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**Kentucky Baptists Say  
'No' To Federal Loans**

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Baptist schools in Kentucky were denied permission to receive loans from the federal government by action of a special called session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Messengers to the convention meeting here voted 561 to 299 in favor of a motion instructing the four Baptist colleges in Kentucky to borrow only from private sources.

The convention also authorized the schools to borrow up to \$3½ million (from private sources) for construction programs, and approved a \$300,000 annual convention budget allocation for 20 years to repay the loans.

Two substitute motions calling for a study of the possibility of less convention involvement in operation of colleges were tabled by the convention on two occasions.

Last November, the Kentucky convention had authorized a detailed study of how to finance their higher education programs, calling for a special convention within eight months. The action came at a time when Kentucky Baptists had raised only about \$3 million out of a special \$9 million Christian Education Advance fund raising campaign.

Six other state Baptist conventions---Texas, Arkansas, South Carolina, Mississippi, Arizona, and Florida---are in the midst of similar studies, all of them involving the question of either federal loans or grants for Baptist schools.

During the Kentucky convention, the first of the seven to deal with the question, debate lasted for a total of about eight hours in three sessions. About 45 persons spoke during the first day's debate, and about 20 on the second day.

Action finally came on an amendment to a recommendation from the convention's Executive Board, which recommended the \$300,000 allocation from the convention's budget for 20 years to repay loans which the schools negotiated from any source, including the government.

Wendell Rone, pastor of the Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro, Ky., offered the amendment, which stipulated that the schools must borrow from private sources only.

Rone gave three reasons for his opposition: (1) government loans for Christian causes are not biblical, (2) it is not the Baptist way to support the schools, and (3) it is a divisive issue before the Kentucky convention.

"The eyes of Southern Baptists are upon Kentucky this day," Rone said. "I trust that we would not like it written in history that on June 27, Kentucky Baptists led the way for approval of government loans."

Rone and others arguing with him said that accepting government loans would violate the historic Baptist position on separation of church and state.

Opposition to the Rone amendment was led by Franklin Owen, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington, Ky., who authored the original motion leaving the door open for the Kentucky Baptist schools to seek either private or government loans.

Said Owen: "I do not think this is a biblical question. I do not believe it is a religious question. It is a political and practical matter, not a question of sin and righteousness. The government is going to have control whether it lends money or not, specially in the areas of integration and accreditation."

After several hours of debate, the Rone amendment passed on a written ballot. Vote count was 561 to 299.

Earlier, debate had continued for several hours on whether or not the convention should approve the \$300,000 special allocation for 20 years to repay the loans.

A substitute motion by John R. Claypool, pastor of Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville, opposed the \$300,000 allocation and suggested that the convention restudy its relationships to the colleges and its involvement in higher education.

Claypool, who earlier had expressed his views in an article in the Kentucky Baptist state paper, argued in favor of operating only one good-quality Baptist college in the state and allowing the others to become private institutions with self-perpetuating boards.

The president of one of the schools, John M. Carter of Campbellsville College in Campbellsville, Ky., strongly disagreed, saying: "You are going to put your colleges out of existence if you pass this resolution (motion) now. I plead with you not to make this mistake."

Another substitute motion, offered by J. H. Clark of Ashland, Ky., suggested that the convention re-evaluate its entire higher education program and major on Baptist student centers at state-supported colleges and universities instead of on Baptist colleges.

Both the Claypool and Clark substitute motions were tabled, once during the first afternoon of debate and again the next morning. The convention ended with the motions still on the table.

In another major action, the convention gave initial approval to a \$3½ million budget for 1965-66, and a \$3.75 million budget for 1966-67. The budgets would include the \$300,000 annual allocation to repay the loans for the schools, in addition to about \$665,000 which already goes to the schools.

The convention called on the 1,200 Baptist churches in the state to increase the percentage of their local church budgets going to the state convention by at least five per cent to raise the \$300,000 additional money.

The proposed state Baptist budgets increased the percentage which will remain in Kentucky, cutting the percentage that goes to support world-wide Southern Baptist Convention causes from 35.8 per cent this year to 32.5 per cent next year. The actual dollar amount to SBC causes, however, would increase by about \$9,700.

The convention closed with an address on Christian education by Leslie Wright, president of Samford University (Baptist), Birmingham, Ala. By the time he rose to speak, the crowds had dwindled to a few hundred, observers said.

Attendance at the special state convention, a total of 1194 registered messengers, was greater than the attendance at the regular convention last November, and was believed to be a record in convention history.

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#### Yearby Named To Head Alabama Foundation

6/29/66

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (BP)--Vernon Yearby of Montgomery, Ala., has been named executive secretary of the Baptist Foundation of Alabama, effective Aug. 1, 1966.

For the past year-and-a-half, Yearby has been associate secretary for the foundation, which administers trust funds and endowments for Alabama Baptists.

Yearby previously served as secretary of evangelism for Alabama Baptists, and for six years was an associate in the evangelism division for the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board.

He succeeds Carl G. Campbell, foundation executive secretary for the past seven years, who announced his retirement earlier this year.

In making the announcement of Yearby's election, the chairman of the foundation's board of trustees, N. J. Bell III, of Montgomery, praised Yearby's ability and experience for the position at a time when the foundation "is making the greatest progress in its history."

The foundation now has \$1,340,456 in funds to invest for the support of Baptist work in Alabama and around the world.

The executive secretary for the Alabama Baptist State Executive Board, George E. Bagley, said he anticipates "a stepped-up emphasis by the foundation for endowment of our three Baptist colleges, and a renewed emphasis on gifts, wills, estates, and trusts for Baptist causes."

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A native of Virginia, Yearby is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University (Baptist), Abilene, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. Hardin-Simmons has also conferred upon him an honorary doctor of divinity degree.

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Mrs. Norton Named  
To Seminary Post

6/29/66

FORT WORTH (BP)--Mrs. Doris Norton, director of student activities at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here, has been named dean of women by the seminary.

She will replace Mrs. Andrew Q. Allen, who resigned the post effective July 1 after serving as dean of women since 1960.

Mrs. Norton will continue as director of student activities along with her new responsibilities as dean of women.

She became director of student activities in August of 1965 following the death of her husband, Richard Norton. The Nortons had joined the seminary staff in March of 1965 as director and assistant director of student activities.

A native of Chattanooga, Tenn., Mrs. Norton is a graduate of Carson-Newman College (Baptist), Jefferson City, Tenn., and Southwestern Seminary where she received the master of religious education degree.

She is a former youth director for the First Baptist Church of Jackson, Miss.

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Evangelist Gives Library  
To Dallas Baptist College

6/29/66

DALLAS (BP)--W. Herchel Ford, evangelist and former pastor of First Baptist Church in El Paso, Tex., for 16 years, has donated his personal library of more than 400 volumes to Dallas Baptist College.

Ford, author of a "Simple Sermon" series which now numbers 22 volumes, said he was giving the books to the college because of the stand the president, Otis Strickland, and the faculty for the Bible as the infallible word of God.

Ford is a former vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention and a former president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference. He left the El Paso church to enter evangelism in 1963. He now lives in Dallas.

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