

November 25, 1949

127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

SBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PERSONNEL
TO HELP IN SIMULTANEOUS CRUSADE

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee personnel will participate in the 1950 Western Evangelistic Crusade, April 9-23.

Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary, will assist West Main Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, E. Hermon Westmoreland, pastor. Dr. Merrill D. Moore, director of promotion, will assist Kelham Avenue Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Rev. Anson Justice, pastor.

Rev. Albert McClellan, director of publications will assist First Baptist Church, Shattuck, Oklahoma, Chalon C. Meadows, pastor. He will also serve as director for the simultaneous campaign in Oklahoma, five-county Northwestern association.

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NORTH CAROLINA BUYS SEASIDE ASSEMBLY;
VOTES 50-50 CO-OP PROGRAM DIVISION

RALEIGH, N. C.--(BP)--The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, meeting in Raleigh, voted to purchase the Fort Caswell property for \$86,000 to be used as a seaside assembly and the continuation of a 50-50 division of Cooperative Program funds between state and Southwide objects.

Messengers voted to re-emphasize the Christian home, to stress Christian citizenship, to improve relations with industry by emphasizing the fact that both labor and management should be made to feel they have a friend in the church, to face fairly and honestly the fact in regard to racial and minority groups. Suggestions call for occasional joint meetings of white and Negro ministers, exchange of pulpits between the two races, and exchange of white and Negro choirs.

A statewide evangelistic conference was slated for February and churches were urged to cooperate in simultaneous evangelistic campaigns of the Southern Baptist Convention.

F. O. Mixon, Raleigh, was re-elected president.

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EDITOR'S MID-WINTER MEETING
TO BE HELD IN FORT WORTH

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--Southern Baptist editors will meet for their annual mid-winter conference at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Feb. 7-9, according to R. T. Skinner, president of the group. The meeting will be held in connection with the dedication of two new seminary buildings and the annual Holland lectures. Originally the editors were scheduled to convene at Mineral Wells, Texas, but this plan had to be cancelled due to sale of the hotel.

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ALABAMA BAPTISTS DECIDE
ON FEDERAL HOSPITAL FUNDS

MOBILE, Ala.--(BP)--Alabama Baptists voted to return two Birmingham hospitals, owned by them less than a year, to the original owners, the Birmingham Baptist Association. The action came when a large part of the convention objected to a proposal to accept up to two million dollars for enlargement from the federal government under the Hill-Burton Act. It is expected, according to Hal D. Bennett, associate editor, Alabama Baptist, that the association will accept the money or surrender the hospitals to a self-perpetuating board of trustees.

The convention also voted a \$900,000 Cooperative Program budget with 45% going to Southwide causes. Alabama Relief and Annuity payments will come from the states share.

The messengers refused to pass a resolution calling for a petition to the Alabama congressional delegation calling for a constitutional amendment guaranteeing complete separation of church and state. The refusal was on the ground that the petition would question the efficacy of the U.S. Constitution's First Ammendment protecting religious liberty and preventing state interference with religion.

Dr. Brady R. Justice, First Baptist Church, Enterprise, was elected president to succeed Dr. John L. Slaughter, First Church, Birmingham. The 1950 meeting will be held with Central Church, Decatur, Alabama, on Nov. 14-17.

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IMPROVED RACE RELATIONS IS
VOTED BY OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS

OKLAHOMA CITY--(BP)--Messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma voted a \$900,000 Cooperative Program goal for 1950.

A lengthy social service report adopted by the messengers to the convention contained a recommendation "That every church take some definite step this year towards improving race relations in your community and in our nation." Among suggested steps were the following: "Appoint a committee in your church to investigate the conditions and needs of the Negro section in your community and bring the results to your people. If possible, in February of each year exchange pulpits and choirs with a local Negro church. Ask the Negro churches to join with you in simultaneous revival meetings."

In addition to protesting the increase in the number and treatment of drinking scenes in motion picture production, the report recommended that the work of the Protestant Film Association be commended. "Their efforts to produce high quality films are meeting with success as witnessed by their widespread use in churches and religious groups," the report said.

The convention overwhelmingly adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas we reaffirm that this convention has no right to make a credal statement to which any church must subscribe, we do affirm that any group of Baptists, large or small, have the inherent right to draw up for themselves and publish to the world a confession of their faith whenever they may think it advisable to do so.

"Therefore, Be it resolved that words "Baptist churches" which appear in Article II, Sec. 1 of our constitution, be interpreted to mean churches that are sound in faith and practice and be it further resolved,

That churches which accept alien immersion, practice open communion or affiliate with the Federal Council, World Council or any similar unionizing organization, shall be considered unsound in faith and practice.

"Be it further resolved that we urge our pastors and other church workers to wage a campaign of teaching that our people may know the importance of preserving the ordinances as they were delivered by Jesus Christ and also the hurt that will come to our denomination when churches or other Baptist bodies enter into entangling alliances with unionizing movements."

Total attendance for the convention reached 1769, including 1386 messengers. Next year's meeting will be held at Tulsa on Oct. 30-Nov. 2. Dr. Thos. P. Haskins is the new president.

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