

February 25, 1964

7-Member Committee
Studies Federal Aid

NASHVILLE (BP)--The chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee will appoint seven persons to study "the effects of the new federal law for higher education on Southern Baptist colleges and universities."

The aid bill, passed by Congress two months ago, provides grants and loans to church-related colleges as well as to public institutions. It is the first act of this kind.

The request for the special study committee came from executive secretaries of state Baptist conventions and associations, who considered the issue at Houston the week before the Executive Committee's Nashville meeting.

The college bill would authorize \$1.195 billion for the first three years of a five-year program. Funds would be limited to construction of academic facilities for science, engineering, mathematics and modern foreign languages. Library construction is also included.

Passage of the act plainly worried Baptist educators because of the church-state issues present and financial impact. It was discussed several weeks ago at a joint meeting of Southern Baptist Convention and American Baptist Convention college officials in Washington.

The seven persons would be appointed by the Executive Committee chairman. The subcommittee will talk with the SBC Education Commission here and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, with offices in Washington, during its study.

While the SBC operates seminaries, the 54 college level denominational institutions are operated by state Baptist groups. Some state conventions have adopted formal policies which their schools must follow on federal aid questions.

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Alliance To Help
Get Funds To Cuba

(2-25-64)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Permission for the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board to work through the Baptist World Alliance to get mission funds to Cuba has been granted.

The United States government has restricted the flow of U. S. dollars into that country under the Castro Communist regime.

However, board Executive Secretary Courts Redford explained money continues to be sent to United States citizens on the agency's mission force in Cuba. This, he said, is permitted under foreign policy.

There are two American couples on the island--the Herbert Caudills and the J. David Fites.

The board budgets \$240,000 a year for work in Cuba, which includes salaries for the Caudills and Fites, pay for Cuban citizens employed, and funds to operate the work there.

It is the operating funds and the pay for Cuban citizens which has been curtailed by government policy.

The permission approved here by the SBC Executive Committee says the arrangement with the Baptist World Alliance is to be "approved by the United States State Department." The Executive Committee action was required to comply with the SBC's business and financial plan.

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The Alliance is a fellowship of Baptists from more than 100 countries, jointly supported by the Baptist groups in these countries. As an international organization, it can send funds to Cuba.

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"Narrow Escape"
For SBC President

(2-25-64)

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee came within two words of tossing its president into the proverbial waste basket--but it wasn't intentional.

The administrative committee recommended a constitutional change designating a "recording secretary" and a "registration secretary" instead of "two secretaries" as now specified. But it dropped the president from its wording of the proposed amendment to make it read:

"The officers of the Convention shall be a first and second vice-president, a recording secretary, a registration secretary and a treasurer."

Registration secretary Joe W. Burton, Nashville, a visitor at the meeting, caught the error minutes after the recommendation was approved. The record was corrected by unanimous consent--and the office of president given a new lease on life.

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Georgia Ministers
Prove Violations

(2-25-64)

DUBLIN, Ga. (BP)--Six Dublin ministers assumed duties of policemen to prove illegal whiskey sales and slot machines operations were flourishing in their county.

Their efforts resulted in confiscation of 16 slot machines and "several cases" of whiskey in weekend raids of Laurens County private clubs. The county is officially dry and gambling in any form is illegal in Georgia.

The ministers first toured several veterans' and fraternal clubs to verify reports of whiskey sales and slot machine operations. They then swore out warrants and took the Dublin city police on a raid of several clubs. Twelve slot machines were confiscated and destroyed.

The day after, the ministers got the Laurens County sheriff and raided the Dublin Country Club, turning up four more slot machines and "several cases" of whiskey.

Baptist ministers sharing in the raids were Stanley R. Hahn, Ted Adkins, C. K. Everett and Jimmy Burnham. Methodist minister J. M. Yarbrough and Nazarene pastor Marlin Mason also took part.

The action came after Hahn, pastor of Dublin's First Baptist Church, charged in his church bulletin that whiskey sales, slot machines, dirty movies and filthy literature sales were flourishing in Laurens County.

His articles prompted the circuit judge to reconvene the Laurens County grand jury to investigate the charges. Hahn said, "We are ready with facts and figures to support our statements."

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Child Care Leaders
Discuss New Trends

ANAHEIM, Calif. (BP)--Superintendents and administrators of children's homes within the Southern Baptist Convention were told here of changes and trends in the field of child care.

A pioneer in the training of house parents and in staff development said, "Don't expect housemothers to be plugged in like a washing machine just hoping she can do the work."

Another speaker warned child care officials not to be jealous guardians of outmoded plans and practices. The addresses were given at the 16th annual meeting of Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists.

The organization brings together denominational child care leaders but it has no formal connection to the S B C or to any state conventions of Baptists, which sponsor children's homes.

"Learning to understand children means to be able to see beneath the dirty faces and to hear beneath the choice words of a longshoreman's vocabulary," said Miss Marjorie L. Faraday who helped develop an extension course for housemothers which is offered at the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA).

She warned "knowledge does not substitute for caring."

The group met here as guest of W. A. Herring, superintendent of the Sunny Crest (Baptist) Children's Home in Bakersfield, Calif.

Walter Delamarter, newly elected director of social work education for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, said, "I feel with all my mind and soul that we are moving into a great new era of Christian enlightenment from which will emerge a multi-pronged ministry of Christian family services."

A Baptist child care leader told his associates that money-raising is not easy. R. C. Campbell, Dallas, president of Buckner Benevolences (Baptist) said a clear statement of purpose and services is important if Baptist child care officials are to communicate with the Baptist people.

William M. Dyal Jr., director of organization for the SBC Christian Life Commission, Nashville, said Baptist homes have received many children who have never discovered themselves as persons.

C. Ford Deusner, superintendent of the Kentucky Baptist board of child care, Middletown, Ky., was elected new president of Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists.

He succeeds J. M. Lunsford, superintendent of South Texas Baptist Children's Home, Beeville. Lunsford was named chairman of the committee seeking the establishment of an accredited graduate school of social work at a Baptist college.

Theron H. King of Carmi, Ill., superintendent of the Illinois Baptist Children's Home, was elected a member of the executive group.

Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists has as its purpose counsel and fellowship among officials of Baptist child care agencies. It engages in study and research on the care of neglected and dependent children, and publishes and distributes information about child care work.

The 1965 meeting of the group will convene in Washington, D. C.

3 Seminary Programs Outlined For Adoption

NASHVILLE (BP)--Three programs will be listed for Southern Baptist Convention seminaries, subject to approval by the 1964 Convention.

The three programs are leadership training programs--(1) in theology, (2) in religious education and (3) in church music. They have been passed by the SBC Executive Committee.

The Convention operates six seminaries. A description of the degree work at each one is included in the program structure adopted by the Executive Committee.

The three programs, said the Executive Committee, "do not necessarily mean separate schools" for each of the three. At three seminaries, separate schools have been set up for each of the programs.

The program proposed requires Convention approval for any seminary to establish a new school or division of its work.

The program subcommittee of the Executive Committee drafted the seminary program structure as it has for other agencies whose programs the SBC has approved so far. Programs for other agencies will be presented over the next two or three years.

The subcommittee's 1600-word report to the Executive Committee was its eighth draft of a program structure for the seminaries. Seminary officials were contacted in its development, and the eight rewordings were to assure that the final report would be thorough and complete.

The educational phase of the program structure embraces regular academic courses toward degrees, diploma non-degree work, the Seminary Extension Department, lecture-ships, necessary room and board and other services.

The consultative and advisory phase includes off-campus conferences with church and denominational leaders, assistance to other SBC agencies, and workshops on the campuses.

Conferences and workshops are not to conflict, if at all possible, with summer assemblies at Glorieta, N. M., and Ridgecrest, N. C.

The study and research phase involves research facilities and materials, faculty participation in professional meetings and in writing scholarly articles, publication of theological journals, and study leaves for faculty.

Relationships to other seminaries, to other schools and to other Convention agencies are defined.

"Southern Baptist seminaries may associate themselves with other theological schools, societies, agencies, and institutions for their mutual advancement provided there is no compromise of doctrinal position or Baptist polity," the program proposes.

The stated objective of Southern Baptist seminaries "is to provide theological education, with the Bible as the center of the curriculum, for God-called men and women to meet the need for trained leadership in the work of the churches. The seminaries shall utilize scholarship with reverent concern and dependence upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit. They shall be distinctive Baptist institutions witnessing to the truth revealed in the holy scriptures. They shall help the Convention by study of its life and by involvement in its programs."

Freedom Awards Go
To Educator, Pastors

By the Baptist Press

A college president and two pastors have received 1963 awards from Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge for statements on freedom made in public addresses or sermons.

They are Leslie S. Wright of Howard College (Baptist), Birmingham, and R. Archie Ellis, First Baptist Church, Columbia, S. C., and Luther Joe Thompson, First Baptist Church, Chattanooga.

Each received a George Washington honor medal.

The Foundation, with headquarters at Valley Forge, Pa., makes annual awards in several categories. The purpose of the Foundation is "to create and build an understanding of the spirit and philosophy of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and of our indivisible bundle of political and economic freedoms inherent in them (and)

"To inspire love of freedom and to support the spiritual unity born of the belief that man is a dignified human being created in the image of his maker and, by that fact, possessor of certain inalienable rights."

Wright's award stemmed from an excerpt from an address on the topic, "Freedom Is Everybody's Business." Ellis, who was recognized in a previous year by the Foundation for a sermon, was cited this time for a statement in another sermon, "But If Ye Turn Away."

Thompson's award-winning remarks were contained in a sermon entitled, "Faith and Freedom."

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North American
Fellowship Supported

(2-25-64)

NASHVILLE (BP)--The SBC Executive Committee has placed its support behind Southern Baptist Convention participation in a North American Baptist Fellowship.

A proposal to create a standing committee of the SBC will be put before messengers to the 1964 Convention in Atlantic City, N. J. The new committee will be called the Committee on North American Baptist Fellowship.

It will, if voted into being, include the SBC president, executive secretaries of the SBC Executive Committee and Home Mission Board, and six pastors and four laymen.

W. Douglas Hudgins, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., and a member of the Executive Committee, objected to the proposed new fellowship.

"I think it's the first step in a direction we do not want to take," he said. He did not further explain his objection, and his effort to kill the proposal was defeated.

C. C. Warren of Charlotte, N. C., explained the North American Baptist Fellowship would maintain the contacts between Baptist bodies in America which have been established during the Baptist Jubilee Advance.

The six-year Baptist Jubilee Advance, involving seven Baptist groups in the United States and Canada, climaxes in May in Atlantic City, following the meetings of the SBC and the American Baptist Convention there.

Warren has been chairman of the committee working out Baptist Jubilee Advance activities within the SBC.

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Baptist Press

Mrs. R. L. Mathis of Birmingham, promotion director for Woman's Missionary Union, Convention auxiliary, said Southern Baptist women are already taking part in the North American Baptist Women's Union.

The North American union is connected with the Baptist World Alliance, as also would be the proposed North American Baptist Fellowship.

Porter Routh, Nashville, executive secretary of the Executive Committee, said the proposal to create a standing committee "does not envision an organization or duplication of effort. It provides for one meeting a year at which problems can be discussed and tensions relaxed."

Warren added, "This is not an attempt to drag Southern Baptists into an ecumenical movement or the World Council (of Churches)."