

**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

480 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

February 21, 1966

**Seminarian Says Practice  
On Race Behind Statements**

NASHVILLE (BP)---Southern Baptists have made great progress in pronouncements regarding a Christian view of race relations, but the denomination's practice is entirely too far behind its pronouncements, a Baptist seminary professor said here.

C. W. Scudder, professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Forth Worth, made the statement in a paper presented to the Advisory Council of Southern Baptists for Work with Negroes during a recent meeting here.

"Our pronouncements usually make the headlines, but our people seem to be satisfied just to sit and listen and do nothing about what they hear," said Scudder.

"Southern Baptists have been called activists,...but in dealing with the race problem, we continue to be reactionists," he stated.

The seminary professor added, however, that the denomination is changing from a sectional to a national denomination, and that many Southern Baptist churches have Negro members as well as those of other races.

"We are no longer a completely white denomination, if we ever were, and many of our people won the victory long ago over their racial prejudice," he said..

Scudder said he did not believe people would ever be ready to welcome Negroes into their church as members until they are ready to welcome them into the neighborhood as neighbors.

"Until we are ready to accept Negroes as friends and neighbors, I doubt that any sincere Negro wants to be in a church with us," he said.

The ethics professor said he believed that the next generation of Christians will solve the segregation problem in some church, and that much hope for solving the problem lies with the young people of our day.

"They believe that the church should be a living, dynamic demonstration of what it really means to be a Christian. I do not believe that they are going to settle for a lesser kind of Christianity even if they have to go outside the church to find it," he said. "It is my hope that they will not have to leave our churches to find consistency in their lives."

Scudder said that young people today are attending college with Negroes and count them as friends. "They are really wondering about churches that will not permit them to worship with their friends of other races."

The seminarian said he believes the time is past for Southern Baptists to project a paternalistic-type ministry with Negroes. Such programs, he said, might further isolate the younger generation of Negroes as well as the younger generation of Southern Baptists.

In another address to the council, Professor G. Willis Bennett at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., said that many Baptist churches try to run away from the problem of integration by moving the church to another location.

"Southern Baptist churches in racially changing neighborhoods may move out for numerous reason," he said, "but the number one reason usually evident is that the church wants to go 'where our kind of people live.'"

Bennett, also an ethics professor, said that it is not enough for a church to write off its responsibility for ministering to Negro people by saying "Let the Negro churches reach them."

Bennett, who made a recent study on churches' ministries in racially changing neighborhoods, said that Baptists cannot remain uninvolved but must recognize their responsibility to reach the Negro with the gospel message.

The two-day meeting of the advisory council, composed of representatives from various Southern Baptist Convention agencies which have done some kind of ministry to Negroes, was held at the Southern Baptist Convention Building here.

Baptist Negro Work  
Council Votes Study

NASHVILLE (BP)---The Advisory Council of Southern Baptists for Work with Negroes voted here recently to study the possibility of developing a staff relationship to the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's department of work with National Baptists.

The council, composed of representatives from various Southern Baptist agencies which are involved with ministries to Negroes, asked a committee to make the study and report to the heads of the various Baptist agencies involved.

The committee was requested "to propose a plan for redefining the Advisory Council's function and relationship to the end that its purpose may be achieved through a staff responsibility of the department of work with National Baptists of the (SBC) Home Mission Board'.

The action came just following an address by Albert McClellan, program planning secretary for the Southern Baptist Executive Committee here, in which he traced the objectives, history, and future needs of the Southern Baptist ministries to Negroes.

Although the committee was given no instructions, it was assumed that the action could eventually lead to reorganization of the council as it currently exists, said Ross Coggins of Nashville, chairman of the council.

In other action, the council re-elected Coggins, director of communications for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission here, as chairman.

Other officers re-elected were Harold Basden of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, vice chairman; and Roy Jennings of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, Tenn., secretary.

The council will meet next year, Feb. 27-28, at the Southern Baptist Convention Building in Nashville.

-30-

South Carolina Baptists  
Begin Federal Aid Study

COLUMBIA, S. C. (BP)---A 17-member committee of the South Carolina Baptist Convention met here recently to begin a detailed study of the convention's policy on church-state separation and federal aid to Baptist institutions.

During its organization meeting, four sub-committees were named to delve into the issue and report back to the larger committee.

The sub-committee will seek to prepare a definition of terms, list the purposes of Baptist institutions, explore the areas of denominational involvement in government support, and study government programs available to church-related institutions.

Horace G. Hammett, general secretary-treasurer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, interpreted the convention's mandate issued last November, and told the group that the convention expects a scholarly study, a careful evaluation, an alert conscience, brotherly compassion, and statesman-like deliberate decisions.

The convention last fall instructed Furman University, Greenville, S. C., to return a federal grant for construction of a science building, and requested the 17-member committee to make a detailed study of the church-state separation issue involved. A fund campaign among South Carolina Baptists is planned to raise the \$611,898 denied the school in federal aid.

Davis Sanders, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hartsville, S. C., is chairman of the 17-member committee, composed of nine laymen and eight pastors.

Sanders told the committee that nine Baptist state conventions throughout the nation faced the federal aid issue last fall, and that six of them appointed study committees similar to the South Carolina group.

The committee will give a progress report to the South Carolina Baptist Convention when it meets next November in Greenville, S. C.

-30-

Seminary Board Elects  
Dean, Approves Building

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP)---The board of trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary meeting here elected Raymond Bryan Brown as academic dean and approved construction of a new student center building.

Brown, professor of New Testament interpretation since 1964, will assume his new duties as academic dean by Aug. 1, 1966. The seminary faculty had unanimously recommended him to the post.

The board also elected John I. Durham as administrative associate to the president. Durham is currently associate professor of Old Testament at Southeastern.

The board confirmed the action of its executive committee in electing Donald E. Cook as professor of New Testament, and also named Donald D. Moore as director of counseling and assistant professor of pastoral care. Both Cook and Moore are already on the seminary staff.

Sabbatical leave was granted to Max G. Rogers, associate professor of Old Testament, for the academic year of 1966-67. Rogers has been awarded a fellowship by the American Association of Theological Schools for study in Europe.

In keeping with long-range planning, the board approved the construction of a student center, utilizing funds designated for this purpose by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

The board also authorized construction of eight additional duplex apartments for married students.

Claud B. Bowen, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Greensboro, N. C., was re-elected president of the board.

Other officers are Earl Kelly, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Holly Springs, Miss., as vice president; Nash Underwood of Wake Forest, secretary; and A. J. Hewett of Greensboro, N. C., treasurer.

Two gifts to the seminary were announced during the board meeting. Mr. and Mrs. George T. Noel of Knapolis, N. C., have given a \$12,000 endowed scholarship, and Mr. and Mrs. George C. Mackie of Wake Forest have given a rose garden with a three-tier fountain to the seminary.

During the board meeting, the seminary dedicated a new dormitory for women.

Trustees expressed appreciation of the leadership given the school by President Olin T. Binkley, who is also current president of the American Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada.