

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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Liquor, Gambling Bills  
Introduced in Texas

AUSTIN, Tex. (BP)--Bills have been introduced in the Texas legislature which would call for local option elections on legalized horse race betting, and which would allow Texas restaurants to sell liquor in miniature, jigger-size bottles.

The Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas called the bills "moral issues" and urged state legislators and Texas Baptists to oppose them.

The proposed liquor bill would change the definition of the term "open saloon" now prohibited by the Texas Constitution to permit sale of liquor in sealed, two-ounce bottles at licensed restaurants. Wording changes in the Texas Liquor Control Act, not a constitutional amendment, are proposed.

Texas law now prohibits sale of liquor-by-the-drink, and requires that all hard liquor be sold in sealed containers of eight ounces (one-half pint) or larger.

The proposed bill (S. B. 8 by Jim Bates of Edinburg, Tex.), would enable those who want a drink with meals to buy liquor at a restaurant instead of having to carry to the table a large bottle discretely hidden in a paper sack. "This is a ridiculous situation," Bates said.

Jimmy R. Allen of Dallas, director of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission, said however that the proposal would in effect make "saloons" out of Texas restaurants. "Changing the definition of the term 'saloon' is like calling a tiger a canary," Allen quipped. "If you get close enough to hear the singing, you're liable to get clawed."

Allen also opposed on moral grounds a bill to legalize local option elections permitting pari-mutuel betting at horse races.

The proposal (H. B. 49 by Rep. Maurice Pipkin of Brownsville, Tex.), would set up a state horse racing commission to license and regulate tracks and betting. Each county would decide in local option elections if the people want racing and betting within its boundaries.

Rep. Pipkin says the bill will simply tax betting that is already going on in Texas, and will give the state control over gambling. He estimated the bill would bring the state \$~~20~~ to \$50 million a year.

Allen claimed it would also bring "undesirable elements" to the state, and would increase illegal gambling and crime. The bill's supporters, Allen said, "are not aware of the damage that would be done to the poor of our state by making gambling socially approved and attractive."

The race track gambling bill, referred to the committee on state affairs, is supported by the Texas Racing Association. The miniature liquor bottle bill, supported by the Texas Restaurant Association, was referred to the committee on jurisprudence.

9 Major Addresses  
Scheduled At Dallas

By The Baptist Press

Nine major messages, including the convention sermon and the president's address, will be delivered at the 1965 session of the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas June 1-4.

Except for one address, by Glen L. Archer on church-state affairs, the nine will be delivered by Southern Baptist pastors or denominational officers.

Two with an expected emphasis on evangelism are those by C. E. Autrey, Dallas, director of evangelism for the SBC Home Mission Board, and Kenneth L. Chafin, Fort Worth, associate professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Other speakers include President Wayne Dehoney of Jackson, Tenn.; Convention Sermon Preacher John H. Haldeman of Miami; James L. Sullivan, Nashville, executive secretary, SBC Sunday School Board; Duke K. McCall, Louisville, president, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; former SBC President Ramsey Pollard of Memphis, and W. A. Criswell, Dallas.

The SBC committee on order of business has released the proposed agenda, beginning Tuesday night and closing on Friday night.

Committee chairman Leslie S. Wright of Birmingham said an effort has been made to include someone from every state convention group in the SBC to offer a prayer or to read scripture.

A feature which was introduced at the 1964 session in Atlantic City has been held over for the 1965 session. This is a 30-minute period called "What's Your Question?" Moderated by Porter W. Routh, Nashville, executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee, this period is set aside Friday afternoon for dialogue between the messengers and the various executive heads of the convention's agencies.

The convention sermon and the president's address come on Tuesday night, June 1. James L. Sullivan closes the Wednesday morning meeting with his address on "Southern Baptist Advance."

There is no Wednesday afternoon assembly. Messengers are invited to attend the dedication in adjoining Fort Worth of a new Communications Center for the SBC Radio and Television Commission.

"Soul Winning" is the topic of C. E. Autrey's address Wednesday night. This is also Home Mission Board report night.

Duke K. McCall's address on theological education Thursday noon will follow annual reports from the six SBC seminaries. Chafin will address the session Thursday afternoon.

Foreign Missions night is Thursday night. Archer, executive director of Protestants and Other Americans, Washington, an organization which considers church-state involvements, will speak Friday morning.

Pollard closes the Friday afternoon session with his address. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, brings the message ending the 1965 convention that evening. (BP)

Support Recommended  
For Alliance Committee

By The Baptist Press

At the 1965 session in Dallas in May, the Southern Baptist Convention will consider a recommendation to support a North American Committee of the Baptist World Alliance.

Representation of the SBC on this North American Committee, under the terms of the recommendation, would be elected by the annual conventions. The SBC committee on boards would nominate representatives.

The convention's committee on North American Baptist Fellowship has announced what it will recommend at Dallas. It has studied such participation for a year, on instruction of the 1964 convention which met in Atlantic City.

The North American Committee would be under the Baptist World Alliance executive committee. The SBC study group has suggested, without force of recommendation, that the Alliance's executive committee change the name of the committee from the North American Fellowship of the Baptist World Alliance to the North American Committee of the Alliance.

It was explained since the Alliance is an autonomous group, the change in name could only be suggested, not recommended, by the SBC.

Wayne Dehoney, Jackson, Tenn., SBC president who served as chairman of the study committee, reviewed the use of the terms "committee" and "fellowship."

He said, "To more clearly define the nature of the North American organization, we feel the term 'committee' is better than the term 'fellowship.' This is simply a change in terminology.

"All along," he continued, "this (fellowship or committee) was to be nothing more than a channel of communication and cooperation. It never anticipated a separate staff or budget. It took on no broader commitments and involvements than the Southern Baptist Convention has in the Baptist World Alliance."

The suggested change from "fellowship" to "committee" is expected to be discussed at a meeting of the Baptist World Alliance executive committee later this year.

Four North American Baptist bodies have already voted to join the new committee of the Baptist World Alliance. Five are necessary to bring it into existence.

The four joiners are the American Baptist Convention, the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, the Baptist Federation of Canada and the National Baptist Convention of Mexico.

Along with the SBC, three other bodies in the United States are considering joining -- the North American Baptist General Conference and the two National (Negro) Baptist Conventions.

The purpose of the North American Committee as stated in the by-laws is "to continue the gains and values growing out of the Baptist Jubilee Advance and to make possible opportunities for fellowship and the sharing of mutual concerns."

Similar continental associations of Baptists exist in Europe, Asia and Africa. (BP)

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FORMAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP (STORY BASED ON THIS REPORT SEPARATE):

An Executive Committee recommendation proposing participation in a North American Baptist Fellowship was voted down in one session of the Southern Baptist Convention at Atlantic City.

In a later session the convention voted to keep the matter open and authorized the appointment of a special study committee to report to the Dallas convention.

The committee will present the following report and recommendation at the Dallas convention.

"The committee has received considerable correspondence and editorial comment concerning this proposal. Careful study and consideration has been given to every expression of interest received by the committee. In this report the committee has attempted to clearly set forth in a lengthy resolution the full information as to the purpose, objectives, commitments and involvements of our proposed recommendation.

"Dr. W. A. Criswell will present the committee's report and recommendation to the convention.

"This report represents the wisdom and best thinking of the full committee. It represents a fresh approach that should alleviate the anxieties expressed by some messengers in Atlantic City. It is my personal hope and prayer that this report, when presented by Dr. Criswell, will have the same unanimity of acceptance throughout the convention as was experienced within the membership of the special study committee."

Wayne Dehoney, chairman

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, we are living in a day when materialism, secularism, and paganism challenge every spiritual ideal for which we stand, and

WHEREAS, as the continent's largest evangelical denomination, Southern Baptists should exert every initiative and influence to win the North American continent for Christ, and

WHEREAS, we have a moral obligation to share our strength, our witness and our vision with sister continental Baptist bodies, who in turn will share their strength and insights with us, and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists have a genuine desire to conserve the values and continue the gains that grew out of the Baptist Jubilee Advance Program, and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists have been an integral part of the Baptist World Alliance since its beginning and have found in it a profitable and useful channel of communication and cooperation with other Baptist bodies that has not hindered or compromised our autonomy or witness as a convention or as individual churches, and

WHEREAS, the Baptist World Alliance through its executive committee has established a subcommittee to provide a continuing channel of communication and cooperation for the member Baptist bodies of the North American continent, and

WHEREAS, the bylaws of the Baptist World Alliance specifically limit this subcommittee as follows:

(A) It shall have no authority over any Baptist church or over any Baptist body or undertake any work for which the member bodies are responsible, and

(B) The work of this subcommittee shall be financed within the framework of the Baptist World Alliance budget by funds contributed by the North American member bodies, organizations and individuals, and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists are already associated with the Baptist World Alliance, and welcome further opportunities to share mutual concerns with other Baptist bodies, WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That the Southern Baptist Convention accept the invitation of the Baptist World Alliance executive committee to have representation on its "North American Committee," and
- 2. That our representation on this committee be elected by the convention, and
- 3. That the committee on boards nominate these representatives.

SUGGESTIONS:

Your committee respectfully suggests:

- 1. To the executive committee of the Baptist World Alliance that the name of this subcommittee be changed from the "North American Fellowship of the Baptist World Alliance," to the "North American Committee of the Baptist World Alliance" in order to describe more accurately its nature and relationship, and
- 2. To the convention's committee on boards, that, as far as practical to facilitate meeting and limit expense, representation on the said North American Committee be selected from among the Southern Baptists who represent us on the Baptist World Alliance executive committee.

(Signed)

Wayne Dehoney, chairman  
 Porter Routh  
 Arthur Rutledge  
 W. A. Criswell

L. D. Johnson  
 Jack Stuart  
 Joe Holliday  
 Forrest Siler

Theodore Adams  
 Floyd Harris  
 Joe Jack Hurst  
 Phillip Card  
 Brooks Hays

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Two SBC Hospitals Plan  
'Extensive' Expansion

2-10-65

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)--Southern Baptist Convention hospitals in New Orleans and Jacksonville plan "extensive" expansion programs in 1965, according to a report to the Southern Baptist Hospital agency.

T. Sloane Guy Jr., New Orleans, executive director of the agency, said the directors in annual session termed the occupancy rate in both hospitals "dangerously high from the standpoint of utilization."

Guy said admissions in both hospitals have climbed from 40,666 in 1958 to 42,709 in 1964 -- an increase of 5 per cent. Patient days of service have increased from 263,895 to 284,298, a gain of 8 per cent.

Meanwhile, the hospitals have managed to add 35 beds by internal rearrangements, and both have extensive building programs in progress or on the drawing boards.

Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans is ready to start a \$3.5 million, eight story wing that will increase its size to 600 beds and more than double space available for medical care.

Baptist Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville has opened an 84-bed unit which is a prototype of a multi-story plant to be built on the St. Johns River here.

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Directors, from throughout the SBC gathered in Jacksonville for the meeting, where Guy outlined other developments at the hospitals in the last six years;

1. Charity program costs have grown from \$344,050 to \$512,185, an increase of 48 per cent.
2. The educational program costs have increased from \$554,952 to \$626,916, a gain of 13 per cent.
3. Expenses have climbed from \$7 million to \$10.5 million, a gain of 50 per cent.
4. Gross assets have increased from \$11.5 million to \$18.3 an increase of 59 per cent.

The board also heard reports from Raymond C. Wilson, New Orleans, administrator of Southern Baptist Hospital there, and from Lamar Woodfin, chairman of the hospital's administrative committee.

New officers elected at the 1965, session are Joe H. Tuten, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., president; N. H. Sandifer, Jacksonville, vice-president, and Willie Lastrapes, New Orleans attorney, (reelected) recording secretary.

The annual meeting will be held in New Orleans in 1966.

The directors also voted to ask the Southern Baptist Convention to allow directors to serve nine years, instead of the present six, before they are required to rotate.

At present, directors are eligible for a second three-year term but must rotate after two terms or six years. Proposed is a plan to make directors eligible for a third three-year term, or nine years, of service before required to rotate from the membership.

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Bryant Heads Group  
Of Foundation Officers

2-10-65

PHOENIX (BP)--James R. Bryant of Richmond is new president of the Association of Baptist Foundation Executives.

Bryant, executive secretary, Virginia Baptist Foundation, succeeds Howard Whatley of Wichita.

The association, in its annual meeting here, elected Thomas W. Nelson of Jefferson City, Mo., vice-president, and re-elected Glen E. Crotts of Phoenix secretary-treasurer.

Nelson heads the Baptist Foundation in Missouri and Crotts is executive director of the Baptist Foundation of Arizona.

The association, which includes directors of state Baptist foundations in the Southern Baptist Convention, voted to meet in Little Rock in 1966. Dates are March 7-9.

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Medical Men Meet  
For Dallas Breakfast

2-10-65

DALLAS (BP)--Do Southern Baptist physicians in foreign mission fields primarily preach the Gospel, perform surgery, or deliver babies, or do some of all three?

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Are there Baptist missions in foreign countries where dedicated Christian dentists can work during their vacations to treat patients?

How critical is Southern Baptists' need for physicians, dentists, hospital administrators, chaplains, nurses and other members of the healing arts in foreign missions?

These and other pertinent questions will be answered at a medical personnel conference June 2 here. The conference is one of several planned in connection with the 1965 session of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The 7 a. m. Breakfast, expected to attract 300 to 500 members of the healing arts from the Dallas - Fort Worth area, is sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board and the Brotherhood Commission, both agencies of the SBC.

Site of the breakfast will be announced later.

Lucien Coleman, Memphis, projects coordinator for the SBC Brotherhood Commission, said the two-hour conference is designed to inform medical personnel about the work of their missionary counterparts in other countries and the opportunities still open.

Making up the steering committee for the conference with Coleman are Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, Richmond, medical consultant of the Foreign Mission Board; Texas Brotherhood Secretary W. L. Smith of Dallas; Dr. Truett James, a Dallas physician, and Dr. Peter Simon, Fort Worth dentist.

Two Dallas men were named to head committees. They are Jack Kincaid, arrangements, and Ed Moore, invitations.

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Ministers' Wives  
Set Dallas Lunch

2-10-65

DALLAS (BP)--The Conference of Ministers' Wives of the Southern Baptist Convention will celebrate its 10th anniversary at a luncheon meeting at Park Cities Baptist Church here June 3.

Mrs. L. D. Johnson of Greenville, S. C., is president of the conference.

Four women in the Washington, D. C., metropolitan area have been planning the program, held during the week of the 1965 Southern Baptist Convention here. They are Mrs. R. Stuart Grizzard, Mrs. Edward H. Pruden, Mrs. Elmer S. West Jr. and Mrs. Paul Wiley.

The program which begins at 10 o'clock will center on the role of the minister's wife. Reservations may be made by contacting Mrs. Herbert R. Howard, wife of the pastor of Park Cities Church and vice-president of the conference.

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Southern Baptists Seek  
424,000 Converts in '65

2-10-65

DALLAS (BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention's nation-wide evangelism leaders have set a goal urging Baptists to win 424,000 new converts during 1965.

The goal for 1965 would be an increase of 34,000 or more over the projected number of baptisms (converts) anticipated for 1964.

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The goals, set by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board Division of Evangelism here, also include reducing the ratio of converts and church members to one baptism for every 25 church members, and enlisting a million Baptists who will pledge to be soul-winners during the year.

Another evangelism goal for 1965 is to reduce by 500 the total number of churches which baptized no new converts during a year's period.

Last year there were more than 5,000 churches among the 33,000 Southern Baptist congregations which baptized no converts, said C. Y. Dossey, associate in the HMB Division of Evangelism.

The SBC evangelism staff also urged an all-out effort to get at least 700,000 Baptists who have moved to transfer their church membership to a nearby church.

Dossey said that it took 27 or 28 Baptist church members to win one person to Christ during 1964. The 1965 evangelism goal for the convention is to reduce that ratio to 25 or less church members per convert.

Although statistics for 1964 have not yet been released projected estimates set the number of baptisms in the SBC last year between 375,900 and 390,000. The 424,000 baptism goal for 1965 would be an increase ranging from 34,000 to nearly 50,000.

Church membership for 1964 is expected to range between 10,570,000 and 10,605,000.

In addition to other goals, the SBC evangelism office is urging each church within the convention to hold two revivals during 1965, and 500 associational evangelism chairmen to attend Home Missions Week at Glorieta or Ridgecrest Baptist Assemblies during 1965.

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Governor, USIA Official  
To Speak at Texas Meeting

2-10-65

AUSTIN, Tex. (BP)--The governor of Texas and a top official of the U. S. Information Agency will be major speakers at a Texas Baptist Christian Life Workshop on "Christianity and Political Action" here March 15-17.

The speakers are Gov. John Connally, and Lloyd Wright, former director of public relations for Texas Baptists now director of press and publications for the U. S. Information Agency.

The meeting, slated for the first time in the state capital of Texas, will also feature addresses by a state senator, a state representative, and a justice of the state supreme court.

Following briefings by state Sen. A. M. Aiken, Rep. George Cowden, and Judge Zollie Steakley, those attending the workshop will visit sessions of the state house and senate.

The meeting will give Texas Baptists an opportunity to get a first-hand look at the state government and issues facing Christian citizens in Texas, said Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission Secretary Jimmy R. Allen of Dallas.

Much of the meeting will be devoted to small discussion group sessions on key issues facing the state, including higher education, literacy, problems of the aging and dependent children, alcoholic beverage control, gambling, crime, capital punishment, human rights, and equal employment opportunities.

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Other major addresses are slated by James Ralph Scales, president of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; William R. Pinson and William Greenlee, both professors at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth; Mrs. Maurice Brown of Waco, Tex., president of the Texas League of Women Voters; and Allen.

Gov. Connally will bring the closing address on "The Challenge of the Future."

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Smith Named Student  
Director at Mobile

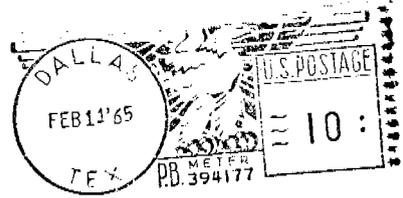
2-10-65

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (BP)--Oxford Smith, recent graduate of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, has been named director of Baptist student work for Mobile Baptist Association in Alabama. He will organize Baptist Student Union programs at the new University of South Alabama, three nursing schools in Mobile, and also direct the student religious program at Mobile Baptist College. During summer months he will serve as director of Citronelle Baptist Assembly here.

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103 BAPTIST BUILDING  
DALLAS 1, TEXAS



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