



**BAPTIST PRESS**  
New Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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June 14, 1973

#### SBC Urged to Practice Whole Bible, Not Part

PORTLAND (BP)—Southern Baptists were challenged here to use the whole Bible as their guide and to apply it to all aspects of human life.

William M. Pinson Jr., professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, told the 8,750 messengers to the 116th Southern Baptist Convention they need to be as concerned about people who are kept out of their churches because of race and class as they are about letting persons in without Baptist immersion.

"We need to become as concerned about what the poor have for supper as we have been about who is eligible to partake of the Lord's Supper," the Fort Worth professor added.

"If we share the whole Bible, we will deal with repentance and racism, faith and family, regeneration and revolution, sanctification and sex, hell and housing, heaven and honesty, and salvation and starvation."

Pinson encouraged fellow Southern Baptists to be a people of the whole book and to avoid rummaging through the scriptures for texts which fit their theological fancy while discarding the rest.

"To deal exclusively with social concerns texts and ignore those on evangelism misrepresents the scriptures. Stress only those parts which deal with evangelism and skip the others and for all practical purposes you undermine belief in the inspiration of the whole Bible."

Speaking on the need to "Share the Whole Word Now," Pinson asked the messengers to tackle the difficult issues of the world with courage.

"Hiding in church buildings carefully avoiding controversial issues while people in the world are being destroyed by racism, economic injustice, and political corruption betrays a lack of confidence in the resurrection (of Jesus Christ)," he declared.

Pinson also called for expressions of the Christian faith through ministry.

"No church can be as evangelistic as it ought to be until it is involved in programs of ministry and social action," he said.

"Many of Jesus' preaching opportunities came because he healed sick bodies and challenged sick social conditions. The people wanted to hear what he had to say because his actions showed he cared for them."

Pinson reminded that Jesus went around doing good instead of putting up posters advertising his preaching engagements on the mountain.

The ethics professor suggested that Southern Baptists experiment with new approaches and methods in sharing the gospel.

Pinson specifically mentioned such ministries as medical clinics, clothes and food centers, tutoring, job training and placement, halfway houses, counseling centers, home Bible study, telephone counseling, home mission classes, apartment house ministry, literacy training and citizenship classes."

Some churches are realizing the need for social action as well as personal ministry, Pinson told the messengers.

"They see that it is not enough to tutor the slow learner without also doing something about the social circumstances which caused him to be mentally deficient. They understand that it is not enough to provide clothes and food to the poor and do nothing about the near starvation wages many are paid."

One of the keys to effectively communicating the whole gospel is the need to have priorities, Pinson indicated.

"Majoring on minor issues and going off on tangent is irresponsible. We should concentrate on the central issue of the written and incarnate Word—how lost men can be saved and how saved men ought to live."

Ten Make Restructure  
Suggestions to Committee

PORTLAND (BP)--Ten Southern Baptists with suggestions for improving the Southern Baptist Convention structure and services presented their views to the SBC Committee of Fifteen in an open hearing held to get "input" and restructure ideas.

The Committee of Fifteen was appointed by the SBC Executive Committee in 1970 to study the structure of the SBC and recommend any changes in organization it felt were needed.

Committee Chairman E. W. Price Jr. of High Point, N. C., responded enthusiastically to "the positive spirit" of the meeting and said it would be a good idea for the SBC to set up a regularly structured feedback session each year for persons attending the annual meeting.

Robert Witty, president of Luther Rice Seminary, Jacksonville, Fla., said his school, which receives no Southern Baptist funds, should have recognition as a Southern Baptist school because its faculty, administration and staff are Southern Baptists.

Witty suggested that Southern Baptists compile a list of independently operated Baptist schools in the category of his school to give them a Southern Baptist identity but no Southern Baptist funds.

Price said two persons expressed concern about finances of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

Jack Johnson, a pastor from Del Monte, Calif., commented that the present formula for distribution of funds to the seminary doesn't provide enough money for the faculty in an area where the cost of living is higher than in other parts of the country.

Jack Flanders, of Waco, Tex., chairman of the Golden Gate board of trustees, said the high cost of living makes it hard for seminaries to attract faculty.

Johnson, the Del Monte pastor, and Glen Paden, pastor of First Baptist Church, Fairfield, Calif., suggested the possibility of forming one administrative board to govern the six Southern Baptist seminaries, rather than individual boards.

Paden said an advantage of a central board would be the possibility of central application for admittance and assigning the students on a geographical basis.

George Euting of Nashville, Southern Baptist coordinated program promotion specialist, asked that a more exact method be determined for listing evangelists in the SBC annual to make sure that all are Southern Baptists.

Charles Harvey, a pastor from Shreveport, La., suggested that the makeup of the SBC Committee on Committees and Committee on Boards be changed so members would rotate and provide better continuity.

Current procedure calls for a complete new slate of members each year.

Guy Webb of Newport News, Va., suggested that the SBC has too many publications, mailings and organizational meetings and suggested they be better coordinated.

Ernie White of St. Joseph, Mo., suggested that the work of the SBC Stewardship Commission and the Southern Baptist Foundation be more closely related since both are involved in fund raising.

Another observer, Bob Davis, a pastor from Seaford, Del., suggested that the multiplicity of Southern Baptist youth programs be correlated by the various agencies.

Gordon James, a pastor from Frankstone, Tex., felt that Southern Baptist gifts to the Baptist World Alliance should be made more visible in the convention budget so more people could understand its purpose and benefit. Currently, the convention contributes \$125,000 to the Baptist World Alliance through the SBC's operating budget, not as a separately listed item.

Avoid Hypocrisy, Ambition,  
Convention Sermon Urges

PORTLAND (BP)--A leading Alabama Baptist minister keynoted the 116th meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention here Wednesday with a plea for messengers to live lives void of ostentation, hypocrisy, purely personal ambition, and sought publicity.

Preaching the annual convention sermon, Dotson M. Nelson, pastor of Mountain Brook Baptist Church in Birmingham, said these four characteristics exist in lives lived for God's sake.

There are four principles which may well be helpful to persons who aspire to live their lives for God's sake, Nelson said. He identified them as voluntariness, aloneness, positiveness, and self-judgment.

"Instead of being harsh with myself and lenient with others, I find myself rationalizing my mistakes and castigating the mistakes of others," Nelson confessed.

"This certainly is not for God's sake. Rather it is for my own satisfaction. There is always some one who can be better than.

"The difficulty is that we are to compare ourselves with Christ, not with others," Nelson stated.

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Atkinson Elected Southern  
Seminary Education Dean

PORTLAND (BP)--Ralph C. Atkinson, Jr., vice-president of Ottawa University (Baptist), Ottawa, Kan., has been elected dean of the school of religious education at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., effective July 1.

He will succeed Ernest J. Loessner, who retires this summer after 20 years on the faculty of the seminary and four years as dean.

Atkinson, a native of Mississippi, is a graduate of Mississippi College (Baptist) in Clinton. He holds the bachelor of divinity degree and completed residence studies toward the doctor of theology degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He also earned the doctor of philosophy degree from the Center for the Study of Higher Education at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

The new dean is former director of field services for the church administration department of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, and academic dean of Dallas Baptist College, Dallas, Tex.

He has also been assistant to the president of Mississippi College and assistant director of public relations for New Orleans Baptist Seminary.

He is the fourth dean in the history of the seminary's school of religious education, succeeding Gaines S. Dobbins, Allen W. Graves, and Loessner.

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Organize Resources, Get Excited,  
Evangelists Told

PORTLAND (BP)--Southern Baptist Convention President Owen Cooper led a parade of speakers at the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists here calling on their denomination to organize its resources and get excited about Jesus.

Cooper, a retired Yazoo City, Miss., businessman who was re-elected to a second one-year term as president of the 12-million-member convention the previous day, said Baptists must use radio and television more if they are to reach an expected world population of six billion people by the year 2000.

Cooper noted that Southern Baptists are spending about 12 cents each annually for evangelistic outreach through the Radio and Television Commission. He described it as a drop in the bucket compared to the annual advertising budget of one large soap manufacturer.

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"People need soap, but we have something to offer that will do a lot better cleaning job than soap," he quipped.

Cooper and other speakers at the evangelists' conference held during an off afternoon of the three-day meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention called for Christians to "get excited about Jesus and be willing to take a little persecution for your Lord."

"If Jesus doesn't excite you, you must have callouses on your soul," said Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

What's wrong in the average pulpit is too much intellect, said Rogers. "Just because a river's muddy doesn't mean it's deep. When you hear a man preach and don't understand how to be saved, God wasn't in it."

Rogers said most people have not rejected Jesus. "They've rejected our churchiality."

A Fort Worth evangelist, David Stockwell, warned Christians to avoid the "tongues movement" or glossolalia, which has caused divisions in some churches.

"God doesn't call people to run around with ecstatic experiences," said Stockwell. "He calls them for service."

Stockwell, a former football player at Rice University, Houston, said the hero of the Bible (Jesus) didn't die in the end. "He arose from the dead."

Bill Spencer, an evangelist from Broken Bow, Okla., said, "You have something to share, but the question is, 'Are you sharing?' You don't know what you have until you give it to Jesus."

Jerry Spencer of Brownsville, Tenn., was elected president of the conference succeeding Richard Hogue of Houston.

Other new officers are Vice President John Bos, Orlando, Fla.; Secretary-Treasurer Dan Womack, Memphis, Tenn.; Music Director Ed Stalnecker of Ripley, Tenn.; assistant Music Director Bob Matthews of Lake Charles, La., and Pastor-Advisor E. C. McDaniel, pastor of Main Street Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.

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Monroe, Woodward, Bratcher  
Get Seminary Recognition

PORTLAND (BP)--A pastor, a church music professor, and a prominent Bible translator were honored as "Alumni of the Year" by the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at the institution's national alumni luncheon here.

Citations were presented to James L. Monroe, pastor of First Baptist Church in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., and James D. Woodward, dean of fine arts at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee.

The third recipient, Robert G. Bratcher, was unable to attend because of his chairmanship of the East Coast translation team currently at work on the Old Testament volume of "Good News for Modern Man," of which he is key translator.

The 817 alumni present were told that their alumni fund gifts since January have already topped the \$26,500 received in all of 1970 and are far ahead of the 1972 fund at this point. Last year, 2,000 alumni contributed more than \$45,000 to support a program of ministry scholarships for seminary students to work in needy mission situations.

Dan C. Stringer, Jr., of Portland, executive secretary of the Northwest Baptist Convention and host for the 1973 Southern Baptist Convention sessions, was tapped for the alumni association's president-elect. He will succeed incoming 1973-74 president James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla. Alton H. McEachern, pastor of St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., was named secretary.

Presiding at the session was John H. McClanahan, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, Ark., who served as 1972-73 alumni president.

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Georgia Baptists Name  
Metro Missions Secretary

ATLANTA (BP)--Georgia Baptists have chosen a secretary of metropolitan missions ministries, a brand new position for their state Baptist convention, and named an acting secretary of state student work.

Henry Kirk Neal, now area missions superintendent in Savannah, Ga., will fill the new metro missions position, beginning July 1.

D. Eugene Briscoe, now Baptist campus minister at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, will become acting student secretary immediately.

Both elections were announced here by Searcy S. Garrison, executive secretary-treasurer of the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Neal's metro missions post was authorized by the Georgia Baptist Convention last November in annual session. He will plan and coordinate new ways to minister in heavily-populated areas.

He is a former Georgia and Mississippi pastor, a graduate of Louisiana College and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Briscoe has been in Georgia Baptist student work for 10 years, after several years as a pastor. He was assistant state student secretary before becoming Georgia Tech's campus minister two years ago.

He is a Georgian, a graduate of Baylor University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Briscoe succeeds Aubrey L. Hawkins, Georgia's student secretary for 23 years. He is now director of the convention's new Education Division.

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SBC Resolutions Oppose  
Corruption, Women's Lib

6/14/73

PORTLAND (BP)--Southern Baptists here resolved to thank Nixon for freeing the Vietnamese prisoners of war, decried political corruption, refused to censure Cambodian bombing and slapped down Women's Lib.

Debate on the resolutions at the 116th meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention here failed to produce any of the bitterness which has characterized some past meetings and except for an emotional flurry on Women's Lib--was tame.

Expression of thanks to the president, and the question of Cambodian bombing became entangled after messengers amended a resolution on Southeast Asia to "commend President Nixon for his efforts in bringing an honorable peace to Vietnam and his continued efforts to ensure peace in Southeast Asia...and inform the president of our prayers during these crucial days of his administration."

But Chauncey Daley, editor of the Western Recorder, Louisville, Ky., made a motion "that in light of possible misunderstanding of the adopted resolution on Southeast Asia, the messengers of this convention be recorded as not expressing approval of the bombing in Cambodia and other military actions in Southeast Asia since the ceasefire agreement."

Messengers kicked around the question before deciding to table a considerably altered motion which asked that they go on record as neither approving or disapproving the bombing by American forces.

Meanwhile, the resolutions committee failed to report out a resolution by Larry Williams of Dallas which called for "an immediate halt" to the bombing of Cambodia and opposing the military presence of the United States in that country.

In another session, messengers defeated an attempt to weaken a resolution on integrity in the American political system but accepted an amendment to the resolution which called for "the just prosecution of persons from any political party who are found guilty of maligning justice."

Richard Luebbert, a pastor from Gretna, La., called for deletion of paragraphs in the resolution asking Christians to speak forthrightly on "abuse of power and irresponsible acts of lawlessness" by politicians.

He said he feared such statements would be interpreted as having political motivations and that the convention should not react against charges based on "hearsay" but only to charges which have been proven.

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He said Christians should speak forthrightly in any hour, not just in times of crisis.

Messengers rejected Luebbert's contentions but endorsed an amendment by Bill Sherman, a pastor from Nashville, which commended "the support of governmental leaders who fulfill their responsibilities in a moral posture" and called for the "just prosecution of persons from any political party who are found guilty of maligning justice."

The resolution, as finally approved, called on "all Christians to involve themselves more actively in the American political process to the end that God may be glorified and that the nation may be strengthened as a guarantor of liberty and justice for all."

It also asked that "we do not become part of any growing pessimism regarding the American political process but persist in the hope that Christian citizens will demand integrity of all politicians who serve them."

On the final day, the messengers shook the lethargy of a routine convention and took a slap at Women's Liberation.

Mrs. Richard Sappington, a pastor's wife from Houston touched off a spontaneous chain reaction when she stood to protest the failure of the SBC Resolutions Committee to adopt the wording of a resolution she submitted the day before.

Eschewing Mrs. Sappington's traditionalist point of view, the Resolutions Committee asked messengers to "give full recognition to women in leadership roles in church and denominational life."

It "whereas" that the Bible "bears record to the distinctive roles of men and women in the church, that Christian women have made and are making a significant contribution to the cause of Christ and that the role of modern women has opened up new opportunities for leadership."

But the messengers, confronted by the attractive, articulate Mrs. Sappington, would have none of it.

She insisted that the messengers reaffirm God's order of authority for his church and the Christian home, which she listed as "Christ the head of every man, man the head of the woman, and the children in subjection to their parents--in the Lord."

Mrs. Sappington, with 25 years experience as a pastor's wife, asserted that "man was not made for the woman but the woman for the man, that the woman is the glory of the man and that woman would not have existed without man, henceforth, neither would man have existed without the woman. They are dependent--one upon the other--to the glory of God."

Mrs. Sappington, in the preliminary section of her resolution which messengers substituted for that of the committee, said, "Christian women have made and are making a significant contribution to the cause of Christ."

She asserted, "there is a great attack by the members of most women's liberation movements upon Scriptural precepts of the woman's place in society."

In her impassioned plea to messengers, Mrs. Sappington declared, "Our local churches give every woman and girl the very opportunity they need in keeping His Word.

"It is with great disturbance of heart I see the effects of women's lib on our women."

A resolution on ethnic groups favorably cited efforts by SBC agencies to involve ethnic groups on committees and boards and stated "that such practice be continued because of the multiplicity of benefits" and the "inestimable contributions" such persons can make.

Another resolution on alcohol and other drugs cited extensive social problems resulting from their abuse and encouraged Congress--and a long list of government agencies--to "take action to control advertising of alcohol, tobacco and other addictive drugs which perpetuate the drug orientation culture."

Other major points in the resolution pledge "cooperation with others to neutralize social pressure and minimize glamorization of drug usage," encouraged preventative education in the homes, the churches and the schools and asked that the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission "work diligently with appropriate agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention to publicize the position and encourage cooperation with others seeking the same objectives."

A resolution aimed at assisting aging persons urged churches "to creatively seek to meet the needs of senior adults in our churches and communities."

It further asked that the SBC request the denomination's Executive Committee to "do a feasibility study on the need for a major survey of present and future ministry to and with senior adults and to take appropriate action."

Pointing to "an accelerated secularization of Sunday in America," another resolution petitioned "governing bodies of states and municipalities to take primary responsibility for preserving the unique character of Sunday as a day for rest and human welfare."

I. W. Howard of Columbus, Ga., won his point when he asked, "How can we ask secular society to do what to a great degree we church members don't do?"

Subsequent discussion led to an amendment instructing all SBC agencies, boards and committees "to make all due efforts to protect Sundays from scheduled activities, and employ on Sunday only those personnel needed to carry out absolutely necessary activities."

In other actions the messengers asked the SBC Executive Committee to study the possibility of establishing and funding a denominational motion picture and television information and advisory service. Gordon James of Frankston, Tex., made the motion.

The motion said such a service would provide adequate information concerning the content of motion pictures and television programming for aiding families and individuals in selecting wholesome and suitable material for their personal use.

It also said it would encourage the motion picture and television industries to produce material of high ethical and moral substance.

It would further enable Southern Baptists to understand and apply Christian principles to life, as these were brought out in movie and TV programming.

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### Concerts Highlight SBC Church Music Conference

PORTLAND (BP)--Premier performances of two new youth musicals by top Southern Baptist composers and a concert by Metropolitan Opera soloist Mary Costa, were among highlights of the two-day annual Southern Baptist Church Music Conference here.

The event featured a half-dozen concerts and several firsts, including a series of "how-to" round robin conferences in the fields of church music, youth choir tours, sound systems, publishing anthems, and others.

Named to succeed outgoing Music Conference President Carl Perry, minister of music for the First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., was Donald Brown, music professor at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo.

The conference also featured a banquet in which Baptist composer Buryl Red of BR Productions, New York City, and the Spring Street Singers, regulars on the new Southern Baptist television series, "Spring Street USA," were featured in concert.

Miss Costa, star of the motion picture "The Great Waltz," released this year, also sang in concert, choosing selections from her movie, hymns and gospel songs.

The world premier of the youth musical, "God Is Here -- I Am Here -- Now We Can Start," by top Baptist composers Ralph Carmichael and Kurt Kaiser, was presented by the choir of the First Nazarene Church Portland. The musical presentation was preceded by discussions of "Trends of Performance in the New Music," by Kaiser and "Trends in Church Music Today," by Carmichael.

A second premier performance involved a youth musical, "When Jesus Comes," composed by Phillip Landgrave of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Another feature of the 1973 Conference was a "master class" with Jean Berger, composer in residence at the University of Arizona in Tucson.

In a major address, Charles A. Trentham, pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., where Perry serves told the musicians that "one of God's best instruments for putting and keeping harmony in life is music.

He derided those in churches who criticize the music of such great composers as Johann Sebastian Bach, saying, "I have wanted to cry out, 'Bach's music isn't on trial, you are!'"

The conference presented honorary life memberships to two persons, but neither was able to attend.

The honorary lifetime memberships went to Mrs. B. B. McKinney, widow of the late composer of hundreds of hymns and long-time secretary of the church music department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; and Edmond Keith, retiring associate secretary of the Georgia Baptist Convention's church music department.

An additional first for the conference was a workshop on choreography and staging led by Alex Plasschaert, a choreographer from North Ridge, Calif., who led the participants through the steps of staging a musical production.

The conference featured exhibits from major sacred music publishers, sound companies, and Baptist institutions and agencies.

The music conference is held annually for professional church musicians and music faculty members in SBC institutions, denominational workers in music and for associate members interested in church music.

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Final Roundup**SBC Holds Calmest, Smallest  
Convention in Recent Years**

By Roy Jennings

PORTLAND (BP)--Booyed by reports of numerical and financial growth, messengers to the 116th Southern Baptist Convention approved a record \$35 million Cooperative Program budget, refused to dismantle their Stewardship Commission, and took stands on nine issues, including support of President Nixon's efforts to ensure peace in Southeast Asia.

During the three-day meeting, smallest in 22 years with less than 9,000 persons registered, the messengers also re-elected President Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., to a second one-year term, heard challenges from a battery of speakers on the denominational theme, Share the Word Now, and received progress reports from their 20 agencies.

The 1973-74 record budget, one of a dozen recommendations from the SBC Executive Committee approved with hardly a question, represented an increase of almost \$2 million over the present budget of \$34,042,506.

However, the messengers raised lots of questions about a proposal to abolish their fund raising agency and transfer its duties to the Executive Committee before rejecting it for the second consecutive year.

Duke McCall, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, proposed the latest change on the grounds the Executive Committee could get churches to give more to the Cooperative Program,

Opposing arguments centered on consistent giving gains under the Stewardship Commission and the threat of centralization of power in the Executive Committee.

Messengers insisted on taking a clear cut stand supporting President Nixon's efforts to insure peace in Southeast Asia despite efforts to water it down in the resolutions committee and on the convention floor.

In the resolution on Southeast Asia, the messengers also expressed gratitude to God for the return of prisoners of war and servicemen, paid tribute to the Americans who lost their lives and expressed grief at the continuing conflict and suffering.

Robert D. Lewis of Westminster, Calif., who introduced the resolution commending President Nixon's efforts in Southeast Asia tacked on the commendation as a amendment when the resolution committee's report appeared without it.

Chauncey Daley, editor of Western Recorder at Middletown, Ky., asked the messengers to make it clear they weren't expressing approval of the bombing of Cambodia and other military actions in Southeast Asia since the ceasefire agreement, but they tabled his request.

The messengers also supported a resolution which took a slap at women's liberation while setting out the distinctive roles of women in the church and home.

Mrs. Richard Sappington, wife of the pastor of Cloverleaf Baptist Church in Houston, Tex., introduced the resolution after expressing dissatisfaction with the way the resolutions committee rewrote an earlier resolution she had offered.

Warning of a great attack by the women's liberation movement on scriptural precepts of the woman's place in society, the resolution affirmed God's order of authority for his church and the Christian home as "Christ the head of every man, man the head of the woman, and the children in subjection to their parents in the Lord."

The resolution also reaffirmed "God's explicit word that (1) man was not made for the woman but the woman for the man; (2) that the woman is the glory of man; and (3) woman would not have existed without man, henceforth, neither would man have existed without the woman, they are dependent one upon the other to the glory of God."

A resolution on integrity and morality in the American political system got the interest and support of most messengers, but opposition from a few.

Among other things the resolution reaffirmed commitment to the American constitutional principle of government with justice and integrity, called on Christian citizens to demand integrity of all politicians who serve them, and to personally involve themselves more actively in the American political process.

The messengers added an amendment by Bill Sherman, pastor of Nashville, Tenn., which called for the "just prosecution of persons from any political party who are found guilty of maligning justice."

In a stand on alcohol and other drugs, the messengers agreed to encourage Congress and other government agencies to take action to control advertising of alcohol, tobacco and other addictive drugs and to ask for the broadest possible offensive to be mounted to restrain commercial promotion of those products.



Other resolutions approved by the messengers dealt with asking the SBC Executive Committee to look into the need for a major survey of ministries for senior adults, understanding and supporting national and state assistance programs helping the disadvantaged in need, preserving the unique character of Sunday as a day for rest and human welfare, and supporting the American Bible Society and Bible reading programs.

President Cooper, a retired agricultural fertilizer manufacturing executive, was re-elected without opposi-

The messengers also chose James G. Harris, pastor of University Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex., as first vice president, and evangelist Clifton Brannon of Longview, Tex., as second vice-president. Clifton Allen was re-elected recording secretary, and William Kendall, registration secretary. Both live in Nashville, Tenn.

In his presidential address, Cooper told the messengers the "state of the convention" was excellent with membership soaring past 12 million to 12,067,284 with a record number of baptisms--445,725--providing much of the thrust.

Giving by Southern Baptists reached \$1,071,512,302, passing the billion mark for first time, Cooper pointed out. He also mentioned gains in Brotherhood, Sunday School, and church music.

While citing advances such as a renewed zeal for evangelism, an increased concern for missions, and an expanded involvement of the laity, Cooper warned Southern Baptists not to slow down. He identified a host of problems in the home, society, government, and business which needed Baptists' attention.

Cooper listed such home problems as frustrated parents, rebellious children, generation gaps, child abuse, divorce and infidelity.

"In our permissive society there has never been more immorality, adultery, divorce, broken homes, sensuality, pornography and illegitimacy."

One of his main suggestions for the denomination during the next five years was to develop a program for enlisting annually a corps of voluntary mission workers who would annually donate 5,000 man-years of service in association, state, home and foreign missions.

Twenty agencies of the convention made reports to the convention on their work during the past year, both in platform presentations and a 185-page "Book of Reports."

The Christian Life Commission, the SBC's social action agency, included in its report a 1,500 word statement urging Southern Baptists to tackle the problems of racism and other social and moral concerns.

Speaking to the report of the commission, Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the agency, called on the messengers to communicate a gospel which reconciles separated families, distrusting classes, suspicious nations, conflicting races and alienated neighbors.

In the report of the Brotherhood Commission, Executive Director Glendon McCullough proposed a Cooperative Program of human resources involved in witnessing, caring, ministering and praying.

He said he envisioned pooling "manpower from our churches for the work of the church, community, association, state convention and all SBC agencies."

Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, predicted Southern Baptists will send missionaries to China again, as he pleaded for 300 new missionaries immediately. The denomination now has 2,507 missionaries serving in 77 countries.

The emphasis on home missions featured a musical program entitled "Joy" and testimonies by such missionaries as Harold Heiney, missionary to the Indians near Wounded Knee, S.D. A total of 2,201 home missionaries serve in the United States, Canal Zone and Puerto Rico.

The 1973-74 denominational theme, Share the Word Now, was emphasized in two major addresses by leading Southern Baptists and a celebration which featured Republican Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon, Vocalist Cynthia Clawson of Little Rock, Ark., and Miami Dolphin linebacker Norman Evans of Hollywood, Fla.

At a press conference before his three-minute address to messengers, Hatfield predicted a change soon in the Nixon administration's policy on United States bombings in Southeast Asia. He called the bombings "an illegal and immoral action." On Watergate, Hatfield said he was bored, but wanted to find the guilty parties and prosecute them. He called the Watergate incident "a stupid things."

Challenging the messengers in key addresses were William M. Pinson, Jr., professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; and Dotson M. Nelson, pastor of Mountain Brook Baptist Church, Birmingham, who preached the annual convention sermon.

Pinson urged the messengers to use the whole Bible as their guide and to apply it to all aspects of human life.

"If we share the whole Bible, we will deal with repentance and racism, faith and family, regeneration and revolution, sanctification and sex, hell and housing, heaven and honesty, and salvation and starvation," he said.

Speaking on the need to "Share the Whole Word Now," Pinson asked the messengers to tackle the difficult issues of the world with courage.

"Hiding in church buildings to avoid controversial issues while people in the world are being destroyed by racism, economic injustice, and political corruption betrays a lack of confidence in the resurrection (of Jesus Christ)," he declared.

In the convention sermon, Nelson pleaded for messengers to live lives void of ostentation, hypocrisy, purely personal ambition, and sought publicity. He cited four principles as guides for persons wanting to live their lives for God's sake---voluntariness, aloneness, positiveness, and self-judgment.

Frederick Sampson, black pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich., served as Southern Baptists major preacher from outside the denomination.

Sampson's advice to Southern Baptists was to apply the mind of Christ to the mood of culture, particularly in the area of race. He called for a brotherhood of blacks and whites under God.

Issues which interested Southern Baptists but didn't reach the convention floor included a single one-year term for convention president, the selection of a president elect, and changes in the charter of Carver School of Missions at Louisville to provide for the Boyce School of Christian Ministry. The SBC executive Committee said it was holding the requested charter change for more study in September.

In looking toward the 1974 annual meeting in Dallas on June 11-13, the messengers named R. Jack Robinson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Augusta, Ga., to preach the convention sermon, and James Pleitz, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., as alternate.

The messengers selected Atlanta, Ga., as the 1978 meeting site and Houston for 1979. Dates for the Atlanta meeting are June 13-15 and Houston, June 12-14.