

September 6, 1959

Kentucky Survey  
Committee Reports

MIDDLETOWN, Ky.--(BP)--The executive board of the General Association of Kentucky Baptists, meeting here, approved without modification the recommendations presented by its 17-member survey committee. The proposals will go on to the annual General Association meeting in Lexington Nov. 17-19, as recommendations of the executive board.

The board was entrusted last year with the task of further surveying the present work of Kentucky Baptists and making recommendations for needed changes by action of the General Association. The association at that time considered an earlier survey report and decided to refer it for another year's study. The board gave the task to a survey committee which made its report to the full board after a year's work.

The report sailed smoothly through the 130-member executive board. A number of questions were asked for clarification and minor revisions were made in the wording, but no essential change in the recommendations was advocated.

The harmony was an evident result of the removal of the controversial issues of last year's report. No mention was made of the Christian education program for Kentucky Baptists since this part of the report was eliminated by a vote of the association last year. Kentucky Baptist schools are being operated presently according to the pattern of the last few years.

Several other controversial issues of last year's report were removed. Recommendations made were more in line with the present method of operation. Among these were the direct mission program, the state Baptist foundation, and the method of selecting members and the manner of operating the executive board.

The direct mission program recommended by the board is a continuation of the present plan with suggestions for constant re-evaluation, with a view for improvement. The associational mission program will continue to be a joint project of the state and the district associations with encouragement for the district associations to assume more and more financial responsibility. The program will be under the direction of the secretary of missions with the help of a missions committee composed of nine members of the executive board.

The recommendation of the earlier report had called for the abandonment of the joint state-associational mission plan in favor of regional missionaries sponsored entirely by the state.

The state Baptist foundation, which would have been curtailed in its scope of activity by the proposals last year, is recommended for a larger field of activity in this year's report. A fulltime secretary is proposed instead of a part-time secretary. Half of the secretary's time is to be spent in the field promoting foundation work.

The secretary of the foundation is to be nominated by the trustees of the foundation and elected by the executive board. At present the trustees elect the secretary.

Another controversial recommendation eliminated from last year's report has to do with the number and manner of election of the executive board members. The proposal last year would have reduced to 60 the number on the board. At present there are approximately 130.

The former proposal would have called for their selection by the General Association upon report of the General Association nominating committee, instead of by nomination from district associations. Each district association has a right to one board member plus an additional member for every 5,000 Baptists or major fraction thereof.

The district association nominates two names for each board vacancy and the General Association selects one of these two. Retaining of the present method of selection as well as the present number on the board is recommended in the new survey report.

The reorganization of General Association committees and the committees of the executive board recommended does not depart radically from the present set-up. The General Association committees are reduced in number and follow the suggestions of last year's report.

The executive board is not to have the operating committee recommended last year but is to have an administrative committee with many of the duties of the present executive committee of the executive board. Other duties of the present executive committee are assigned to a new finance committee and to other committees of the board.

The new survey report will call for the creation of three new positions on the executive board staff, but these positions will be filled at the discretion of the executive board and as finances shall permit. It is felt that not all of the places will be filled immediately upon approval of the report.

The new positions will be secretary of stewardship promotion, secretary of evangelism, and associate general secretary. The priority in filling these positions will be in the order in which they are listed.

At present the promotion work is a part-time job. Stewardship is divided between two men, including the state director of the Forward Program of Church Finance. The direction of the Forward Program of Church Finance will be a part of the new stewardship promotion, though a full-time director will probably be continued.

A final recommendation will ask for a continuation of the committee to consider other matters in the original Survey Report. Among the things slated for further study are the Western Recorder, state Baptist paper; a program analyst and business manager for the executive board, and a centralized accounting system for the Baptist Building here.

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#### Carpenter To Europe To Visit Chaplains

ATLANTA--(BP)--Alfred Carpenter, director of the chaplains commission, Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board here will tour the European Theater calling upon the Baptist chaplains and military personnel. He will visit establishments of all branches of the military.

Mrs. Carpenter will accompany her husband as they make this seven-week swing through England, France, Germany, Switzerland, and Italy.

Purpose of this itinerary is to have fellowship with the Baptist chaplains and military personnel and to find areas where the chaplains commission can help the man in the field. The Carpenters will be in the homes of many of the military personnel.

This is Mrs. Carpenter's first time to accompany her husband on one of his global trips.

Since Carpenter's last visit to this area was in 1946, he feels that his office will benefit from a review of what is being done now as compared with that earlier time. Since 1946 the chaplains and the military personnel have made "outstanding contributions" to world missions in this area and there has been a greater tie-in with the Baptist churches on the continent, he said.

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'Return To Incomplete'  
A Christian Necessity

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Associational superintendents, ending a four-day session here, were exhorted to "return to the incomplete" and "under God, render the best service you can."

The challenge was hurled by Ramsey Pollard of Knoxville, Tenn., president of the Southern Baptist Convention, to 450 attending a Conference of Associational Activities.

"God's men and women must have the ability to return to the incomplete." Pollard said. "You have to work by faith and must have the ability to see the invisible."

The Convention president told them, "If you do not have the spirit of conquest, you're not going to make the grade as associational missionaries."

Pollard, just back from a visit to pioneer Southern Baptist work in New York state and other areas, said further, "I have no apology for Southern Baptists going out and preaching anywhere the gospel needs to be proclaimed."

In a warning about complacency, he continued, "The greatest danger Southern Baptists face is the danger of taking it easy. . . that we will forget that what we are today is because we were people led by the Holy Spirit."

Using the illustration from the book of Nehemiah, Pollard described how Nehemiah went back to the work of rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem and successfully "worked with the same people who failed before."

The SBC president paid tribute to the Baptist Sunday School Board, which sponsored this conference, for its leadership and for the quality of literature which it produces.

Earlier on the closing day of the conference, the "ten commandments of leadership" were outlined to the associational missionaries by T. B. Lackey, Oklahoma City, executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Listed by Lackey as necessary components of leadership were:

1. The spirit of Christ.
2. Being a "real Baptist, in harmony with the (denomination's) work."
3. Humility.
4. Love for people.
5. Faith in the Lord, faith in people, faith in yourself.
6. Dependability.
7. Co-operation with others.
8. Patience.
9. Willingness to learn.
10. Earnestness.

In addition to the 450 associational superintendents of missions, over 100 Baptist Sunday School Board staff members attended the conference. Its purpose was to familiarize associational leaders with the board, and to find ways for meeting each other's needs.

The superintendents attended at invitation of the board. About half of the associational officers had never before visited the board's offices here.