

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

September 22, 1952

OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS PROPOSE
CONSTITUTION CHANGES

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.--(BP)--Oklahoma Baptists are proposing more than twenty changes in their convention constitution, only two of them major. They are (1) that the executive secretary will be elected by the board instead of the convention and (2) that the number of board members will be raised to fifty from the present thirty-two.

No change will be proposed in the object of the convention. It reads at present: "This convention shall have no ecclesiastical authority or power whatever and shall never assume to write creeds or to exercise judicial or legislative control over the churches. This convention is a purely co-operative body and its purpose shall be to furnish a means by which the churches of Christ in their sovereign capacity can work together in promoting all denominational enterprises which they deem necessary in carrying out the Great Commission."

The committee recommending the changes rejected a proposal that the Baptist position on separation of church and state be included in the constitution.

The committee elected by last year's convention is composed of M.E. Ramay, chairman, H. H. Hobbs, W. A. Carleton, H. Tom Wiles and Grady Cothen. It will report at the annual meeting this fall.

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NAYLOR ACCEPTS
FORT WORTH PASTORATE

FORT WORTH, Tex.--(BP)--Robert Naylor, for five years pastor of the First Baptist Church, Columbia, S. C., has accepted a call to Travis Avenue Church, Fort Worth, Tex.

During the five years that Naylor served the Columbia church, there were 2,350 additions to the church membership. Of this number, 555 were for baptism. Total contributions, during his pastorate, amounted to \$950,000, almost half of this going to missions.

Naylor resigned his position as pastor of the Columbia church September 14 and will assume duties at Travis Avenue October 15.

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SOUTHERN SEMINARY
RECEIVED \$22,869

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--John A. Morris, Portsmouth, Va., left the residue of his estate, to be equally divided among "the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Incorporated, for ministerial education, at Louisville, Ky.," and four other institutions.

In the final settlement of the estate a check for \$22,869.75 was received by the seminary. The will was dated February 2, 1950.

Morris was connected with the Morris Company, Inc., Portsmouth, a mercantile establishment.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM
HOLDS PRAYER MEETINGS

ANDALUSIA, Ala.--(BP)--Buddy Keen and Frank Beale, teen-age members of First Baptist Church, Andalusia, Ala., returned from Shocco Springs, Alabama Baptist assembly, eager to "make their Christianity really count in their school."

Since both were on the high school football team, they decided to begin there and urged their coaches to have a team prayer meeting before practice and games. The coaches agreed that "it is not so important to win the games as it is to develop the character of these under their coaching."

Soon the entire team was participating in the prayer meetings.

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ACHESON CONDEMNS COMMUNISTS
FOR TREATMENT OF MISSIONARIES

WASHINGTON, D.C.--(BP)--In the strongest denunciation yet made of the Chinese Communists by a high American official, Secretary of State Dean Acheson condemned the brutal treatment of American missionaries.

Acheson mentioned three missionaries who have died at the hands of the Communists -- Bishop Francis X. Ford, Maryknoll missionary from Brooklyn, N.Y.; Gertrude Cone, London, Ohio, a Methodist; and Dr. William L. Wallace, of Knoxville, Tenn., a Southern Baptist medical missionary.

In his statement to the Communists concerning Dr. Wallace, Acheson said: "Dr. William Wallace, an American Baptist physician, superintendent of the Stout Memorial Hospital, Wuchow, China, was arrested by the Communists on December 19, 1950. He had spent much of his life in helping the Chinese people. But Dr. Wallace was grilled and tortured by his Communist jailers. He died in prison February 10, 1951. His only crime was the high esteem in which he was held by the people of Wuchow.

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Baptist Press

DANA BIOGRAPHY WRITTEN
BY TENNESSEE PASTOR

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--J. Clark Hensley, Baptist pastor in Pulaski, Tenn., has written the life story of H. E. Dana, late president of Central Baptist Theological Seminary and former professor of New Testament Interpretation at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The book, In the Heart of the Young, includes a forward by J. D. Grey, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and is offered for sale through the Baptist Book stores. It is published by the Central Seminary Press, Kansas City.

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BAPTIST PASTORS PROTEST
IN BEHALF OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The Nashville Baptist Pastor's Conference on September 16 voted to enter a protest with the state department on behalf of the Churches of Christ ordered closed by the Italian government. A committee of three, headed by G. Allen West, pastor of Woodmont Baptist Church in Nashville, was appointed to prepare a formal resolution of protest to be forwarded to the state department.

Concerning the protest, West said: "Our church has a historic record in its stand for religious liberties and we want the same privileges extended the Church of Christ in Italy as to the other denominations."

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GEORGIA BAPTISTS
PRODUCE FILM

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Georgia Baptists have produced their first film given entirely to their state program. It is a twenty minute film strip, "The Story of State Missions," to be used primarily in connection with the Woman's Missionary Union Season of Prayer and offering for State Missions, September 24, and for State Missions Day in the Sunday schools in October.

The film strip has a music and a voice narrative but there is a printed script for use in churches where the sound equipment is not available. It is available to churches throughout the state without cost through the offices of James W. Merritt, executive secretary of the Baptist Convention of the State of Georgia.

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