



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, 1330 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041

DALLAS Orville Scott, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996

NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Gomer Lesch, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203, Telephone (615) 254-5461

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

July 17, 1973

SBC Stewardship Commission
Promotes Speer; Approves Budget

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention's Stewardship Commission announced staff changes, approved a \$684,750 budget for 1973-74 and elected officers at the commission's annual meeting here.

The commission also recommended immediate steps be taken to promote the overall 1973-74 Cooperative Program advance budget approved at the SBC annual meeting in Portland in June.

Michael L. Speer was promoted to associate executive director-treasurer, a newly created post, effective Oct. 1, to serve directly under James Lackey, the commission's executive director-treasurer.

Speer, 39, who joined the commission staff in Nashville in 1967 as director of stewardship development, will continue to serve as the commission's director of Cooperative Program promotion, a post he has held since 1971.

The commission also elected John B. Hammatt of Nashville as assistant director of church and institutional fund raising, effective Aug. 1.

Speer, a native of Desloge, Mo., is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Before moving to Nashville, he had served as stewardship secretary for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, associate Training Union secretary for Kentucky Baptists and director of administration for Carver School of Missions and Social Work, Louisville, now merged with Southern Seminary.

Hammatt, 55, a native of Lockland, Ohio, has served with church bond corporations since 1962 and formerly served as a pastor and superintendent of missions for several associations of Baptist churches in Kentucky.

He is a graduate of Georgetown (Ky.) College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Stewardship Commission elected Paul Cates, a layman from Lubbock, Tex., as its chairman.

It also approved the 1973-74 budget with the understanding that it may be amended by the commission's executive committee if income exceeds the proposed \$684,750.

In other financial moves, the commission authorized the executive director-treasurer to increase the proposed 1972-73 budget by up to \$100,000 consistent with additional income and authorized him to request a Cooperative Program appropriation up to \$300,000 for the budget year, 1974-75.

A new commission staff position, director of planned giving, was approved and will be filled at a later date.

The commission's recommendation on promotion of the 1973-74 SBC Cooperative Program advance budget includes production of materials and encouragement of other SBC agencies to coordinate promotion.

Other Stewardship Commission officers elected were vice chairman, Arvalle Harris, a realtor, Flat River, Mo.; secretary, Mrs. Richard Kay, homemaker, Fresno, Calif.; chairman, Cooperative Program promotion committee, Paul Faircloth; pastor, Central Baptist Church, Bladensburg, Md.; chairman, endowment and capital giving

-more-

committee, A. Rudolph Fagan, pastor, First Baptist Church, Bradenton, Fla.; and chairman, stewardship development committee, Charles McKay, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Scottsdale, Ariz.

The commission changed the dates of the 1974 annual meeting from July 25-26 to July 18-19 in Nashville.

-30-

Conference Speakers
Disagree On Law And Order

7/17/73

By David Gooch

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--Agreeing that lawlessness in America is on the rise and that Christians must be involved in the processes of criminal justice, speakers at the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission conference disagreed on some approaches to law and order.

Capital punishment and the right to remain silent were two areas of divergent opinion at the conference on "Southern Baptists Working for Criminal Justice" at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center here.

Listing vandalism, organized crime and Watergate--where "political expediency was considered more important than the law of the land"--as symptoms of a "rising tide of lawlessness," Jimmy Allen, pastor for First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., warned against a reaction of panic.

"It could easily create a condition in which hard-won liberties could be lost forever because of a yearning for security at any cost," Allen said.

Citing the willingness of Americans to be lined up and searched at airports throughout the nation, he said, "the totalitarianism of a police state is not just an academic possibility if the tides of lawlessness run high enough. Liberties are often lost because of the license of a few," he said.

Allen presented an overview of Biblical insights related to criminal justice. "God, who created man in His own image and ordered all of creation, is a justice loving God," he said.

"In the Ten Commandments, as amplified by Jesus in His teachings," God reveals the basic moral principles by which He fashioned His world and the framework for fashioning concepts of justice, Allen said.

This same just God, Allen said, is the champion of "the widow, the fatherless, the stranger in their midst and the poor."

While our system guarantees the rights of the poor, "a disproportionate number of them end up in jail," Allen said.

"At this point, the church ought to be creatively engaging itself. If there is to be an ombudsman's role in society, it ought to be the church, which doesn't have any marbles in the game. All we want is to help the guy who is getting caught unfairly by the system.

"Churches ought to come to the day when we call out our young people to be lawyers for whom the task of advocating for the weak and the poor becomes a very real calling of God," Allen said.

Allen called for Christian citizens to be involved in the process of lawmaking, in serving on juries and in respecting and enforcing the law.

Abner McCall, president of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., said, "I believe we have arrived at the point in our history where the individual has more liberty in the area of criminal justice than the self-discipline, self restraint and morality the average American citizen will support."

"Liberty and law and order in a free, democratic society are more matters of individual self government and morality than of criminal procedure," commented McCall, a former FBI special agent and former associate justice of the Texas Supreme Court.

McCall, former dean and professor of law at Baylor Law School, said our

-more-

government is based on the religious principle that a person is of ultimate value in society. "He has this value because he was created by God in God's image.

"The problems and troubles of our land today, particularly in race relationships, are due largely to this failure to live by our basic American proposition," McCall explained.

He said motivation for compliance with law does not come from fear of punishment but from religion.

"There is no proof that capital punishment deters crime. I'll go further--there's no proof that any punishment deters crime," McCall said.

"I am for capital punishment. I know it stops one person," he declared.

On the other hand, Allen said he opposed capital punishment, except in cases where a prison guard is murdered by an inmate, because "when one pulls the switch to the electric chair, he has ended forever the possibility of redemption of that person."

He cited the story of Jesus's treatment of the woman taken in the act of adultery, a capital offense under Mosaic law, as a model for Christian treatment of capital offenders.

McCall spoke of the need for judicial reform and of the extreme difficulties of effecting needed reforms when the change affects the economic status quo.

An increase of the number of courts, the elimination of necessity of grand jury indictment, the elimination of trial delaying tactics, revision of laws concerning illegally obtained evidence and reform of the attitude of state appellate and federal courts which reverse convictions on a multitude of technicalities were among the reforms the former judge recommended.

"Some of these reforms may well drastically reduce the privilege against self-incrimination which exist only in the English-speaking world or provide for practical interrogation of suspects by police or less strict requirements for use of confessions," McCall said.

"If we are to maintain law and order, we will have to reduce the degree of liberty in this area to fit our decreased religion, morality and self discipline," McCall said.

Some conference participants and other speakers questioned whether these liberties must be sacrificed to achieve reform in the criminal justice system.

"Reform will come primarily because of the demand of citizens," McCall concluded.

Paul Townsend, assistant chief of police of Dallas, Tex., spoke of the need for the church to continue its involvement in the area of criminal justice through the development of the moral code that prevents crime.

He said that the family also must provide the moral guidance of a sound home to equip young people with a proper attitude toward law and society.

Citing social fragmentation and the breakdown of the home as factors contributing to the growing crime problem, Townsend said that communities get the kind of police force they want.

Townsend said that when police became mobilized (using patrol vehicles), a "psychological barrier between patrol officers and people" developed.

The media--especially television and movies--in the past have depicted police "as bumbling, well-meaning incompetents or even worse," he said.

These obstacles also have to be overcome if public opinion of police is to be improved.

He detailed a number of programs used by the Dallas Police Department to improve police-community relations.

"Joy" Composer, Cates, Named
As HMB Missionary Associate

ATLANTA (BP)--Nashville composer Bill Cates was among seven new missionary associates and one career missionary appointed here by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's directors.

Cates, composer of the new home mission musical "Joy", will head a three-year experimental music and drama project as a field worker assisting touring groups and missionaries in mission areas with musical and dramatic presentations.

Jerry Baker, missionary associate to the deaf for The Southern Baptist General Convention of California, was promoted to career missionary.

A native of Wichita, Kan., Baker is a graduate of California Baptist College, Riverside, Calif., and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif. He also attended New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

Before entering seminary in 1970, Baker served for two years in the board's US-2 program, a mission program similar to the Peace Corps, at Jefferson Valley Baptist Church, Whitehall, Mont.

"Basically for the first year, Bill Cates will be discovering how music and drama relate to missions and how we can utilize music and drama within our mission strategy," said Don Hammonds, secretary of the board's department of special mission ministries.

Already experienced in writing musicals about missions before his collaboration with HMB staffer Ed Seabough on "Joy", Cates will compose more music relating to missions.

A native of Wichita Falls, Tex., Cates, 28, is a graduate of Belmont College, Nashville, Tenn., where he now lives with his wife, the former Linda Blackmore of San Pedro, Calif.

Cates served as the musical director for the international cast of the touring youth musical, "Up With People", besides composing more than 20 of the songs for the musical. He also composed the popular folk-gospel song, "Do You Really Care?"

Other new missionary associate appointees are James Lewis, named to direct work with internationals for the Baptist Convention of Maryland, Lutherville, and his wife, Kathleen; David Saludez, director of work with Filipinos, Honolulu, Hawaii, and his wife, Josefina; and David Sapp, director of weekday ministries, Broadway Baptist Church, Louisville, Ky., and his wife, Linda.

A native of Porterdale, Ga., and graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Lewis is a former juvenile counselor with the Kentucky Department of Child Welfare. Mrs. Lewis, a nursing graduate of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, is a native of Greenville, S.C.

Native of the Philippines, the Saludez's graduated from Dagupan College and Philippine Baptist Seminary. He is the former pastor of Kalihi Baptist Church, Honolulu.

A graduate of Southern Seminary, Sapp served the past year as associate director of Broadway Baptist Church's weekday program. A former pastor in Georgia, Michigan and Indiana, he is a native of Savannah, Ga. Mrs. Sapp is a Middlesboro, Ky., native.

The new appointees join a mission force of more than 2,200 mission workers serving throughout Panama, Puerto Rico and all fifty states. Most appointments are made in cooperation with the state Baptist conventions to which the workers are assigned.