(BP) BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Telephone (615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

REGIONAL OFFICES
ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Editor/161 Spring Street, N.W./Atlanta, Georgia 30303/Telephone (404) 523-2593
DALLAS R. T. McCartney, Editor/103 Baptist Building/Dallas, Texas 75201/Telephone (214) RI 1-1996
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Editor/200 Maryland Ave., N.E./Washington, D.C. 20002/Telephone (202) 544-4226

State Leaders Get Preview
of Growth, Curriculum Plans

12-17-65

NASHVILLE (BP)--The top executives and most of the associates for each of the Baptist state conventions got a double-feature preview here of two new programs that will be going on at the churches in their states beginning in October of 1966.

The occasion was the annual session of Baptist state executive secretaries, their department heads, and associates, meeting at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here.

Top-level officials of the Sunday School Board conducted a detailed briefing for the state workers on the two new programs the board is projecting in 1966 to help the 33,000 Baptist churches in the convention.

First, the state workers got a detailed analysis of the Life and Work Curriculum, a new plan which will correlate and coordinate the subjects of study of the Sunday School, Training Union, music ministries, Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) organizations.

Then, they saw the preview of a new program called "The Church Growth Plan," in which a church would seek to reach all its prospects by having a special emphasis on reaching adults in its Sunday School and other organizations.

Both the Life and Work Curriculum and the Church Growth Plan will be offer d on an optional basis to Baptist churches as recommended programs beginning in October, 1966.

During the presentations to the state workers, more than a dozen Sunday School Board leaders pledged their allegiance to the two new programs, saying they were totally committed to them.

They asked the state workers to do everything possible to help promote the programs and make them more effective.

State workers were enthusiastic in their reception of the plans. Some called the new Life and Work Curriculum "long overdue."

Under the Life and Work Curriculum, each of the teaching organizations of the church would provide coordinated and related lesson courses.

The Sunday School would teach the Biblical revelation as the basis and foundation for all the related studies of the other organizations--Training Union, Brotherhood, WMU, and music. Training Union would train church members for action, and the laymen's and women's organizations would teach missions related to Life and Work.

Seven new Sunday School quarterlies and four Training Union quarterlies will be produced for the new Life and Work Curriculum.

Churches will decide if they will continue the Uniform Lesson Series curriculum for Sunday School presently being used for adults and young people, or if they will use the new Life and Work Curriculum.

Training Union will offer the Christian Training Curriculum for young people and adults for use by churches which choose the Uniform Lesson Series in Sunday School.

Brotherhood, WMU, and music materials will all be keyed to the Life and Work program, and no alternate curricula will be off red after October of 1966.

Although the study plans will be related, each organization's lessons will be distinctive, aimed at specific audiences and purposes.

--more--

Under the old curriculum, each of the organizations had its own separate study. Th re was littl correlation or related lessons giving unity to th entir church study.

Correlation, the big word in Life and Work Curriculum, was also often repeated when the Church Growth Plan was presented to the state workers.

The Church Growth Plan actually is a correlated continuance of the Adult Thrust, now in its second year. Although the major emphasis of the plan is in the Sunday School, all of the other church organizations are involved.

It is designed to help a church reach its prospects, thus inducing church growth, by emphasizing the age group which is weakest--adults. Research revealed that most of the memb rs of the Sunday School are children. If the church can enlist more adults, then growth in the other age groups should naturally follow, the plan suggests.

The basic strategy of the plan is to concentrate on reaching adults as the strat egy for reaching persons of every age group.

Each quarter, the emphasis would be on a different group of adults. During the first quarter, for example, the plan would seek to reach "men who are unsaved and have no connection with the church." The next quarter, the Sunday School would seek to enlist "men whose wives and/or children are enrolled in Sunday School" but who are not personally involved.

In concluding the double-feature presentation to the state leaders, the director of the board's education division, W.L. Howse, said that the underlying purpose of both new programs "is to glorify God and better carry on the work of Christ."

State workers attending the meeting included executive secretaries and their associates, division heads, and department secretaries and associates working the areas of Sunday School, Training Union, music, student work, church building and architecture, and evangelism. They were the guests of the Sunday School Board, at no cost to the Baptist state conventions.

-30-

Judson College Elects
Edmondson President 12-17-65

MARION, Ala. (BP)--The Board of trustees for Judson College here elected James H. Edmondson of Birmingham, Ala., as the eighteenth president of the Baptist College for women.

Edmondson, a former educational consultant, businessman and Baptist educator, has for the past year served as vice president of the Birmingham Exchange Security Bank. For four years previously he was executive vice president of the Alabama Association of Independent Colleges.

A Baptist deacon, Edmondson was administrative vice president of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., for six years. He joined the Ouachita faculty in 1951 as chairman of the division of business administration.

For several years he was a staff consultant for Samford University, (Baptist) in Birmingham, as well as serving as consultant for administration, organization, planning and fiscal control at various other colleges.

He also did public relations work for Belmont College (Baptist) in Nashville, Tenn., and was dean of students at St. Andrews College (formerly Presbyterian Junior College) in Laurinburg, N.C., for two years.

Edmondson assumes the presidency on Jan. 1, 1966, succeeding Conwell A. Anderson who resigned during the summer, and acting president W.M. Beck, Sr., chairman of the board.

The new president holds a doctorate in education from Indiana University in Bloomington, and the master of arts degr from George Peabody College, Nashville. He received the bachelor of arts degree from Jacksonville State College, Jacksonville, Ala.

-30-

Baylor Students CARE
for Vietnam Victims

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Students and faculty members have given more than $600 in a "CARE at Christmas" project to aid civilian war victims in South Vietnam.

Baylor students also signed more than 3,000 Christmas cards and sent them to servicemen in Vietnam.

The students at the Baptist school further displayed support of United States policy in Vietnam in a straw vote indicating that more than 96 per cent of the Baylor students favor the present U.S. policy on Vietnam.

The fund-raising effort, part of a nationwide project sponsored by CARE to raise $3 million to aid South Vietnamese refugees, will be used for the purchase of food and tools for the civilian war victims of South Vietnam.

Although the project was sponsored by no single group, the Baptist Student Union coordinated the drive.

More than 20 social, service, and profesional clubs and organizations were involved in the campus-wide campaign.

Contributions for the campaign were still being received up until the Christmas vacation and an additional $200 was expected.

"Considering it is Christmas time and these are students, I think the response is pretty good," commented Roy Harrell, director of religious activities at Baylor.

Chairman of the CARE project to aid Vietnam regugees was Ken McNiel, president of the Baptist Student Union and a senior from Lubbock, Tex.

"We want to help the people who have been hurt by the war, realizing this is the only way that ultimate peace will be established," McNiel said.

McNiel added that the 92-member Freshman BSU (Baptist Student Union) Council canvassed Baylor's ten dormitories in a room-to-room collection to raise funds for the project.

"A Baylor Religious Hour program emphasized the Christian responsibility in line with the CARE project," McNiel added.

In addition, a benefit basketball game gave proceeds to the project. Baylor played North Texas State University in the benefit game on the Baylor campus.

McNiel said that CARE officials indicated that Baylor was the only university in the Southwest conducting such a campaign through CARE, an overseas relief and assistance organization.

-30-

Georgia Board OKs
Budget, New Worker

12-17-65

ATLANTA, Ga. (BP)--A new position was created and a record state missions budget was adopted by the Georgia Baptist Convention executive committee in its annual organizational meeting here.

Arthur Hinson was elected to fill the post of fulltime representative of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board in Georgia, effective Jan. 1.

Hinson has been assistant to the executive secretary of the Georgia Baptist Convention for 13 years, serving in the areas of Annuity Board ministries, promotion and associational missions.

The administration committee was authorized to elect a successor to Hinson.

--more--

The 1966 state missions budget for G orgia Baptists will be $763,003, an increase of $44,459 over 1965. Biggest single item in the budget is $109,754 for student work, followed by $94,000 for associational work.

Alvin H. Brackett, Jr., pastor of Ingleside Baptist Church in Macon, Ga., was r - elected to a second term as executive committee chairman.

-30-

Revival Held in Texas
Maximum Security Prison

12-17-65

HUNTSVILLE, Tex. (BP)--A revival planned by a Baptist chaplain in the maximum security unit of the Texas prison system here has resulted in 120 prisoners making professions of faith.

The services, conducted by Evangelist Harlan Harris of Plainview, Tex., were sponsored and planned by prison Chaplain Avery G. Timmons with the full approval and support of Warden C.L. McAdams and his staff.

Services were held in the Chapel of Reconciliation at the Ellis unit of the Texas D - partment of Corrections here.

The Ellis unit is a maximum security prison for recidivists (repeaters) and incorrigibles.

Chaplain Timmons said that many of the prisoners "came out of curiosity and left with a knowledge of God."

"The interest among the inmates grew from the first service to the last," he said. "The inmates indicated a desire to have more of such meetings in the future."

A closing feature of the revival was a Christmas sermon in song presented by the men's choir of Park Place Baptist Church in Houston, 70 miles from Huntsville.

Prisoners who wished to make decisions were asked to remain seated in the chapel at the close of each service. The evangelist counseled and prayed with those who r mained b hind. As chaplain, Timmons will do follow-up work with the prisoners who made decisions.

The work of the prison chaplain is supported through the Human Welfare Commission of th Baptist General Convention of Texas.

-30-

Vi tnam Officer Signs
Insurance for Stetson

112-17-65

DeLAND, Fla. (BP)--An infantry platoon leader in Vietnam has named his alma mater, John B. Stetson University here, as the beneficiary of his $10,000 servicemen's group life insurance.

Lt. Leroy E. Rhode, a 1965 ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Course) distinguished military graduate of Stetson, wrote to President J. Ollie Edmunds informing him of his decision.

"I don't mind telling you that I fervently hope and pray that this is $10,000 that Stetson never gets--but I will feel much better if you will give me your assurance that the money will be used according to my wishes outlined above if I am killed over here," Lt. Rhode said in a letter to Edmunds.

Lt. Rhode asked that the money be used for a program of long-term repayment loans to students.

In closing, Lt. Rhode said: "I do hope Stetson has not had any demonstrations against the war in Vietnam!"

--more--

In his reply to Lt. Rhode, Edmunds wrote: "We read and hear much about draft card burnings and demonstrations against our policy in Vietnam. Then comes a spark that renews our faith in our young people, and makes us certain that the country and the world will be in good hands. Your recent letter is this kind of spark."

Edmunds added that he sincerely hoped "this is one gift we never collect, for you have already given us much more by this concern on your part."

Lt. Rhode, whose home is in Apopka, Fla., graduated from Stetson's School of Business Administration in January of 1965. He said that he made the decision to name Stetson his insurance beneficiary after consulting with his wife, a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps.

-30-

State Leaders Honor
Retiring H.E. Ingraham

12-17-65

NASHVILLE (BP)--Baptist denominational workers from throughout the nation paid tribute here to Harold E. Ingraham at a banquet in his honor at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Ingraham retires on Feb. 28, 1966 after serving on the Sunday School Board staff for a total of 44 years. He has been director of the board's service division since 1954.

More than 450 denominational leaders, many of them attending the state secretaries' meetings at the board, paid tribute to Ingraham's long years of service during the banquet meeting.

J.P. Edmunds, Sunday School Board representative, and E.W. Westmoreland, religious education secretary for Oklahoma Baptists, spoke to the crowd, praising Ingraham's service.

Master of ceremonies for the banquet was Ingraham's assistant, Hubert B. Smothers, who will become new director of the Service division on Ingraham's retirement.

The service division of the board includes eight departments of work--church architecture, art, church library, church recreation, research and statistics, Dargan-Carver Library, and Ridgecrest (N.C.) and Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Assemblies.

Before being named director of the service division, Ingraham was the board's business manager for ten years, and associate and secretary of the department of Sunday School administration for 20 years.

He also served as associate editor, and editor of the "Sunday School Builder," a monthly magazine published by the board, and for 25 years has written a column in the publication entitled "Straight Wires to Superintendents."

-30-

BAPTIST PRESS®

460 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

DR DAVIS C WOOLLEY HO
HISTORICAL COMM
127 NINTH AVE N
NASHVILLE TENN 37203

NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE