



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Telephone (615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041
DALLAS Billy Keith, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996
NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lynn M. Davis, Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203, Telephone (615) 254-1631
RICHMOND Jesse C. Fletcher, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (703) 353-0151
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

April 26, 1971

George Schroeder Resigns Top SBC Brotherhood Post

MEMPHIS (BP)--George W. Schroeder, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission here, has resigned his position after more than 19 years as chief administrator of the agency which coordinates Baptist laymen's work.

Schroeder submitted his resignation, effective April 30, because of illness. He has been ill since July, 1970, and has been hospitalized for the past four months.

The resignation was accepted by the Brotherhood Commission Executive Committee during a quarterly meeting here.

Jerry Glisson, pastor of Leawood Baptist Church in Memphis and chairman of the commission's Executive Committee, said his committee will arrange an interim operating process when Schroeder's resignation becomes effective.

The directors of the Brotherhood Commission will hold their annual meeting August 19-20 at Memphis when they are expected to announce a new executive secretary.

Schroeder assumed the leadership of the Southern Baptist Convention agency on Jan. 1, 1951. He was the third executive secretary in 43 years, replacing Lawson Cooke, who retired.

The agency provides a mission education program for men and boys in 15,000 Southern Baptist churches throughout the United States.

The Brotherhood Commission publishes seven magazines and 40 books as resources in mission education and provides a field service staff to interpret the program.

Under Schroeder's leadership, enrollment in the Brotherhood program has reached 422,000 men and boys enrolled in the program.

Before becoming executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission in 1951, Schroeder had been associate secretary of the commission for five years.

A native of Illinois, he previously had been secretary of the Brotherhood department for the Illinois Baptist State Association, from 1940-46.

He received bachelor's and master's degrees from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill., and the honorary doctor of laws degree from Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, Ark. He was born in Pinckneyville, Ill., Oct. 28, 1914.

-30-

Youth Conference Group Asks For 'Renewal in Religion'

4/26/71

By Beth Hayworth

ESTES PARK, Colo. (BP)--The religion discussion group at the White House Conference on Youth issued a statement at the conclusion of the four-day meeting calling upon leadership at all levels to seek vigorously "a renewal of compassionate, practical, living religion in American life."

The plea was directed to "the President, the Congress, the leaders of religious organizations, decision-makers at all levels in government, business and education as well as individual citizens."

-more-

The religion workshop was a part of the Values, Ethics and Culture Task Force, one of ten major groups working on reports and recommendations to the President and the nation. The White House Conference on Youth, the first of its kind, was held at the Y.M.C.A. Camp here, April 18-22.

The renewal of religion, the 1500-word statement said, "should include a keener respect for individual conscience, a strengthening of the worship of God and stronger adherence to the original ideas set forth for this nation.

"It should augment the sense of brotherhood, compassion, equality and dignity that will harmonize the relations of Americans to each other and restore the quality of American life."

The predominantly youth workshop defined religion as "the patterns of thought and the way stemming from faith and belief in a transcendent being or beings." Such religion, the statement continued, "tends to nurture, enrich and strengthen ethical values, and therefore is urgently necessary to social progress and national welfare."

As an introduction to its recommendations, the workshop said: "We are convinced social program will be more effective when people are spiritually alive and awake, because spiritual awakesness encourages love for one's neighbor and caring for the disadvantaged.

"We call upon the churches to foster more vigorously the spiritual health of the people, and to encourage their members to commit themselves and their resources more fully to meeting the spiritual needs of the people."

The task force further reported that it "indicts organized religion for its lack of courage to take the leadership in effecting social change. By its silence it (organized religion) has sanctioned and is continuing to sanction such evils as racism, war, poverty, sexism and discrimination.

"Such hypocrisy cannot be supported by the youth of America," the report stated.

"The hypocrisy of organized religion to profess love, brotherhood and the celebration of life, yet by their too frequent silence having condoned the atrocities, incidents of racial prejudice and slaughter of Southeast Asian peoples has not gone unnoticed by the youth of America," the delegates declared.

The workshop acknowledged the commitments of individuals and single churches to improve the quality of human life. But, the delegates stated, "We...believe this effort is minimal in view of the vast resources, financial and personnel, of the institutional church."

The religion workshop listed the following values in religion which youth are looking for "but so often finds them lacking in our religious institutions and teachings:

* "Leadership and guidance in coping with the problems youth faces, such as the draft, drugs, destruction of the environment, racism and a sense of identity.

* "Relevance of religious teachings to the problems of present-day society.

* "Realism in religious teachings, so as to provide teachings freed of meaningless dogma and credible for the individual in the modern world.

* "An influence that brings men together instead of separating them; fosters unity and brotherhood instead of division and prejudice.

* "Action that really offers solutions to our national problems and a clear sense of national priorities, instead of adherence to outworn parochialism."

The recommendations of the religion workshop, along with those from many of the task forces, were not presented to the entire conference for adoption or rejection. They will, however, be presented to President Nixon and will be a part of the report to the nation from the conference.

The report continued that the youth of the National White House Conference strongly recommend:

* "That the American churches seriously rearrange their priorities,

* "That money not be spent on property and buildings or be kept stagnant; that is, invested to provide a continual source of security for churches,

* "That money be freed up and spent in programs which benefit the poor of America and especially minority groups,

* "That money which is invested should be invested responsibly in companies whose ideas are in accord with religious principles such as the elimination of poverty, war, racism, pollution, etc.

* "That church buildings, facilities and personnel be made available to community groups and the total community for such programs as clothing distribution, breakfast programs, recreation, education, political action groups, drug programs, etc."

The workshop was especially critical of "institutional self-interest" which it described as "a danger to religion." It continued that religion, "in order to retain its integrity, must be thought of not just as an institution but as a spiritual force offering the individual a lasting value structure that will meet his personal needs.

"These needs include a sense of identity, a sense of worth, a sense of direction, a way of relating to others, and a standard of conduct. Religion must also prove itself as an influence helping to steer our society away from immoral acts and policies, or lack of policies," the workshop declared.

Another recommendation from the group was for the governing board of churches to be made up of all segments of the membership, particularly youth. The workshop asked also for educational programs in the diversity of religion and culture, and that these be made available for the media to reach large segments of the population.

-30-

Southern Seminary Trustees
Approve New Degree Program

4/26/71

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here adopted the new Doctor of Ministry (D. Min.) degree as the basic seminary degree for theology and religious education students, effective in the fall of 1972.

The new Doctor of Ministry degree will require four years of study, and will include an internship program designed to fully acquaint the students with the workings of the ministry. Previously, a six-year program of study was required for the Doctor of Theology degree.

During the three-day meeting, the trustees also honored its retiring librarian and health center director, appointed two visiting professors and nine instructors, voted to raise student matriculation fees, adopted a deficit budget for 1971-72, and elected new officers.

Louisville surgeon H. Hart Hagan was honored for 43 years as director of the seminary's health center. Dr. Hagan was presented the seminary's "outstanding churchman" award, and trustees voted to name the seminary clinic the H. Hart Hagan Medical Clinic in the physician's honor.

Trustees also honored retiring seminary librarian Leo T. Crismon, who has served the seminary for 34 years. He was appointed librarian in 1951.

Pending a permanent appointment, Ronald F. Deering, associate librarian at the seminary, was named acting librarian.

The trustees voted to raise student matriculation fees from \$80 to \$100 per semester, after a decision to charge all student services and non-academic costs to the students. The seminary charges no tuition for its instructional services.

The 1971-72 budget of \$2,822,154 authorized by the board represents a \$76,500 deficit of expenses over anticipated income, seminary officials said.

-more-

In major appointments , the trustees named Barrington White , principal-elect of Regents Park College of Oxford University, Oxford, England, as visiting professor of Baptist church studies , and appointed Emmanuel McCall of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, as visiting professor of black church studies .

John H. Boyle , associate professor of psychology of religion and seminary chaplain, was granted tenure .

Trustees also designated Rankin Hall on the seminary campus as the Child Care Center after remodeling this summer. Seminary officials said the building, after remodeling, will serve as a model for child care centers in the Ohio Valley area .

Elected as the new chairman of the board of trustees was Edward L. Byrd , pastor of First Baptist Church, Florence, S. C. Other new officers are Douglas Aldrich, pastor of First Baptist Church, Gastonia, N. C. , as first vice president; and Joe Jack Hurst, attorney from Jackson, Miss. , as second vice president .

The board also honored retiring trustees who rotate off the board, and elected three Louisville laymen as directors for the Southern Seminary Foundation .

-30-

White House Conference Group
Would Tax Delinquent Churches

4/26/71

ESTES PARK, COLO. (BP)--Churches in the inner-cities which do not open their facilities to community groups serving the poor should lose their tax exempt status, declared a task force at the White House Conference on Youth.

This recommendation from the Race and Minorities Task Force will be sent to the President along with scores of others aimed at eliminating racism and discrimination against minority groups. The report, like many others growing out of the four-day meeting here, was not acted on by the full conference of nearly 1500 delegates .

"Racism is the fundamental cancer of American society and its eradication should be the paramount objective of all Americans," declared the task force .

David Eaton, senior minister of All Souls Unitarian Church in Washington, D. C. , was the adult chairman of the group which was made up of 146 members, including 97 young people .

The task force was one of ten groups meeting simultaneously during the conference held here at the Y.M.C.A. Camp. Eaton was one of five clergymen on the task force. Otto Kerner of the U. S. Court of Appeals, who served as chairman of the Presidential Commission on Civil Disorders, also worked with the group .

To implement its concern, the Race and Minority Task Force recommended that "the President of the United States, by means of a major TV address, within the next six months, officially denounce racism as the cancer of this society."

The recommendation added that the President should "call for action across the country by community groups, civic and fraternal organizations, businesses, churches and other religious bodies," and governments at all levels "for an immediate confrontation with this problem."

It is not only the responsibility of the President, the report continued, but there must be action by every agency, public and private, social and religious, including churches of all faiths, to establish priority programs supported by the allocation of substantial human and material resources ."

The reference to denying tax exemption to delinquent inner city churches came as an enlargement on the recommendation for the President to denounce racism officially. Specifically the report stated:

* "Denunciation of racism must come from leaders in the white ethnic communities--Rabbis, ministers, priests and community leaders have the power to influence their groups ."

-more-

* "Church facilities should be opened to community groups--especially those churches in the central city--for day care centers, tutoring projects and community group meetings.

* If the churches do not vocally support and act on these suggestions, then their real property should lose their tax exempt status."

Other recommendations for eliminating racism included the following: increased funds to enforce civil rights laws, more aid to help schools with desegregation problems, information on all candidates for public office in regard to their stand on racism, school text books which reflect the diverse racial and ethnic heritage of the U. S., and school curriculum on understanding the multi-ethnic nature of our society.

The task force asked also for the revision in schools of admission and other standard tests which are discriminatory.

Another recommendation concerned interracial marriages. The group asked that special efforts be made to eliminate the severe pressures interracial couples and their families face in most of the United States.

-30-

White House Youth Conference Reaffirms National Priorities

by Beth Hayworth

ESTES PARK, Colo. (BP)--"We are motivated not by hatred, but by disappointment over and love for the unfulfilled potential of this nation."

With these words delegates to the White House Conference on Youth concluded their "Preamble to the People," the central message, introductory to all other reports and recommendations. The preamble, reports and recommendations will be presented soon to President Richard M. Nixon.

The Preamble to the People, composed by youth and adult leadership in the ten task forces of the conference, began with these words:

"We are in the midst of a political, social and cultural revolution. Uncontrolled technology and the exploitation of people by people threaten to dehumanize our society. We must affirm the recognition of life as the supreme value which will not bear manipulation for other ends."

What followed was an eloquent expression of anguish in the face of human suffering caused by war, racism and poverty.

The delegates, sounding more hurt than hostile, accused the government and "other power structures" of being concerned primarily with their "self-perpetuation through serving the interests of the powerful at the expense of the people."

Almost 1500 delegates came from every state in the union. The invitation list was carefully planned, according to conference staff, to represent proportionately every geographic area and demographic group. It was designed to be balanced by age for youth from 14 to 24, and by sex, culture and ethnic group. Also, 62 countries sent representatives.

"It was the most representative conference ever held by American youth," Conference Chairman Stephen Hess said. He declared it a "success" at the conclusion of the meeting because it was such a "remarkable gathering of diverse persons."

On the final day, some of the conferees were angry. The Chicanos and the Indians said they felt they were left out of the planning and leadership of the meeting. A spokesman for Appalachian youth cried that no minority group in America had been so abused, misused and stereotyped as the Appalachian mountain folk.

The delegates in the final plenary session identified with the grievances of the minorities. With long applause and standing ovations minority complaints were affirmed.

-more-

"We are aware of our responsibility to fight for the rights of all people," stated the preamble, adopted by the delegates.

"Out of the rage of love for the unimplemented principles were here assert, we challenge the government and power structures to respond swiftly, actively and constructively to our proposals," the delegates pled.

What did they want? Primarily, they said, that the nation "finally...affirm and implement the rights articulated in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution...the full rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" for all Americans.

In addition, the following rights are "crucial," the delegates declared:

* "The right to adequate food, clothing and a decent home.

* "The right of the individual to do her/his thing, so long as it does not interfere with the rights of another.

* "The right to preserve and cultivate ethnic and cultural heritages.

* "The right to do whatever is necessary to preserve these rights."

There were other items on the agenda of recommendations to implement these principles. The following, approved by overwhelming majorities at the final plenary session, are of particular importance to church and denominational leaders:

...Stop the war in Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty. Eliminate all discrimination based on race, color or political ideology. Equalize marijuana. Cut the defense budget to \$50 billion for 1972. Repeal the draft. Establish an all-volunteer national service. Spend 25% of the national budget on education. Clean up the environment. Improve the quality of life for people in the inner cities.

...Guarantee an adequate income for all. Stabilize the world's population. Share the world's resources equally among all people. Give 18-year-olds the right to vote as well as all other majority rights and responsibilities. Recognize and tolerate any sexual behavior between consenting, responsible individuals as an accepted life-style. Call another White House Conference on Youth in four years.

Further, the voting delegates also registered "complete abhorrence and repulsion" with political surveillance, and demanded the immediate resignation of J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The delegates, predominantly youth aged 14 to 24, recognized in the preamble that they "are not alone in desiring change.

"We affirm our kinship," they said, "with persons of good will of all generations."

Indeed, it had been that kind of conference. The adults, one third of the delegates, were top men and women in government, business, education and religion.

Though some disagree in conversations, reports, recommendations and in some of the votes, the adults listened. They talked. They expressed their disagreement. Many agreed with the final votes and reports.

In the preamble, youth and adults dedicated themselves "to struggle and sacrifice for the realization of the ideals embodied in the program we have set forth.

"We are motivated not by hatred, but by disappointment over and love for the unfulfilled potential of this nation," the preamble concluded.

"We are aware of our responsibility to fight for the rights of all people," stated the preamble, adopted by the delegates.

"Out of the rage of love for the unimplemented principles were here assert, we challenge the government and power structures to respond swiftly, actively and constructively to our proposals," the delegates pled.

What did they want? Primarily, they said, that the nation "finally...affirm and implement the rights articulated in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution...the full rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" for all Americans.

In addition, the following rights are "crucial," the delegates declared:

- * "The right to adequate food, clothing and a decent home.
- * "The right of the individual to do her/his thing, so long as it does not interfere with the rights of another.
- * "The right to preserve and cultivate ethnic and cultural heritages.
- * "The right to do whatever is necessary to preserve these rights."

There were other items on the agenda of recommendations to implement these principles. The following, approved by overwhelming majorities at the final plenary session, are of particular importance to church and denominational leaders:

...Stop the war in Indochina by December 31, 1971. End poverty. Eliminate all discrimination based on race, color or political ideology. Equalize marijuana. Cut the defense budget to \$50 billion for 1972. Repeal the draft. Establish an all-volunteer national service. Spend 25% of the national budget on education. Clean up the environment. Improve the quality of life for people in the inner cities.

...Guarantee an adequate income for all. Stabilize the world's population. Share the world's resources equally among all people. Give 18-year-olds the right to vote as well as all other majority rights and responsibilities. Recognize and tolerate any sexual behavior between consenting, responsible individuals as an accepted life-style. Call another White House Conference on Youth in four years.

Further, the voting delegates also registered "complete abhorrence and repulsion" with political surveillance, and demanded the immediate resignation of J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The delegates, predominantly youth aged 14 to 24, recognized in the preamble that they "are not alone in desiring change.

"We affirm our kinship," they said, "with persons of good will of all generations."

Indeed, it had been that kind of conference. The adults, one third of the delegates, were top men and women in government, business, education and religion.

Though some disagree in conversations, reports, recommendations and in some of the votes, the adults listened. They talked. They expressed their disagreement. Many agreed with the final votes and reports.

In the preamble, youth and adults dedicated themselves "to struggle and sacrifice for the realization of the ideals embodied in the program we have set forth.

"We are motivated not by hatred, but by disappointment over and love for the unfulfilled potential of this nation," the preamble concluded.



BAPTIST PRESS

*460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219*

LYNN MAY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
127 9TH AVE. NO.
NASHVILLE TN 37203

RECEIVED
APR 28 1971
HISTORICAL COMMISSION, SRC