



News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

---FEATURES

produced by Baptist Press

460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Telephone (615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

July 27, 1966

Long, Unanswered Letter
Causes Baptist Ulcers

By Roy Jennings

What's almost 28 inches long, 10 inches wide, contains 139 categories, comes in four copies, must be filled out every year, and sometimes causes ulcers?

Give up? Just ask the church clerk at almost any Southern Baptist church. He'll tell you immediately it is the uniform church letter to his local Baptist association.

About this time each year the church clerk gets the job of ferreting out tons of information about the progress of his church since last October 1 which he shares with several Baptist bodies.

The information ranges from the general characteristics of the church to the number of boys, 9-11, in a Royal Ambassador chapter.

It also requests the number of ministers the church licensed and ordained, how much money the church received and gave, and to whom.

Furthermore, the form even asks if the church library has vertical files, how much the preacher made, what the church gave to the temperance league, and the zip code of the organist.

The church letter is an important document. Prepared basically for the association each year, copies go to the Southern Baptist Convention and the state Baptist convention.

That's the source of statistics about the progress of Southern Baptists told in the Southern Baptist Annual and Southern Baptist Handbook.

Of the 139 categories, which of the categories are most difficult to complete?

Many church clerks reply it's categories 58-66 dealing with the Brotherhood ministry. The organization is headed by a layman often away on a job or vacation and the records are held by a secretary subject to the same demands. Sometimes written records don't even exist.

But church clerks hope these men will supply this information in advance and save them the frustration of an incomplete church letter.

What happens if they don't? The clerk either sends in an incomplete report, or he delays sending it until the information is available.

In either case, the clerk often gets letters and telephone calls from the associational clerk requesting the information.

The associational clerk in return may get numerous letters and telephone calls from both state convention and Southern Baptist Convention statisticians who need the information.

The end result? Sometimes it's ulcers.



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

460 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

July 27, 1966

**Baptist Hospital Buys
Convalescent Center**

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans has purchased Taylor House, a major convalescent center here, with plans to operate the facility as an additional service of the hospital, an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The move is a medical "first" in New Orleans. It will couple the operation of a major private hospital with an extended care institution for the first time here.

Taylor House opened in 1964 as a seventy-bed, extended-care institution for private guests not requiring extensive hospital treatment.

Prior to the sale, the five-story center was owned and operated by New Orleans Taylor House, Inc.

Raymond C. Wilson, administrator of Southern Baptist Hospital, said Taylor House will enable the hospital to free short-term, acute treatment beds from use by long-term patients."

"At the same time, Taylor House will enable us to provide excellent long-term care for those requiring it.

"The modern facilities of Taylor House will help alleviate the current shortage of space at the parent institution, a shortage which promises to plague Southern Baptist and other hospitals serving New Orleans for years to come," Wilson said.

Starting with 248 beds, the hospital now has 471 and is expanding to 600. Taylor House will bring the total to 670.

Wilson said that M. B. Tuttle, Taylor House administrator, has agreed to remain in his position during the ownership transition and prior to pursuing professional plans elsewhere.

Tuttle will be succeeded by Wade Henry, who will retain his title as an assistant administrator of Southern Baptist Hospital.

-30-

**Southern Seminary Names
Two Visiting Professors**

7/27/66

LOUISVILLE, (BP)--Two professors of religion at Baptist schools will be visiting professors of New Testament interpretation at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary during the coming academic year.

Oscar S. Brooks of William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., will teach first semester and Edgar McKnight of Furman University in Greenville, S.C., the second semester.

Both are graduates of Southern Seminary, and both have done post-doctoral study; Brooks at the Pacific School of Religion, McKnight at the Institute on Southern Asia at Duke University.

They will be the fourth and fifth Baptist college professors to serve for a semester on the seminary faculty.

McKnight was a scholarship student at both the College of Charleston and at Southern Seminary and was chaplain at Chowan (Baptist) College in North Carolina prior to his joining the Furman faculty. He has been pastor of five Baptist churches in South Carolina and Kentucky.

Brooks, a graduate of Carson-Newman (Baptist) College, Jefferson City, Tenn., taught mathematics in high school and later was a New Testament fellow at Southern Seminary. Before going to William Jewell College he served as associate professor of religion at Cumberland (Baptist) College in Kentucky.

-30-

Baptist Pastor Killed
While Working On Boat

TAYLORSVILLE, N. C. (BP)--A Baptist minister was electrocuted while using an electric drill to install a speedometer on a boat at Lake Hickory near here.

Wayne Hendren, about 50, was dead on arrival at Alexander County Hospital shortly after the accident.

He had been pastor of the Three Forks Baptist Church in Alexander County for about eight years.

Hendren was sitting on an inner tube at the water's edge working on the boat. The drill apparently got wet, and when Hendren turned it on he was electrocuted.

-30-

SBC Seminary Extension
Offers Course on Amos

7/27/66

NASHVILLE (BP)--A course in the Book of Amos will be offered beginning Sept. 1 by the Seminary Extension Department of the six Southern Baptist seminaries.

Offered by correspondence or in extension centers operated by Southern Baptists throughout the country, the course is available to both Baptist pastors and laymen.

Ralph Herring, executive secretary of the SBC Seminary Extension Department, said the course will be especially helpful to all who expect to teach the 1967 January Bible Study in Southern Baptist churches.

The course was prepared by Roy L. Honeycutt, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City. It was based on his book, Amos and His Message.

Cost of the course is \$11.75, including tuition and textbook. Additional information is available from the Seminary Extension Department, Box 1411, Nashville.

-30-

New Orleans Gets Gift
To Aid Pastors' Meeting

7/27/66

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--A \$10,000 gift has been received at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary here to endow partial expenses for the seminary's annual summer Pastors' Conference.

The gift was from a residue of the estate of Mrs. Hattie R. Nored of Thomasville, Ala.

Mrs. Nored also provided gifts to the Alabama Baptist and Methodist Foundations to support church vocation students, and other Christian religious causes.

The will of Mrs. Nored, who died in 1965, was probated at an earlier date. Southern Baptist Home and Foreign Mission Boards received bequests stipulated in the will.

The seminary's annual pastors' conference is held in June and July of each year. Professors usually teach Biblical and theology subjects as refresher type courses, and guest lecturers are on the campus for the meetings.

-30-

Woolley Films Baptist
History In England

7/27/66

LONDON (BP)--The executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention's Historical Commission, Davis C. Woolley of Nashville, Tenn., is spending six weeks in London and in Oxford, England, to microfilm early Baptist history unavailable in the United States.

Woolley reported here that he is microfilming about 133 books which give early English Baptist history, at Regents Park Library, the University of Oxford.

While in England, he was to attend sessions of the Baptist World Alliance Executive Committee in London.

Woolley, his wife, and four children made the trip.

-30-