

March 2, 1961

'Competition' Deplored
By Delaware Gathering

DOVER, Del. (BP)--Both Southern and American Baptists should shun "competition" in the establishment of their churches across traditional lines, it was agreed in an informal exchange of views here.

The occasion was the first fellowship meeting of Southern and American Baptist Convention pastors of Delaware at Dover's First Baptist Church (American). There were seven Southern and nine American Baptists present. These included two Virginia Baptist pastors and four state leaders from the Pennsylvania and the Maryland Baptist conventions.

The meeting was called jointly by Harold R. Stewart, pastor of the Dover American Baptist Church; Walter Agnor, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, and A. B. Parsons Jr., chaplain at Dover Air Force Base, an American Baptist.

Agnor convened the meeting. He gave as its purpose: To discuss what Baptists have in common, to promote understanding and fellowship among Baptists and to strengthen the Baptist witness.

Stewart read a paper entitled "Our Baptist Heresy." The "heresy" he alleged was "our current emphasis on the independence of the local church." He said this emphasis "is not true Christian nor true Baptist doctrine of the church."

"The congregation," he said, "is a local expression of the whole church and not alone the church in itself."

An article by Stewart advocating organic union between the American and Southern Baptist Conventions has appeared in the Watchman-Examiner, independent Baptist journal at New York City.

A common concern of both Baptist bodies for winning America to Christ was expressed in a review of Baptist Jubilee Advance programs. Both Conventions take part in this advance.

Roy D. Gresham of Baltimore, executive secretary of the Baptist Convention of Maryland, presented the Southern Baptist approach in the advance. Walter Woodbury of Philadelphia, director of evangelism for Pennsylvania Baptist Convention, gave the American Baptist approach.

Gresham prefaced his remarks by a reference to proposals for organic union between the American and Southern Baptist Conventions he said have appeared in Southern Baptist state papers recently.

He said he felt these proposals were "untimely" in view of the satisfactory cooperation of the two Baptist bodies in the Baptist Jubilee Advance.

Concern about alleged competitiveness in starting mission churches was expressed mainly by American Baptists. The Southern Baptists present joined in deploring this spirit as contrary to the mind of Christ wherever it appears.

A common allegiance to the authority of the Holy Spirit was emphasized in the discussion.

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Cooperative Program
Prayer, Study Week

(3-2-61)

NASHVILLE (BP)--A Baptist agency here will lead in development of a churchwide plan for an annual emphasis of prayer and study on the Cooperative Program.

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The Cooperative Program is the financial plan of the Southern Baptists for meeting state Baptist mission needs as well as those of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Stewardship Commission of the Convention at its semi-annual meeting here voted to direct the project, on request of the SBC Executive Committee.

Merrill D. Moore of Nashville, executive director of the commission, said churches will be asked to set aside a week in 1962 for the first annual emphasis on the Cooperative Program.

"There is a tremendous demand for it," Moore said. "All those with whom we will work are very enthusiastic about it." The commission was assigned the task of helping select a name for the week and working out a suitable date on an already crowded denominational calendar.

"Everyone who has discussed it has agreed it is of such great importance it will be worth the sacrifices necessary in adjusting the calendar to include it," according to Moore.

He added no special offering is anticipated during the week of prayer and study. Other special weeks of study and prayer for home missions, foreign missions, and state missions carry a special offering.

"The purpose of the Cooperative Program week of study and prayer is to inform the people about the Cooperative Program. It is to encourage church members to provide a larger share of their budget to go through the Cooperative Program, and to stimulate giving all through the year through the church budget rather than at only one time of the year," Moore said.

He ranked the idea for a week of study and prayer as the "biggest idea" for the Cooperative Program since it was developed in 1925. Moore said he believed the idea stands alongside the \$75 million campaign of a bygone day in importance.

The special \$75 million campaign helped meet Southern Baptists' mission needs.

Executive secretaries of state Baptist conventions brought the matter before the Executive Committee, whose meeting immediately preceded the Stewardship Commission's.

John A. Maguire, executive secretary, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, said state leaders "hope by 1963 a graded series of study course material will be developed on the Cooperative Program, with a section included to point out the work supported by the Cooperative Program in various states."

He urged the best possible week in the year be chosen for the prayer-study emphasis.

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Fresh Action Wanted
On Campcraft Center

(3-2-61)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptists' agency for laymen and boys wants to be able to accept free land for a campcraft training center.

It has brought the matter to the attention of the Convention's Executive Committee here. The Executive Committee has taken the request under study, assigning it to its program subcommittee.

The Brotherhood Commission at Memphis singled out the fact it was turned down by the Executive Committee when it sought to accept 1822 acres of mountain terrain in northwest Arkansas. A group of Baptist laymen offered the land as a place to develop "a vigorous and capable Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador leadership, and in providing a training center," it said.

The previous action came at the September, 1960 session of the Executive Committee. The Committee held Southern Baptist Convention policy assigned operation of Conventionwide assemblies to the Baptist Sunday School Board.

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Brotherhood Commission, in a resolution, said this action imposes "a very serious handicap...in carrying out the responsibility placed upon it by the Convention."

It said the Convention transferred Royal Ambassadors, a boy's missionary unit, to the Brotherhood for direction. "Camping and campcraft activities are a necessary phase of Royal Ambassador work," the commission maintained.

The commission denied its campcraft training center will conflict with existing assembly programs. It "should be developed by the Brotherhood Commission without restraint or control of any other Convention agency except the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention through its programming responsibility," the resolution declared.

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Missouri To Campaign
For \$12 Million Fund

(3-2-61)

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)--A \$12 million capital funds campaign for four state Baptist educational institutions was approved here by the executive board of Missouri Baptist Convention.

The board had been authorized by the convention in its annual meeting last October to prepare for the campaign, employ essential help, set goals and establish percentages. The action of the board means that the campaign organization will be set up immediately. The campaign proper will begin April 3 and close Nov. 30.

Three existing colleges and a new college are involved. The existing schools are William Jewell College, Liberty; Southwest Baptist College, Boliver, and Hannibal LaGrange College, Hannibal.

The new Baptist college would be located in the St. Louis area. The executive board was also authorized by the convention to negotiate for a site for the new school, but negotiations are yet in the preliminary stages.

The board's action on percentages which the four institutions would share in the campaign gave William Jewell 30 per cent; Southwest Baptist College, 15 per cent; Hannibal LaGrange, 15 per cent; St. Louis college, 30 per cent, and 10 per cent reserved for later allocation.

Southwest and Hannibal LaGrange are junior colleges.

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Pastors' Conference
Has Maturity Theme

(3-2-61)

ST. LOUIS (BP)--The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference here May 22-23 will convene under the theme "Christian Maturity." Its scripture is Ephesians 4, according to conference president Roy O. McClain of Atlanta.

Speakers include Charles P. Howard of Buies Creek, N. C.; L. D. Johnson of Richmond; Glenn L. Archer of Washington, D. C.; D. J. Evans of Atlanta; William E. Hull of Louisville; Arch Avary of Atlanta.

W. Marshall Craig of Dallas; Harold Cole of Raleigh, N. C.; Gordon Clinard of Fort Worth; Dale Moody of Louisville; J. B. Weatherspoon of Wake Forest, N. C., and G. Earl Guinn of Pineville, La.

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East St. Louis Church
Welcomes 2 Negroes

EAST ST. LOUIS (BP)--Negro young people staged "sit-ins" at four East St. Louis all-white churches, according to a local Baptist pastor.

In an effort that was apparently a "trial balloon," two Negro young people appeared at each of four white churches--State Street Methodist, Westminster Presbyterian, First Methodist and Winstanley Baptist--for the morning worship services.

At Winstanley Baptist, where W. C. Dobbs is pastor, ushers took the young people into the auditorium, provided them with hymnals and conducted them to favorable seats on the main floor.

The all-white audience took their presence as a routine affair and invited them to return again. The "sit-ins" at the other three churches came off without incident, according to the Winstanley pastor, who is also president of the Illinois (Southern) Baptist State Association.

When asked his personal attitude, Dobbs said, "I was happy to have them. They were two more people to whom I had the privilege of preaching the gospel."

Illinois Southern Baptists have two churches with a few Negro members. Several churches in university cities have integrated congregations with many races, including Negroes, represented in their worship services.

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Silas M. Bishop, Head
Of Florida Home, Dies

(3-2-61)

JACKSONVILLE (BP)--Silas M. Bishop, superintendent of Baptist Home for Children here, died of a heart attack Feb. 23.

A native of Cairo, Ga., Bishop graduated from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as assistant superintendent of Alabama Baptist Children's Home, Troy, before moving to Florida.

The number of children cared for in the Jacksonville home nearly doubled since Bishop came to Jacksonville in 1948--from 45 to 84.

Survivors include Mrs. Bishop and two daughters. Funeral services were held at Southside Baptist Church in Jacksonville where Bishop was a deacon. He was buried in Jacksonville.

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Raleigh TV Station
Program 'Signs On'

(3-2-61)

RALEIGH, N. C. (BP)--A special television program produced by Baptists here used a sign-language interpreter to reach deaf persons among the viewing audience.

Put on by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina over WRAL-TV the program was also designed to reach those who were not church members or members who could not attend their churches. It offered a Bible survey course.

The station carried the program at the time most churches hold their Sunday morning worship service.

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Editors Advice

In accordance with a request, here are the budgets for the two SBC agencies not sharing in Cooperative Program receipts. The Sunday School Board's total budget for 1961 is \$28,448,026 and for 1962 it is \$30,100,000. The Stewardship Commission's 1961 budget is \$246,520 and for 1962 it is tentatively \$251,000. Convention action subjects these budgets to review through the Executive Committee of SBC along with other agencies. Stewardship Commission expects to support its work from sales of Forward Program and other stewardship materials.

Baptist Press

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Reminds Baptists Race
Issue Affects Missions

3-2
(2-3-61)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptists were reminded here again their foreign missionaries "do face the race problem."

Frank K. Means, Richmond, area secretary for Latin America for the Convention's Foreign Mission Board, said missionaries feel the race problem in America is a "serious deterrent" to Christian witnessing overseas.

"Sometimes it creates a gulf between the missionary and the people he wants most to reach for Christ," Means exclaimed. Means spoke before the Southern Baptist Advisory Council on Work with Negro Baptists.

The council helps recommend ways in which Southern Baptists may work with Negro Baptists, but the council is not an official agency of the Convention. Its membership, however, includes representatives from SBC agencies and from state Baptist departments of Negro work.

"The world is looking to us to prove whether democracy or Christianity is relevant," Means continued. "If we can't solve our problem, one or the other is on trial."

He acknowledged race is a world wide problem. Racial conflicts, he said, exist in other countries between various groups in the population. But, he pointed out, in countries where evangelical missions are not popular the race crises in America--played up in the foreign press--create difficulties for missionaries.

T. B. Maston, professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, declared, "Our people are sensitive to the impact of racial patterns in the South on the missionary enterprise."

Hugh A. Brimm of Louisville added, "I think if our people realize our attitudes are creating problems on foreign mission fields, they will change." Brimm teaches at Carver School of Missions and Social Work.

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Folks and Facts.....

(3-2-61)

....Miss Lucile Peak, campus Baptist student secretary at Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, Va., has been elected to a similar position at the University of Illinois at Champaign. (BP)

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WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION ANNUAL MEETING

May 22-23, 1961

Opera House, St. Louis, Missouri

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, President

Program

"Ye shall be my witnesses--in Jerusalem--in all Judea--in Samaria--
and unto the uttermost part of the earth"
--from Acts 1

Monday morning

9 o'clock

Call to Worship

William Carey College Chorale
Hattiesburg, Miss.

Song Service

Donald Winters, Director

Mrs. H. H. Grooms, Director
Birmingham, Ala.

Mrs. Donald White, Pianist
Louisville, Ky.

Mrs. Charles H. Walker, Organist
Miami, Fla.

Christian Sharing of Possessions

Mrs. Gordon C. Ussery
Roanoke, Ala.

Organization

Recognition of Hostess Committee

Business

The Story of a Church in Shaki

Special Music

I Found Salvation--My Hope

Meditation

Mrs. E. P. Doshier, West Africa
Audrey Nossaman, Louisville, Ky.

Don Brandeis, Atlanta, Ga.

Julia Louise Hermann

Harpist, Dallas Symphony Orchestra

Monday afternoon

Call to Worship

William Carey College Chorale

Song Service

Christian Sharing of Possessions

Mrs. Gordon C. Ussery

The Week of Prayer for Home Missions

30,000 Churches and Missions

A Church Extended

James H. Butler, Birmingham, Ala.

John H. Buchanan Jr., Birmingham, Ala.

Harry Wilde, Alaska

A Mission in Kwiguk

The Story of the Manhattan Church

and Its Missions

Paul S. James, New York City

Don Miller

East Farmingdale, Long Island

Courts Redford, Executive Secretary

Home Mission Board

Miss Julia Louise Hermann

Churches Reaching Out--Our Hope

Meditation

Monday evening

Call to Worship

William Carey College Chorale

Song Service

Woman's Missionary Union Observing the 75th

Anniversary of Sunbeam Band

Miss Alma Hunt

Miss Abbie Louise Green

Mrs. H. H. Grooms

Robert C. Davis, Hawaii

Carlos Owens, East Africa

Miss Audrey Nossaman

The Honorable W. R. Tolbert

Vice-president of Liberia,

West Africa

Miss Julia Louise Hermann

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

The Story of a Church in Hilo

The Story of a Church in Tanganyika

Special Music

The Hope for Changing Africa

Meditation

Tuesday morning

Call to Worship

William Carey College Chorale

Song Service

Christian Sharing of Possessions

Mrs. Gordon C. Ussery

The Story of a Church in Jaciara

Miss Anna Mae Wollerman, Brazil

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Forty Years a Missionary
The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions
Special Music
Hope of Every Nation

Miss Hannah Plowden, Hawaii

Miss Audrey Nossaman
John Soren, President, Baptist World
Alliance, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Miss Julia Louise Hermann

Meditation

Tuesday afternoon

Call to Worship
Christian Sharing of Possessions
The Story of a Church in Baguio
Business
Reports of Committees
 Resolution
 Appreciations
 Nominating
Special Music
Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church

William Carey College Chorale
Mrs. Gordon C. Ussery
Mrs. H. D. Olive, Philippines

Miss Audrey Nossaman
H. H. Hobbs, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Oklahoma City, Oklamoma
Miss Julia Louise Hermann

Meditation