



BAPTIST PRESS
 News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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February 17, 1966

Elgin Lee Heads State
 Student Directors Group

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WASHINGTON (BP)--The state Baptist student Directors Association of the Southern Baptist Convention in annual session here February 14-16 named M. Elgin Lee new president of the association.

Lee is secretary of the Department of Student Work, Missouri Baptist Convention. He succeeds Phillip T. Card, director of student work for the Colorado Baptist General Convention.

Howard D. Rees, student director for the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, was named secretary-treasurer.

The state student directors gather each year to share experiences, to seek new creative approaches to their work with college students, and to study their relationship to other Baptist agencies.

Card said the directors discussed their relationship with the students in the light of today's changes, trends and pressures, such as race, war and morality. Seventeen directors attended.

Among those addressing the student directors was R. Orin Cornett, vice president of Gallaudet College here. Cornett was former executive secretary of the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and former director of the division of higher education, United States Office of Education. He spoke to the group on "Observations on Issues and Trends in U. S. Higher Education."

Other speakers included: W. L. Howse, education division of the Sunday School Board, SBC; Arthur B. Rutledge and Louis Cobbs, Home Mission Board, SBC; Lloyd Wright, U. S. Information Agency; and Robert S. Denny, Baptist World Alliance.

A feature of this year's meeting was the arrangement for special mealtime guests from the Washington scene. These included Avraham Haram, Ambassador of Israel; Edward Peal, Ambassador of Liberia; Harry W. Seamans, Liaison Division, Office of Public Services, Department of State; John Mullins, Cuban Desk, and Miss Virginia James, Russian Desk, Department of State.

The 1967 meeting will be February 13-15, at Oklahoma City.

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Baptist Schools Get
 College Housing Loans

2-17-66

WASHINGTON (BP)--Two Baptist colleges are among five church-related schools approved for college housing loans, according to announcement from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

William Carey College, a Baptist school in Hattiesburg, Miss., has a \$700,000 loan reserved, pending review of its request for financial assistance.

According to the announcement, the "fund reservation" is established on the basis of preliminary application for assistance under the college housing loan program. It sets aside this amount for subsequent use by the college if the project is approved by the community facilities administration after review of the complete application.

The loan will be used for construction of a dormitory for men and to renovate three existing residence halls. William Carey College is an institution of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. J. Ralph Noonkester is president.

The other Baptist school is Shaw University, a Negro institution at Raleigh, N.C. It was approved for a \$1,950,000 loan for construction of a Student Union building and dormitory. A Presbyterian school was approved for a \$800,000 loan, while reservation of \$1,282,000 in loans was announced for Methodist and Church of Christ schools.

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Havana Prison Reunion
For Caudill and Fite

ATLANTA (BP)--In a report by telephone from Cuba, Mrs. Herbert Caudill told the Home Mission Board that Southern Baptist missionary Herbert Caudill and his son-in-law David Fite have been reunited in a Cuban prison.

The two missionaries were reported last month to have been separated. They have been imprisoned since April 1965 in La Cabana Fortress, across the bay from Havana.

Mrs. Caudill also reported that her husband apparently has recovered from the flu. "They looked well," she said. "We appreciate the prayers and concern of everyone."

According to Mrs. Caudill, a "prominent person" in Cuba, who is not an evangelical Christian, told her the two men "obviously have an inner strength that could only come from God."

Gerald Palmer, secretary of the Department of Language Missions at the Home Mission Board, said the board was doing all it could to secure the release of Fite and Caudill.

"Some people have urged us to take direct action or negotiate directly with Castro, but it's illegal," Palmer said. "Many people do not realize that a U. S. citizen or agency cannot deal directly with a foreign government. We must handle all our negotiations through the U. S. State Department."

Palmer said the Home Mission Board administration felt the State Department was doing all within its power through continued contact of the Swiss Ambassador in Cuba with the Castro regime (the U.S. has no diplomatic ties in Cuba).

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Scholarship For Negroes
At Southwestern Seminary

2-17-66

FORT WORTH (BP)--Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary will award three \$500 scholarships this year to graduates of Bishop College, thanks to a Dallas couple who felt that some of the profits from their construction firm should benefit the Negro race.

The late Mr. and Mrs. Elmer L. Martin of Dallas left \$25,000 specifically to provide seminary training for Negro ministerial students, with preference to Bishop graduates.

Before his death, Martin told J. Howard Williams, who later became president of Southwestern Seminary, that his construction firm had used Negro laborers and that it was his and Mrs. Martin's desire that some of their accumulations from the firm should benefit members of that race.

"It was through the education of their ministers that Mr. and Mrs. Martin felt that the most assistance could be given these people for whose service to their business they desired to show gratitude," explained Wayne Evans, seminary business manager.

The three scholarships will be awarded on a competitive basis and will provide \$500 annually to be applied directly to seminary expenses of the recipients.

Selection will be made by a seminary committee on scholarship in consultation with Bishop College professors of religion. Factors to be considered include Christian commitment, academic achievement, church-related work experience and practical aptitude.

Students in theology, religious education or church music are eligible. Applicants must be in their senior year at Bishop College or must be graduates. Bishop College is located in Dallas.

Applications will be taken by the Scholarship Committee, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Box 22000, Fort Worth, Texas, 76122.

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Pilot Project To Try
New Approaches To Youth

ATLANTA (BP)--A two-year pilot project just begun by the Immanuel Baptist Church in Louisville may lead to a more creative role for churches in the area of youth rehabilitation.

First aim of the project is to define the needs and interests of young people in troubled inner city areas and to lay the groundwork for the next step: creation and implementation of new techniques that will reflect renewed concern.

Heading up the program is Andrew D. Lester, candidate for the doctor of theology degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, and pastor of the Buena Vista Baptist Church in Bryantsville, K. Lester was appointed as a student missionary by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board at its February board meeting.

The project, a combined effort on the part of the board's Christian Social Ministries Department and Immanuel Baptist Church, is called "Operation Concern." Its purpose is counseling offending neighborhood children, encouraging religious nurture."

Under the leadership of Lester, the Immanuel Church will be looking for new programs and activities that will generate interest in the hearts of troubled youth, and will be seeking new and more meaningful ways to work with city police departments to extend the church's ministry.

Two other pilot projects are being planned: one for New York City and one for a church in a transitional area (from urban to metropolitan).

Lester also received his bachelor of divinity at Southern Seminary and his bachelor of arts at Mississippi College (Baptist), Clinton. He is originally from Florida.

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Labor Bill Shelved
By Senate Filibuster

2-17-66

WASHINGTON (BP)--The fight to repeal "right-to-work" laws struck out for the third time when a Senate attempt to invoke cloture (shut off debate) failed. Similar attempts to end debate by imposing cloture were rejected only three days earlier and in October of last year.

Failure to break the filibuster, in a 50 to 49 vote, prohibits the bill from coming to the floor for direct action. A two-thirds majority is required to invoke cloture.

Section 14(B) of the Taft-Hartley Act permits states to allow non-union workers the right to work in a shop that has been organized by a union. Repeal of this section was supported by labor and urged by the administration. Nineteen states have laws banning the union shop.

The bill passed the House of Representatives last year, where efforts were made to include a "religious exemption" clause. It was anticipated that attempts to provide an exemption from "coerced" membership in a union for those who object on religious grounds would be made in the Senate if the measure were brought to the floor.

The filibuster against repeal of 14(B) was headed by Sen. Everett M. Dirksen (R., Ill.), Senate minority leader. Injected into the filibuster was the issue of prayers in public schools. Sen. Sam J. Ervin (D., N.C.) plunged the Senate into debate over putting the full text of an opening prayer in the journal of the Senate. The move was viewed by Washington observers as a delaying tactic designed to prevent a vote on the labor bill.

Ervin's filibuster speech voiced disagreement with the Supreme Court decisions banning states from prescribing prayer in the public schools, and made references to numerous state constitutions which the Senator said declared the people of those states to be religious people.

Sen. Mike Mansfield (D., Mont.), Senate majority leader, said the defeat of the prayer gimmick was a "test move of a sort" on ending the filibuster on the labor bill.

When the Senate refused to invoke cloture for the third time, Senate leaders said no further effort would be made this year to bring the measure to a vote. Mansfield said the bill would remain on the calendar but would be carefully inscribed: R.I.P. (Rest In Peace).

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Senators Ask Fair Jury
Civil Rights Protection

WASHINGTON (BP)--A bill designed to assure fair selection of federal and state jurors, and to provide better protection for the personal security of Negroes and civil rights workers received bipartisan support in the United States Senate.

The Civil Rights Protection Act of 1966 was introduced by Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D., Ill). It is co-sponsored by nineteen other Senators. One supporter of the bill said it could be called the "equal justice act of 1966" because its purpose is to end "the discriminatory system of justice and law enforcement which now prevails in many communities."

Sen. Douglas said the measure is "designed to assure due process of law and the equal protection of the laws where crimes of intimidation, violence, and murder against Negroes and civil rights workers lawfully seeking to enforce the constitution now go unpunished."

Briefly the bill would provide for: nondiscrimination in jury selection; transfer of cases and removal of defendants from state to federal courts when it is "necessary to assure equal protection of the laws"; civil preventive relief; indemnification awards for injury, or loss of life or property in exercising ones constitutional rights; federal employment practice requirements of the 1964 Civil Rights Act applied to state and local government units.

Even with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Douglas said his bill is necessary. In many areas it is still difficult for persons to exercise their constitutional rights, or to get action in state and some federal courts, he said.

The bill would set up "jury commissions" in each federal district court which would use a "sampling plan" for furnishing a representative cross section of the population of the district for jury lists. No exclusions would be made on the basis of race, color, sex, religious affiliation, or economic or social status.

When it is "necessary to assure equal protection of the laws," the bill provides for federal courts to have jurisdiction of certain crimes rather than state courts. Under similar circumstances a case already commended in a state court may be removed to a federal court.

Circumstances considered calling for federal court jurisdiction are described as when members of any racial or color group are systematically (1) excluded from jury service, (2) denied voting privileges (3) segregated or discriminated against in jails, prisons, police stations, courts or other public buildings related to the administration of justice, (4) subjected to harsher punishment for crime than others convicted of crime, and (5) subjected to more rigid conditions for bail or conditional release.

Where a county or political subdivision provides a "segregated and discriminatory system of justice," the bill further provides for removal of defendants from state to federal district courts.

The legislation further provides for "civil preventive relief." If a person has engaged or on reasonable grounds is believed about to engage in any act which would deprive another of any right or privilege protected by the constitution, civil action may be instituted for preventative relief.

An indemnification board would be created within the Civil Rights Commission to provide indemnification awards for injury, loss of life or property while a person is "lawfully exercising rights protected by the constitution."