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THIS STORY ONLY
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Baylor Confers Three Honorary Doctor Degrees

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Honorary doctor's degrees have been conferred by Baylor University here to the chief of Air Force chaplains, a Texas banker, and the president of Rotary International.

Honorary doctorates were awarded to Air Force Chaplain Robert P. Taylor, a major general and top-ranking chaplain in the Air Force, and to Ben H. Wooten, chairman of the board of First National Bank in Dallas, during commencement exercises.

Earlier, this Baptist school granted an honorary doctor of laws degree to Nitishi C. Laharry, president of Rotary International and advocate of the high court of India.

Laharry was too ill to deliver an address prepared for the ceremonies. Laharry, who was in Waco for the 50th anniversary of the Waco Rotary Club, said his doctor had warned him against taking the trip and had said it would endanger his life.

Chaplain Taylor, who received the doctor of divinity degree, delivered the baccalaureate address at Seventh and James Baptist Church adjacent to the campus.

Wooten, who was awarded the doctor of laws degree, brought the commencement address.

Both Chaplain Taylor and Wooten are Baptists. Taylor, awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action during the battle of Bataan, has been chief of Air Force chaplains since last September. Wooten, a Baylor trustee and zealous Baylor supporter, had been vice-president and member of the executive committee of Republic National Bank, Dallas, before becoming president of the competing First National Bank in 1950. He became chairman of the bank's board of directors in 1960.

About 500 Baylor students received degrees in the commencement ceremonies.

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Mississippi College Gives 3 Honoraries

(5-18-63)

CLINTON, Miss. (BP)--A preacher, a state Baptist executive secretary, and a scientist were named for honorary doctorate degrees from Baptist-owned Mississippi College here at its annual commencement exercises.

Trustees announced Howard H. Aultman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Columbia, Miss.; Grady C. Cothen, Fresno, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California; and Bowen C. Dees, assistant director for scientific personnel and education, National Science Foundation, would get the honorary degrees.

Aultman and Cothen would receive the doctor of divinity degree, while Dees would be awarded the doctor of science degree.

R. A. McLemore, president of Mississippi College, said, "These three men have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields since graduating from Mississippi College."

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Hardin-Simmons
Coach Dismissed

(5-18-63)

ABILENE, Tex. (BP)--Hardin-Simmons University Head Football Coach Jack Thomas was dismissed here because he failed to follow the directives of the school administration in his conduct of the athletic program.

George L. Graham, executive vice-president of the Baptist school, did not specify what directives Thomas did not follow.

Hardin-Simmons was recently placed on football probation for two years because 32 high school football players had taken part in a competitive workout for scholarships.

The football team won only one game and lost nine last season. The single victory broke a 27-game losing streak, the longest in the school's history.

Graham said he told Thomas: "I regret to inform you that your contract is terminated as of this date for failure to follow administrative directives in the conduct of the athletic program. I hope this experience, although unpleasant to both of us, will serve to your advantage in the future because you have great ability and potential."

Thomas, in a prepared statement, said, "It is unfortunate that efforts directed toward the promotion of Hardin-Simmons athletics have not been more beneficial for the entire university program. I regret that this course of action seemed most beneficial for all concerned."

School officials said they had no plans for naming a successor at this time.

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Kentucky Rethinks
Capital Campaign

(5-18-63)

MIDDLETOWN, Ky. (BP)--The executive board of Kentucky Baptist Convention decided here to take a longer look at the \$12 million capital funds campaign and will hold a special board meeting to take up this business.

Fund-raisers are already at work on the project, but some opposition developed within the executive board at its regular meeting to their work.

The executive board was presented a proposal from the Kentucky Baptist Christian education committee to reduce the campaign from the original \$12 million goal to \$10 million. The Kentucky Baptist children's homes and Kentucky Baptist hospitals, which had been originally included in the campaign, would thus be left out.

A substitute motion was offered which would have postponed the campaign until a more favorable climate existed and, with satisfactory financial settlement, would have dismissed the fund-raisers now working on the campaign.

This motion, along with proposed amendments and other substitute motions, required lengthy discussion. The motion to delay was finally defeated in a close vote.

At this time, it appeared that the campaign could not be pursued with such a division of opinion. Subsequently, the plan for further discussion in a special board meeting was approved.

Other matters coming to the attention of the board included a proposal to write out a job description for the executive secretary of the executive board. This proposal was in line with a request from the executive secretary and was approved. It will also be considered at the special board meeting.

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Missouri And Texas
Led At Kansas City

(5-18-63)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Host Missouri, and Texas, with more Southern Baptists than any other state, were the leading states in number of messengers registering at Kansas City for the 1963 Southern Baptist Convention.

Missouri had 2787 and Texas, 1369, according to Joe W. Burton, Nashville, Convention secretary, who supervises messenger registration.

States west of the Mississippi River, including Louisiana, had 7324 messengers from cooperating churches. States east of the river totaled 5537 messengers. Another 110 registrations were recorded as miscellaneous.

Third highest state in the registration, and largest for eastern states, was North Carolina, whose churches sent 748 messengers. Close behind in fourth and fifth places were Oklahoma with 738 and South Carolina with 721.

The total registration was 12,971 messengers, highest since the all-time record of 13,612 set in 1960 at the Miami Beach Convention. The second highest total was the 12,976 registering in 1953 at Houston.

The San Francisco Convention of 1962 registered only 9396 messengers and the Kansas City Convention of 1956, the last time it met there, reported 12,254 messengers.

Other state totals for 1963 follow:

Alabama, 616; Alaska, 2; Arizona, 67; Arkansas, 476; California, 235; Colorado (and adjacent states), 120; District of Columbia, 53; Florida, 359; Georgia, 688; Hawaii, 5.

Illinois, 336; Indiana, 91; Kansas, 321; Kentucky, 666; Louisiana, 433; Maryland, 119; Michigan, 31; Mississippi, 490; New Mexico, 81; Ohio, 131; Oregon and Washington, 24; Tennessee, 654; and Virginia, 500.

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Oklahoma Directors
Approve Expansion

(5-18-63)

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Directors of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting here, have approved expansion of services for two Baptist institutions.

They also passed the largest budget recommendation in Oklahoma Baptist history--\$2,860,000. It will be offered for approval by the convention in its meeting in November for next year's Baptist operations.

The Oklahoma board also voted to acquire the Grove Medical Center, Inc., in Grove, Okla. It will be a satellite of the existing Miami Baptist Hospital in nearby Miami, Okla.

Under a lease-purchase agreement with Dr. Norman A. Cotner, owner of the center and Grove physician, the administrator and governing board of the Miami hospital will direct the Grove center.

The building, equipment and grounds will become property of the Baptist general convention when the debt has been paid.

A 25-bed addition to the Grove medical center is under construction. When completed, this center will have a value of \$220,000.

The Hugo Golden Age Home at Hugo, Okla., will be enlarged from 33 to 61 bed capacity. A loan not to exceed \$100,000 was approved for construction. The additional wing will be named in memory of J. F. Murrell, the first administrator of the home at Hugo.

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