

June 10, 1964

Association For Aging  
Studies Constitution

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Association of Executives of Homes for the Aging, holding only the second of its annual meetings, studied its proposed constitution here. The group first came together here a year ago, symbolizing the advance the denomination has made in operating homes and hospitals for the aging.

The proposed constitution outlines the association's purpose as "to bring together from time to time the executives of Baptist homes for the aging as well as other persons interested in a ministry to the aging."

The new association apparently will be to Baptist homes for the aging what the Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists is to children's homes operated in the denomination. The Child Care Executives group has been in existence for several years.

Neither group will have an official relationship with the Southern Baptist Convention, although the SBC Christian Life Commission will serve as coordinator for the new association among executives of homes for aging.

Institutions for children and the aging are maintained by state Baptist groups or local associations of churches, rather than nationally by the SBC. But the Association of Executives of Homes for the Aging will have not official relationship to the state conventions or local associations.

The new association seeks to promote (1) "the finest type of care for the residents in Baptist homes for the aging, (2) "the development of a Christian ministry in helping to meet the needs of the aging in our society" and (3) the "sharing (of) information and planning (of) programs that shall be beneficial to all concerned."

Members, according to the proposed constitution, shall come from two groups. First, it will include executive officers of Baptist homes for the aging. Second, it will include "other interested individuals whose official capacities involve them in a ministry to the aging."

Membership dues will be \$25 a year for each institution and \$10 a year for "other interested individuals."

The officers are to be the president, vice-president and secretary. The association has elected James Basden, Dallas, secretary, human welfare commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, as its president.

In the proposed bylaws, the association states, "The activities of the association shall be correlated by, but in no wise controlled by, the office of the executive secretary-treasurer of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. This office shall serve as the treasury for the association and shall serve in an exofficio capacity on the executive committee" of the association.

It voted to hold its 1965 meeting in September in Nashville, immediately following the annual Southern Baptist Conference on Counseling and Guidance.

2 Kansas Citians  
Head Alumni Group

ATLANTIC CITY (BP)--Two Kansas City ministers are leading officers of the alumni of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, also located in Kansas City, Mo.

The ministers are E. H. Hays, alumni president, and Bill L. Bullington, alumni vice-president. A Southern Baptist Convention home missionary, Robert L. Gross, is alumni secretary.

Hays is pastor of Englewood Baptist Church and Bullington of Leeds Baptist Church in the Missouri City. Gross directs the Neighborhood Baptist Good Will Center at Albuquerque, N. M.

Alumni elected their officers while attending a week of Baptist meetings in Atlantic City.

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Mississippi Negro  
Seminary Honors 4

(6-10-64)

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--Mississippi Baptist Seminary here, an institution for Negroes, awarded three honorary doctor of humanities degrees and one doctor of divinity degree at its 1964 commencement.

William P. Davis, Jackson, president of the seminary, received one of the humanities degrees. Davis also is secretary of the Negro work department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention board.

The Mississippi Baptist Convention, for white Baptists, supports the seminary jointly with seven Negro Baptist bodies in the state.

Guy Bellamy of Oklahoma City, secretary of the department of work with National (Negro) Baptists for the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board, received another of the doctor of humanities honorary degrees.

The third went to Gertrude Hart, director of the Baptist Center here.

Mississippi Seminary presented the honorary doctor of divinity degree to Robert W. West, president of the General State Baptist Convention of National Baptists.

One hundred eighteen graduates received certificates, diplomas and degrees.

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Statewide Rally Draws  
29,000 Baptist Youth

(6-10-64)

ARLINGTON, Tex. (BP)--The largest crowd of Baptist youth believed ever to be assembled were challenged here by Christian athletes, singers and actors to stand for "the things Christ stands for."

More than 29,000 young people jammed their way into Six Flags over Texas on the opening day of Texas Baptists first Youth Festival.

For the first time in history, the amusement park near Dallas and Fort Worth was forced to close its gates due to an over-capacity crowd. Only about 6,000 Baptist youth attended the second day of the festival, about the total number expected for the entire rally when the event was being planned.

The Youth Festival was held to combine good, clean fun with a spiritual impact for Christ, said T. A. Patterson, Dallas, executive secretary for the 1-1/2-million-member Baptist General Convention of Texas.

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Bill Glass, Cleveland Browns football player, who is also a Southern Baptist preacher, brought the final address each night, standing on a platform in the middle of a lagoon. Thousands of young people thronged the lake shore to hear Glass speak and to listen to the singing of Linda Loftis, Miss Texas of 1961.

Others who performed and gave their Christian testimonies throughout each day were Scott Appleton, all-American lineman at the University of Texas last season; Tony Crosby, placekicker for the Texas squad; actors Gregory Walcott and Bob Turnbull; singers Ray Hildebrand and Charlie Jester; and Pam Baird, singer-actress.

Walcott, second vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention, called the festival "the most exciting thing I have ever participated in."

To draw the over-capacity crowds outside the park, some acts were held around a nearby lake and on a football field.

Patterson said the success of the project indicates that new approaches will draw young people for Christ-centered events.

"As we evaluate the success of the venture, we will give serious consideration to the effectiveness of such methods of reaching youth with the gospel message," Texas Baptists' executive secretary said.

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#### Caudills Leave Cuba For Eye Operation

(6-10-64)

ATLANTA (BP)--A detached retina brought to pass what difficulties between the United States and Cuba had not--the return to the United States of the Herbert Caudills, Southern Baptist missionaries in Havana since 1929.

Caudill, superintendent of mission work in Cuba for the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board, since 1947, has suffered from eye trouble during most of the past year.

When the difficulty was diagnosed as a detached retina, he notified mission leaders in Atlanta he was coming here for treatment.

The trip out of Cuba had to be made by way of Mexico City because of the breakdown in relations between Cuba and the United States. The Caudills left Havana at 8:30 a.m. EDT June 8 and reached Atlanta at 8:45 p.m. EST the same day.

This is their first time back since November, 1959, the first year Fidel Castro ruled the island.

"We plan to go back to Cuba, and we presently have permission of the Cuban government to return," Caudill said. Treatment for the eye condition will require from three to six months, he expects.

"The call I received from God to go to Cuba in the spring of 1929 has not been changed or revoked as far as I can tell. In reality it has seemed to increase through the years," he added.

The Caudills have two very evident objectives: one, secure treatment for his eye difficulty, and two, return to Cuba to preach the gospel.

"In many ways, the word of God meets with greater acceptance today than any time during the 35 years we have been in Cuba," Caudill said.

"There's the same opportunity to preach the gospel we've always had, though there are more restrictions on the number of services outside the buildings," he stated. "More young people than ever are flocking to the churches, and we had our largest beginning class in our theological institute this September."

When asked about food shortages, Caudill smiled down at his rotund figure and commented, "I weigh the same thing I did the last time I was here."

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Despite the Caudills' reluctance to discuss the situation in Cuba, other sources available to Baptist Press indicate religious work in Cuba under Castro has become progressively more difficult.

Baptists have had their schools, other than the theological institute in Havana, closed. Radio broadcasts were stopped, and some church buildings confiscated. Last year two missionaries, Miss Ruby Miller and Miss Lucille Kerrigan were deported.

The Caudills' return was an emotional one for them. They were able to see all of their children in one day.

They left behind in Havana their daughter, Margaret, and her husband, David Fite. The Fites are now Southern Baptists' only American missionaries in Cuba.

A twin brother to David Fite, Donald, is a doctor in Atlanta and is making arrangements with an eye specialist, William S. Hagler, for treatment of Caudill's eye. Hagler uses the new laser light to "weld" detached retinas in place.

Two other Caudill children, who live in the United States, were able to fly to Atlanta and meet their parents.

They are a daughter, Jane, who is married to George D. Pringle, a home missionary to Spanish-speaking people in Park View, N. M., and a son, Herbert Jr., who is a student at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee.

Caudill, a native of Clinchport, Va., was educated at Baptists' Mercer University, Macon, Ga., and at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. He was a pastor of churches in the Middle Baptist Association of Georgia, and he lived at Newington before going to Cuba in 1929.

In Cuba he served as pastor and teacher before becoming superintendent of the work in 1947. There are 87 Baptist churches and 124 missions in the four western provinces where Southern Baptists work.

Mrs. Caudill is a native of Little Springs, Miss., and was educated at Wesleyan College and Mercer University, both in Macon. She went to Cuba in 1930, following their marriage in Macon in October of that year.

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Note to editors: We are mailing picture of Caudills being interviewed at airport or one of their arrival at airport.

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interviewed by  
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