



# BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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### BUREAU

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

April 19, 1968

Baptist March Denied,  
Other Plans Unaffected

312

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WASHINGTON (BP)--A permit for a public march and rally by Baptists here during the Continental Congress of the Crusade of the Americas, October 10-13, has been denied because of recent and possible future civil disorders.

William J. Cumbie, executive director of the Washington area committee for the Crusade of the Americas, however, assured Baptists that they should feel free and safe to come to the Continental Congress in large numbers.

He pointed out that only a limited area in the inner city in the ghetto area was burned and that the remainder of the city is functioning normally.

Likewise, Cumbie continued, the failure to obtain a permit for a march and rally for the Baptists in no way affects other plans for the Continental Congress. It only means that the plans for the march and rally are being held in abeyance, he said.

Plans had earlier been made by the North American Committee for the Crusade of the Americas for a Baptist march from the U. S. Capitol to a rally at the Washington Monument.

Cumbie's reassurance came after he received a notice about the proposed march and rally from Monte E. Fitch, superintendent of Central National Capital Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

The letter from Fitch said: "Because of the civil strife that is taking place in Washington, we are not making any commitments or issuing permits for large gatherings in our public parks."

The notice indicated that the possibility of a march and a rally are not a closed matter. "If, at a later date this problem ends and we foresee no further difficulties, we will be glad to consider the possibility of your group holding this event as requested," it said.

The committee on registration for the congress reports that only 203 persons have signed and paid their registration fee. Of these 17 are from the North American Baptist General Conference, one from the American Baptist Convention, one from Canada and the others from the Southern Baptist Convention.

-30-

Ground Breaking For  
Moody Science Building

313

135

PLAINVIEW, Tex. (BP)--Ground has been broken on the Wayland Baptist College campus here for the \$600,000 Moody Science Building.

Roy McClung, Wayland president, said that contracts call for completion of the three level structure about June 1, 1969, and that the building and equipment are to be ready for use at the start of the following fall semester.

The science building will be located near the \$500,000 Herral Memorial Auditorium nearing completion. It is one of the facilities being provided by the current \$1.5 million Wayland expansion fund campaign.

The Moody Foundation gave \$250,000 for the science building on condition that Wayland raise the remainder of the cost. Furnishings and equipment for the building are estimated to cost more than \$100,000.

A \$600,000 physical education center is included in the expansion program.

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Baptist To Head OEO  
Church Liaison Post

314

510

ATLANTA (BP)--Former Southern Baptist pastor Dupree Jordan Jr. has been named religious liaison officer for the National War on Poverty.

The newly-created position in the Office of Economic Opportunity in Washington, D. C. is intended to develop and coordinate a campaign to enlist greater involvement from churches and other religious institutions in the poverty war's human renewal activities, Jordan said.

Jordan, currently here as director of public affairs for the Southeastern region of the OEO, is a former associate director of the Southern Baptist Radio and TV Commission and once pastored the Duluth (Ga.) Baptist Church.

Jordan said there were creative ways that local church groups could work with government agencies without compromising principles of separation of church and state.

In a recent letter to religious leaders in the southeast, Jordan and Ross Coggins, formerly with the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission and now regional director of VISTA, made several specific suggestions.

Jordan indicated these suggestions may be a starting point for the national perspective he must shape in the next few months. Here is a sampling:

\* A church might enlarge camping and recreational activities to bring in youngsters from poverty-level families.

\* Vacation Bible Schools might be expanded or extended to care for poverty level youngsters.

\* Churches can encourage businessmen to hire more of the poor, even though it may require special training in some cases.

\* Summer tutoring might be offered through individuals or groups in a church.

\* Some church members might volunteer as VISTA associates or as regular VISTA volunteers.

\* A church, or Sunday School classes or other church groups might consider financial contributions to antipoverty efforts.

"These are just suggestive of specific practical ways in which churches and government can work together," Jordan said.

Jordan said the biggest barrier to such cooperative efforts is widespread basic misunderstanding about poor people and about OEO programs.

"People who have failed to support us or who have fought us have just not understood," he said.

"They think of the stereotype welfare program that stifles initiative. Actually, the OEO programs are designed to stimulate initiative and build responsibility and are aimed at changing the poor from welfare recipients into taxpayers."

Jordan said the disturbing paradox is that the traditional Southern states, where the church has its greatest influence, have the greatest need for OEO programs and yet harbor the most opposition and indifference.

He said he was anxious for a hearing with religious denominations and groups in order "to build up lines of communications" that will help dissolve myths about the War on Poverty.

Jordan will assume his new duties April 22. He has contacted several Southern Baptist state editors and denominational leaders for their suggestions on implementing the new phase of OEO work.

He is a graduate of Mercer University (Baptist) in Macon, Ga. and Atlanta Law School. He also holds a Master's degree from Emory University in Atlanta and has done graduate work at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pa.

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Mercer University Defers  
Decision On Federal Aid

MACON, Ga. (BP)--Mercer University trustees have deferred a decision on whether or not to seek and accept all federal funds available until a study of the educational needs of the Georgia Baptist Convention is completed.

The deferral came in the April trustees meeting in discussion of a motion made in January by trustee Ellis Arnall that the trustees "take all necessary actions and steps to secure all federal funds and aids which are or may be available to it."

The special educational study of all six Georgia Baptist colleges is now being conducted by Doak Campbell Associates of Tallahassee.

A preliminary report is due in June and a final report is due by the September meeting of the Georgia Baptist Convention Executive Committee. The study was approved by the Executive Committee last December, upon motion of Robert W. Jackson, pastor of Dalton First Church.

In 1965 and again in 1966, the Georgia Baptist Convention refused to allow Mercer trustees to accept federal loans for its new science center. The convention had approved loans for various institutions until that 1965 vote.

In other action, the Mercer trustees also deferred making a formal presentation to the Macon City Council of a request that a 35-acre section east of the Macon campus be made an urban renewal area so Mercer could buy it for future expansion.

The presentation was delayed until the university has contacted property owners in the area in an effort to purchase the property at a fair market value.

When Mercer announced a month ago that it was asking the city to declare the 35 acres as urban renewal, property owners rose up in protest, claiming that many of the homes are not substandard and that the city should not seize private property "in order to give this advantage solely to another private interest."

Mercer President Rufus C. Harris said last week that "the time is coming when we will have to admit more students and we must have some place to put them."

The trustees adopted a budget of \$5.1 million for the 1968-69 year.

Student tuition will be raised \$150 a year for the entering freshman class; \$75 for the first-year law class and \$105 for the entering School of Pharmacy class.

The new fees will make total charges for incoming freshmen \$2,145 which Harris described as "conservative compared with other private colleges in the South."



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DAICOM  
S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
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