

May 1, 1965

Speaker Describes
People Making History

NASHVILLE (BP)--Unknown Christians, as well as famous heroes of the faith, merit praise for what they have done throughout the centuries to move Christianity forward.

This evaluation of the personal element in the making of history was presented to the Southern Baptist Convention Historical Commission here by its chairman, C. Penrose St. Amant of Louisville.

"The courage of men and women, great and small, is an important ingredient in the making of history," declared St. Amant, dean of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

St. Amant pointed out some historians think impersonal forces are more important in shaping history than are people. He said both the personal and impersonal are important.

"Something like the Reformation would have occurred if Martin Luther had never lived." The forces that prevailed in Germany would have produced another demagogue if it had not been Adolf Hitler. "Yet both Luther and Hitler have left their mark," the church historian noted.

"In the Christian faith, the individual is of supreme significance because he is created in the image of God. He is not merely a symbol of social forces. . . . He sometimes shapes society," according to St. Amant.

"Environmental forces may help us understand but they can never explain the apostle Paul, Martin Luther or Albert Schweitzer," he continued. He pointed to the "most significant event in history"--the coming of Christ on earth--as personal.

"Ours is not a heroic age," he said. Men run for cover to escape personal involvement. "What do we propose to do about the bit of history we share and in some measure shape? Are we willing to run the risks of involvement or will we smugly settle for self-centered lives sealed off from the cries of human need and suffering?" St. Amant asked.

St. Amant was reelected chairman of the commission, along with all others holding office in the agency. Fred C. Schatz of Nashville continues as vice-chairman, Gene Kerr of Nashville as recording secretary, and Davis C. Woolley of Nashville as treasurer.

Woolley is executive secretary of the commission under indefinite tenure.

Schatz is academic dean at Belmont College (Baptist), and Kerr is assistant to the executive secretary of Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Commissioners reviewed their joint venture with the SBC Sunday School Board in the Dargan-Carver Library at the board's administration building here. The library will move into more spacious and modern quarters later this year when a remodeling project now underway is finished, commissioners were told.

The Historical Commission offices, housed adjacent to the present library space, will also move to the remodeled area.

Woolley announced to commissioners he hopes to spend his study leave in 1966 in England. While there he hopes to microfilm rare Baptist materials for deposit in the library in Nashville.

The executive secretary reported many other SBC agencies call on the Historical Commission to verify historical articles, and look up historical information. The commission also helps seminary and college students in historical research.

History Helps Church Evaluate Its Position

NASHVILLE (BP)--The study of church history will cause Southern Baptists to measure their work by scripture and not by its success, a historian and professor at a Baptist college declared here.

Arthur L. Walker of Birmingham said, "The study of history will allow the scripture to judge the church. The evaluation of motives and practices can not be based on their success."

According to the professor and dean of students at Howard College, "Nothing is any more dangerous than to say, 'God must be in this action because it has been so successful.' This is pragmatism, and pragmatism is diametrically opposed to the Christian gospel.

"The success of activity can not be determined by whether it works, but rather the activity must be brought under the judgment of the word of God," Walker told members of the Southern Baptist Historical Society.

The society, an auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention Historical Commission, was holding its annual meeting here. Walker was the concluding speaker for the meeting.

The meeting brought together specialists in church history from throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. They include seminary and college professors of church history, pastors, pastors' wives, historians of state Baptist conventions and editors of denominational journals.

Walker told them, "Christian history reminds that . . . theological thought can not be allowed to be relegated to the ivory tower.

"One can become so involved in having a hundred more in Sunday school next Sunday that he never really is concerned with the theological basis of his activity. He can be so involved in the promotion of a larger budget that he never sees how he has manipulated the people of his church," Walker said.

"He can become so engrossed in the winning of men to his position that he comes to that dangerous line where one has destroyed his effectiveness for God because his preaching is based on improper motives."

Walker continued, "Historical study calls the denomination, the local church, the denominational leader, the theologian and the pastor to examine present positions."

The Historical Society reelected Richard N. Owen of Nashville to his ninth consecutive year as president. Owen is editor of the Baptist and Reflector, weekly journal of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The remainder of the officers was reelected--Mrs. Ollin J. Owens, a pastor's wife and state historian from Greenville, S. C., vice-president; H. I. Hester, seminary official, Kansas City, Mo., recording secretary, and Davis C. Woolley, Nashville, Historical Commission executive secretary, as treasurer of the society.

The society voted to hold its 1966 meeting in Nashville April 20 following the two-day annual sessions of the Historical Commission.

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Swiss Reports Cuban Missionaries Well

5-1-65

JACKSON, Tenn. (BP)--Swiss Ambassador Emil Stadleoffer in Havana reported Southern Baptist missionaries Herbert Caudill and David Fite "in good health and excellent morale."

Cuban authorities arrested the two missionaries and 51 Baptist pastors and laymen April 8.

Stadleoffer's report followed a personal visit to the Havana prison where the missionaries are held in separate cells. The Swiss embassy handles U. S. affairs in Cuba.

Wayne Dehoney of Jackson, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, released the information which he received from the White House in Washington.

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Stadlehoffer said the prisoners responded spontaneously that they were being adequately cared for, that sleeping conditions were good, food sufficient, and they had no need for medicine.

Mrs. Caudill and Mrs. Fite also visited the men.

Stadlehoffer said he would continue to stay in touch with the missionaries and with the Cuban government.

Dehoney expressed gratitude to Southern Baptists for the widespread response to the "call to prayer" issued for April 25 by himself and Arthur B. Rutledge of Atlanta, executive secretary of the Home Mission Board, which employs Caudill and Fite.

The "call to prayer" had asked united petitions for the missionaries, the families concerned, the Baptists of Cuba, and for the Cuban authorities.

Dehoney said, "We must continue to pray, not only for the missionaries but for Cuban Baptists in this hour of trial."

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Indiana Calls Slagle
To Fill Combined Post

5-1-65

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)--William H. Slagle, Southern Baptist superintendent of missions in Cleveland, Ohio, has been called to fill a denominational post here.

Effective Aug. 1, Slagle will serve as secretary of evangelism and Brotherhood of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana. He was elected by the convention's executive board to fill the office.

The State Convention of Baptists in Indiana cooperates nationally with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Evangelism duties are now handled by Indiana Executive Secretary E. Harmon Moore of Indianapolis. Brotherhood promotion is carried on by F. J. Redford of Indianapolis, who also handles missions and church finance.

Slagle is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

The Indiana executive board also voted to study its program and organization. It adopted a state missions offering goal of \$9500, all of which will be put into a fund to buy a camp site. The goal for the September, 1965 offering is \$1500 above the 1964 state missions offering.

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California Board Backs
Berkeley Expulsions

5-1-65

FRESNO, Calif. (BP)--A state Baptist board has adopted a resolution here supporting the University of California for expelling the four leaders of "the filthy speech movement" at the Berkeley campus.

The board, related to Southern Baptist Convention work in the state, also passed a proposed budget for Cooperative Program activities in 1966.

A Cooperative Program budget objective of \$1,145,000 will be recommended to the Southern Baptist General Convention of California when it meets this fall.

It will also be suggested that the share of the budget going to the SBC be raised from 25 to 26 per cent. The 1966 objective, if approved, will be a net increase of \$70,000 over the current year.

The budget proposal was approved by the convention's executive board in a meeting here.

Two formal statements of the board scored the recent events connected with what it called "the filthy speech movement" on the University of California campus at Berkeley. The board also asked the California legislature to curb the spread of obscene literature in the state.

-more-

May 1, 1965

4

Baptist Press

The board said it "deplored the lack of respect" by some students at Berkeley for law and order and the administration of the university.

The statement also hit at the use of vulgarity in public demonstrations. "We deplore the use of the University of California campus to further the cause of any group or organization not connected with the furtherance of the educational program of the school," the Baptist executive board resolved.

It supported the university's expelling the four leaders "of the filthy speech movement, and we encourage the administration to make clear to the students that attendance at the University of California is a privilege provided for them by the taxpayers and not a place for the promotion of any political program of ideology."

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Mississippi College
Awards Honors To 2

5-1-65

CLINTON, Miss. (BP)--A Presbyterian college president and a Baptist evangelism secretary will receive honorary doctorate degrees from Mississippi College (Baptist) at the 139th annual commencement exercises May 30.

Howard J. Cleland, president of Belhaven College in Jackson, Miss., and L. Gordon Sansing, Jackson, secretary of the department of evangelism, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will be the recipients.

Cleland is to receive the honorary doctor of laws degree, while Sansing, an alumnus, will be awarded the doctor of divinity degree.

-30-

May 1, 1965

1965 SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION MUSIC AND MUSICIANS

June 1-4, Dallas Memorial Auditorium

Music Director: Eugene Sutherland, First Baptist Church, Jackson, Tenn.**Organist:** Jack W. Jones, Mercer University (Baptist), Macon, Ga.

Central Baptist Church, Warner Robins, Ga.

Pianist: Jo Ellen Johnson, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.**TUESDAY, June 1**6:45 P.M. - Sanctuary-Chapel Choirs and Orchestra, First Baptist Church, Dallas,
Lee Roy Till, Director

7:40 P.M. - Solo - Mrs. Martha Branham, First Baptist Church, Dallas

8:25 P.M. - Sanctuary-Chapel Choirs and Orchestra, First Baptist Church, Dallas

WEDNESDAY, June 28:45 A.M. - Hardin-Simmons University (Baptist) Concert Choir, Edward H. Hamilton,
Director, Abilene, Tex.

11:40 A.M. - Solo - Kay Gardner, Union University (Baptist), Jackson, Tenn.

6:45 P.M. - Southwestern Singers, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth;
Robert Burton, Director

8:50 P.M. - Solo - David M. Ford, Waco, Tex.

THURSDAY, June 3

8:45 A.M. - California Baptist College Choir, James H. Walker, Director, Riverside, Calif.

11:45 A.M. - Solo - Jeff Frederick, Denton, Tex.

1:45 P.M. - Howard Payne College (Baptist) Choir, Ivan W. Baugh, Director, Brownwood, Tex.

3:40 P.M. - Solo - Paul McCommon, Music Secretary, Georgia Baptist Conv., Atlanta

6:45 P.M. - Baylor University (Baptist) A Cappella Choir, Euell Porter, Director, Waco, Tex.

7:50 P.M. - Joe Ann Shelton, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

FRIDAY, June 48:45 A.M. - The Seminarians, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans La.
A. Ray Baker, Director

11:10 A.M. - Dallas Baptist College Madrigal Singers, Richard A. Lamb, Director

1:45 P.M. - "Nightingales," Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.,

Thomas P. Lane, Director

3:55 P.M. - Solo - Mrs. Hylan Mitchell, Decatur, Ga.

6:45 P.M. - Organ Concert, Jack W. Jones

7:15 P.M. - Cantata, "Proclaim the Word" (World Premiere)

T. W. Dean, Southwestern Seminary, Composer and Conductor

Robert E. Naylor, President, Southwestern Seminary, Librettist
and Narrator

Frank Stovall, tenor, Southwestern Seminary

Jack Coldiron, baritone, Southwestern Seminary

Gladys Day, organist, Southwestern Seminary

This cantata was designed and commissioned by the Church Music Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board to reinforce the 1965-66 Southern Baptist Convention emphasis on "The Church Proclaiming."

The brass ensemble is provided by Larry Hoepfinger, Director of the Brass Ensemble, Hardin-Simmons University, Robert Douglass, Director of the Brass Ensemble, Southwestern Seminary; Curtis Owens, Director of the Polytechnic High School Band, Fort Worth; Walter Williams, Director of Kimball High School Band, Dallas.

The chorus consists of combined Tarrant and Dallas Association youth choirs under the leadership of V. F. Forderhase, State Music Secretary of Texas; A. Joseph King, University Baptist Church, Fort Worth; and James C. Shirley, First Baptist Church, Oak Cliff.

Solo - Robert Snead, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.