



BAPTIST PRESS

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May 17, 1968

Music Conference to Feature
Concerts, Speeches, Banquet

HOUSTON (BP)--The Southern Baptist Church Music Conference meeting here June 3-4 will feature four major addresses, eight concerts, seven historical, technical or philosophical papers on church music, four periods of worship through singing, and a banquet.

The two-day conference will close with the world premier performance of an anthem written by Bob Burroughs, minister of music for First Baptist Church, Abilene, Tex., who was commissioned by the conference to write the music especially for the occasion.

The anthem, "Praise God," will be presented by the Houston Baptist College Singers, and an instrumental group, both directed by R. Paul Green of Houston Baptist College.

Sessions will be held at the South Main Baptist Church, Monday morning through Tuesday afternoon, June 3-4.

Major speakers for the conference will be Donald Winters, head of the music department at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss., and president of the conference; Claude Rhea, music consultant for the SBC Foreign Mission Board; James W. Middleton, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.; and Loren Williams, Music sales specialist for the SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville.

The Monday evening session will be devoted to the annual conference banquet. Master of ceremonies will be Jack Terrell, associate, music department, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas.

Most of the Monday afternoon session will be devoted to a panel discussion featuring four prepared statements followed by open discussion. The papers will discuss philosophy of training church musicians by Baptist seminaries, Baptist colleges and by state convention and SBC music departments; and the question of whether this training is adequate and pertinent.

Panelists delivering the papers will be Hugh T. McElrath of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; James D. Woodward, of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; and J. William Thompson of the SBC Sunday School Board music department.

Other papers will be delivered Tuesday morning on historical matters by Harry Eskew, of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; James O. Downey of William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss.; and William J. Reynolds of the Baptist Sunday School Board music department.

Eight concerts are scheduled during the meeting. Groups slated to bring concerts are as follows, in order:

Adult choir, First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.; junior choir, Baptist Temple, Houston; Youth choir, Park Place Baptist Church, Houston; Volunteer State Chorale (Singing church-men of Tennessee); junior girls' choir, Willow Meadows Baptist Church, Houston; handbell choir, Sharpstown Baptist Church, Houston; John Lock, organist, Dorchester, England; and Houston Baptist College Singers.

In addition to the eight concerts, four sessions will feature a period of worship through singing.

Leading these periods will be David M. Ford, Minister of music-youth, First Baptist Church, Port Arthur, Tex.; Gerald P. Armstrong, minister of music, River Oakes Baptist Church, Houston; Claude Rhea of the Foreign Mission Board; and Randall Veasey of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Church Music Conference is one of four major nation-wide Baptist conventions which meet just prior to the Southern Baptist Convention which meets June 4-7.

President Sets Prayer
Day For World Peace

WASHINGTON (BP) -- President Lyndon B. Johnson has designated Memorial Day, May 30, as a day of prayer for permanent peace. The designated hour is 11:00 a.m. as a time for people to unite in prayer.

The Congress, by joint resolution of May 11, 1950, has requested the President to proclaim a day of prayer for peace each Memorial Day.

The President urged "all Americans, wherever they may be on this designated day, to join their prayers to the almighty to bestow upon this nation the blessing of peace restored and lasting among all the nations of the world."

The flag of the United States will be flown at half-staff during the entire day. The President explained that this would be in respect for those Americans "who have sacrificed their lives in Vietnam, so that this nation might live to be for all people everywhere a symbol of peace and justice and freedom."

"On this Memorial Day," the President said, "we who remain free by the sacrifice of the dead and the service of the living will requite our debt to both with thoughts and acts of gratitude and love."

President Johnson called on the press, radio, television and all other information media to cooperate in the observance.

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Science Funds Awarded
To Five Baptist Colleges

5/17/68

WASHINGTON (BP)--Five Baptist Colleges are among 83 church-related schools selected by the National Science Foundation to receive grants for scientific equipment, according to an announcement here by the Foundation.

Of the five, two are Southern Baptist institutions, Baylor University, Waco, Tex., and Furman University, Greenville, S. C.

The remaining three are American Baptist: Temple Buell, Denver, Colo., Ottawa University Ottawa, Kan., and Kalamazoo College in Kalamazoo, Mich.

The grants were awarded to buy scientific equipment needed for undergraduate instruction. Each institution must match the funds by providing at least 50 per cent of the equipment costs themselves.

The 83 church-related schools are among 536 colleges and universities receiving a total of almost \$4.5 million. They were selected from a group of 683 schools that had submitted requests for \$19.8 million.

Awards were made on the basis of proposals that demonstrated "a desire to improve content and focus" of undergraduate science courses, as well as those proposals that showed "detailed, realistic planning."

The national science program, now in its seventh year, has assisted 1,017 institutions in the country with grants totaling some \$42 million.

In the list of 83 church-related institutions, there are 29 Roman Catholic, 16 Presbyterian, 12 Methodist and eight Lutheran schools.

There is one each of the following: Christian Methodist Episcopal, Nazarene, Advent Christian, United Presbyterian, Friends, Mennonite, Mennonite Brethren, Reformed, American Missionary Association, United Christian Mission Society, Assembly of God, Evangelical Reformed, Church of the Brethren and Free Methodist.

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Church-State Issue
Will Reopen At SBC

5/17/68

HOUSTON (BP)--A resolution reaffirming the separation of church and state as "a fundamental principle of Baptist belief and practice" will be presented for consideration by the Southern Baptist Convention in sessions here June 4-7.

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The statement was released by Louie D. Newton, pastor of Druid Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta and president of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Among the other cosigners with Newton were four others who also are former SBC presidents, including J. D. Grey of New Orleans, J. W. Storer of Nashville, C. C. Warren of Charlotte and Herschell H. Hobbs of Oklahoma City.

Following is the complete text of the resolution:

'Whereas, the doctrine of soul liberty is basic to Baptist beliefs, its corollary being the doctrine of a free church in a free state, and

'Whereas, the Southern Baptist Convention has again and again expressed itself for separation of church and state, and

'Whereas, some Baptist institutions, including churches, find themselves in the peculiar position of being urged to accept federal gifts for their operations and programs, with the very lives of some of these institutions seeming to depend on such acceptance,

'Whereas, our stand must be taken between accepting tax monies to meet these extreme needs on the one hand and our basic principles on the other,

"Therefore, be it resolved,

"That, with slight alterations, we reaffirm the resolution offered by W. L. Pickett of Georgia 55 years ago (1913), and reaffirmed in principle repeatedly since that time, namely,

'Whereas the ... separation of church and state has ever been and is now a fundamental principle of Baptist belief and practice: and

'Whereas in many places there are efforts being made to divert state ... municipal (and federal) funds to the maintenance of certain religious schools and other institutions:

'Therefore, be it resolved that the Southern Baptist Convention reaffirms its unalterable belief in the ... separation of church and state, and hereby expresses its sympathy with all who are having to fight efforts of any who would try to violate this ... principle.'"

Other cosigners include C. Roy Angell of Miami; J. W. Dawson of Corsicana, Tex.; Earl Guinn of Pineville, La.; Earl Harding of Jefferson City, Mo.; John J. Hurt of Dallas; E. S. James of Denton, Tex.; Norris Palmer of Baton Rouge; Mrs. Robert Fling of New York; John Barnes of Hattiesburg, Miss.; H. C. Chiles of Kentucky; Jack U. Harwell of Atlanta; Joe Tuten of Jackson, Miss.; Jaroy Webber of Mobile, Ala.; Lucius Polhill of Richmond, Va.; Archie Ellis of Columbia, S. C.; and W. O. Vaught of Little Rock, Ark.

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McCall To Receive SBC
Service Award in Houston

5/17/68

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Duke K. McCall, president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has been named recipient of the 1968 E. Y. Mullins Denominational Service Award.

Presented annually by the trustees of Southern Seminary, the honor comes on McCall's 25th anniversary as head of a Southern Baptist agency or institution.

The official presentation of the award will take place during the Southern Seminary Alumni Luncheon in Houston, June 6, during the Southern Baptist Convention.

Degree nomenclature, faculty salaries, promotions and study leaves were subjects of other trustee action.

The names of two doctoral degrees were changed to bring them in line with recent educational trends. Effective with the fall term, the doctor of church music (D. C. M.) degree will become doctor of musical arts (D. M. A.), and the doctor of religious education (D. R. E.) will become doctor of education (Ed. D.). Requirements for the two graduate programs remain virtually unchanged.

The trustees approved an across-the-board pay increase for faculty and administrative personnel as a step toward catching up with the median salaries in other accredited seminaries. The new pay scale is contingent upon Southern Baptist Convention approval in June of proposed budget increases for the six SBC seminaries.

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Two assistant professors were promoted and one was given tenure. Elizabeth Hutchins was named associate professor of religious education and Harold Songer was named associate professor of New Testament interpretation. Phillip Landgrave, assistant professor of church music, was granted tenure effective with the fall semester 1968.

The trustees also authorized the dates for five faculty study leaves: 1968-69 for Maurice Hinson, professor of church music; and 1969-70 for Dale Moody, Joseph Emerson Brown professor of theology; J. J. Owens, professor of Old Testament interpretation; Robert Proctor, associate professor of educational psychology; and Jay W. Wilkey, assistant professor of church music.

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Jim Lester Named Editor
Of Tennessee State Paper

5/17/68

NASHVILLE (BP)--James A. Lester, secretary of promotion and public relations for the Georgia Baptist Convention in Atlanta, has been elected editor of the Baptist and Reflector, weekly publication of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Lester will join the convention staff on Aug. 1, and assume the position as editor on Oct. 1, immediately after the retirement of Richard N. Owen, current editor, on Sept. 30.

He was elected to the position by the administrative committee of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board, which confirmed his appointment.

A former newspaper man and pastor, Lester was for six years copy editor and state news editor of the New Orleans Times-Picayune.

He has been pastor of churches in Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, and has directed the music and educational programs at First Baptist Church, Ponchatoula, La.

A former school teacher, he has taught high school English and chemistry, and in the public schools of Mitchell County and Thomas County in Georgia.

He has also had experience as a photographer, dark room technician, and accredited commercial pilot.

A graduate of Mercer University, Macon, Ga., Lester also attended Norman Junior College, Norman Park, Ga., and earned the master of theology degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

He is married to the former Doris Elizabeth Holland, Augusta, Ga., who is a former elementary education worker for Baptist churches in Georgia. They have two sons, James Earl, 14, and Edwin Oliver, 12.

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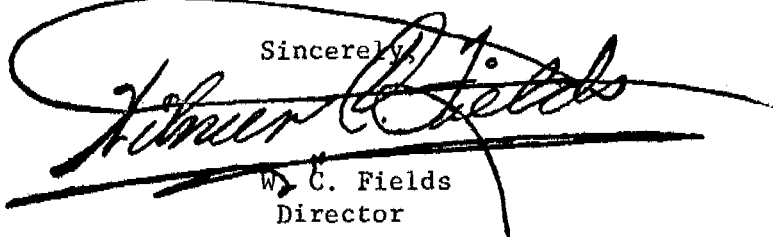
To: Editors, SBC Agency Heads, and State Executive Secretaries

Here is the text of the statement on Crisis in the Nation which has been written for action by the Executive Committee at the SBC in Houston. It is being released today (Friday) only to the editors of Baptist state papers.

On Monday, the statement will be released to the secular press, and Baptist Press will carry a story on the statement, along with the text. Those signing the statement will be listed in alphabetical order.

As you will note, there were some changes in the statement, with the deletion of one paragraph in the section entitled, "We Voice Our Confession."

Sincerely,



W. C. Fields
Director

WCF:gc