

November 14, 1964

**South Carolina Says
No Integration Wanted**

COLUMBIA, S. C. (BP)--By a vote margin of almost 2 to 1, messengers to the 1964 South Carolina Baptist Convention here said they do not want their denominational colleges to admit Negro students.

The vote was 908 to 575 at the close of a debate over the issue, the major one before South Carolina Baptists at their annual session. This vote was an expression of opinion after the convention had voted 943 to 915 not to accept a recommendation from its general board.

General board of the convention recommended that racial admissions policies be left in the hands of the trustees of each college. The convention now has three, of which Furman University, Greenville, S. C., the largest, had decided to integrate, by trustee action.

The convention is about to open a fourth college at Charleston.

The convention's decision was not binding on the colleges, but observers said they doubt the colleges will take an action contrary to the opinion vote of the convention.

The difference of about 400 votes on the two issues was attributed to the fact that supporters of the general board recommendation apparently left the convention hall before the later opinion vote was taken.

The fourth college, to be located at Charleston, will receive a \$2.5 million allocation from the convention. It will launch its first year of classes next September if feasible. The name of the four-year college now is the Baptist College at Charleston, but this is not necessarily its permanent name.

Robert W. Major, pastor, Ashley River Baptist Church, Charleston, was elected convention president.

Resolutions adopted by the convention reaffirmed support of the religious liberty provisions of the first amendment to the U. S. Constitution and recommended approval of voluntary prayers in public schools.

Furman University has several students of Indian and Oriental background but no Negroes.

The convention adopted a 1965 Cooperative Program goal of \$3.7 million. Of this \$1,347,549 plus 40 per cent of receipts beyond the yearly goal will go to the Southern Baptist Convention for nationwide and worldwide missions.

The 1965 convention will meet Nov. 16-18 at Greenville.

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**New Mexico Criticizes
Science Textbook**

11-14-64

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. (BP)--A science textbook for high school classroom study drew fire from New Mexico Baptists here, who claimed it presents "the theory of evolution of man as though it were an established fact rather than theory."

The book is entitled "Biological Science and Inquiry Into Life." It was group-authored and published by Harcourt, Brace and World.

The 1964 session of the Baptist Convention of New Mexico resolved its dissatisfaction with this high school text. Some Baptist leaders were already making contacts in an effort to keep the book out of New Mexico public schoolrooms.

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In other action, the convention adopted a 1965 Cooperative Program goal of \$585,000 and a total budget of \$1.2 million. Division of the \$585,000 Cooperative Program goal would remain the same as it has been this year--73 per cent for work inside New Mexico and 27 per cent to support national and world missions through the Southern Baptist Convention.

John H. Parrott of Roswell, pastor of First Baptist Church there, was elected convention president. Next year's convention will meet Nov. 16-18 in Clovis.

Another resolution adopted reaffirmed the convention's commitment to religious liberty as protected by the first amendment to the U. S. Constitution.

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J. B. Weatherspoon, 78,
Dies Of Heart Ailment

11-14-64

RALEIGH, N. C. (BP)--Dr. Jesse Burton Weatherspoon, who had a 57-year career as pastor and teacher in the Southern Baptist Convention, died here Nov. 11 after a month-long illness from a heart ailment.

Weatherspoon was 78. The place of his death was only about 20 miles from his birthplace in Durham County, N. C. He spent the last days of his long denominational career as visiting professor of preaching at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in nearby Wake Forest, N. C.

Southeastern Seminary, where Weatherspoon spent the years 1959 to 1963, now occupies the campus vacated by Baptist-owned Wake Forest College. Dr. Weatherspoon once covered that same campus in getting a bachelor's degree in 1906 and a master's degree the following year from Wake Forest College.

The college later awarded him the honorary doctor of divinity degree, although Weatherspoon had an earned doctor of theology degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

His long teaching career was spent mostly at the Louisville seminary. He was on the faculty of Southern Seminary from 1929 to 1958, when he first retired. His second retirement, from Southeastern, was at the first of this year.

His first wife was Ada L. Jones of Raleigh, whom he married in 1913. She died in 1957. In 1962, Weatherspoon married Miss Emily K. Lansdell, who had been president of Carver School of Missions and Social Work in Louisville. She, and a brother, W. Herbert Weatherspoon, both of Raleigh, survive.

From 1944 to 1954, Dr. Weatherspoon was chairman of the SBC Social Service Commission, an agency which has become the Christian Life Commission.

Funeral services were held at First Baptist Church, Raleigh, with the pastor, John Lewis, in charge. Staff and faculty of Southeastern Seminary were honorary pallbearers.

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Virginia Passes
3 Race Statements

11-14-64

ROANOKE, Va. (BP)--The Baptist General Association of Virginia, in its 1964 session here, overwhelmingly passed a three-point race proposal from its Christian life committee.

The proposal praised church and individual efforts toward racial betterment, endorsed the laws guaranteeing individual legal rights regardless of race, and commended the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention for the "courageous leadership" of its staff.

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The association, which corresponds to a state convention, also approved forming a standing committee dealing with urban churches. It passed the report of its religious liberty committee which said U. S. Supreme Court decisions on school prayer cases "are in accord with the tradition of church and state separation, which has long been the Baptist position."

Messengers elected a layman president, approved a \$4 million Cooperative Program goal for 1965 and set up another standing committee on pastor-church relations.

The layman president is a physician, Dr. William J. Hagood of Clover, Va. Of the \$4 million Cooperative Program goal, 37 per cent will be sent to the Southern Baptist Convention. The goal is \$430,000 greater than the 1964 objective.

The duty of the pastor-church relations committee "shall be to work closely with district associations (of churches) and with pastors and churches requesting assistance." The assistance would be generally in helping churchless pastors and pastorless churches.

A way the general association can financially aid urban churches will be brought to the 1965 session Nov. 16-18 at Richmond. It would involve perhaps a bond guarantee program and salary supplements to pastors.

The voice vote on approving the Christian life committee report on race was estimated at 3 to 1 for passage. The committee asked the association to "express gratitude for those individual Christians and churches who are involving themselves redemptively in continuing race relations."

It pledged support to "laws of the land designed to guarantee the legal rights of all persons in our democracy regardless of racial origin. . ."

The association also registered "appreciation for the confident and courageous leadership of the staff of the Christian Life Commission of the SBC for their efforts to interpret the relevance of the gospel to the social ills of our times through literature, addresses, workshops and personal consultation."

The bond guarantee plan of the Illinois Baptist State Association attracted the attention of the existing committee on urban churches.

Attention was also directed at rural churches. A committee report, which passed, urged churches in rural areas to pay pastors at least \$5000 a year in salary, plus providing a parsonage. It urged rural churches to conduct vacation Bible schools and revivals, to enrol in a church development ministry and to set aside a part of their offerings to support world missions through the Cooperative Program.

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California Centers
Action On Properties

11-14-64

LONG BEACH, Calif. (BP)--Property arrangements and construction involving its children's home, college and state office headquarters were the center of action at the 1964 session here of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California.

The convention voted to sell Sunnycrest Children's Home at Bakersfield. Walter Delamarter of the social work faculty at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, assisted the California convention in a study which led to this action.

Under the present institution-centered program, Sunnycrest has been caring for only a maximum of 20 children, 10 each in two cottages. The 20-acre tract at Bakersfield also had an administration building.

The convention decided to switch its child care ministry to a program of child placement in foster homes and a counseling service. There will be three counseling and welfare centers--one in Los Angeles, one in Fresno and the third in the Bay area around San Francisco.

The convention also took a one-year option to sell California Baptist College at Riverside to a local real estate development company. The selling price would be an estimated \$4.5 million, compared with the \$800,000 for which the convention bought the property 10 years ago.

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A building program at California Baptist College will be delayed until the convention knows if the option will be exercised. If property is sold, the college has two years and nine months in which to relocate.

The present college campus is a converted retirement home. If the property is sold, the college would probably remain in the greater Los Angeles area and select a more suitable campus location, according to convention officials.

The convention voted to award a bid to a Fresno construction company to erect a new convention headquarters building in that city. The contract is for \$445,395.

The three-story structure, containing 30,000 square feet, will be located in a northeast suburb near Fresno State College. Construction, to begin immediately, would be finished in eight months.

The new building will house all Baptist convention offices in Fresno, including the Baptist Book Store. Baptists have buildings at present in four places in Fresno.

A memorial to the Southern Baptist Convention was adopted calling for the SBC president to appoint a 15-member committee to study methods of organizing and financing of new churches and missions in pioneer and suburban areas. The committee would seek means of securing a guaranty loan fund from SBC boards and agencies to underwrite loans for new sites and buildings for churches.

The proposed SBC committee would also be asked to devise means of direct gifts for church sites, buildings and pastors' salaries. The memorial will be brought to the Executive Committee of the SBC with a request it be placed before messengers to the 1965 Convention at Dallas next May.

The convention elected Clyde B. Skidmore, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Costa Mesa, as new president. It will hold its 1965 state convention session Nov. 9-11 in San Jose. San Diego is the 1966 site.

It adopted a total budget of \$1,943,838. The Cooperative Program goal for the year is \$1,050,000. The division of 75 per cent for state work and 25 per cent for activities of the Southern Baptist Convention remains the same as in previous years.

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Tennessee Defeats Distribution Change

11-14-64

MEMPHIS (BP)--The Tennessee Baptist Convention, in 1964 session here, defeated an effort to move toward sharing equally with the Southern Baptist Convention its yearly Cooperative Program receipts from churches.

The convention has been forwarding one-third of its receipts to the SBC for nationwide and worldwide missions. It voted to keep that same arrangement in 1965 when its Cooperative Program goal is \$4,025,000.

The effort of a rural pastor from east Tennessee to have the convention move some each year toward a 50-50 distribution failed. He proposed the 1965 distribution be close to 37 per cent for the SBC, the 1966 distribution about 40 per cent, and so on.

Opponents of his motion said the "tremendous need" for money to support Tennessee convention's four colleges and schools requires the convention to keep most of its funds at home.

It was also argued the convention this year could not commit conventions in future years to a changing scale of division of funds.

The Tennessee body elected Charles Ausmus, pastor, Lincoln Park Baptist Church, Knoxville, as president, and voted to go to Chattanooga Nov. 9-11 for the 1965 convention session.

A resolution adopted opposes sales of liquor by the drink in Tennessee.

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Convention Trounces
Fire Tribble Effort

GREENSBORO, N. C. (BP)--A rural pastor failed in an attempt here to unseat Harold W. Tribble as president of Wake Forest College, operated by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

And the president of the Wake Forest College student body talked about the college severing its ties with the convention, when he addressed the 800 messengers staying over for the closing moments of the 1964 North Carolina state convention here.

Tribble was not present when Robert O. Brown called Tribble "incompetent, a breeder of hostile feelings and leader of a college that is a constant thorn in the flesh of the convention."

Brown is pastor of a 181-member church at Powellville, N. C. His motion was that trustees of Wake Forest College be directed by the convention to dismiss Tribble within three months.

The 800 messengers still on hand soundly defeated the motion. Only 50 persons backed Brown's effort.

Earlier at the session, Cliff Lowery of Raleigh, the president of Wake Forest College's student body told the convention, "If the convention continues to refuse to accept its responsibility in providing for Wake Forest's advancement to university status, we urge our administration to seek other methods to allow for our growth--even if it means severing our official ties with this convention--in order to remain Christian."

Students at Wake Forest, in Winston-Salem, had demonstrated after hearing the 1964 state convention had voted down two higher education proposals backed by the convention's general board.

Over 3500 were present when those votes were taken. By a vote of 2247 to 1566 a plan to permit non-Baptist and out-of-state trustees for Wake Forest and six sister Baptist colleges was defeated. A proposal to permit federal aid to the schools for "services rendered" was voted down 2567 to 1029.

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(Editors: This may be combined, if you wish, with earlier story on the North Carolina convention, sent a day earlier.)

Alabama Sets Sight
On 150th Birthday

11-14-64

MOBILE, Ala. (BP)--Alabama Baptists have set their sights on celebrating their 150th birthday in 1973.

The Alabama Baptist State Convention here approved a report recommending plans for the sesquicentennial. The state convention was organized in 1823 at Salem Baptist Church near Greensboro, Ala.

The convention will work out later details for celebrating its third jubilee.

From the record 1965 Alabama convention budget of more than \$5 million, adopted by messengers, the Southern Baptist Convention will get \$1,535,275 for nationwide and worldwide mission causes.

J. R. White, pastor, First Baptist Church, Montgomery, was elected new president of the convention. This church will be host to the 1965 session on Nov. 16-18.

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Mississippi Makes
Racial Declarations

11-14-64

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--A plea for Baptists and others outside the state to let Mississippians work out their own racial solutions was part of a 10-point declaration on

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race adopted by the 1964 session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention here.

The convention also adopted another resolution after a section was dropped calling for an end to the Christian Life Commission as an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The original motion had asked for the death of the commission, but the Mississippi convention's resolutions committee knocked that part of the resolution out before the convention passed on it.

Introduced by Baptists from the McComb, Miss., area, scene of some of the violence over integration during past months, the resolution as adopted attacked the Christian Life Commission of the SBC for continuing, "in some matters, to take liberal positions not in accord with the thinking of many Southern Baptists."

The convention put itself on record as "vigorously opposed to these positions not in accord with the thinking of many Southern Baptists."

Other parts of the 10-point declaration deplored "every act of violence and lawlessness that has occurred in the state" and commended "law enforcement agencies for seeking to prevent acts of violence and lawlessness."

It acknowledged that "since the majority of the people of Mississippi of both races are Christian, it is evident that those Christians must work toward finding a solution."

While recognizing that "serious racial problems now beset our state," the resolution said "they are presenting an unfavorable, and largely false, image of the state to the whole world."

The resolution with the 10 declarations was introduced by Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, a layman, and a member of the SBC Executive Committee.

The Mississippians voted to acquire a new Baptist office building in Jackson, and adopted a record 1965 Cooperative Program budget.

The convention set the sum of \$750,000 as a capital needs preferred item for the new office building, with \$75,000 to be paid annually beginning Nov. 1, 1965.

The budget is \$2,998,000. Southern Baptist Convention causes will get \$989,000 of it.

Earl Kelly, pastor, First Baptist Church, Holly Springs, Miss., was elected convention president and Jackson was selected as site of the 1965 convention Nov. 16-18.

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(The text of all the resolutions offered from McComb and from Owen Cooper are carried verbatim below.)

Resolution from Pike County (McComb) Baptist Association:

"Whereas, the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention continues, in some matters, to take liberal positions not in accord with the thinking of many Southern Baptists and

"Whereas, the expression of such positions by the commission is often taken by the press and public as representing the views and feelings of all Southern Baptists, and

"Whereas, these positions tend to promote, in these troublous times, a spirit of discord and disunity within many of our Baptist churches and organizations, at a time when we desperately need unity, harmony and understanding now

"Be it resolved that we go on record as being vigorously oppoed to these positions not in accord with the thinking of many Southern Baptists."

(The original resolution contained a sentence reading "that we go on record as favoring the abolition of the Christian Life Commission," but at the suggestion of its resolutions committee, this sentence was omitted from the convention's adopted resolution.)

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Resolutions on Race Problem

1. Whereas, serious racial problems now beset our state;
2. And, whereas, at the same time that those problems create a disturbance within the state, they are presenting an unfavorable, and largely false, image of the state to the whole world;
3. And, whereas, it is clearly evident that these problems are not going to find a final and satisfactory solution through federal intervention the actions of outside groups coming into the state or by radical or lawless action within the state;
4. And, whereas, we believe that the only final solution can come through the power and leadership of God;
5. And, whereas, since the majority of the people of Mississippi, of both races, are Christian, it is evident that these Christians must work toward finding a solution.
6. And, whereas, it is our conviction that the present situation of conflict cannot continue to exist, without serious and lasting damage to the state;

Therefore, we the messengers to the 1964 Mississippi Baptist Convention, in conference assembled, do hereby make the following declarations:

1. We fully recognize the autonomy of every Baptist church, and the fact that no expression of this convention, or any other Baptist body, can have any binding effect on a single church or any individual Baptist in the state. Nevertheless, it is our conviction that churches and Christians must lead the way in finding solutions to these problems.
2. We commend our churches and individual Baptist and other Christians for the calmness and restraint they have exercised in the stress and strain that has existed and would urge them to continue to maintain that Christian attitude.
3. We deplore every act of violence and lawlessness that has occurred in the state.
4. We would commend the law enforcement agencies for seeking to prevent acts of violence and lawlessness, and would urge them to continue their efforts to maintain law and order.
5. We would urge all Baptists in the state to refrain from participation in or approval of any such acts of lawlessness; and a continuous practice of law--Christian citizenship, leaving all law enforcement to the properly constituted authorities.
6. We would urge our fellow Baptists and all others from outside the state to refrain from coming into the state and interfering in these affairs, giving Mississippians the opportunity and time to find solutions to these problems.
7. We would call upon churches and Christians within the state to recognize that a solution must be found, and to work with the proper authorities in creating an atmosphere wherein such a solution is possible.
8. We would commend the department of Negro work of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for the leadership it has given in keeping the doors open for communication with Negro Baptists of the state, and for the splendid work that has been done in working with these Baptists.
9. We would commend the Interdenominational Committee of Concern for the action it is taking in seeking to aid those churches whose property has been destroyed during this racial conflict and whose members are requesting and qualify for assistance.
10. We would urge every church and every Baptist in the state to recognize responsibility in these matters, and to pray, and to work for the solution of them so that Christian harmony may return to our state.

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NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE

Special to The Baptist Message

Outline

November , 1964

Baptist Press Photo

'70 ONWARD PLANNERS--Four Louisianans were among the Southern Baptist leaders meeting in Nashville recently for the first stages of SBC emphasis planning for 1970 and beyond. They are, left to right, Nelson Price, pastor of the Oak Park Church, New Orleans, and first vice president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention; Scott Tatum, pastor of the Broadmoor Church, Shreveport, and president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention; Al Cathey, layman, member of Highland Church, Shreveport; and Rufus Zachry, pastor of Metairie Church, New Orleans. (BP) Photo