Convention, as lay churchman of the year.

The award will be presented to Hays, Washington, D. C., and Little Rock, Ark., attorney, by Religious Heritage of America, Inc. The organization also named a clergyman of the year and a churchwoman of the year.

The three religious leaders were honored at a banquet in Washington, D. C.

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