



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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

April 18, 1968

Fields Urges Religious
Editors to Fight Racism

307

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Fields further declared that it is "hypocrisy of the worst order and incongruity right out of the pit for us to send missionary and military messengers to other shores and then live like the devil himself here at home."

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April 18, 1968

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Baptist Press

Interracial Pastors
Meeting in Atlanta

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The joint meeting was held at Ebenezer Baptist Church, where exactly one week earlier the funeral of Martin Luther King Jr. was held. The late King's father was one of about 70 Baptist ministers present, about evenly divided between Negroes and whites.

The joint meetings grew out of an interracial theological seminar which E. A. McDowell had been teaching at First Baptist Church in Atlanta for two years. The meeting originally had been set for April 9, but was delayed because of King's funeral.

(A former Southern Baptist Seminary professor, McDowell is minister of teaching for First Baptist Church of Atlanta until June 1 when he will devote full time to lecturing and writing.)

At the April 16 meeting, McDowell made the motion which authorized interracial committees of the two conferences to decide on a meeting time, programs and other details for regular monthly meetings.

Harold D. Zwald, pastor of West Manor Baptist Church, is interracial chairman for the Atlanta Baptist Pastors' Conference (white). Benjamin W. Bickers, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, is interracial chairman for the Atlanta Ministers' Union (Negro).

William Holmes Borders, pastor of Wheat Street Baptist Church--Atlanta's largest Negro Church--made a fervent speech at the joint meeting.

He said: "We pastors in Atlanta ought to see to it in every way possible that we will work for better education, better housing, more job opportunities, better rehabilitation programs for people in prison and do everything possible to make this community better.

"We can make Atlanta the headquarters of the world. We preachers have the primary responsibility in this cause. Religion is the mother of human culture. We've got to be wise, but we also have got to perform. If we don't we had better turn in our ministerial credentials."

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Arkansas Youths Advocate
Annual Beach Ministry

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4/18/68

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According to Tom Logue, director of the student department of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "It was worthwhile. I believe these young people experienced many spiritual victories and established friendships which in some cases probably will continue."

The group included 45 Arkansas youths, three from Kentucky, one from Louisiana and two from Mississippi. They arrived in Daytona Thursday night and set up camp at Bethune-Cookman College (A.M.E.).

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A bandshell on the beach was reserved for the group all afternoon Friday and Saturday and a portion of Sunday when they presented a program every hour.

This program revolved around four men and two women called the Mil (meaning "in life") Singers, a folk group who present sermons in adaptations of popular songs such as "Downtown," and "Alfie."

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Each morning began with the group going to New Smyrna to share their reactions, victories and problems. A group of Florida students participated in these sharing times and assisted during the week end.

"None of our students were there for the fun of it," Logue said. "They were selected very carefully. Every student agreed at the end that this should be a regular ministry."

This idea originated in the department of special mission ministries at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board headed by Warren Woolf.

Prior to the scheduled ministry, Don Hammonds, an associate in the department, and Winston Hardman, Baptist Student Director at the State College of Arkansas in Conway and a native Floridian, travelled to Daytona to study possibilities for the ministry.

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STATE PAPER EDITORS: Pictures To Come.

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Florida Baptist Post

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4/18/68

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Paul R. Adkins was the first director of the Home Mission Board's Christian social ministries department, created in 1966. He came to Atlanta from Dallas, where he had been director of the department of aging of Buckner Baptist Benevolences.

"I believe that the department of Christian social ministries of the Home Mission Board really can set the pace for churches and associations in involvement in missions," Adkins said.

"This department also can be the real cutting edge in crossing racial areas. Social work, as it should be in Christianity, knows no color barriers."

"But I'm getting back into what I know best," Adkins said.

A graduate of Los Angeles Baptist College, he holds a master's degree of social gerontology from the Carver School of Missions and Social Work in Louisville, Ky.

He also has attended the Kent School of Social Work of the University of Louisville, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville and the University of Michigan.

He is a member of the National Council on Aging, the American Association of Homes for the Aging and the National Gerontological Society.

Previously Adkins had served as a principal and superintendent of schools in the west covina area of California. He also has been pastor of several Baptist churches.

Adkins' resignation is effective April 30. An agency of the Florida Baptist Convention, the office of the Florida Baptist Retirement centers is located in Vero Beach, Fla.

-30-

California Board Approves
Financial Plan Changes

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4/19/68

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The Cooperative Program goal for 1969 is an increase of \$60,000 over the current year. It is recommended that 26 percent of the total go to Southern Baptist world missions causes, the same as the current year.

The board gave approval to the outline of the program it will recommend to the state convention as a feasible means of giving a marked increase in support going to California Baptist College and other agencies of the state convention. The state convention, meeting in Reno last November, agreed that an endowment campaign previously approved in 1965 was not workable.

The new financial plan is composed of four basic elements. The first element is the activation of a full-time program of stewardship education and promotion as of January 1, 1969. At present the Convention has only a half-time program of stewardship education and promotion operating on a limited basis.

The recommended program will seek to provide new money to the college and the Convention through the channel of the Cooperative Program. During the five year program churches will be asked to increase their Cooperative Program gifts by a minimum of one-half percent of their total budget for each of the five years.

During these five years the convention budget will increase \$60,000 annually as a cost of living increase of the average of the last five years. All funds above the basic budget will constitute an advance section with the major portion going to California Baptist College and the rest being divided between state convention and world mission causes.

In addition, the college was asked to "adopt a fiscal policy of operating within its actual cash receipts."

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