

October 3, 1962

Midwestern Trustees
To Study Issue More

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Trustees of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here referred for further study the question of how the actions of the 1962 Southern Baptist Convention affect the school.

It was the first full meeting of trustees since some new members were elected by the 1962 Convention at San Francisco, where the Convention debated theology issues raised by a Midwestern professor's book.

Malcolm B. Knight of Jacksonville, Fla., chairman of trustees, earlier had said the trustees would meet to try to determine what the Convention action meant for the seminary.

The trustees adopted a statement slightly more than 100 words long. It said the board had "seriously and faithfully studied the problems involved" and would meet at an indefinite future date to hear from a special committee helping to "carry forward investigations and studies looking forward to a solution of the problems."

The seminary has been in the center of the theological debate since Professor Ralph H. Elliott's book, "The Message of Genesis," was published in 1961. His statement about historical accounts in the book of Genesis were considered too liberal or modern in theology by his critics in the Convention.

The trustee statement:

"The trustees of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary are mindful of the concern of Southern Baptists regarding theological education. The trustees are conscious of and desire to be responsive to the expressions of the Southern Baptist Convention in its meeting in San Francisco.

"The board has seriously and faithfully studied the problems involved. Time has been spent and efforts have been made to bring new members of this board to familiarity with issues involved. It is the intention of this board to carry forward investigations and studies looking forward to a solution of the problems.

"The board has recessed to meet again as soon as possible to consider the findings of a special committee."

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Old Comes Down So
New May Be Built

(10-3-62)

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Workmen have begun demolishing several old buildings at Southern Baptist Hospital here to make way for construction of a parking garage and new laundry building.

It is the first step of a \$9 million program to be carried out over a period of five to 10 years.

Raymond C. Wilson, hospital administrator, said the demolition work is scheduled to be completed in approximately 30 days.

The ramp parking garage will hold approximately 500 cars. The bid also included as an alternate possibility a heliport landing on top of the garage.

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September Receipts
Come To \$1,540,209

NASHVILLE (BP)--September Cooperative Program receipts for Southern Baptist Convention agencies were \$1,540,209, according to Treasurer Porter Routh of Nashville.

The September figure exceeded August, 1962, receipts of \$1,515,415 and September, 1961, income of \$1,527,808.

Still the rate of increase over 1961 at the end of nine months dipped to only 7.2 per cent. At the end of August, 1962, the rate of increase over the previous year was running 8.05 per cent.

Total for the year to date is \$13,880,581.

Cooperative Program funds come from the churches to state Baptist organizations to be shared with state agencies as well as those of the SBC. The funds do not include total church collections, where more than half stays to meet local programs.

Also separate are specially designated funds for certain Baptist agencies, but not for sharing by the entire group of agencies. These, in September this year, amounted to \$152,676 for SBC boards, commissions and institutions. The comparative amounts were \$198,727 the previous month and \$138,614 the September before.

This brought the January-September totals for 1962 by designations to \$13,244,330, a gain of 11.63 per cent from the previous year. At the end of August, it had been running 11.85 per cent over the 1961 figure.

Three state Baptist conventions have passed the \$1 million mark in funds sent to the SBC through the Cooperative Program. Texas, with more Baptists than any other state in the SBC, has sent \$2,573,249. Georgia has sent \$1,242,977 and North Carolina, \$1,025,454.

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Folks and Facts.....

(10-3-62)

.....Two Southern Baptists took part in United States Air Force preaching missions in October. They are I. W. Oliver, pastor, Highland Park Baptist Church, Austin, Tex., and Harold W. Graves, president, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif. Oliver went to Japan and Taiwan; Graves to Japan, the Philippines and Guam. (BP)

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.....I. D. E. Thomas, former president of the Evangelical Movement of Wales, and pastor of Zion Baptist Church, in Llanelly, Wales, will visit the United States late this year. According to H. H. Hobbs, Oklahoma City, Southern Baptist Convention president, Thomas hopes to speak in some churches in America during his visit. (BP)

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(BP) — —

0 1963 Conv. book
BAPTIST PRESS

Theo Sommerkamp, *assistant director*
127 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville 3, Tennessee

October 3, 1962

Dear Editor:

Here comes the repro proof with instructions for housing messengers to the 1963 Convention at Kansas City.

We release it to you for publication in the first November issue of your paper or any date thereafter.

Cordially,



Theo Sommerkamp

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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October 3, 1962

School Bible Reading Is Before High Court

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Supreme Court will have opportunity to clarify its ruling in the New York prayer case during the present session of the court which began Oct. 1.

Two cases involving Bible reading and recitation of the Lord's Prayer are before the court. A third involving similar issues may come from Florida.

In Pennsylvania, a federal court has ruled that the required reading of the Bible in public schools is unconstitutional.

On the other hand, in Maryland the high court ruled that Bible reading and recitation of the Lord's Prayer does not violate the Constitution.

Last June the Supreme Court ruled that the New York Regents' Prayer was unconstitutional. The basis of the decision was that the prayer was an official prayer, written by a government agency, and used in a government program for religious purposes.

Since the New York prayer decision, waves of objection, support and various interpretations have swept the nation. Some have said that the decision ruled out all prayers in public schools.

Others said the ruling outlawed only "official" prayers. Many groups have called for an amendment to the Constitution to clarify the court's ruling.

The new cases, however, will afford the Supreme Court an opportunity to clarify its position. It is normal procedure for the justices not to comment on court decisions after they have made them. Clarifications are usually made in other cases.

In this case Justice Tom C. Clark broke the precedent and in a speech in San Francisco said that criticism of the court's ruling had been based on misunderstanding.

He said the court did not decide that there can be no official recognition of a Divine Being or public acknowledgment that this is a religious nation or that the motto, "In God We Trust," cannot be used on coins.

All the court decided, Justice Clark said, was that the government cannot take part in the establishment of religion.

In the cases now before the court, a ruling might be forthcoming on the whole area of religious practices in public schools, or the ruling might be held to the narrow points of the specific cases involved.

Mission Magazines Offer
Unified Subscriptions

ATLANTA (BP)--Southern Baptists' two mission magazines have offered joint subscriptions to both publications as a part of the denomination's observance of world missions year in the Baptist Jubilee Advance.

A subscriber can secure both The Commission, journal of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, and Home Missions, published by the Home Mission Board for two years for \$3. The offer extends only through December, 1963.

"This is an across-the-board offer," said Floyd H. North of Richmond, Va., editor of The Commission. "It will be available in schools of missions, at assemblies, in the churches, and to present subscribers. We are making the offer so more of our people will have mission information in depth during World Missions Year."

The offer began Oct. 1 and was announced in both magazines to present subscribers. The publications have adopted the slogan, "Teamed For World Missions" in presenting the offer.

"Our denomination is seeking to enlist all our people, churches, associations, conventions, and institutions in the evangelization of all people of all the world, both at home and abroad," added Walker L. Knight of Atlanta, editor of Home Missions. "We want the mission magazines to be a part of this effort."

The unified subscriptions are being handled by The Commission at Box 6597, Richmond 30, Va.

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House Approves Use
Of National Motto

(10-3-62)

WASHINGTON (BP)--The House of Representatives has voted to inscribe the national motto, "In God We Trust," above the speaker's platform.

This motto will replace fifteen gold stars that have decorated the wall above the speaker's desk. There has been no historical value or significance to the stars.

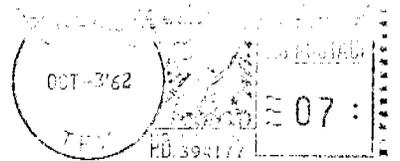
The resolution was introduced by Rep. Fred Marshall (D. Minn.). He said, "It will be a constant reminder to visitors in the chamber of this country's faith in the words, "In God We Trust."

During the discussion, Rep. H. R. Gross (R. Iowa) asked if there was enough gold left in this country to install the lettering. Upon being assured that there was enough gold, he withdrew his objection.

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