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Indiana Baptists Adopt
Sex, Doctrine Resolutions

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EVANSVILLE, Ind. (BP)--Two resolutions dealing with sex education, and asking Southern Baptist leaders to sign a doctrinal pledge, prompted strong debate at the 11th annual session of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana here.

In both cases, the convention adopted substitute motions approving almost verbatim resolutions adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in New Orleans last June.

The convention also voted to follow the SBC procedure in handling resolutions submitted from the floor, adopting four new bylaw requirements which automatically refer all resolutions to the resolutions committee where they will be considered and then reported back to the full convention.

The debate started when Hank Smith, pastor of First Baptist Church, Kentland, Ind., presented a resolution asking teachers, professors and leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention to sign statements pledging to teach the Bible as interpreted in the Baptist Faith and Message Statement adopted by the SBC in 1963.

The presiding officer, Leamon Blalock, second vice president from Hammond, Ind., ruled that Smith's resolution should be referred to the resolutions committee, although at the time, there were no convention bylaws which outlined this procedure.

After debate on the procedure and ruling, the resolutions was referred to the committee which offered instead a resolution urging the trustees of Southern Baptist seminaries "to see that our seminaries remain faithful to their articles of faith."

Smith sought to ammend the committee's report, by calling for the trustees to "check and inquire as to the faithfulness of all seminaries in adhering to their adopted articles of faith."

The convention, however, overwhelmingly adopted a substitute amendment offered by Lyndon W. Collings of Portage, Ind., which asked that the convention "go on record as supporting the motion by James L. Sullivan, approved by the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans in June."

The motion by Sullivan, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Sunday School Board, called "the attention of the (SBC) agencies (to) the doctrinal statement" adopted by the convention in 1963 and urged "elected trustees to be diligent in seeing that programs assigned to them are carried out consistent with that statement..."

A resolution opposing sex education also prompted debate, but the messengers adopted almost verbatim a resolution approved by the SBC last June instead of the resolution offered by William Barner of Hammond, Ind.

Barner, pastor of Woodmar Baptist Church in Hammond, offered a resolution disagreeing with articles and programs on sex education provided by the SBC Sunday School Board.

The resolution finally adopted, however, asked "all (SBC) agencies and curriculum planners to give increasing attention to basic and resource materials on family life and sex education."

In other action, the convention approved a \$560,000 budget for 1970. The total budget includes a state Cooperative Program goal of \$335,000, of which \$93,800 or 28 per cent will go to world mission causes through the Southern Baptist Convention.

The convention also approved a recommendation from its Executive Board on long-range guidelines for the development of institutional ministries.

The guidelines asked continued efforts for development of 342-acre Baptist encampment near Monrovia, Ind., and stated that other institutional ministries (such as Baptist colleges and hospitals) should be delayed until there are 1,000 churches with 300,000 members in the state. Presently there are 230 churches with 50,000 members.

Re-elected to a second one-year term as president was John J. Dorough, pastor of Parkway Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Ind. Next year the convention will meet at Central Baptist Church, Richmond, Ind., Nov. 10-12, 1970.

Loyed Simmons Resigns
At California College

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (BP)--Loyed R. Simmons has resigned as president of California Baptist College, a post he had held since 1958.

His resignation was presented to a called meeting of the school's Board of Trustees, meeting just six weeks after another called session during which charges of tension between the faculty and the administration, and between the administration and the board, has been discussed.

Simmons' resignation is to be effective May 31, 1970, but the board approved Simmons' request that he be relieved from all duties by Nov. 30, 1969.

Simmons has made no announcement concerning future plans.

Administrative responsibilities for the college have been assigned to by the board two senior members of the college administration, who will act under the supervision of the board's Executive Committee.

James L. Hardin, college business manager, will have charge of all non-academic affairs, and Dewey H. Jones, dean of the college, will be responsible for all academic matters, the board announced.

Simmons has been president of the school for 11 years, coming to the post after previously serving as president of Grand Canyon College, a Baptist school in Phoenix, Ariz. He is a former pastor of Baptist churches in Texas, Illinois, and Arizona.

A graduate of Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, where he earned the doctor of theology degree, Simmons has gained wide recognition as a vigorous opponent of federal aid to church related institutions.

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Ohio Convention Refers
Realignment For Study

11/10/69

CINCINNATI, Ohio (BP)--The State Convention of Baptists in Ohio voted here to refer for further study a previous action by the convention's Board of Directors concerning realignment of two convention staff members' responsibilities.

The convention voted to refer to its administrative and Training Union committees for study and evaluation, action taken by the Board of Directors on Nov. 4 which realigned the responsibilities of Gilbert Wilder and Grady Evans.

In the earlier vote, the board elected Wilder, associate in the Sunday School and music departments, to become director of the convention's Training Union department; and named Evans, an area Baptist Student Union director in Southwest Ohio, to serve as state Baptist student director with part-time responsibility for students in Central Ohio.

The action holds in abeyance the previous election of Wilder and Evans to the positions until some report is brought to the convention's Board of Directors by the committees assigned to study the matter.

In other action, the Ohio convention adopted a budget of \$1,281,999 for 1970, re-elected Bert E. Williams, pastor of Crescent View Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio, as president; and voted to create the Ohio Southern Baptist Historical Society, setting up trustees and officers for the new historical organization.

In his annual report, Convention Executive Secretary Ray Roberts said that baptisms in the state for the first time in history had passed the 7,000 figure. Roberts attributed most of the increase to the Crusade of the Americas in Ohio, as part of the hemisphere-wide Baptist evangelistic effort in 1969.

Resolutions adopted by the convention expressed gratitude for the Crusade of the Americas, and urged Baptist churches in the state to face the 1970's with courage.

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