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February 28, 1966

NASHVILLE (BP)--The program for the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference meeting in Detroit, Mich., May 23-24 will feature messages by fourteen Baptist ministers, two seminary professors, and a radio news commentator.

The program outline was released here by the president of the Pastors' Conference, James E. Coggin, pastor of the Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

More than 10,000 Baptists are expected to attend the annual preaching-emphasis meeting held just before the Southern Baptist Convention, May 24-27.

News Commentator Paul Harvey of the American Broadcasting Co., will deliver a major address during the Monday night session, May 23, when the biggest crowds are expected.

Other speakers for the only evening session of the two-day Pastors' Conference are Carl Bates, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C., and Roy O. McClain, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Atlanta.

Closing message for the meeting will be delivered by R. G. Lee, 80-year-old retired pastor of the Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., who speaks almost every year at the Pastors' Conference.

The pastor of the largest church in the Southern Baptist Convention, W. A. Criswell, of the First Baptist Church in Dallas, will deliver a major address entitled "Preaching the Gospel Behind the Iron Curtain" at the close of the Tuesday morning session, May 24.

Four former presidents of the Southern Baptist Convention will address the pastors.

In addition to Lee, they are: Herschel H. Hobbs, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City; Ramsey Pollard, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis; and J. D. Grey, pastor of the First Baptist Church, New Orleans.

The two seminary professors slated to bring messages are Clark Pinnock, professor at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans; and Roy Fish, professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

The immediate past president of the Pastors' Conference, Jess Moody of West Palm Beach, Fla., will speak during the closing session preceding Fish and Lee. Moody is pastor of the First Baptist Church, West Palm Beach.

The Pastors' Conference will open Monday morning, May 23 with messages by C. A. Roberts, pastor of First Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Fla.

Other opening session speakers are Fred Swank, pastor of Sagamore Hill Baptist Church, Fort Worth; Jimmy R. Allen, of Dallas, secretary of the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas; and C. Wade Freeman, director of the Texas Baptist evangelism division.

Other major speakers are Evangelist Porter Barrington of Hollywood, Calif.; Charles Trentham, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Knoxville, Tenn.; and Gerald Martin, pastor of Poplar Avenue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.

The program agenda for the two-day meeting was planned by the officers of the Pastors' Conference, elected last June in Dallas. Coggin is president; Vander Warner of Grove Avenue Baptist Church in Richmond, Va., is vice president; and Milton DuPriest of Beach Street Baptist Church in Texarkana, Ark., is secretary.

Baptist Woman's Meeting
To Consider World Crises

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)---The annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention will feature five messages on the affect of world crises on Baptist missions efforts.

The annual Woman's Missionary Union Convention will be held May 23-24 in Detroit, Mich., just prior to the Southern Baptist Convention, May 24-27.

Five major speakers will discuss the affect on Baptist mission efforts of crises in America, Rhodesia, Viet Nam, Cuba and Panama, and Indonesia.

The speakers are:

--William H. Dyal, director of organization of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, Nashville, speaking on "World Crises: The Hour of Opportunity in America," Monday morning, May 23;

--Miss Mary Brooner, a native of Kansas and a Southern Baptist missionary to Gatooma, Rhodesia, speaking on "World Crises: The Hour of Opportunity in Rhodesia," Monday afternoon, May 23;

--Robert C. Davis of Athens, Tex., missionary to Viet Nam, speaking on "World Crises: The Hour of Opportunity in Viet Nam," Monday evening, May 23;

--Mrs. Douglas Pringle, Baptist Home Mission Board missionary to Panama, speaking on "World Crises: The Hour of Opportunity in Cuba and Panama," Tuesday morning, May 24;

--Miss Catherine Walker of Bradenton, Fla., missionary to Indonesia, speaking on "World Crises: The Hour of Opportunity in Indonesia," Tuesday afternoon, May 24.

The two-day convention, expected to attract about 7,000 Baptist women to Detroit, will close Tuesday afternoon, May 24, with a message on "Who Is My Neighbor," by Kenneth L. Chafin, Billy Graham professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Opening speakers will be Dyal and Mrs. Edgar Bates of Toronto, Canada, former dean of women at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. She is also president of the Women's Department of the Baptist World Alliance.

In another major address, Dr. and Mrs. Jasper McPhail, a medical missionary team at the Christian Medical College and Hospital in Vellore, India, will tell of Baptist missions work in India.

Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union with its offices here, will address the convention Tuesday morning, May 24, following a business session.

Each session will close with meditations by Francis Dubose, superintendent of missions for the host city--Detroit.

Nine other Baptist missions workers will tell about missionary efforts in their assigned areas.

They are: James E. Godsoe, Home Mission Board missionary to Chicago, Ill.; W. O. Hern, missionary to Jerusalem, Jordan; Mrs. David Stull, missionary to Lima Peru; Jack Hancox, missionary to Paris; Miss Eva Marie Kinnard, worker with international students in Berkeley, Calif.; Mrs. Eugene Bragg, missionary to the deaf in Livonia, Mich.; Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Lemus, missionaries to the Spanish-speaking in Garden City, Mich.; and John Pancewicz, missionary to the Polish in Detroit.

Theme of the convention, with sessions in Cobo Hall in Detroit, will be "To Every Nation and Tongue and People--NOW."

Landes Resigns College
Presidency for Pastorate

ABILENE, Tex. (BP) ---James H. Landes has resigned as president of Hardin-Simmons University here to become Pastor of First Baptist Church of Birmingham, Ala.

After a two-hour, emotion-laden executive session of the Baptist school's trustees, board members accepted the resignation with regret, but with the expressed hope that President Landes would reconsider.

He is to assume his pastorate at Birmingham April 1.

Board members made no immediate interim arrangement for direction of the university before adjournment.

The Birmingham church unanimously voted to call Landes on Feb. 20. Action of the church was conveyed to him by telephone by a federal judge who was chairman of the pulpit committee.

Landes was elected president of Hardin-Simmons by the board of trustees on Dec. 10, 1962. He assumed the position April 2, 1963.

Before accepting the presidency, he had served as pastor of First Baptist Church of Wichita Falls, Tex., for 17½ years.

In announcing his resignation to the board, Landes said he had a personal conviction that "I should return to the primary mission to which I was called many, many years ago."

Landes received a standing ovation from the student body and faculty in a campus-wide assembly.

He told the students, "When I was a young man, I had a divine call to the ministry. I accepted this call and have been seeking to follow the leadership of my Lord since that day.

"This school is a great institution and I have enjoyed my three years of post-graduate study here. But I have felt that someday I must return to the ministry."

Landes, a native of Lewisville, Ark., holds the bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Quachita Baptist College in Arkadelphia, Ark., the master of theology degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, and honorary degrees from Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex.; Baylor University, Waco, Tex.; and Midwestern University, Wichita Falls, Tex.

Landes has served as president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas from 1960-62; has been chairman of the Executive Board of the Texas convention, and has served on numerous other state and national boards related to Baptist work.

-30-

Maryland Baptist Church
Accepts Negro as Member

2-28-66

TOWSON, Md. (BP)--A freshman student at Morgan State College in Baltimore, Miss Barbara Horton, has become the first Negro member of the Calvary Baptist Church of Towson, Md., by unanimous vote of the congregation.

The church's pastor, Leland Higginbotham, said he believed the church is the first white, Protestant congregation in the Towson area to receive a person of the Negro race into membership. She is not, however, the first Negro member of a Southern Baptist Church.

Higginbotham said he has been most thankful for the way the church has expressed its Christian commitment.

He commended the members for "acknowledging that God's command to love knows no such artificial limitations as race, and that all are truly one in Christ," according to a report in the Maryland Baptist.

-30-