



# BAPTIST PRESS

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September 12, 1966

### Stetson Trustees Say: No More Grants Planned

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)--Trustees of Stetson University assured members of the State Board of Missions for the Florida Baptist State Convention that the Baptist school would not apply for any additional federal grants until after a committee study on the issue is completed.

Stetson trustees met in joint session with the Florida Baptist State Missions Board here one day prior to the board's two-day meeting.

Later, the board voted to recommend that the committee study be continued for one year, with a final report scheduled in November of 1967.

The committee study was authorized last November by the Florida Baptist Convention, which asked the 15-member committee "to study all implications of church-state cooperation with special emphasis in areas of government grants of money to our agencies and institutions."

A controversy has been boiling beneath the surface among Florida Baptists ever since March when it was announced that trustees at Stetson, a private Baptist school in DeLand, Fla., had voted to accept a \$501,926 federal grant to construct a science building.

In April the convention's State Board of Missions voted unanimously to ask the Stetson trustees to reverse their decision and delay accepting any federal grants until after the convention's committee had completed its church-state separation study.

But in June, the Stetson trustees turned down the board's request, saying they did not believe that the grants violated separation of church and state, and that to postpone the decision until completion of the study would mean the loss of \$850,000 in gift money.

Later in June, the U. S. Office of Education reported through Baptist Press that Stetson had received, not one, but two federal grants, one for \$557,696 for a science building, and another for \$286,861 for a Law School building at the St. Petersburg (Fla.) campus.

At the September meeting of the Florida Convention State Missions Board, the Stetson trustees, however, gave assurance that they would not apply for any more federal grants until after the church-state study committee had made its findings and reported to the convention.

If the recommendation of the State Missions Board is approved by the full convention in November, it would be the last of 1967 before the study is completed. The study originally would have been completed by November of 1966.

In another significant action, the State Missions Board voted to recommend a record \$3.3 million budget for 1966-67, including an allocation to Stetson that is only about half of the amount given to Stetson in 1965-66.

The committee which recommended the budget to the board submitted its itemized proposal, including a recommended \$149,820 allocation to Stetson. The current budget allocates \$269,000 to Stetson.

From several items in the Florida Baptist Cooperative Program budget, Stetson receives about \$400,000 a year. If the 1966-67 budget is approved by the convention as recommended by the board, Stetson will get less than half that amount from the convention.

The proposed budget, an increase of \$200,000 over the current budget, allocates 55 per cent of the total to state Baptist causes, and 45 per cent to Southern Baptist Convention causes through the denomination's Cooperative Program unified budget plan. The percentage to SBC causes increased one per cent over last year's allocation.

The board also voted to recommend an emergency \$107,580 capital needs allocation to Baptist Bible Institute, in Graceville, Fla., for a new library building.

Final decision on the extended time for the church-state separation committee study and the \$3.3 million budget including the reduced Stetson allocation must come from the full convention, which meets Nov. 8-10 at the First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida.

Seminary Elects First  
Woman To Trustee Board

LOUISVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here has elected the first woman trustee in the school's 107-year history.

She is Mrs. Richard Harrison Hill of Louisville.

Mrs. Hill will be continuing a family record of 73 years on the seminary's board. Her first husband, the late C. Edwin Gheens, was a trustee for forty years, serving until his death in 1962. His father, Charles W. Gheens, served on the board from 1889 to 1921.

The Gheens family underwrites an annual lecture series which brings outstanding scholars to the campus. In 1959 the seminary's major conference center was named Gheens Lecture Hall in recognition of the family's continuing contribution to the school's advancement.

Mrs. Hill is chairman of the Gheens Foundation, a charitable organization founded by her late husband. Along with Mr. Hill, whom she married last month, the new seminary trustee is active in many religious, cultural and civic affairs. She replaces trustee George S. Wilson of Owensboro, Kentucky, who died in June.

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Price Named Furman's  
Pitts Prof. of Religion

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GREENVILLE, S.C. (BP)--Theron D. Price, professor of religion and chairman of the religion department at Furman University here, has been named Pitts Professor of Religion as the first professor at the Baptist school to occupy the recently-endowed Reuben B. Pitts Chair of Religion.

A former professor at Mercer University (Baptist), Macon, Ga., and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Price has been chairman of Furman's religion department since 1963.

He also taught and studied at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon-Zurich, Switzerland, and for four years previously, was pastor of Wornall Road Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., Yale University, New Haven, Conn.; and Southern Seminary, Louisville.

The Reuben B. Pitts Chair of Religion was established with a bequest of \$60,000 in honor of the late Furman trustee for 31 years, a textile executive with Hermitage Cotton Mills. Pitts and his family gave the university \$100,000 toward construction of the new Furman campus, in honor of his father, the late John Douglas Pitts, a long-time Baptist minister.

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Mission Appointments Include  
Chaplaincy Pilot Project

ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board instituted a pilot project in industrial chaplaincy in Louisville, Ky., with the appointment of Howard Tisdale of La Grange, Ky., as a career missionary for Southern Baptists.

Six other career missionaries also were appointed at the September meeting of the SBC Home Mission Board with offices here.

Tisdale, previously pastor of the Eighteen Mile Baptist Church in La Grange, Ky., will work in the area of metropolitan Louisville as a field representative of the board's division of chaplaincy, encouraging industrial executives to start chaplain-pastor ministries.

Although it is an outreach of local churches, associations, and the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the position is viewed as a pilot project of the SBC Chaplains Commission and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Tisdale, a native of Ellisville, Miss., is a graduate of Auburn University, Auburn, Ala., and Southern Seminary, Louisville. He also had clinical pastoral education at Louisville General Hospital and Central State Hospital in Kentucky.

He was an engineer with the E. I. DuPont DeNemours and Co., Inc., for 12 years previous to his entering the ministry.

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Other new Southern Baptist home missionaries include C. Burt Potter Jr., of Gastonia, N.C.; Laddie R. Adams of Enid, Okla.; Talmadge R. Amberson of Scottsboro, Ala.; Lloyd A. West of Mercedes, Tex., and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel David Harbeson of South Carolina.

As director of Philadelphia city ministries, C. Burt Potter Jr., will serve as an associate of G. W. Bullard, superintendent of missions for the Greater Philadelphia area. Potter's major responsibility will be as pastor of University Baptist Church in Philadelphia and as director of Home Mission Board ministries in the city of Philadelphia.

Potter a native of Corpus Christi, is a graduate of Baylor University (Baptist), Waco, Tex., and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. He also attended New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans.

At the time of his appointment he was associate pastor of First Baptist Church of Gastonia, N.C. He also has served as chaplain for the Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans; as pastor of West Whiteville Baptist Church, Whiteville, N. C.; as chaplain at Camp Sea Gull, Arapahoe, N. C.; and as pastor of the Elm Grove Baptist Church, Waelder, Tex.

An Oklahoma native, Laddie R. Adams, was appointed to serve as language missions coordinator in Oklahoma. Adams will succeed veteran missionary Bailey Sewell, who died on June 4, 1966.

Adams, born at Beaver, Okla., is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

At the time of his appointment, he was pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church, Enid, Okla. Other pastorates include First Baptist Churches of Cheyenne and Keyes, both in Oklahoma.

Talmadge R. Amberson was appointed by the board's metropolitan missions department as superintendent of missions for the Detroit Baptist Association in Michigan.

Amberson, a native of Birmingham, Ala., graduated from Samford University (Baptist) in Birmingham, and Southwestern Seminary. At the time of his appointment he was pastor at First Baptist Church in Scottsboro, Ala. He also has held pastorates in Springfield, Mo.; Venus, Tex.; and Sylacauga, Ala.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel David Harbeson were appointed by the board's Christian social ministries department to the Baptist Center in Panama City, Fla. Harbeson will be director of the mission center.

Harbeson, a native of Saint George, S. C., is a graduate of William Carey College (Baptist) in Hattiesburg, Miss., and New Orleans Seminary. While attending the seminary he served on the staff of Rachel Sims Mission in New Orleans as a Home Mission Board student missionary. He is former pastor of the Arlington Baptist Church in Beaumont, Miss.

Mrs. Harbeson, the former Nancy McAlhany, is a native of Branchville, S.C.

Lloyd A. West, Mercedes, Tex., was accorded full missionary status by the Home Mission Board. He will continue as pastor of the Southside Baptist Mission of First Baptist Church, Mercedes. The Southside Mission is a Spanish-speaking congregation.

A native of Amarillo, Tex., he also attended Texas schools, graduating from Wayland Baptist College in Plainview, and Southwestern Seminary.

He also has served as pastor of the Spanish mission of First Baptist Church, Altus, Okla.

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C O R R E C T I O N

9/12/66

Editors, please change one letter in the lead paragraph of story mailed Sept. 9, page 2, headlined: "Sen. Ervin Plugs For Judicial Review Bill." The name of the New York Times editorial mentioned in paragraph one is "Clarifying School Aid," rather than "Clarifying School Air," as sent. Please change "Air" to "Aid." Thanks.

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