



# BAPTIST PRESS

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### BUREAU

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD Lynn M. Davis Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,  
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January 5, 1967

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Dear Editor:

For your information, here is a tabulation giving the number of points for each story on balloting for the top ten SBC stories of 1966.

Last year, we included the tabulation at the end of the story, but only few state papers carried the tabulation. This year we're sending it only to you as added information. You are welcome to publish it if you so desire.

RANK	STORY DESCRIPTION	TOTAL POINTS
1	Federal aid question considered by state conventions	173
2	Tattnall Square Church, Macon, fires staff over integration	156
3	Baptist-Catholic relationships...	138
4	Maryland Court of Appeals rules out grants to sectarian colleges	105
5	BEST first national conference reveals divided opinions	102
6	SBC participation in Crusade of Americas launched	90
7	Dirksen prayer amendment fails in Congress	84
8	Cuba gives Caudill conditional prison release	83
9	ABC General Council rejects Crusade of Americas participation	82
10	Arkansas Convention relinquishes hospital to accept grants	63
11	Study, discussion, editorials continue on SBC name change	53
12	New editors named for state Baptist papers in 8 states	40
13	Baptists participate in World Congress on Evangelism	36
14	SBC membership tops 10.7 million; giving up, baptisms down	34
15	'70 Onward studies suggest SBC future approaches, basic areas	33
16	North American Baptist Fellowship organized, statement issued	32
16	State conventions approve new Annuity Board program	32
17	SBC exceeds budget in Nov.; advance section goes to FMB, HMB	25
18	Franklin Paschall elected SBC president, tours world, urges peace	22
19	SBC applauds ruling refusing to censure Moyers; award postponed	19
20	Stetson accepts federal grant, Florida convention responds	17
21	SBC missionaries in Vietnam bravely continue ministry despite war	11
22	SBC gears for missions in city as nation becomes urbanized (OTHERS)	7
23	Baptist pastor challenges right of nuns to teach in Boerne schools	6
23	Laymen form foundation for conservative theology at New Orleans	6
24	SBC Radio-TV Commission wins awards for film, "The Inheritance"	1
24	Seminar on urban studies to be held in Washington (OTHERS)	1
--	Final program statements adopted by SBC boards, agencies	0

The points system used was that generally in effect for other such polls--10 points for each story ranked number one, nine for each number two vote, etc.

Next time we'll try to get the ballot to you a little earlier with a release date for publication the week following Christmas. Best wishes for a happy new year.

Sincerely,

Jim Newton  
Assistant Director

JN:vb

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⑤ SBC Missions Gifts  
Hit All-Time Record

NASHVILLE (BP)--The year 1966 was marked by the largest contributions to Southern Baptist Convention missions causes in the history of the denomination, an end-of-the year financial report from the SBC Executive Committee disclosed here.

Southern Baptists gave more than \$24 million through the denomination's Cooperative Program during 1966, surpassing last year's contributions by \$1.4 million.

In addition, designated contributions to specific Southern Baptist missions causes boosted total missions gifts for 1966 to almost \$43 million.

The end-of-the-year report was prepared by the Southern Baptist Executive Committee here which receives the funds from churches and state conventions and distributes them.

It was the biggest year of missions giving in the history of the convention, and the advance section of the Cooperative Program was entered earlier than ever before, the day before Thanksgiving.

December was also the biggest month of missions giving in the history of the denomination with a record \$2,574,436 given through the Cooperative Program and an additional \$168,410 to designated causes.

"The increased receipts reflect a deep concern on the part of Southern Baptists for greater outreach through the agencies supported by the Cooperative Program," commented Porter W. Routh, executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee. Routh gave the credit to laymen, pastors, and state conventions increasing their percentage to SBC causes.

The record \$24,005,046 in Cooperative Program contributions exceeded similar contributions in 1965 by \$1,434,188, or 6.35 per cent.

Designated contributions totalling \$18,994,575 for 1966 increased by 11.03 per cent or \$1,887,526 over 1965 designations.

The grand total of designated and Cooperative Program missions gifts was \$42,999,622, an increase of \$3,321,714 over 1965, or 8.37 per cent.

Under the procedure established by the convention when the 1966 budget was adopted, all missions contributions through the Cooperative Program which arrived after the budget had been met was divided two-thirds to foreign missions and one-third to home missions. A total of \$2,744,297 was divided between the two SBC mission boards through this "advance section" of the Cooperative Program giving plan.

During the year, the SBC Foreign Mission Board received a total of \$26,496,785 through both designated and Cooperative Program contributions, compared to \$24.3 million in 1965.

The SBC Home Mission Board received \$9,014,981 during 1966, compared to \$8.1 million in 1965.

Twenty-one Southern Baptist Convention agencies, institutions and organizations received funds through the Cooperative Program or through designated contributions.

Six Southern Baptist seminaries received a total of \$5,098,485 in total contributions, the report disclosed, and the SBC Radio-Television Commission received \$1,097,658. Other agencies and organizations received much smaller amounts, ranging from less than \$1,000 to about \$250,000.

The end-of-the-year financial report included only amounts given to national and worldwide SBC missions causes, and did not include funds for the support of local churches, area-wide missions efforts, and state-wide missions programs.

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Midwestern Seminary  
Changes Degree Name

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6 KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here has changed the name of its most-frequently earned degree from bachelor of divinity to the master of divinity degree.

The new nomenclature will begin with the fall semester of 1967, and the degree will be awarded upon completion of three years study beyond the bachelor degree from a college or university.

Seminary officials said the name change is in keeping with recent action taken by the American Association of Theological Schools, and will be instituted in most major denominational seminaries associated with the accreditation society.

At least one other Southern Baptist Convention-affiliated seminary, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, had earlier announced similar plans to change the degree name to master of divinity.

Midwestern Seminary Registrar V. Lavell Seats said that the master of theology (Th.M.) degree will remain as the nomenclature for the seminary's graduate program beyond the professional master of divinity degree.

"The work at our seminaries is of a graduate nature and includes some 96 hours beyond the bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree," said Seats. "We felt that a student should receive a master's degree rather than another bachelor's."

Seats added that there will be some upgrading of the present curriculum along with the change in degree name.

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7 Deacon Becomes President  
Of National Educators Group

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CANYON, Tex. (BP)--James P. Cornette, a Baptist deacon and president of West Texas State University here, has assumed the office as president of the National Association of State Colleges and Universities.

Cornette, president of the state-supported school since 1948 and former dean at Baylor University, (Baptist), Waco, Tex., heads the association composed of 202 colleges and universities in 44 states, the District of Columbia, and the Island of Guam.

Cornette, a native of Mississippi, is a deacon at First Baptist Church of Canyon.

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8 Kansas Baptist Executive  
Killed in Car-Train Crash

1/5/67

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WICHITA, Kan. (BP)--One of the top executives for the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists was killed in a car-train crash here while on his way home from work.

Killed was Samuel Drew Russell, associate executive secretary of the convention and director of its department of missions. He was 50.

Russell's automobile collided with a Rock Island freight train in suburban Wichita just ten minutes after he had left the office for home. He died three hours after the crash.

Funeral services were held at the Sharon Baptist Church, Wichita, on Jan. 6. The collision occurred at 4:40 p.m., Jan. 4.

Russell had been elected to the staff of the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists less than one year earlier. He was jointly employed by the Kansas Convention and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

He worked in cooperation with the missions department and missions personnel in 13 Baptist associations in Kansas and Nebraska where 24 full-time Baptist missions workers are assigned.

Prior to his work with the Kansas convention, Russell was for seven years executive secretary-treasurer of the Sedgewick County Baptist Association which involved the Baptist churches in Greater Wichita.

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Russell had been pastor of three churches in Oklahoma and one in Texas, and for ten years was missions superintendent for the Union Baptist Association in Oklahoma. He was pastor of churches in Omega, Oklahoma City, and Anadarko, Okla.; and in Cranfills Gap, Tex.

He is survived by his wife; one daughter, Mrs. Montie Ann Foos; and one granddaughter; his mother, Mrs. Myrtle Russell of Norman, Okla.; a sister, Mrs. B. K. Pursar of Ponca City, Okla.; and three brothers, Jess Russell of Wichita, Bob Russell of Fort Worth; and L. A. Russell of Purcell, Okla.

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9 New Book Urges Church  
To Accept Sex Education

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NASHVILLE (BP)--A new book by a Baptist seminary professor has urged Southern Baptist churches to accept responsibility for providing sex education among today's youth, and has given practical guidelines on how to do it.

It is the first such book published by Broadman Press, book publishing arm of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, which is designed especially to provide guidelines to pastors, youth workers and parents for taking a positive Christian approach to sex education through the church and home.

Author of the book, entitled "Teaching About Sex--A Christian Approach," is John C. Howell, professor of Christian ethics at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

"The church must confront its youth and adults with sound Christian guidance that will enable them to make responsible decisions concerning their own sexual behavior," Howell said.

"To avoid such an approach is to teach by silence and embarrassment that sex is evil and should not be discussed within the context of Christian values," he said.

While Broadman Press has published several books presenting sex in a Christian perspective, Howell's book is the first designed to offer guidance for sex education in the church and home.

"Increases in premarital and extramarital sexual experiences, the pressure of acceptance by homosexuals as a normal third sex, the degrading of sex in popular literature, and the merchandising of sex in advertising confront the church and the home with a challenge which cannot be ignored," Howell said.

That the church and home should mutually accept this challenge is shared by many Christians as revealed in research projects of various denominations, including Southern Baptists, and in personal surveys by the author.

The book discusses the sexual guidance of children and adolescents and marriage preparation. Also included is a chapter of resources.

"Many parents seem amazed to learn that sex education and instruction about sex are not the same thing," Howell emphasized. "As instruction, the biological facts of life may be presented in a relatively brief discussion between parent and child; sex education requires that these facts be related to the whole of life."

"Every child gets a sexual education," Howell stated. "The concern of the Christian home is that children receive their understanding of sexual facts within a context of values that encourages a wholesome acceptance of sex rather than the unwholesome exploitation of it!"

Concerning the role of the church, Howell said, "If it is true that next to the home, the Christian church and the Sunday Schools are responsible for the Christian education of their youth, then the supplementation of sex education by the churches does come within its educational objectives."

Howell outlined specific educational opportunities which pastors, the church, the association and the denomination may undertake.

Since 1960 Howell has been professor of Christian ethics at Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City.

He has served as pastor of several Baptist churches in Florida and Texas and was chaplain-counselor, Volunteers of American Maternity Home, Fort Worth, 1954-56. During 1965-66 he was chairman of the Clergyman's Advisory Committee, Planned Parenthood Association of Greater Kansas City.

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Birmingham Hospital Moves  
To New, Modern Facilities

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BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--"Operation Big Move" was almost like a modern version of the exodus to the Promised Land.

Without a hitch, 54 patients were transferred from the Highland Avenue Baptist Hospital, in operation here since 1930, to a new modern Baptist Medical Center Hospital three miles away.

Promptly at 8:00 a.m. on the day of "Operation Big Move," ambulances of the 109th Evacuation Hospital Unit of the Alabama National Guard arrived at the old hospital to begin the big move.

Private cars driven by 17 ministers of the Birmingham Baptist Association also helped transport the patients the three miles to the new hospital located on the South slope of Red Mountain, at 800 Montclair Road.

Along with the patients were transported tons of equipment, drugs, supplies and records.

Traffic between the two institutions was controlled by a Military Police detachment from the 31st Infantry Division of the Alabama National Guard.

A brief ceremony took place outside the new Baptist Medical Center. A ribbon was cut officially opening the new building, and a prayer of gratitude was offered by Richard E. Francis, moderator of the Birmingham Baptist Association.

Mrs. Louis J. Stout was officially welcomed as the first patient to be transferred from Highland to the Baptist Medical Center.

"We're just moving the physical facilities," commented L. R. Jordan, executive director of Birmingham Baptist Hospitals. "Baptist Medical Center will continue the tradition of service to the community that has characterized the ministry of healing of Highland Avenue Baptist Hospital since 1930."

Personnel of the Highland Avenue Baptist Hospital formed the nucleus of the staff of the new hospital.

That afternoon, after the patients had been transferred, long-time hospital trustee Charles J. Donald pinned a "gold medal" and a blue ribbon on the front door of Highland Avenue Baptist Hospital.

The medal read: "For Distinguished Service." With it was a sign that read, "Closed."

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