



**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

May 17, 1967

Reapportionment, World Peace  
May Be SBC's Biggest Issues

MIAMI BEACH (BP)--When the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) meets here May 30-June 2, major business to come before the nation's largest Protestant body will include a Baptist version of reapportionment and consideration of a \$26.7 million world missions budget.

Although convention officials are predicting no major controversial issues this year, the issue of world peace and the war in Vietnam is expected to come up at one point during the convention when the SBC Christian Life Commission brings its written report on world peace.

The report on world peace and the proposal to change the convention's by-laws to provide "a more democratic representation" of members on SBC-elected commissions and institutional boards are among the major issues and business to come before the four-day convention.

Predictions on the business and issues to come before the 15,000 Baptists expected here for the convention came from H. Franklin Paschall, president of the convention and Nashville, Tenn., pastor, and from Porter W. Routh of Nashville, executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee and major staff advisor of the convention.

Both predicted little controversy and a prevailing harmonious spirit at the four-day convention in Miami Beach's Convention Hall.

"There are no really controversial issues expected to come up during the convention," said Paschall, pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville, and head of the 11-million member SBC.

He pointed out, however, that whenever 15,000 Baptists get together for a convention, any issue could be raised from the floor of the democratic body.

The carefully-worded statement on world peace from the convention's Christian Life Commission does not require convention adoption, although the convention probably will vote to "receive" the report, pointed out Routh. "Receiving" the report does not necessarily mean the messengers (delegates) approve of the report's contents, Routh said.

In the statement, the Christian Life Commission calls on Southern Baptists and fellow Christians to pray for world peace, and "encourages the responsible leadership of our government to continue to pursue patiently every course that might lead to a peaceful settlement of international problems in general and of the Vietnam conflict in particular."

"It is not the Christian Life Commission's intent to make specific proposals about government policies, military strategy, or diplomatic approaches to negotiation with our present adversaries," the report says.

After asking penetrating questions about the present conflict in Vietnam without taking a position for or against the U.S.-Vietnam policy, the Commission's report calls "upon all churches not to be blinded by distorted appeals to false patriotism so that they lose sight of the personal tragedy, the great sorrow, and the fantastic cost attached to the present conflict (in Vietnam). A spirit of solemn penitence is in order," the report says.

Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the Christian Life Commission, said he would present the printed report of the convention and ask that it be received by the convention just prior to an address on world peace by U. S. Senator Mark Hatfield, (R., Ore.), a Baptist.

Sen. Hatfield, former governor of Oregon, will deliver a major address to the convention.

The proposed reapportionment of Baptist commissions and institutional trustees will come as an amendment to the Convention's Bylaw 18.

The bylaw change, which proponents say is designed to provide a more democratic system of representation on SBC commissions and institutional boards, would affect 10 Baptist state conventions with more than 25,000 members but less than 100,000 members.

Under the proposed change, the 10 state conventions would have automatic representation on the Executive Committee and four major boards of the SBC, but representation on the commissions and institutional boards would be rotated among the 10 states, with each commission and institutional board having five directors-at-large nominated from among the 10 states.

Proponents of the proposal argue that the 10 states, with a combined total Baptist membership of about 500,000, have the same number of representatives per state as 11 other state conventions, each with more than 500,000 members and a combined membership of 8½ million.

Opponents of the proposal argue that the smaller states need the involvement of the participation in all SBC agencies, and that an already-established system of representation should not be taken away from them.

The bylaw change on representation, like the \$26.7 million proposed Cooperative Program world missions budget for 1968, will come as recommendations from the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee will also recommend that the convention hold its 1972 meeting in Philadelphia; that several editorial corrections be made in the SBC Constitution; that the terms of elected board members for SBC agencies and institutions be four years instead of three or five years as in some cases; and that a plan for sharing the risk on church loans be worked out between the SBC Home Mission Board and lending agents to provide more funds for church loans.

In a session just prior to the convention in Miami Beach, the Executive Committee will consider convention goals for the years 1968-69 and 1969-70, and plans for the convention's emphases during the first part of the 1970's.

The plans for 1970 and years following, called '70 Onward, were developed after a four-year grass-roots study involving a broad cross-section of Baptist laymen and pastors; and were approved by the SBC Inter-Agency Council. If approved by the Executive Committee, the future plans will be presented to the full convention for consideration.

The Executive Committee is in the process of studying a proposal to change the name of the Southern Baptist Convention, but no final recommendations are expected to come to the Miami Beach convention. A progress report on the study, however, will be brought.

Most of the four-day convention will be devoted to hearing reports on the work of 19 SBC agencies and institutions, and to addresses and sermons.

Major speakers on the program include Sen. Hatfield, President Paschall, Singer and Actress Anita Bryant, Pastor W. A. Criswell of the 13,000-member First Baptist Church of Dallas; former wire-tapper Jim Vaus of Youth, Inc., in New York City; Seminary President H. Leo Eddleman of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans; and Baptist Pastors Landrum P. Leavell of Wichita Falls, Tex.; Carl Bates of Charlotte, N. C.; Theodore F. Adams of Richmond, Va.; James L. Pleitz of Pensacola, Fla.; and J. D. Grey of New Orleans.

Congressman Ask Extension  
Of Aids To Private Schools

WASHINGTON (BP)--Rep. Clement J. Zablocki (D., Wis.) has introduced a bill in Congress that would allow publicly-owned laboratory and other special instructional equipment to be used on a loan basis by private and parochial school children.

The bill would amend Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) which already provides for the loan of textbooks and library resources to nonpublic schools.

The Wisconsin congressman said he plans to offer the measure as an amendment to the administration's education bill when it comes to the floor of the House for debate and a vote.

His bill, the congressman said, "Provides for the reasonable and equitable expansion of a tried and tested formula for providing constitutionally-valid federal assistance."

"Money is not the issue here," Zablocki asserted. "Rather it is the acceptance of the concept that the child benefit principle embodied in Title II of the bill should logically and justly be extended to laboratory and other instructional equipment."

In the past Zablocki introduced a similar bill that sought, unsuccessfully, to amend the National Defense Education Act (NDEA). Title III of that act provides matching federal grants to public schools for the purchase of laboratory and other special instructional equipment. Private or parochial schools are eligible only for interest-bearing loans.

Zablocki contends that nonpublic school children have been "tragically shortchanged" by the operation of NDEA. They have received only a little over one per cent of the funds appropriated for equipment while comprising 14 per cent of the total American school population, he said.

Zablocki told the House of Representatives that in preparing the bill he sought the advice and counsel of experts both in Congress, the Office of Education and nongovernmental organizations and that there was "general agreement" that some adjustment is needed between the ESEA and the NDEA with respect to overlapping programs.

"I am not convinced that purchases of laboratory and other special equipment belongs in Title II of ESEA," Zablocki said. "This would permit such equipment to be used directly by teachers and pupils in nonpublic schools, while actual ownership resided in the public authority," he asserted.

Zablocki also told the House that one of the objections to his proposal is whether laboratory equipment can be loaned on the same basis as books and library resources.

He said he believes that laboratory, audio-visual and other equipment can practically be loaned on the same basis as textbooks. The legislation makes it clear, he told the House, that such equipment must be portable so that it may be reasonably loaned or withdrawn, if necessary, by the public authority.

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High Plains Hospital  
Names Neal Top Assistant

5/17/67

AMARILLO, Tex. (BP)--James E. Neal of Norfolk, Va., has been named assistant administrator for the New High Plains Baptist Hospital, located in the Amarillo Medical Center here.

Administrator Emmett Johnson said that Neal will assume duties on June 19, with temporary offices at 609 Petroleum Building.

Neal currently is completing the requirements for a masters degree in hospital administration from the Medical College of Virginia by serving a one year administrative residency at the Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, Va.

The High Plains Baptist Hospital is the first major general hospital in the new 396-acre Amarillo Medical Center. It is scheduled to open in early 1968 at a cost of \$6,100,000. Initially it will have 241 beds, but is planned for easy expansion to 440 beds.

Neal, 39, is a native of Odtewah, Tenn. He served in the Army Corps of Engineers from 1946 to 1948 and holds a bachelor of science in commerce from the University of Louisville.

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Congress Asked To Lower  
Voting Age Requirement

WASHINGTON (BP)--Congressman Richard Fulton (D., Tenn.) has introduced a resolution in the U. S. House of Representatives calling for a constitutional amendment to prohibit denial of the vote on account of age to anyone 18 years of age or older.

If the resolution is passed and the amendment is subsequently ratified by 34 states, voting age requirements would be affected in all but two of the 50 states.

Georgia and Kentucky are the only states that have granted the vote to 18-year olds. Alaska requires a person to be 19, Hawaii 20.

In calling for the amendment to lower the voting age limit Fulton said: "Today's 18-year old is not only physically superior to his parents, but is better educated and has been taught by more qualified instructors who utilize improved teaching techniques not known in previous generations."

"A man's maturity is judged by how he accepts and carries out his responsibilities," Fulton told the House, "and today, greater responsibilities have been placed upon our young people.

"I am convinced that the vast majority of them have accepted and admirably handled his responsibility," he added.

"All our young citizens of 18, 19 and 20 have earned their voice in government," he said. "They have earned their vote through education, awareness, legal responsibility and on the battlefields."

Similar resolutions have been introduced in the House and are now pending in the Judiciary Committee. In the Senate, Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D. Mont.) and Sen. Jennings Randolph (D., W. Va.) have sponsored joint resolutions calling for a constitutional amendment to lower the voting age to 18.

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Urban Seminar Reaches  
Full Enrolment of 35

5-17-67

WASHINGTON (BP)--Thirty-five students will converge on the nation's capital for a month-long Seminar on Urban Studies beginning June 12, according to Raymond Bryan Brown, dean of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary at Wake Forest, N. C.

The seminar is sponsored jointly by the seminary, the District of Columbia Baptist Convention and the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. This is the first project of its kind sponsored by Southern Baptists.

No more enrollments can be received, Brown said. The original limit was set at 32, but the demand was so great that three additional students were included.

The 35 participants will come from such diverse states as California, Mississippi, New York and North Carolina. The seminar will be composed of students, pastors, missionaries, social workers and representatives from language groups.

Three courses will be taught: (1) Christian dialogue within the international and interfaith community, (2) The church in the secular city, and (3) Resources for the church's community ministry.

The faculty will be E. Luther Copeland, professor of missions, Thomas A. Bland, professor of Christian ethics, both of Southeastern Seminary, and C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington.

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Baylor Awards Four Doctorates:  
One To SBC Agency Executive

5-17-67

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Baylor University trustees unanimously approved a faculty-senate recommendation to bestow doctoral degrees on two distinguished Baptist leaders.

The degrees will go to Arthur B. Rutledge, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta; and to Dr. Milford O. Rouse of Dallas, a Baptist layman and president-elect of the American Medical Association.

Rouse will receive an honorary doctor of laws at commencement exercises of the Baylor University of Denistry in Dallas May 29. Rutledge, designated to deliver the Baccalaureate sermon to Baylor graduates at Waco, will receive his doctor of laws degree at the Waco campus commencement June 2.

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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

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May 17, 1967

Dear Editor:

Here are the copies of the speeches of Convention President Franklin Paschall, and Landrum Leavell who preaches the annual SBC sermon. They are wet off the press.

We're trying our best to mail the Press Kit to you on Friday. The printer is giving us a hard time on production of speeches, but he assures us they'll be ready Friday.

During the week before the convention, Walker Knight and Dallas Lee of the Atlanta Baptist Press bureau will be handling the mailings for us. If you have any hot stories during the period from May 20 to 26, send them to Walker and Dallas in Atlanta. After Friday, May 26, bring them to the SBC in Miami Beach, and we'll crank them out there.

See you in sunny Florida. If you have great faith, bring an umbrella. They're in the midst of a drought.

Sincerely,

Jim Newton

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