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August 7, 1972

**Brotherhood Commission Votes
For Permanent Four-day Week**

MEMPHIS (BP)--Trustees of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission voted to open membership on their executive committee to trustees regardless of their place of residence, approved a record operating budget, and approved on a permanent basis a four-day work week for employees here.

The 32-member commission also re-elected John Smarge, a utility construction contractor from Silver Spring, Md., as chairman; changed the title of Glendon McCullough, their chief administrative officer from executive secretary to executive director; and approved appointment of a long-range planning committee to chart agency directions for 10 years.

Lengthy debate was sparked by the proposal to open membership on the commission's 10-member Executive Committee to trustees regardless of their place of residence. In the past, local and area members have comprised the Executive Committee.

Opponents of the proposal were mainly members who live in the Memphis area and who served on the committee. They contended it was poor stewardship to appoint committee members who may have to travel long distances for the quarterly meetings.

Later, during an election from the floor, five local members were elected to serve with four others on the Executive Committee. Smarge, as commission chairman, will serve as chairman of the Executive Committee.

Elected to the committee from the Memphis area were Jerry Glisson, Solon Freeman, William Foote, and E. M. McCance, all of Memphis, and Ralph Lawler of Trenton, Tenn.

Other members chosen included William Hardy Jr. of Kosciusko, Miss., C. L. Bowe of San Jon, N. M., Drexel Meyers of Trenton, Mich., and P. A. Stevens of Louisville, Ky.

After a report on an experiment this summer with the four-day work week, the commission authorized moving to a four-day, 36-hour work week for staff employees on a permanent basis.

McCullough, the commission's executive director, emphasized that the agency would be open five days of the week, with a full staff working Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.; and on Friday with a skeleton crew working from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

The number of holidays for employees was reduced from eight to three as a part of the work plan.

Approving a record operating budget of \$1,210,200, the trustees allocated \$269,755 for administration, \$121,100 for Baptist Men's work, \$155,800 for Royal Ambassador work, \$638,545 for the Service Division, and \$25,000 for debt retirement.

The new budget also provides for the formation of three new departments in the Baptist Men's Division. They are: Baptist young men, lay witnessing, and lay ministries.

Trustees employed James Johnson, a computer specialist from Arlington, Tex., on a part-time basis to direct the new lay ministries department.

They also approved a two-year assignment for SBC Home Mission Board US-2 missionary Anthony Hough to conduct research for a future Baptist young men's department.

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NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

The commission voted to sponsor a national men's conference in Dallas, Tex., immediately following the 1974 Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas.

Elected vice chairman of the commission was Glenn Raney, a furniture dealer from Jackson, Tenn.; and named recording secretary was Sam Dunbar, a college professor from Gretna, La.

James Coggin of Fort Worth, first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, addressed the trustees at an awards dinner. Jerry Clower of Yazoo City, Miss., well-known humorist and recording artist, provided entertainment.

Receiving retirement certificates were Edward Hurt Jr., general administration consultant who joined the agency in 1955; Mrs. Lurline Coleman, a secretary; and Earl Griffin, a Services Division employee.

The trustees agreed to meet in 1973 in Memphis on September 6-7.

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PHOTOS mailed to Baptist state paper editors by the Brotherhood Commission.

Oklahoma Pastor Gives
"Backsliders" No Quarter

8/7/72

LENAPAH, Okla. (BP)-- Orval See, retired Oklahoma minister who became pastor of Lenapah Baptist Church a short time ago, explains how he scuttles the excuses of unchurched Baptists he visits.

See knocks at the door of an unchurched person. He introduces himself this way, "I'm the new preacher living in the Methodist parsonage."

"I'm sorry, but we're Baptists," the resident replies.

"And it's at the Baptist church services where we've been missing you," he tells the startled "backslider."

"You see, I'm the Baptist preacher here, although I do live in the Methodist parsonage."

The Methodist church in Lenapah rents its parsonage in town to the Baptist church. The minister assigned to the Methodist church at present owns and lives on a farm a few miles from Lenapah in northeastern Oklahoma.

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Harris Tells Conferees,
'Save Sunday Evening'

8/7/72

RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP)--"Many church members no longer feel a sense of loyalty to Sunday as a holy day," Philip B. Harris told more than 6,000 Southern Baptists during two weeks at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

"Commercialism, sports, recreation, entertainment and leisure time claim their attention," said Harris, secretary of the church training department for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville. "Attendance at church meetings no longer seems to be a necessary standard for judging the loyalty of church members," he added.

Speaking during the Church Training Leadership Conferences here, Harris called on Southern Baptists "to reclaim Sunday night for Christ and his church."

"Sunday evening," said Harris, "is a time to enlarge and enrich church training, support Sunday evening worship, emphasize inspirational music and encourage evangelistic preaching."

Illustrating the potential for the use of Sunday night, Harris told the conferees that "the

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entertainment world believes that Sunday night is right for its activities. The business interests recognize that Sunday night is a good time to make money. Professional sports are utilizing Sunday night to their advantage.

"Churches can do more to interest people in worship and training," said Harris. "Sunday night is just as sacred as Sunday morning. The Lord's Day can be used for spiritual purposes... With the breakdown in the home and with the declining religious emphasis in the schools, it is imperative that we utilize Sunday night for Christian training."

He charged that there is increasing evidence that many Americans maintain church membership as a status symbol.

"The churches must counteract the evil forces and godlessness of our day," he declared. "Children, youth and adults need training on Sunday night which will challenge them to Christian living and service. It is time to demonstrate the vitality and aggressiveness of New Testament Christianity as never before."

According to Harris, the Southern Baptist Church Training program for 1972-73 and 1973-74 will revolve around the theme "Church...the Sunday Night Place."

"The theme symbolizes the spirit and concern of church training to make the largest contribution possible to revitalizing Sunday night," said Harris. "Church training wants every pastor, every minister of education, every minister of music, every youth director, every person to believe that church is, or should be, the Sunday night place to be."

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SBC Foreign Mission Board Sends \$5,000 in Flood Relief

RICHMOND (BP)--The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission here has responded to the Philippine flood disaster by approving a request from missionaries for \$5,000 in relief funds.

Missionaries are already helping with distribution of food to flood victims, according to Robert N. Nash, Southern Baptist missionary in Cebu, the Philippines.

An estimated 290,000 persons have been left homeless by the floods, said Nash in requesting the relief funds from the board.

Despite rumors of an outbreak of cholera, only three persons have reportedly died from the disease in the wake of the floods, Nash said.

Nash contacted R. Keith Parks, the board's secretary for Southeast Asia, with the request for the relief aid.

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Berquist To Continue As Midwestern Acting President

KANSAS CITY (BP)--The executive committee of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's board of trustees has asked Millard J. Berquist, who officially retired as president July 31, to continue as acting president of the school.

Berquist, the first and only president of the seminary, will continue until a new president is elected and has assumed office, according to Frank E. Myers, chairman of the committee. Myers gave no indication how long he expected that to take.

Berquist has been president of the youngest seminary in the Southern Baptist Convention for the past 15 years. He was elected president emeritus by the board of trustees last spring.

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Czech Tennis Player Takes
Long Route to the Ministry

By Tim Nicholas

ATLANTA (BP)--When the Russians invaded Czechoslovakia in 1968, Josef Solc had made up his mind to leave, with the hopes of entering the ministry.

But he didn't know he was taking the long way around to reach his goal of becoming a Baptist preacher.

A Christian and the son of a Baptist preacher, Solc (pronounced Solk) had been refused permission to go to college to study as a teacher or as a minister.

So for two years, he served in the Czech Army, helped his father in the church, and learned to excell in both ice hockey and tennis.

He played ice hockey professionally and was the top-ranked junior tennis player in Czechoslovakia.

As part of the Czech process of democratization, anyone could get permission to go abroad for one month, so Solc got permission to go to England for a Baptist convention.

Before he could leave, however, the Russians invaded his country.

In the confusion of the invasion, Solc drove into West Germany--and he hasn't been home since.

After 16 months of study at the Baptist seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, Solc went to Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla., on a full tennis scholarship. Studying theology and helping teach Greek, Solc also taught tennis lessons for spending money and managed to play in the number one slot on the college's tennis team.

The 28-year-old blonde, who speaks fluent Czech, English, Russian, German and Slovak, and reads Greek and Hebrew, keeps himself busy playing professional tennis matches around the country. This summer, he applied for admission to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

He wrote to his parents in Czechoslovakia inviting them to attend his college graduation, but they were denied permission. "But I understand it," said Solc. "I know why my parents can't get out."

As for the future, Solc said he still does not know exactly what he is going to do. "I know I want to go into the ministry, and I still feel I would make a good teacher." Although its been a long way around, Solc is still trying to get there.

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BP PHOTOS being mailed to Baptist state paper editors.

Florida Baptists Expand
Lake Yale Assembly Area

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)--The State Board of Missions for the Florida Baptist Convention here has purchased an additional 84 acres of land adjacent to Lake Yale Baptist Assembly near Leesburg, Fla.

According to Paul W. Glore, director of the camps and assemblies department for the convention, the additional property will be used for rough-type camping. Spaces will be provided for tents and trailers.

Negotiations for purchase of the property have been in progress for a year and half, following approval for the expansion by the 1971 Florida Baptist Convention.

Cost of the new property was set at \$3,000 per acre, plus \$25,000 for a house located on the property owned by John H. Kauffman Jr.

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