

September 20, 1959

Utah, Idaho Turn Down Separate Convention

SALT LAKE CITY--(BP)--Southern Baptists in Utah, Idaho, and Nevada met here and voted against forming an independent state convention at this time.

Instead, they will continue their affiliations with already-existing state conventions. Churches in Utah, Idaho, and southern Nevada are co-operating with the Baptist General Convention of Arizona. Those in northern Nevada co-operate with the Southern Baptist General Convention of California.

A nine-member regional missions committee was appointed from pastors in the Idaho and Utah area to direct the missions work in those states, under supervision of the Arizona executive board.

Churches in southern Nevada said they were too geographically removed from the other churches to be able to take part in the committee arrangement.

The arrangement exists only for the year 1960.

Churches in Idaho and Utah continued their regional fellowship within the Arizona convention, however. They re-elected Charles Ray, pastor, Holloday Baptist Church here, as president. C. R. Barrow, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Idaho Falls, Ida., is the new vice-president, and Clyde C. Godfrey, pastor, Mountain View Baptist Church, Boise, Ida., continues as secretary.

Ray and Barrow are members of the nine-man regional committee.

There are 21 Southern Baptist churches in Utah and 12 in Idaho. They had been considering for several years forming a separate convention this year, but there had been some doubt about it in recent weeks on account of the financial load confronting a new convention.

200 persons attended the regional meeting.

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Arizona Gets First Good Will Center

TUCSON, Ariz.--(BP)--The first Southern Baptist good will center in Arizona has been established here.

Friendship Center was dedicated here in a service in which leaders of the Home Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention, and the Baptist General Convention of Arizona took part.

Clovis A. Brantley of Atlanta, superintendent of mission centers for the Home Mission Board, delivered the dedicatory address. Roy Sutton, superintendent of missions for Tucson Baptists, presented Miss Helen Lambert, director of the center.

Miss Lambert was transferred from Maryland to Tucson by the Home Mission Board to assume responsibility for the center.

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Mercer Announces Activities Director

MACON, Ga.--(BP)--Joseph Millard Hendricks of Woodland, Ga., is new director of religious activities at Mercer University here, Spright Dowell, acting president, announced.

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Hendricks succeeds Ray Brewster, who will teach full time on the staff of the Mercer Christianity Department. Hendricks received the bachelor of arts degree from Mercer in 1955 and the bachelor of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1958. He is presently at work on the master of arts degree at Emory University.

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Civil Defense Course
Planned On Oct. 26-29

BATTLE CREEK, Mich.--(BP)--Church and denominational executives, editors, and pastors have been invited to attend a civil defense religious affairs course here Oct. 26-29.

The courses are held each year to familiarize church leaders with civil defense planning, and with the roles that churches and their leaders can play in civil defense emergencies.

Meetings are held in the office building of a federal agency, the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization. Fred W. Kern, a former minister, is director of religious affairs for the agency.

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California Promotes
R. L. Pattillo, Jr.

FRESNO, Calif.--(BP)--R. L. Pattillo, Jr., associate in the Sunday school department of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California here, has been promoted to department director.

He succeeds W. Alvis Strickland, who moved to Nashville, Tenn., to join the staff of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Action on Pattillo came at the convention's executive board meeting. The board also endorsed participation with the Home Mission Board, Southern Baptist Convention, in a new state mission program.

The board further agreed to begin a co-operative work with National (Negro) Baptists, starting Jan. 1. This is similar to departments existing in other Baptist state conventions. The California board does not expect to employ any new personnel.

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Louisiana Sights
\$2,650,000 Budget

ALEXANDRIA, La.--(BP)--The executive board of Louisiana Baptist Convention here has proposed a convention operating budget of \$2,650,000 for 1960. It is subject to convention adoption.

This compares with the present year's operating budget of \$2 $\frac{1}{2}$ million.

The Southern Baptist Convention would receive \$833,333 of the budget to support worldwide missionary, educational, and benevolent work.

In addition, Louisiana Convention hopes to raise \$150,000 to meet an advance objective, bringing its goal for 1960 to \$2,800,000.

Louisiana College, Pineville, would receive 68.6 per cent of the advance \$150,000. The remainder would go to the Southern Baptist Convention through the Cooperative Program.

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