



# BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the South ern 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

## BUREAU

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD Lynn M. Davis Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,  
Telephone (615) 254-1631

January 12, 1968

U. S. Foreign Travel  
Limits Won't Affect BWA

WASHINGTON (BP)--The threat of restrictions on travel of United States citizens to Europe has not interrupted plans for the seventh Baptist Youth World Conference in Berne, Switzerland, July 22-28, 1968.

President Lyndon B. Johnson proposed on Jan. 1 that Americans be encouraged to stay at home the next two years in order to curtail a drain of dollars from the country.

Questions immediately poured into the Baptist World Alliance office here. Robert S. Denny, associate secretary of the Alliance and director of youth work, studied the President's statements, and talked at length with government officials.

"I am convinced," Denny said, "that the president thinks too highly of experiential learning to discourage young people from attending an international meeting like the Baptist Youth World Conference in Berne."

He added that he believed Congressmen, who may be asked to enact restrictive travel legislation, are fully aware that American youth "must be trained as international citizens if they are to take their places in building a better world. To do this, they must be exposed to fellow students from other parts of the world."

An estimated 6,000 youth from more than 60 countries are expected to attend the international Baptist meeting in Berne. Approximately 3,000 of the total expected will probably come from North America, Denny said.

The Baptist World Alliance official said that he has no objection to a tax, or even a ban, on purchases by American tourists overseas, but he believes a ban on travel for learning would be "seriously self-defeating."

"Our age has presented us with an opportunity to get to know our neighbors on this planet," Denny said. "We need to encourage our youth to travel and to learn from people and experiences, rather than restrict their learning to provincial boundaries."

-30-

Oklahoma Budget Surplus  
Aids College, Student Work

1/12/68

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--A plan for bringing in additional funds for Oklahoma Baptists' only school and the 26 Baptist Student Unions supported by the state convention has cleared its first major hurdle.

Oklahoma Baptists topped their 1967 Cooperative Program budget goal of \$3.125 million by a total of \$143,162.

Benefiting from the budget surplus were Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee which received 75 percent of the amount over the budget, and Baptist Student Unions in the state which received the remaining 25 percent.

In specific terms, Oklahoma Baptist University received \$107,331 above its regular Cooperative Program allocation of \$463,260. Student work will receive an additional \$35,790 over its regular allocation of \$92,000.

Last May in a special called session of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Southern Baptists in this state voted to set up the plan whereby all funds received over the annual Cooperative Program state-wide goal would be divided 75 percent to its only school, and 25 percent to Baptist Student Union programs in Oklahoma.

-30-

1/12/68

Illinois Church Sponsors  
Daily Radio News Program

JONESBORO, Ill. (BP)--The First Baptist Church here is sponsoring a news and weather summary over a local radio station at 4:00 p. m. daily in an effort to reach more people.

"The church has been overwhelmingly in support of the idea," said Pastor Boyd Preston. "It is a little expensive, but our people feel it has tremendous potential."

The church sponsors and pays for the five-minute news and weather summary. At the close of each program, Preston makes a one-minute comment, but he doesn't like to call it a commercial.

Preston gives four reasons for the church's deciding to use this approach for reaching people through radio:

1. Since the average church speaks to only a small minority of its community in any given week, the congregation needs to look for new outlets.
2. The usual "radio sermon" has a limited audience, primarily to shut-ins and those who are already Christians. "We are looking for a way to reach the modern-man-in-a-hurry" Preston noted.
3. Listeners need to understand that God is at work in today's news (which is the purpose of the pastor's one-minute comment at the end).
4. Each community must be reminded there is a church interested enough to try something new.

Preston gives a lot of the credit to station manager Don Mitchel, whom he describes as "a consecrated Methodist who refuses liquor, cigarette, and immoral films as advertisements."

-30-

Kansas Baptist Paper  
Enlarges Weekly Format

1/12/68

WICHITA, Kan. (BP)--The Baptist Digest, official weekly publication of the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists, has enlarged its format and size.

Instead of a weekly, eight-page 8½ x 11 magazine-size paper, the Baptist Digest has increased to tabloid size, 11 x 17, maintaining its eight pages.

The Baptist Digest had operated for 22 years in magazine style. The paper is currently without a full-time editor, with N. J. Westmoreland, executive secretary of the convention, serving as interim editor.

Westmoreland said that the increased size to tabloid would accomplish several objectives which could not be achieved through the magazine pattern, including a shorter production time from the date for submitting copy until the paper is mailed.

Under the new format, printed by lithography at Gazette Offset Printing Co., in Augusta, Kan., the production time has been considerably shortened. Previously there was a one-week production time, but the new service will permit final copy to be submitted for the photographic process at 5:00 p. m. on Wednesday and delivery of the finished paper to the homes of the readers on Friday or Saturday of the same week.

Westmoreland said that although more than twice as much space is available for the paper each week (a total of 600 column inches compared to the former 240 column inches), the cost is 25 to 35 percent less than the cost of the magazine format paper.

With the move to tabloid size, the paper also began providing the back page for local church pages, with special editions for each church that wants to utilize the space. First Baptist Church, Haysville, Kan., was the first church to begin using the service, under which each church submits its own photo-ready copy for only \$10 a week.

Westmoreland said that the Baptist Digest would seek to increase its circulation under the new format and special church editions, but added it would probably be several months or longer before a full-time editor could be employed.

-30-

January 12, 1968

3

Baptist Press

Richard Ham Named  
Music Consultant

1/12/68

NASHVILLE (BP)--Richard Ham, formerly minister of music at First Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, Ark., has been named children's music consultant in the church music department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, effective January 15.

As consultant, Ham will advise department personnel, as a specialist in his area.

A native Kentuckian, he was graduated from Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky., and attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Ham has served as minister of music at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky., and at Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky. He has served both Kentucky and Arkansas as an approved music worker.

-30-

North Carolina Woman  
Tithes In Life, Death

1/12/68

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. (BP)--Mrs. Odessa Hart Brown not only believed in tithing during her lifetime, she practiced it even in death.

Mrs. Brown left one-tenth of her estate to the First Baptist Church of Winston-Salem where she was a member.

Value of the estate, all in personal property, was set at \$315,728, meaning that the church would receive more than \$31,000.

-30-