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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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May 9, 1968

**New "Jobs" Program Urged
To Restore Hope and Order**

WASHINGTON (BP)--Bayard Rustin, noted civil rights leader, urged a congressional subcommittee to restore hope to the millions of impoverished persons in our society by passing a bill that would provide a million new jobs a year for the hard core unemployed.

No single bill will get us out of this mess" Rustin said, referring to the problems of poverty and unemployment in the country and the resulting disorders, restlessness and despair, "but this bill would be the first step," he added.

The great question before the country, he told members of the House Select Subcommittee on Labor, is whether or not it is going to move on a massive employment program as the highest national priority of 1968.

Jobs may not take us the entire journey to social and economic dignity and civil peace, but they are the indispensable first step, he pleaded.

The committee is considering a bill that would be a major innovation in the drive toward full employment for the United States. Introduced by Rep. James O'Hara (D., Mich.), the legislation is co-sponsored by 80 members of the House of Representatives.

The bill calls for a massive investment in the form of grants to federal, state and local government agencies and to private nonprofit organizations, such as schools and hospitals, to help them bear the cost of providing a million new jobs a year to unemployed and underemployed persons.

Four billion dollars would be asked for the first year, beginning with the fiscal year, July 1, 1968, to train and put to work a million of the 3½ million unemployed persons.

According to O'Hara, the new jobs called for in the legislation would be "entrance jobs"--jobs in urban improvements, jobs as teachers aid, hospital aids, jobs on parks projects and the like. They would be jobs which the economy needs and which the unemployed need, but jobs which do not now exist, he said.

This is not a make-work bill, O'Hara said when he introduced the bill last August. This is a make-jobs program to fill the unfilled and dangerous gap between what the country and its people need and what is presently available in the way of jobs.

In his testimony before the subcommittee, Rustin, who is head of the A. Philip Randolph Institute in New York City, said that the polarization that has resulted from Martin Luther King's death may increase.

The danger is, Rustin continued, that the country may divide into four societies instead of the two predicted in the recent report of the President's Commission on Civil Disorders. The division would be between blacks and whites and between the "haves and the have-nots."

He told the subcommittee, chaired by Rep. James H. Scheuer (D., N. Y.) that the issue of order in our society may well be determined by the "willingness and readiness" of Congress to pass massive economic legislation that would "institutionalize" justice.

It is not the Negro leaders, the city and state governments or the police who will ultimately determine whether we shall have civil order in our society or whether it shall be torn apart, he said.

"That power lies ultimately with the federal government," he challenged, urging the provision of sufficient funds to meet the crisis.

The subcommittee also heard from spokesmen from three religious groups: the National Council of Churches, the United States Catholic Conference and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

In a joint statement the representatives of the church groups said that the conditions which permit the continuing existence of poverty are a judgment on the moral failure of society as a whole."

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Our society has already paid the high price of unemployment in the toll of riots, racial tension, frustration and despair, they said. If permitted to persist unabated, unemployment will lead to even more devastating human stultification and to the ultimate destruction of the American dream,' they agreed.

They concluded their testimony urging enactment of the massive employment program by saying:

'Our society has closed its eyes, hands and hearts to the needs of the poor for too long. Until we satisfy their search for self-respect and dignity by providing them with jobs, we will suffer the curse of our blindness.'

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Historic Augusta Church
Will Sell SBC Birth Site

5/9/68

AUGUSTA, Ga. (BP)--First Baptist Church in Augusta, where the Southern Baptist Convention was organized in 1845, has voted to sell its historic downtown location and move to a 32-acre site five miles away.

Pastor R. J. Robinson said the final move may be five or six years away. But that the major hurdle had been cleared in the vote to sell.

The SBC was organized at the church's present location on Greene Street in 1845, in a building which was torn down in 1901. The present structure was erected in 1902.

Robinson, in his 15th year as pastor there, said a committee will be named to plan some type of plaque or marker for the Greene Street site, designating it as the SBC birthplace.

The church, which celebrated its 150th birthday in 1967 with several major activities, including a message by Billy Graham, paid \$470,000 for the new 32-acre tract where it will relocate eventually.

The property, known in Augusta as the O'Hara property, is located at the end of Walton Way, about five miles west of the present church site. Robert C. Norman is the chairman of the long-range planning committee which, after four years of study and survey, recommended the move.

Robinson said a building committee will be named to plan the size and style of future buildings. Another committee will be charged with the disposition of the present location.

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Musical Concerts, Soloists,
Choirs Set For Lay Meeting

5/9/68

RIO de JANEIRO, Brazil (BP)--The Pan American Baptist Laymen's Evangelism Congress meeting here July 15-21 will feature international and inter-racial music presentations, the chairman of the congress, Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., has announced.

Sacred concerts will be featured each evening by Robert Bradley, music director for the National (Negro) Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., on Monday; by a Negro choir from Mississippi on Tuesday; by Irene Jordan, Metropolitan Opera soloist on Wednesday; and by Russell Newport, soloist and businessman from Springfield, Mo., on Thursday night.

The international music program will also feature a choir from Brazil, a missionary and national from Argentina, a youth choir from First Baptist Church in Minden, La., (U.S.A.), a soloist from Brazil, the daughter of former Baptist World Alliance President John Soren of Rio de Janeiro, Claude Rhea, music consultant from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, and others.

Directing the congregational singing will be Bill Ichter, Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil who wrote the theme song for the Crusade of the Americas, 'Christ the Only Hope.'

The Pan American Baptist Laymen's Evangelism Congress is being held in connection with the Crusade of the Americas in an effort to spark lay involvement in the crusade. About 750 Baptist laymen from North, Central and South America are expected to attend.

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Baptist Press

New Oklahoma Brotherhood
Student Departments Okayed

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--The creation of two new departments and the approval of a record \$3.6 million budget for state and world missions were major actions of the spring meeting of the Board of Directors of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma here.

The 1969 state Baptist Cooperative Program budget represents an increase of \$100,000 over 1968.

State missions are slated to receive 57 per cent of the 1969 budget, while mission causes beyond Oklahoma are expected to receive 43 per cent of the state convention's Cooperative Program receipts.

The board voted to create a department of student work and a department of brotherhood.

Clyde Clayton, director of Baptist student work for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, was elected secretary of the newly-created student department, effective June 1.

Newly-elected secretary of the Department of Brotherhood is Bob Banks, who has served for the past 12 years as state Royal Ambassador secretary for the state convention.

Previously, the work of the Brotherhood organization had been under the department of evangelism and brotherhood, while organized work among Baptist college students throughout the state had formerly been a part of the convention's department of religious education.

The convention's directors, meeting in semi-annual session Tuesday at the Baptist Building, also authorized the construction of an administration building at an estimated cost of \$35,000 at Boys Ranch Town, near Edmond, Okla., and also authorized the purchase of 26 acres of land adjacent to Camp Hudgens, a statewide Baptist boys' camp near McAlester, Okla.

An unprecedented action by the board was the approval of a plan whereby the state convention's department of student work will enter into an experimental working relationship with the faculty of Oklahoma College of Liberal Arts, Chickasha, Okla.

The plan calls for the employment of a director of Baptist Student work at OCLA who will be academically qualified to assist in the teaching of liberal arts courses on the coeducational campus.

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SBC Information Booths
Planned At Houston Hiways

5/9/68

HOUSTON (BP)--The hospitality committee for the Southern Baptist Convention meeting here June 3-7 is planning to set up information booths at strategically located spots on the major arteries leading into the city, and at the airport.

The booths will be designed to aid the visitors in getting acquainted with the city, giving directions to hotels, and providing distribution points for information packets to convention messengers.

The information packets will include a complete schedule of the convention and its related meetings, city maps, restaurant directories, first aid information, and sight-seeing information.

The well-marked booths will be located on Interstate 10 East (from Beaumont, Tex.), and West (from San Antonio); Interstate 45 (from Dallas); Highway 59 (from Corpus Christi, Tex.), and in the terminal at the airport.

One local committeeman warned that the Sam Houston Coliseum where the convention meets is just off Interstate 45 from Dallas, but a visitor can pass almost directly over the Coliseum and miss it because of the maze of exits and thoroughfares. The information booths will help prevent this problem, the spokesman said.

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Six Pastors, Evangelists
Slated At Evangelists' Meet

HOUSTON (BP)--Three prominent Baptist pastors and three Baptist evangelists will be the featured speakers for the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists which meets Thursday afternoon, June 6, during the Southern Baptist Convention here.

Evangelists on the program will include the flamboyant Chaplain of Bourbon Street in New Orleans, Bob Harrington; Mike Brumley, former baseball star and evangelist from Oklahoma City, Okla.; and Eddie Lieberman, evangelist, Greenville, S. C.

Baptist pastors on the program include Ramsey Pollard, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, and former Southern Baptist Convention president; Stephen F. Olford, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, New York; and John Bisagno, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., a suburb of Oklahoma City.

Several hundred Baptist pastors and evangelists are expected to attend the afternoon meeting held at First Baptist Church, from 1:00 until 5:00 p. m., Thursday, June 6. The Southern Baptist Convention meets at Sam Houston Coliseum Tuesday, through Friday, June 4-7, but no afternoon sessions are scheduled on Thursday.

John Tierney, evangelist from Greenville, S. C., is president of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists.

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Seminary Dedicates
New Student Center

5/9/68

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP)--Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary here dedicated its new student center, named "Mackie Hall" in honor of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Mackie of Wake Forest.

The two-story brick building is located on the south side of the campus, approximately where Hunter Dormitory formerly stood. It was built with funds allocated for its construction by the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

A large Commons Room occupies the center section of the first floor, with the campus store to the east and the Baptist Book Store to the west. Carrels for fellows and graders, offices for various student leaders and conference rooms are located on the second floor where the director of student activities has his offices.

After the dedicatory service, representatives of the Student Coordinating Council will conduct guided tours through the building. Refreshments will be served on the second floor. The public is invited.

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