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Telephone (615) 254-1631

September 29, 1969

**New York Convention  
Becomes 31st In SBC**

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (BP)--Before a standing room only crowd, the Baptist Convention of New York was formally constituted as the 31st Baptist state convention affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.

More than 300 elected messengers and visitors gathered at the Central Baptist Church here to organize the new convention, which encompasses New York, upper Jew Jersey and Southwestern Connecticut.

The new convention was organized with 70 churches, 27 chapels and 10,139 members.

Theme of the constituting convention was "Born to Serve."

Paul S. James, executive secretary of the new convention, developed the theme in his major address, outlining national and international crises of the day, and urging Southern Baptists to draw on their resources to meet the challenge of the hour.

"Who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this," James told the constituting convention.

In major actions, the new convention adopted a budget of \$422,060 for 1970, when the convention actually begins its full operations on Jan. 1.

Of the budget, \$100,000 is expected to come through Cooperative Program contributions from the churches of the state, with the remainder coming from financial support of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, which is contributing \$305,050, and from the SBC Sunday School Board, Brotherhood Commission, and Woman's Missionary Union.

Of the total budget, 15 per cent will go to Southern Baptist world mission causes. A policy was adopted to increase this allocation by one per cent each year for the next five years.

John M. Tubbs, secretary of the Sunday School and church building department of the Baptist Convention of Maryland, was elected as director of the education division of the New York convention. He and James are the only two professional staff members elected thus far by the convention.

Most of the churches in the new convention have previously been affiliated with either the Maryland convention, or the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio. The executive secretaries of both Maryland and Ohio conventions brought greetings.

When the convention actually starts operation in January, it will have six district associations within the convention borders. Largest of the associations is Metropolitan New York, with 43 churches, 15 chapels and about 7,000 members.

Elected president of the new convention was Kenneth Lyle, pastor of Central Nassau Baptist Church, Westbury, N.Y., on Long Island. He succeeds Hartman Sullivan, pastor of LaSalle Baptist Church, Niagra Falls, who presided over the constituting convention.

Other officers of the new convention are J. T. Davis, pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Rome, N.Y., first vice president; Gene Fant, pastor at Fredonia, N.Y., second vice president; and Curtis Porter, pastor in Buffalo, N.Y.

Offices for the new convention will be at 400 Montgomery St., in a modern building in downtown Syracuse.

Mildred Dunn, Editor  
Of SBC Magazines, Dies

MEMPHIS (BP)--Mrs. Mildred Dunn, editor of Ambassador Life and Ambassador Leader magazines, died Sept. 27 after an extended illness, closing a career in the field of news and religious journalism which spanned 40 years. She was 58.

Funeral services were held Monday, Sept. 29, at First Baptist Church here where she was a member, with burial in Memorial Park.

For the past 12 years, Mrs. Dunn edited Ambassador Life, a magazine read by about 130,000 Baptist boys; and for nine years when it was started, edited Ambassador Leader, a magazine for Baptist men who work with boys. Both are publications of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

In the secular news field, Mrs. Dunn worked as a reporter for the Union County Leader in Clayton, N.M., and for the Mexico Evening Ledger, Mexico, Mo.

She entered religious journalism in 1948, shortly after the death of her husband, Cloyd Dunn. Her first job was associate editor of Home Missions, a magazine published monthly by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Born in Duff, Ky., Mrs. Dunn was reared in Clayton, N.M. She was a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Artie Oldham with whom she made her home.

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Nixon Hits Disruptive  
Ways To Change Schools

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WASHINGTON (BP)--President Richard M. Nixon hit hard at those who disrupt schools as he proclaimed American Education Week, November 9-15.

Calling for a "close, long, hard look" at what is both good and bad in the school system, the President said, "We all must agree on one basic principle: We must not allow our schools to be captured by violence or dominated by ideological dogmatists."

"Our schools are not perfect," Nixon continued, "but this lack of perfection is no excuse for lawbreaking or a lack of civility and decency on the part of any critic, no matter how deeply he feels or how little he thinks."

The President paid tribute to "public, private and religiously affiliated schools and colleges." He appealed to "all Americans, young and old, black and white," to preserve, expand and protect the schools.

"The traditional American way of reason and open discussion" is the way that education in the nation can be improved, the President insisted.

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Private Agencies Included  
In New Food Stamp Program

9/29/69

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Senate has passed and sent to the House of Representatives a liberalized food stamp program which, among other things, will allow churches and other nonprofit agencies to administer food stamp programs and to serve meals to elderly persons in exchange for food stamps.

Under the leadership of Sen. George McGovern (D., S.D.), chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition, and Sen. Jacob Javits (R., N.Y.), the Senate also voted to give the Nixon administration more than it had asked for to feed hungry people.

The Senate Agriculture Committee, with the administration's approval, had asked for an increase from \$315 million in fiscal 1969 to \$750 million in fiscal 1970; and for 1971 and 1972, \$1½ billion annually.

Sen. McGovern's substitute, co-sponsored by 11 Democrats and Republicans, would give the secretary of agriculture \$1½ billion in 1970 to operate the food stamp program. This would be increased to \$2 billion for 1971 and to \$2½ billion for 1972. The substitute bill won by a vote of 54 to 40.

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After efforts were defeated to send the bill back to the Senate committee, it was adopted by a vote of 78 to 14 and sent to the Agriculture Committee in the House of Representatives where it faces an uncertain future. Rep. W. R. Poage (D., Tex.) is chairman of the House Agriculture Committee.

Opposition to the liberalized substitute came from Southern Democrats and conservative Republicans. Many of them said the increased expenditure of \$500 million of the first year would sound the death knell for the entire program. They said the House Committee would not approve the increase or that President Nixon would veto it if the house passed it.

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D., S.C.), one of the few Southern senators who have admitted that extensive hunger exists among the poor of his state, was one of the fighters for the more liberal bill.

Sen. Hollings chided the opposition for an earlier vote to approve "mistakes" of more than \$2 billion in defense items and then crying "chaos" over the possibility of inflation and ruining the food stamp program with an increase of only \$500 million.

"This is no time to holler 'chaos' and 'the end of the world is coming' over the expenditure of \$500 million," he declared. "I say that if we do not get the \$500 million, that will ruin it."

He made a special plea for the part of the bill that would permit nonprofit groups to operate programs where public officials were not getting the job done.

The section of the bill that approves churches and other nonprofit groups serving meals to elderly persons in exchange for food stamps was promoted primarily by Sen. Hugh Scott (R., Pa.), the new minority leader in the Senate.

The bill also authorizes the secretary of agriculture to administer the food stamp program through any nonprofit organization if a local or state agency fails to do so or if the program is not meeting the needs of the poor.

Among the other provisions of the bill are the following:

- \* Any family of four with an income of \$4,000 or less would be automatically eligible to participate.
- \* Families would be provided food stamps valued at \$125 per month for a family of four.
- \* No family would be charged more than 25 per cent of its income for food stamps.
- \* Free stamps would be provided to families with less than \$80 a month income.
- \* Surplus commodities could be distributed also in counties with a food stamp program.



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