



**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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December 22, 1969

Graham To Speak At SBC  
National Bible Conference

NASHVILLE (BP)--Evangelist Billy Graham will bring the closing message of Southern Baptist' first Nationwide Bible Conference, to be held March 15-18, 1971, at the Dallas (Tex.) Convention Center.

The conference, sponsored jointly by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School department and all Southern Baptist Convention-affiliated state Sunday School departments, will feature some fifty Bible scholars and teachers, A. V. Washburn, secretary of the board's Sunday School department, announced.

The scholars and teachers will be enlisted to lead a projected total of 25,000 Bible students in a renewed study of the scriptures, Washburn said. Sessions are planned specifically for persons who are responsible for the Bible teaching program in a church.

The interest of the conference will be focused upon the Bible as God's eternal and contemporary word to man, Washburn added.

Cooperating in the promotion and conducting of the conference will be the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, T. A. Patterson, executive secretary.

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Baptist Executive To Head  
Alabama Ethics Investigation

12/22/69

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (BP)--The executive secretary for the Alabama Baptist Convention and a Baptist layman have been named to head two of five committees created by Alabama Governor Albert Brewer to inquire into the ethical conduct of government officials and employees.

George E. Bagley, executive secretary-treasurer for the state convention's Executive Board here, was named by the governor, himself a Baptist layman, to head the committee on ethics of the judiciary.

Textile Executive and Baptist layman J. Leumel Coley of Alexander City, Ala., will head a committee on ethics in the executive branch. Coley is vice president of Russell Mills of Alabama. He is also a board of trustees member for Judson College.

Bagley said he was happy to accept the governor's appointment, for he felt it was an opportunity to be of service to the state, and to become involved in the contemporary affairs of the people.

Three other Baptists were named to the five committees appointed by the governor, including the president of a Baptist college in Birmingham. They are:

Leslie Wright, president of Samford University, Birmingham, committee on ethics involved in state regulatory agencies; Mrs. Harry Philpott, wife of the president of Auburn University, Auburn, Ala.; committee on ethical conduct of lobbying interest; and Yetta Samford, Opelika attorney and former state legislator, committee on legislative ethics.

The five ethics committees will work with the Alabama Ethics Commission, named by Gov. Brewer several months ago. The committees will study the problems of conflicts of interests and ethics in connection in their area of inquiry and submit a written report to the ethics commission upon completion of its work.

Heading the committee on ethical conduct of lobbying interests is W. Kenneth Goodson, Birmingham, the Alabama resident bishop of the United Methodist Church. Heading the committee on legislative ethics is George M. Murray, Birmingham, Episcopal Bishop of Alabama.

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Missouri Baptists Elect  
Special Offerings Director

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)--The Executive Board of the Missouri Baptist Convention has created a new staff position and named a Missouri pastor to become the first director of special offerings for the convention.

Elected to the new position was Malcolm Younger, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Thayer, Mo. Younger is a former chairman of the board's executive committee and recording secretary of the convention since 1967.

Younger would supervise the promotion of three special offerings taken annually in Missouri Baptist churches, according to Missouri Baptist officials.

The special offering goals for 1970 include half a million dollars each for state and home missions, and three-quarters million dollars for foreign missions.

The former pastor of First Baptist Church, Eldon, Mo., for 20 years will assume the new position on Jan. 15.

The board also authorized purchase of parking area property adjacent to the former Missouri Hotel here which became the new Missouri Baptist Building on Dec. 1. Complete remodeling of the hotel will begin Jan. 1, providing a seven-story office building for the convention sometime in 1970.

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Louisiana Board Approves  
Taxation, But Not Exceptions

12/22/69

ALEXANDRIA, La. (BP)--The Executive Board of the Louisiana Baptist Convention here adopted a resolution saying that taxation of businesses owned by churches and denominations unrelated to religious activities is "right and fair," but opposed special exceptions to such taxation.

The Louisiana Baptist board said that a provision in a bill before Congress which would provide a special exemption to taxation for Jesuit owned radio and television station WWL in New Orleans connotes "special favoritism" and "is unfair and unjust."

"We deplore this provision and urge all members of the Congress to work to eliminate it from the proposed legislation," said the resolution adopted by the Baptist board.

Board members argued that the exemption for the New Orleans radio-tv station "creates the kind of resentment and tension between denominations that our present times are seeking to overcome."

The resolution made it clear, however, that the board was not against taxation of businesses owned by churches and denominations when the businesses are unrelated to religious activities. Stating its approval of such taxation of its own business interests, the board said such a policy is "right and fair."

In a report to the board members, the convention's public affairs committee asked the board members to aid in a plan to personally contact all Louisiana state legislators on the current problem of tax aid to private and/or parochial schools.

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