

December 1, 1960

(A resume of key actions by state Baptist conventions recently.)

At least nine state Baptist conventions in co-operating affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention gave their prayerful support to President-elect John F. Kennedy. These are Kansas, California, Georgia, North Carolina, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, and the District of Columbia. Several reminded him of his promise to maintain separation of church and state.

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Hawaii Baptists held their first meeting on a major island other than Oahu. Meeting on the island of Hawaii, they moved further toward becoming a self-supporting, self-governing state body. Work has been sponsored to the present by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Kentucky Baptists instructed their three hospitals and school of nursing to open doors to all races. But Baptists in Tennessee and North Carolina decided that integrating of Baptist schools (and in Tennessee, hospitals, too) must be left up to each institution's board of trustees. Georgia Baptists pleaded for public schools to remain open, rather than to close in the face of integration.

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New Baptist colleges are to be erected in Mobile, Alabama; St. Louis, Missouri; and Charleston, South Carolina as a result of action in those states. Also under consideration or planning are Baptist colleges for Memphis, Tennessee; Washington, D. C.; and Clearwater, Fla., and a seminary in northern Illinois.

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South Carolina debated the issue of social fraternities at Baptist-operated Furman University again. It permitted the school to keep fraternities, but the vote was very close. Protests about dancing on Baptist college campuses in Virginia have been referred to a special committee for a year's study.

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New state Baptist office buildings are being projected by Virginia, South Carolina, Kansas, Alabama, and Indiana. Ohio will extensively remodel its state Baptist office building. Louisiana Baptists at their convention dedicated their \$1,350,000 new Baptist office building in the city of Alexandria.

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Texas Baptists met their new convention executive secretary, T. A. Patterson. Baptists in several other states learned of retirements within the next two years by their executive secretaries: S. G. Posey in California, at the close of 1960; Charles F. Sims, in South Carolina, fall of 1961, and W. C. Boone, Kentucky, late 1961 or early 1962.

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FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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H-SU Board Approves \$15 Million Expansion

ABILENE, Tex.--(BP)--A \$15 million expansion and development program for Hardin-Simmons University that will nearly double the college's size in ten years has been approved by the institution's board of trustees.

The ten-year expansion program will include funds for three major purposes--endowment, building and equipment needs, and auxiliary facilities.

Biggest portion of the \$15 million program will be used for endowment. Included in a \$7 $\frac{1}{4}$ million endowment increase will be \$6 million in general endowment funds, a \$250,000 revolving loan fund, \$500,000 for departmental endowments, and \$500,000 for an endowed scholarship aid program.

Another \$3,360,000 for building and equipment needs is earmarked for Hardin-Simmons as part of a four-year \$28 million fund drive to be conducted starting in 1962 by the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The Abilene college is one of eight Texas Baptist schools that will receive funds for building expansion through the state-wide drive.

An additional \$4 million for "auxiliary facilities" will be sought by the school through grants from foundations outside the denomination and from long-term revenue bonds.

The \$4 million will be used to construct a new dormitory, housing for married students and faculty, maintenance shops, and warehousing.

Hardin-Simmons President Evan A. Reiff said that both expanded plant and enlarged endowment are essential if the University is to accommodate the anticipated enrollment of 3,000 to 3,500 students by 1970.

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Baylor Awarded Grant For Nuclear Research

(12-1-60)

WACO, Tex.--(BP)--Baylor University has received a \$19,037 grant from the Atomic Energy Commission to conduct a series of nuclear research experiments here.

The grant will be used to purchase equipment needed to conduct experiments in nuclear detection, radiation absorption and penetration, and neutron shattering.

The experiments will be conducted by the Baylor physics department, headed by Herbert D. Schwetman.

The Atomic Energy Commission will furnish some of the equipment for the experiments with the agreement that the findings will become the property of the A.E.C.

Baylor's physics department has offered courses in nuclear physics and has conducted experiments in nuclear energy for nearly 20 years. Many of the experiments have been conducted with home-made apparatuses built by the physics faculty and students.

Radio-TV Commission
Approves New Building

FORT WORTH--(BP)--Southern Baptists' Radio and Television Commission has approved the purchase of three acres of land fronting Highway 550 here for the construction of a permanent headquarters building.

Purchase price for the building site is expected to be \$118,000.

Construction on the first 40,000 square-foot unit will begin in 1963, said Paul M. Stevens, director of the Radio-TV Commission.

Commission members from 21 states meeting here named Thomas E. Stanley of Fort Worth as architect for the building project.

The new headquarters eventually will contain 100,000 square feet and will house a fully equipped underground television studio, two radio studios, and offices and work areas for 175 employees.

An underground garage which would double as an atomic survival shelter is also planned as part of the initial unit.

In other action the Commission approved two subsequent film projects costing a total of \$90,000 for 1961; approved a new format for "The Baptist Hour" radio show; and named Herschell H. Hobbs of Oklahoma City as "The Baptist Hour" preacher on an "indefinite status."

Stevens said that the new format for "The Baptist Hour" would attempt to bring the program up to date with the radio industry's programming concept "without compromising the message."

"The present format," he said, "has been used with little adjustment since 1921. The new format incorporates the latest techniques and ideas of broadcasting and uses them to project the same message in song and story of the Saviour of the world."

Hobbs' appointment as preacher for the program on an "indefinite status" actually amounts to naming him permanent preacher, said Stevens.

Hobbs, who is pastor of the First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City, began preaching on the program in 1958 and has preached weekly with the exception of six months in 1960.

"The Baptist Hour" is broadcast on 450 radio stations weekly, both in America and abroad.

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New Film Strip Shows
Protection Plan Need

(12-1-60)

DALLAS--(BP)--A new film strip pinpointing the need of the protection plan for the pastor of every Southern Baptist church regardless of size has been produced by the denomination's Annuity Board.

The film reveals that only two out of every five churches among the 32,000 congregations in the Southern Baptist Convention have assumed the responsibility of providing for their pastor's retirement, disability or death.

Titled "Outstretched Hands," the film's photography and script were prepared by Baynard F. Fox, Annuity Board field man in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Floyd B. Chaffin, associate secretary of the Annuity Board, said copies of the 47-frame film may be obtained through the Board's offices at Dallas, its state field representatives, or through the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, Tenn.

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Buckner Development
Zoning Plan Approved

DALLAS--(BP)--Approval of a zoning plan for 2,425 acres of Buckner Orphans Home land here will permit the first stages of property development to begin in December.

The Dallas City Council has approved a zoning plan that designates 1,296 acres for residential use, 310 for commercial, 410 for industrial, 45 for apartments and 56 for retail zoning.

E. L. Carnett, president of Buckner Benevolences, said the home is reserving for its use 168 acres, including areas for schools, parks and churches.

The first stage development will be about 158 residential lots at the corner of Samuell Boulevard and Jim Miller Road, said officials of the Baptist Foundation of Texas which is supervising the property development. Long-range plans call for constructing about 4,500 lots on which homes will be built ranging in value from \$15,000 to \$25,000.

A 36-acre site at Buckner Boulevard and Forney Road will accommodate up to 900 apartment units with a smaller apartment zone lying at the west end of the Buckner property. Shopping centers will be built at two major intersections--Buckner Boulevard-Forney Road and Jim Miller Road-Samuell Boulevard.

As the land is developed, it will be turned over to Buckner Park, Inc., a taxable corporation. Income from the development will be used to expand the Buckner program of care for needy or neglected children and aged people, Carnett said.

In addition to the Dallas children's home, Buckner Benevolences includes a boys' ranch, a girls' home, two homes for elderly people and a home for unwed mothers.

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Southwestern Seminary
Plans Expansion Program

(12-1-60)

FORT WORTH--(BP)--The Board of Trustees for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here has authorized the immediate expansion of the J. Howard Williams student village.

Five new buildings and 40 apartments, estimated at \$300,000 total cost, will be erected for seminary students and faculty members across from the 75-acre campus.

The trustees also called for a long-range study of building needs with discussion centering around a prospective student activities building, a children's building, and modernization of present dormitories.

Reports of the building-needs studies will be presented at the February trustee meeting here.

In other action, approval was given to the Seminary's school of church music to begin study toward granting the doctor of church music degree beginning in the fall of 1961.

Three faculty members were elevated in status. William Greenlee was elected reference-research librarian; Kenneth Chafin, formerly associate professor of evangelism, was named head of the evangelism department; and Ralph Smith, professor of Old Testament was elected to head the Old Testament department.

L. B. Reavis, director of development, reported to the trustees that gifts from Seminary alumni and friends have amounted to nearly \$250,000, the amount needed to begin construction on the new student apartments.

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Doctrine Teaching Urged
At Texas TU Convention

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.--(BP)--A resolution urging "a greater emphasis on teaching what Baptists believe" has been approved by messengers to the 1960 Texas Baptist Training Union Convention here.

The resolution echoed an earlier note sounded by T. C. Gardner, director of the state Convention's Training Union program for more than four decades and now vice president of East Texas Baptist College in Marshall, Tex.

In the meeting's opening address, Gardner said that "our immediate task is to make twin sisters of evangelism and training."

"To do this," he said, "we must think less about campaigning and more about crusading."

Another convention speaker, Philip B. Harris, secretary of the Baptist Sunday School Board's Training Union Department in Nashville, Tenn., urged Texas Baptists to intensify "conservation efforts" by enlisting persons won to Christ in active church membership.

At a mass youth rally, Nolan Moore, 18, of Wichita Falls, Tex., won first place in the young people's better speakers tournament and Judy Oxford, 16, of Fort Worth, took top honors in the intermediate sword drill contest.

More than 2,000 young people attending the youth rally heard a young Oklahoma pastor pinpoint what he called "one of the key problems prevalent among youth today."

C. A. Roberts, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Altus, Okla., said many young people believe that "God is only a Sunday figure. Most of us," he said, "feel that God is in church only and not an ever-present guide for our daily lives."

Dan McLendon, minister of education for the First Baptist Church of Corpus Christi, was elected president of the convention.

Convention messengers selected Midland, Tex., as the site for the 1962 meeting and decided that beginning then, the statewide Training Union Convention will be held every two years, alternating with the state Sunday School convention.

No convention will be held in 1961, with major efforts to be directed towards a Southern Baptist Convention-wide leadership clinic in Dallas, Oct. 16-20.

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Folks & Facts

(12-1-60)

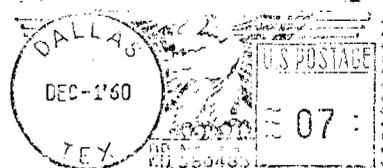
. . . A detailed statement approved during the 1960 Baptist World Alliance at Rio de Janeiro giving the Alliance's position on religious liberty and church-state relations, is one of the featured articles in the current issue of "A Journal on Church and State," a semi-annual publication of the J. M. Dawson Studies in Church and State at Baylor University, Waco.

The Journal also contains the complete text of the statement of 165 Catholic laymen on religious liberty, and articles by authors Leo Pfeffer, of the American Jewish Congress, New York City; Robert A. Baker, professor of church history at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; Earl R. Humble, pastor of the Eastland Street Baptist Church in Fort Worth; and Nathaniel S. Lehrman, of Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, N.Y. (BP)

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