



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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Chester Quarles, Mississippi
Executive, Dies in Peru

July 8, 1968

CUZCO, PERU (BP)--Mississippi Baptist executive Chester L. Quarles was stricken with a heart attack and died here at five a.m. on Saturday, July 6. He was 60.

Dr. Quarles, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for 18 years, was enroute to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to attend the Pan American Baptist layman's evangelism Congress, one of the major planning sessions for the 1969 Crusade of the Americas.

He was visiting missionaries on the way to Rio de Janeiro and hoped to visit his wife's brother, William Lowery Cooper, a missionary in Tosadas, Argentina.

His body was found in the Turista Hotel, reportedly by a bellhop who was checking to see if Dr. Quarles was ready to depart by train for his next stop.

An unusually heavy snowfall in the area delayed the return of the body to Lima, Peru, from where it was to be sent by plane to Jackson, Miss. As late as July 8, it was unknown when the body would arrive.

Although no date has been set, funeral services are to be held at the Jackson First Baptist Church, where Dr. Quarles was a member, with burial at the Lakewood Memorial Park.

Apparently there were some complications with international red tape about the return of the body. The governor of Mississippi reportedly called American Ambassador John Wesley Jones to ask his help.

Dr. Quarles had left Jackson on July 3 after presiding over the formal opening of the new Mississippi Baptist Convention building on July 2.

In Lima, Peru, the Thursday before his death, he spoke at the First Baptist Church. He reportedly told Missionary Bryan Brasington on that day that he had a history of heart trouble, but that he was traveling with prescribed pills and his doctor's approval.

Cuzco, a major historical center of the Inca Empire high in the mountains of central Peru, was one stop that Dr. Quarles was anxious to make.

Dr. Quarles is survived by his wife, the former Virginia Cooper; one son, Chester Leland Quarles, of Jackson; and two daughters, Mary Virginia of Titusville, Fla., and Grace Quarles, a student at Carey College in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Mississippi Baptists, of course, were shocked at the death of Dr. Quarles. Joe T. Odle, editor of the Baptist Record, said:

"You can understand how we stand shocked at the loss of a leader."

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July 8, 1968

"I think not only every employee but every Mississippi Baptist who knew him feel that they have lost a personal friend. The period of his secretaryship is without question one of the greatest periods of Mississippi Baptists' entire history. He was the type of leader who chose individuals to do a job, and then let them do it, with his 100 percent backing. To all of us here he truly was a great leader."

Dr. Quarles, a native of Wiggins, Miss., was a graduate of Samford University in Birmingham and held a doctors of theology degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

He had served as pastor of the Newton, Ala. Baptist Church, the First Baptist Church of Leland, Miss. and the First Baptist Church of Sylacauga, Ala. He also had served as secretary of student work and Training Union for the Alabama Baptist Convention, and as director of associational work in the training union department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville.

Dr. Quarles was a past president of the fellowship of state executive secretaries. He also had made numerous mission tours abroad, including trips to South America, Europe and the Holy Land.

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Longview Businessman
Elected by Home Board

July 8, 1968

ATLANTA (BP) --Longview, Tex. businessman Dan C. McQueen has been elected by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here as director of the division of business services, effective Aug. 1.

McQueen currently is junior partner in the public accounting firm of Hewell, Bown, Stone and McQueen, and a deacon in the First Baptist Church of Longview.

As director of business services, McQueen will work with the executive secretary treasurer and Home Mission Board program leaders to administer and develop the financial procedures (including data processing) that undergird the agency's work.

He replaces Lewis W. Newman, who will leave the Home Mission Board staff after eight years to assume a position as professor and director of the division of religion at the University of Corpus Christi (Baptist).

McQueen, a native of Longview, has 10 years of accounting experience in several Texas firms and banks. He was certified as a public accountant in 1956. He has two years of college training with the University of Texas and Baylor University.

At his home church, McQueen is Sunday School superintendent and a lay assistant to the minister of music.

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Georgia Baptists Get
\$1 Million for Hospital

July 8, 1968

ATLANTA (BP)--The Callaway Foundation, Inc., announced this week a contribution of \$1-million to Georgia Baptist Hospital, the largest single gift in the hospital's history.

The gift will go toward a \$6-million expansion at the Atlanta hospital, which will increase bed capacity by 225 beds. It is the first major gift for the hospital addition, which was approved by the Georgia Baptist Convention in 1962.

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The addition will give the hospital over 700 beds. It already admits more patients than any hospital, public or private, in the state.

The gift from the Callaway Foundation drew praise from I. M. Sheffield Jr. of Atlanta, general chairman of the fund-raising campaign for the new addition.

"A donation of this magnitude gives a tremendous life to all phases of the campaign and to the hundreds of workers who are involved," said Mr. Sheffield.

Plans had been announced a week earlier to develop a giant medical complex, known as Atlanta Medical Center, around Georgia Baptist Hospital. A group of private doctors govern Atlanta Medical Center and will develop several auxiliary medical facilities over a period of years.

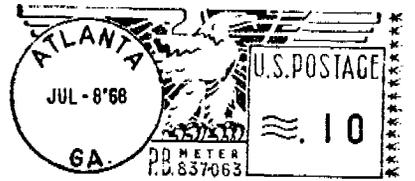


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