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May 4, 1973

Southern Seminary Trustees Create New Bible-college

LOUISVILLE (BP)--A new educational program which would offer Bible-college courses to ministers with limited formal education was approved by trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in annual session here.

The Boyce School of Christian Ministry, named for Southern Seminary founder James P. Boyce, will open this fall if charter provisions are approved by the Southern Baptist Convention in Portland, June 12-14.

Facilities for the new school will be in the building once used by the Woman's Missionary Union Training School, later renamed the Carver School of Missions and Social Work, which was merged with the seminary 10 years ago.

The 60,000 square-foot building contains residence facilities, classrooms, offices and a chapel, and is situated on the western edge of the seminary campus.

Allen Willis Graves, former dean of the school of religious education and currently vice president for student affairs at the seminary, will become president of the new Boyce school. Graves has been a member of the seminary staff since 1955, and holds the doctor of theology degree from the seminary.

The Bible-college division of the School of Christian Ministry will have no degree program, Graves said. It will offer a wide variety of courses designed to meet the vocational needs of the commuting or resident student with minimum formal training.

Some courses will be offered one day a week, some for one week each month, and some in the evening allowing either part-time or full-time study, Graves said. No course would span more than a two month period.

With an "open admissions" policy for the new school, interested Christian laymen would be allowed to enroll in the Bible-college. Faculty would be drawn from trusted, experienced Baptist leaders in the active or retired pastorate, in church staff positions, and in denominational programs, Graves said. Generally, Southern Seminary professors will not teach in the new Bible-college division, he added.

A 15-member board of overseers was named by the seminary trustees to approve faculty and courses of the new school. Among the overseers are the executive secretaries of the Baptist state conventions of Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana, plus other leaders in missions, evangelism and church development in a nine state area.

In addition to the Bible-college program, the Boyce School of Christian ministry will offer several programs in continuing theological education for seminary-trained ministers on a year-round basis, expanding the seminary's continuing education series begun 10 years ago.

Explaining the need for the new school, President Graves noted that more than 50 per cent of present Southern Baptist pastors have had no seminary preparation and 20 per cent have had only high school education or less.

"Each year the number of pastors with limited academic preparation is augmented by the addition of others who also lack college and seminary training," he said.

"Our location places some obligation on us," Graves said. "We are immediately adjacent to a densely populated area where Southern Baptist growth has been quite expansive in recent years, yet there are no Southern Baptist institutions north of the Ohio River offering preparation for many ministers without college or seminary education."

Graves spent several months making a feasibility study for the school, interviewing denominational leaders in adjacent states and officials of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, nearby Bible schools, and the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension Department. Encouragement was voiced by all with whom he consulted, Graves added.

The Boyce School of Christian Ministry will utilize the dormant charter of the Carver School of Missions and Social Work, if the necessary revisions to that charter are approved by the Southern Baptist Convention in Portland.

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Southern Seminary Trustees
Elect Three New Professors

5/4/73

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary meeting here elected three new professors, including two from the faculty of Spurgeon's College in London, England.

George R. Beasley-Murray, since 1958 principal at Spurgeon's College in London, was elected professor of New Testament, with tenure, effective next fall.

Beasley-Murray, an internationally known Baptist scholar, is a former president of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland.

Lewis A. Drummond, a native of Illinois on leave from the Spurgeon's College faculty where he established the evangelism department in 1968, was named to fill the seminary's endowed Billy Graham Chair of Evangelism, with the rank of associate professor.

Drummond, a former pastor of Baptist churches in Alabama, Texas and Kentucky, has been serving for the past year as visiting professor of evangelism at Southern Seminary. He holds degrees from Samford University, Birmingham, Ala.; Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; and earned the doctor of philosophy degree from Kin's College of the University of London.

In another action, the trustees elected E. Frank Tupper, pastor of First Baptist Church of Edmonton, Ky., as assistant professor of theology and philosophy. A native of Mississippi, he is a graduate of Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., and Southwestern Seminary where he earned the doctor of theology degree.

Trustees also promoted Ronald F. Deering, a member of the faculty since 1961, to librarian for the seminary. Deering has been acting librarian since the retirement of Leo T. Crismon, designated by the trustees as emeritus librarian.

Also promoted were E. Glenn Hinson, named professor of church history, and Peter Rhea Jones, associate professor of New Testament Interpretation. Hinson joined the faculty in 1963 and Jones in 1968.

R. Jack Robinson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Augusta, Ga., was named Sewell visiting professor of pastoral studies for the January inter-term, 1974. Robinson, former president of the Georgia Baptist Convention, is a former All America and Olympic basketball star from Baylor University, Waco., Tex., and is one of five founders of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Trustees honored Earnest J. Loessner who is retiring after 20 years on the faculty and who, since 1969, has been dean of the School of Religious Education.

Elected as new chairman of the board of trustees was A. Douglas Aldrich, pastor of First Baptist Church of Gastonia, N.C. Aldrich succeeds Edward L. Byrd of Florence, S.C.

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Other officers of the board include Richard M. Stevenson, executive secretary of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, first vice-chairman and chairman of the trustee executive committee; Schuyler M. Batson, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Alexandria, Va., second vice-chairman; and James L. Tate, Louisville businessman, secretary.

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10,000 Copies of Bible
Available Free at SBC

5/4/73

PORTLAND (BP)--More than 10,000 marked copies of the New Testament will be given away to the people of Portland during sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention here June 12-14.

SBC President Owen Cooper said the Bibles would be made available, free, to any person attending the convention who would pledge to give one copy away to some person he or she might meet while in the city of Portland.

Cooper urged the convention messengers to use the marked New Testaments in personal witnessing to carry out the theme of the convention sessions, "Share The Word, Now."

"It's going to take some effort to give away 10,000 Bibles that week," Cooper commented, "because there are not that many waitresses, bellhops, taxi drivers, hotel maids and others with whom convention-goers usually come in contact."

Cooper said the free Bibles were made available "through the generosity of a group of Southern Baptists interested in witnessing and sharing the Word, now."

A dedicatory program will be held in the Baptist Book Store exhibit area at the Portland Coliseum on Tuesday at 8:45 a.m., just prior to the opening session of the convention, Cooper said.

Glendon McCullough, executive secretary of the SBC Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, will preside over the dedication program. John Smarge, a businessman from Silver Springs, Md., will lead a prayer of dedication.

Cooper said that convention messengers could stop by the Baptist Book Store exhibit at any time during the convention and pick up a free copy of the marked New Testament. "All we ask," he said, "is that you not keep it for yourself, but that you share it with someone who needs the gospel."

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Vocalist, Football Star
Added to SBC Program

5/4/73

PORTLAND (BP)--Vocalist Cynthia Clawson of Little Rock and Miami Dolphins veteran Norm Evans have been added to the final night program of the Southern Baptist Convention slated here June 12-14.

Miss Clawson and Evans will join Oregon Senator Mark O. Hatfield in the second portion of the Friday night emphasis called a "Share-the-Word Celebration," according to Russell H. Dilday Jr., chairman of the convention's committee on order of business.

Both will give testimonies concerning their experiences in sharing the Gospel, said Dilday, pastor of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta.

Miss Clawson, now married to Ragan Courtney of the staff of Second Baptist Church in Little Rock, has been featured on many nationwide television programs, including Spring Street USA, the televangelism program of the SBC Home Mission Board, and the CBS Newcomers. She is the daughter of Thomas W. Clawson, pastor of Hot Wells Baptist Church, San Antonio.

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Evans has been called the spiritual leader of the world champion Miami Dolphins football team. He is a deacon at the Sheridan Hills Baptist Church, Hollywood, Fla., and is active in many related ministry activities, including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The closing program of the convention will be divided into three parts, beginning with "The Word We Share," with James L. Sullivan, president of the Sunday School Board, presenting the last in a series of devotional messages opening each convention session.

Annie Vallotton of Paris, France, illustrator of Today's English Version of the Bible, will sketch illustrations of scripture using an overhead projector.

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Scottish Baptist Pastor
Becomes American Citizen

5/4/73

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Peter McLeod, pastor of First Baptist Church here who speaks with a heavy Scottish accent and still calls Scotland "home," has after 18 years in the United States become an American citizen, officially.

"It's a hard thing to give up your citizenship," McLeod said, even though his life style is thoroughly Americanized.

The Baptist pastor said the specific reason he is seeking American citizenship is "so I can take part in the political system," to vote, and take part in elections and local issues.

McLeod has served as pastor of the Waco church for the past four years, previously serving churches in Atlanta and Oglethorpe, Ga., and in Lexington, Ky. He is a graduate of Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

He and his family plan a trip this summer to Scotland, and much of the red tape of leaving the United States and coming back will be eliminated by his American citizenship, he said.

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