



News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

FEATUURES

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June 3, 1966

Japan Baptist Meetings
Differ From SBC, Detroit

By Worth C. Grant
Missionary on Furlough, From Japan

Compared to sessions of the Japan Baptist Convention, the Southern Baptist Convention in Detroit had many contrasts and few similarities.

Messengers in Japan sit in assigned, numbered seats throughout the long sessions in what must be the supreme test of oriental patience.

There are no "outstanding committees" in Japan.

During times of worship a worshipful atmosphere is maintained, yea, almost enforced by the Japanese Baptists.

Far fewer women are in attendance in Japan. Those who attend are dressed plainly. At the Southern Baptist Convention one notices the tremendous array of hats stylishly-dressed ladies wear here.

The men for the most part wear open-collared shirts in Japan. This is their only way of beating the sweltering summer heat. Conventions there are in late July or August. The auditoriums are not air conditioned.

The Japanese convention is smaller in size and the number of messengers attending is therefore much smaller. There is, however, much more lively discussion from the floor, real dialogue. I missed this in our sessions at Detroit.

In Japan, the agenda, item by item, is placed on a large blackboard on the auditorium platform and daily revised. Finished items are erased and new ones are added.

A vote among Japanese Baptists is usually not taken on a controversial issue until there is a meeting of minds. There are seldom any dissenting votes. This is the Japanese way of not forcing an issue which can cause a serious breach of fellowship. After everyone has had his say and a few confessions made here and there, the messengers can then vote without any fear of losing face.

There is a sense of spiritual uplift in Baptist Conventions which comes in renewing and deepening friendships which span thousands of miles. This aspect of Baptist life and work we share completely with the Japanese brethren, yes, with all of our Baptist brethren around the world. We need each other as we work together in a common cause.



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June 3, 1966

Mississippi College
Honors Moore, Shettles

CLINTON, Miss. (BP)--Mississippi College awarded honorary degrees to a Southern Baptist Convention official and a medical doctor during its 140th commencement exercises here.

The Baptist institution conferred a Doctor of Divinity degree on Merrill D. Moore of Nashville, Tenn., executive director of the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

A Doctor of Science degree was awarded to Landrum Brewer Shettles of New York City, one of the nation's leading obstetrician-gynecologists.

Both men are graduates of the college.

Shettles was once instructor in biology for the school. He went on to receive Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Medicine degrees from Johns Hopkins University.

In addition to his private practice in New York City, Shettles is associate professor at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. He has lectured extensively in the United States and abroad on his research on the beginnings of human life.

Moore has been a denominational worker since 1948. He has held pastorates in Mississippi, Kentucky, Alabama and Tennessee. For two years he was president of Tennessee College for Women, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

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Mayfield Named To New
Post At Houston College

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Ray V. Mayfield, Jr., presently director of church relations at Houston Baptist College, has been named assistant to the president for development.

Mayfield will continue his duties as director of church relations with additional responsibilities for the corporate support and President's Council programs of the college.

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Claude Rhea Gets New
Post at Houston College

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Claude H. Rhea, Jr., presently chairman of the division of fine arts at Houston Baptist College, has been named vice president for administrative affairs.

Rhea will continue as chairman of the division of fine arts, in addition to his responsibilities as vice president for administrative affairs. In his new position Rhea will be in charge of the public relations office, student recruiting, and student life.

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Dallas Couple Pledges To
Hardin-Simmons \$100,000

ABILENE, Texas (BP)--A surprise announcement of a \$100,000 pledge by Mr. and Mrs. Van Calvin Ellis of Dallas climaxed commencement exercises at Hardin-Simmons University.

Mrs. Ellis is a member of the Hardin-Simmons University Board of Development. Her husband is president of Morton Foods of Dallas.

Elwyn Skiles, president, and Lee Hemphill, vice president for development and promotion, said that the pledge was made toward the school's \$2-million endowment campaign which is in progress.

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Hardin-Simmons Receives
\$150,000 Scholarship Gift

ABILENE, Texas (BP)--Hardin-Simmons University, a Baptist school, has received what is believed to be the largest scholarship bequest in the history of the school.

Mrs. Elta Campbell Roberts, who died May 8 has left approximately \$150,000 to the scholarship fund. Her mother, Mrs. Melvia Poteet Campbell who died in 1963, left the bulk of her estate for a scholarship at Hardin-Simmons.

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Staff Changes Made At
University of Corpus Christi

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (BP)--Two administrative staff changes at the University of Corpus Christi, a Baptist school, have been announced by J. C. Clapp, president.

James E. Maberly, assistant professor of business administration will assume the post of business manager of the college. Homer Hanna, who has been director of religious activities, will become director of student services.

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Annual Religious Education
Meeting Set For August 23-25

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Theme for the 46th annual meeting of Southwestern Baptist Religious Education Association will be "Ye Yourself . . . A Chosen Vessel."

Sessions are scheduled for the mornings and afternoons of August 23 - 25 at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Featured speaker is Charles McLaughlin, state mission secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Music director is Harold A. Souther, educational director of Kansas City Baptist Association, Kansas City, Mo.

Officers of the association are Elmer F. Bailey, Memphis, Tenn., president; Roy Lee Williams, Houston, president-elect; Harold Hanson, Dallas, and C. B. Lewis, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, vice presidents; and Gracie Knowlton, Fort Worth, treasurer.

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OBU Awarded \$14,000
For Saline Water Study

WASHINGTON (BP)--Oklahoma Baptist University received one of 39 contracts and grants from the Office of Saline Water of the United States Department of Interior during the three-month period which ended March 31, 1966.

The contracts and grants went to universities, research institutes, government agencies, and private industry for research and development work in saline water conversion. The amount of the Oklahoma Baptist University award was \$14,000. The announcement of the Department of Interior did not say whether this was a contract or a grant.

The Oklahoma Baptist University award was for work with "functional groups and ions on the surface of certain carbons suitable for electrode materials and the adsorption of electrolytes from aqueous solutions by the carbons."

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Theology Professor Earns
Second Doctor's Degree

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--James Leo Garrett, professor of Christian theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary since 1959, receives the Doctor of Philosophy degree from Harvard University June 16.

He is the third member of the Southern Seminary faculty with two earned doctorates. The others are Professor Dale Moody (Oxford University, England) and Dean Penrose St. Amant (Edinburgh University, Scotland).

Garrett's study at Harvard centered on Roman Catholicism. During the past year he was in Rome for the closing days of the Vatican Council. He was an invited guest at the International Conference on Vatican II at Notre Dame this spring.

A native of Waco, Texas, Garrett is a graduate of Baylor University, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Princeton Theological Seminary. He taught at Southwestern Seminary eight years before coming here in 1959.

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Deaf-Blind Girl Graduates
At Blue Mountain College

BLUE MOUNTAIN, Miss. (BP)--When one of the girls in the graduating class of Blue Mountain College was handed her diploma here she added a footnote to the history of this part of the nation.

Miss Tommie Goins of nearby New Albany, Miss., became the first deaf-blind student in the South to successfully complete a full college course.

Blind since birth and deaf since age eleven, Miss Goins is the fifth person in the nation to receive the Helen Keller Award from the American Foundation for the Blind.

President E. Harold Fisher of Blue Mountain College indicated to the crowd at the commencement exercises something of her extraordinary achievement.

Miss Goins graduated with majors in English and modern languages. She lacked only one course to qualify for a third major in psychology. She is listed in the current issue of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Mrs. Mae H. Owens, of the Rehabilitation Division for the Blind of Mississippi, Pontotoc, has been and will continue to be counselor for Miss Goins. She will do graduate study at the University of Mississippi majoring in English.

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Miss Goins has lived since infancy with her maternal grandmother, Mrs. Delia Bell of New Albany, Miss. The counselor says, "This grandmother has given to her faith, hope, and a purpose for living a full and satisfying life."

She attended the Mississippi School for the Blind and the Alabama School for the Deaf-Blind. After extensive evaluation by Syracuse University she was admitted to Blue Mountain College, a four-year school for girls, operated by the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Miss Goins was on the feature staff of the campus newspaper and frequently spoke to campus groups, civic groups and conventions. While she can articulate her words clearly for others to hear, she depends on manual and vibration signs made in her hand to understand what others are saying to her. Students translate class lectures and lesson assignments for her.

Her counselor, Mrs. Owens, says, "Tommie has eyes which do not see, yet she has deep perception. She has ears which do not hear but she has great understanding."

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

The Maryland Court of Appeals in a decision handed down Thursday, June 2, ruled grants to sectarian colleges unconstitutional. This is the Maryland case involving four church schools which has been pending for some time. C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, will have comments on the court opinion early next week. This is to alert you that the Baptist Joint Committee will have a statement on the court opinion.

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