



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 10, 1966

Commission Votes Budget,
Literature Improvement

NASHVILLE (BP)---The Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention voted here to expand its program, agreed to revamp and update its production of literature, and adopted a proposed \$120,000 budget for 1967.

In another major action, the commission voted to begin a summer internship program in the summer of 1967 involving an outstanding college or seminary student in a program of summer activities or research related to Christian social ethics.

A proposal to send a summer guest observer and interpreter of international affairs to the United Nations in New York was also approved.

The 36-member commission re-elected John Claypool of Louisville, Ky., as its chairman, named Paul Lambert of Kansas City, Mo., as its new vice chairman; and re-elected Harold Marsh of Gallup, N. M., as secretary.

Claypool is pastor of Crescent Hill Baptist Church, Louisville; Lambert is superintendent of missions for the Kansas City Baptist Association; and Marsh is pastor of the First Baptist Church in Gallup.

On recommendation from its promotion committee, the commission voted to completely update the literature and pamphlets it has been producing for the past seven years for use by Baptist churches and others on issues involving Christian social ethics.

The proposed 1967 budget is contingent upon approval from the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Detroit. The SBC Executive Committee has already approved a \$100,000 allocation to the commission and the additional \$20,000 would come from anticipated gifts and sale of materials.

Lengthy discussions were held by the commission over proposed new articles of incorporation and over proposed new bylaws changes regarding assignments of the commission's committees. The commission took action to begin steps toward incorporation.

In the only major address during the three-day commission meeting, Vanderbilt University professor John Killinger said statements like "God is dead" reflect more on the man who says it than it does upon God.

"We need to be reminded, "that it is not God, but our ideas of God that are being attacked," said the Vanderbilt Divinity School professor.

"In a way, we needed the new theologians to tell us that our god was too little, too pat, and too much a product of our culture," he said.

Killinger added that the new theology is a new challenge to Christian people to re-examine their concept of God---God's "terrible majesty and God's awesome power"--and to come up with a bigger, more meaningful understanding of God.

"God is so much bigger than I had thought," Killinger said he had come to realize. "Who dares to say that this God is dead?"

Just prior to Killinger's address, the commission presented its Distinguished Service Award to T. B. Maston, retired professor and former head of the Christian ethics department at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

The award cited Maston for "unique and outstanding contributions to Southern Baptists and to the Kingdom of God through inspired teaching, insightful writing, and prophetic proclamation of the ethical imperatives of the Christian gospel."

In a "state of the agency" report, Commission Executive Secretary Foy Valentine of Nashville said that the Agency has received more support in its work from Southern Baptists during the past year than any other single year in its history.

Most of the three-day commission meeting was devoted to meetings and reports of three new standing committees of the commission--administrative, program, and promotion committees.

"Can We Survive?" Is Theme
Of Business Officers Meet

DALLAS (BP)--Baptist support and federal loans will be the chief topics on the "Can We Survive?" agenda of the fourth annual conference of Southern Baptist business officers meeting at the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, April 5-6.

"Can We Survive?" is also the title of the keynote address to be made by Abner McCall, president of Baylor University, Waco, Tex.

The conference is open to business officers of any Southern Baptist institution or agency.

This conference is one of two being held simultaneously with L. Taylor Daniel, associate secretary of the Annuity Board acting as host. A second conference, hosted by Floyd B. Chaffin, associate secretary of the Annuity Board, will have business officers of state conventions discussing problems and procedures of mutual interest.

The agency officers will also hear a discussion on Baptist support by E. Bruce Heilman, administrative vice-president of George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville.

Federal programs will be treated in a panel session guided by Carroll V. Galbreath and Quinten S. Matthews, both from the Bureau of Higher Education, Region VII, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Dallas.

Other speakers include: Boone Powell, administrator of Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, who will speak on "Using Our Management Resources for Survival"; and James L. Reed, manager of Dallas Management Data Center, who will discuss the application of computers on a service center basis.

A second panel will be led by William S. Price and Bert C. Ehrens, representatives of Education and Institutional Cooperative Services, Garden City, N.Y.

Troy Womack, vice president of Houston Baptist College is chairman of the agency business officers. Wesley Bowman, business manager of Louisiana Baptist Convention is chairman of the state convention group.

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Foundation Executives Name
Campbell As New President

3-10-66

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP)--The Association of Baptist Foundation Executives meeting here elected Carl Campbell of Montgomery, Ala., as its new president.

Campbell, executive secretary of the Baptist Foundation of Alabama, succeeds James R. Bryant, executive secretary of the Virginia Baptist Foundation.

Other new officers are Carol Nichols, vice president, of the California Baptist Foundation, Fresno; and Ed. F. McDonald Jr., secretary-treasurer, of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation, Little Rock.

Attending the meeting were executives of Baptist Foundations from 21 state Baptist conventions. Combined assets of the foundations total more than \$100 million.

A proposed new constitution which updates wording in the older document was presented to the executives, and a progress report was made on writing a history of the foundation organization.

The foundation men voted to continue working through the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention for production of their promotional materials, and appointed a committee to make arrangements for long-range planning in the area of Baptist foundation work.

Dates for the 1967 meeting will be March 27-29, in Charleston, S. C., and the 1968 meeting will be held in Albuquerque, N. M., at a date to be decided next year.

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Pastors Continue To Quit
Ministry, Report Shows

DALLAS (BP)--Ninety-one pastors quit the ministry and fourteen left the Southern Baptist Convention in 1965, according to statistics released by the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

R. Alton Reed, executive secretary of the Annuity Board, said these statistics were less than recorded in two previous years but still high enough to be of major concern to Southern Baptists.

By comparison, Reed, said, in 1964, 118 pastors quit the ministry and 35 left the denomination. In 1963, 114 left the ministry, and 16, the denomination.

Reed said the Annuity Board learns of the pastors' decisions when they reveal why they ceased making payments into the protection program. The Annuity Board administers the protection program for Southern baptists.

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Baylor Wins Debate

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Baylor University debaters won their third sweepstakes trophy of the season at the annual Southeastern State College Debate Tournament in Durant, Okla. The students won 24 debates and lost 10 and placed in four individual competition events to win the award.

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Texas Board Hires Two,
Approves Ohio Crusade

3-10-66

DALLAS (BP)--The 192-member Texas Baptist Executive Board elected two men to fill vacancies on the staff of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and voted to jointly sponsor an evangelistic crusade in the Dayton, Ohio, area in the late spring and early summer of 1967.

The evangelistic campaign will be jointly sponsored by Texas Baptists and by the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

It will be directed by the Texas Convention's evangelism division, using 50 pastors, 50 musicians, and 200 laymen, all from Texas Baptist churches.

The Executive Board elected Robert E. Dixon, director of youth activities at the First Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., as an associate in the Texas Baptist Brotherhood department, heading the convention's work with Royal Ambassadors, an organization for boys.

Also elected was Tommy Dixon, youth director at First Baptist Church, Longview, Tex., as associate in the Training Union department. He succeeds Lee Garner, now with the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville.

The board also voted to assume the full salary responsibility of Paul Aiken, director of work with National (Negro) Baptists in Texas, who formerly had been paid partially by the SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

A resolution warning that Texans may face another vote on the issues of legalized race track gambling and liquor by-the-drink was adopted at the suggestion of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission.

The resolution also took a poke at tourism promotion in Texas which urges legalization of gambling and liquor by-the-drink to promote tourism. The resolution said such promotion is a disservice to the people of Texas because of the type of tourists which would be attracted.

Loan requests for three state Baptist institutions were approved, granting permission to Dallas Baptist College, Mary-Hardin Baylor College in Belton, Tex., and Mexican Baptist Bible Institute in San Antonio, to borrow funds for building construction programs.

In an address to the board meeting, Texas Baptist Executive Secretary T.A. Patterson acknowledged a crisis in Christian education, but said that no crisis compares to that of declining evangelism in the state's Baptist churches.

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The convention's 4,000 churches baptized 53,956 converts in 1965, the smallest number in 16 years. Patterson challenged the board members to help enlist Baptists in a program of outreach "that will make an impact for Christ."

The state Baptist leader said that two emphases being developed by the convention might be answers to the declining baptisms---a "Faith in Action" emphasis among Baptist churches, and an "Evangelism in Depth" program being developed by the convention's evangelism division.

Patterson said that during a five-year period Texas Baptists had contributed almost \$35 million to Christian education, but that was not enough. He added that Baptist hospitals now face a financial crisis similar to that faced by the Baptist schools.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas operates nine institutions of higher learning and eight hospitals.

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Maryland Baptists Dedicate
Chapel For Leader's Wife

3-10-66

LUTHERVILLE, Md. (BP)--The Virginia Gresham Chapel of the Maryland Baptist Building was dedicated here with the unveiling of a portrait of the late Mrs. Gresham and the placement of a plaque on the door of the chapel.

Mrs. Gresham, wife of the executive secretary-treasurer of the Maryland Baptist State Mission Board, died Feb. 28, 1964, following a long illness.

The unveiling of the painting at the chapel came at the end of a quarterly meeting of the State Mission Board of the Maryland Baptist Convention.

In accepting the portrait, Roy D. Gresham, executive secretary of the board, extolled the memory of his wife and spoke of the power of God which sustained him through his grief.

A committee of the State Mission Board had arranged to provide Gresham with a smaller framed copy of the photographic portrait, and a framed miniature for his three daughters.

A distinguished Washington studio made the portraits from a tiny bust of Mrs. Gresham taken from a family photograph. The photographic portrait was done in heavy oils.

The chapel is located on the lower floor of the Baptist Building at 1313 York Rd., in Lutherville, Md.

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Kentucky Man Elected
By Maryland Baptists

3-20-66

LUTHERVILLE, Md. (BP)--The Maryland Baptist State Mission Board meeting here elected James Cunningham Allcock Jr., of Bowling Green, Ky., as consultant in church music, effective April 18.

Allcock, minister of music and youth at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green, will be assigned to the Maryland Baptist department of Brotherhood and church music, headed by John Saunders. To a limited extent he will assist Saunders in Royal Ambassador work with boys.

A native of Kentucky, he is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, Tenn., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

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