



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 4, 1974

Union University to Build New Campus

JACKSON, Tenn. (BP)--The board of trustees of Union University, a Southern Baptist school here, voted to build \$5,050,000 of academic facilities on a new campus site, to be ready for occupancy by September, 1975.

The new campus, to be located in Jackson, will occupy part of 140 acres to be utilized for campus development. An additional 144 acres will serve for the development of a retirement village, continuing education center, housing, shopping and service areas.

Although dormitories will not be a part of initial construction, it is anticipated that decisions regarding their construction will be made soon so their completion date will correspond with the 1975 opening, a university spokesman said.

Several months ago, William Cockroft, a Memphis dentist and largest franchise holder in the nation of Holiday Inns, offered to give the Baptist university \$5 million if it would move the campus to the Memphis area and meet certain stipulations. Baptist Press reported that Cockroft's proposal, accepted by Union's board of trustees, was later withdrawn to prevent ill feelings within the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The spokesman said the main reason for moving is "to modernize." "We've tried to buy land around the old campus site," but adjacent property isn't available, he said.

The opening of the new campus will coincide with Union's sesquicentennial as an education institution and its centennial under the sponsorship of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

"The old campus is for sale," the spokesman said.

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SBC President Says

3/1/74

'Committed Laymen Needed In Baptist Race Relations'

LITTLE ROCK (BP)--Southern Baptists have all the proclamations, resolutions and statements essential for race relations, but "the missing ingredient is commitment and involvement on the part of Southern Baptist laymen," Owen Cooper, a layman and president of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) said here.

Cooper, a retired industrialist from Yazoo City, Miss., told Baptist Press he realized some laymen are involved but said, "Many more are needed."

Cooper's plea for greater involvement of laymen was given during a leadership conference sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, the Consolidated Missionary Baptist State Convention of Arkansas, and the Regular Arkansas Missionary Baptist Convention, Inc.

He told the black and white participants, "Most Southern Baptist pastors are ready to move in the area (of race relations) even beyond the limits they think exist in the minds of the deacons or the congregation."

But, he said, "The layman is in reality the key to the situation."

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March 4, 1974

Menninger, Others
Ask Penal Reform

FORT WORTH (BP)--Two experts on prisons--a psychiatrist and a penologist--scrutinized corrections and Christian involvement during a three-day conference here.

Psychiatrist Karl Menninger and penologist George Beto came at the matter of corrections from different perspectives but drew remarkably close conclusions during a Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission workshop here on "The Christian and the Criminal."

Menninger is head of the famed Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kan. He is an author, prison reform expert, consultant and "the dean of American psychiatry."

Beto, a Lutheran minister, headed the Texas Department of Corrections (TDC) for "10 years and six months" before resigning recently to become a professor at Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Tex.

Both Beto and Menninger drew a distinction between county jails and prisons.

"I want to make certain the public knows that jails and prisons are different things," said Menninger. "Prisons are run by professionals. Most jails are run by politicians or less. Some are swell fellows, but they're not great brains," Menninger said.

Beto commented: "We know there are 48 whooping cranes in the United States today. But no one, outside of an omniscient God, knows how many human beings are in the jails--city and county--in this state today. No one. And probably cares less. No one knows how long they've been there or how long they'll stay."

Both of the experts--and James Estelle, Beto's successor as head of TDC--agreed that some sort of incarceration is necessary.

Menninger insisted there is much vindictiveness in the corrections system today, saying: "You have to remember that the prisons are not filled with the worst criminals you have. They are just the ones who got caught."

He said only two per cent of the criminals are ever put in prison, leaving 98 per cent to walk the streets.

Menninger also claimed the plight of prisoners today is "much like that of another group whose plight was deplorable and despairing 50 years ago--those who were labelled insane."

Beto told workshop participants, "Prisons were never designed to rehabilitate people... They were only planned to hold them temporarily until they were executed or banished.

"The public has never made up its mind what the criminal justice system in general and prisons in particular are supposed to do. Is it revenge? Rehabilitation? Restraint? Re-integration into society? There is a complete ambivalence of what prisons are supposed to do."

Estelle said, "When we treat convicts or prisoners, by whatever method, the question we must ask is, 'Will this reduce the probability of this person being in trouble again?'"

Both Beto and Estelle said there must be a heavy emphasis on discipline in prison.

"Let's face it. We are punishing people," Estelle said. "But punishment does not need to be brutal. Discipline does not need to be brutal," he said.

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In addition to Estelle, Beto and Menninger, several other experts providing input for the workshop included: Clyde Johnston, chief of chaplains at TDC; Forrest Smith, chairman of the Texas Youth Council; Jim Bowmer, immediate past president of the Texas Bar Association; Bill Glass, Baptist evangelist and former professional football player, and Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church of San Antonio.

Allen told participants: "I think it's time for the army of the Lord Jesus Christ to stop shooting its own wounded. We believe human nature can be changed...that the basic patterns of life can be altered. We are committed to the fact that we serve a God who is powerful enough to make anybody into a new man.

He warned against "storing people away in warehouses...because nobody is stored out of God's sight. Our Lord sees every one of them (prisoners) every second of every day. If we allow His Spirit to capture ours, we can see them too.

"And the spirit of Christ says to us: 'Do something about it.'"

As the conference ended, participants--more than 150 were registered--had a "nuts and bolts" session to lay out some programs to implement Christian social action in the field of ministry to incarcerated persons and in regard to the criminal justice system and prisons.

Suggestions ranged from legislation--work to establish a statewide probation system, efforts to get a realistic jail standards law for county and city jails--to efforts for individuals and churches to minister to prisoners, convicts and ex-convicts.

"We had a remarkable cross section of participants," said James M. Dunn, secretary of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission. "Pastors, students, probation officers, chaplains, lawyers, police officers, laymen, judges and even a few prisoners took part," he said.

One afternoon was spent in an intensive tour of the Fort Worth Federal Correctional Institution, a model, co-educational federal prison.

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Baylor Offers Position
To Exiled Russian Author

3/4/74

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Alexander Solzhenitsyn, exiled Russian author, has been offered a special position here by Baylor University, the largest Baptist school in the world.

"We have extended him an invitation through the state department to become writer in residence," said Baylor Provost Herbert Reynolds.

Reynolds said although the expelled Solzhenitsyn appears to be a member of the Russian Orthodox Church, he "certainly is a spokesman for freedom of religion."

Since this is not a regular appointment, Reynolds continued, "we would not be as concerned with details as with regular faculty."

Reynolds illustrated by saying that while Solzhenitsyn is from a Communist country, it would be difficult for the famous figure to be subversive or for anyone to doubt his motives after standing up to the Soviet Government.

Texas Senator John Tower and Congressman Bob Poage, the latter a graduate of Baylor, also have appealed to the State Department in Baylor's behalf to extend the invitation.

Baylor officials do not know when they will receive a reply to the offer.

"It's a long shot but we feel he might like to relocate in the United States. If he is inclined to do so, we'd like to see if he would come here," said Reynolds.

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'Sharing His Love,' to Be
Religious Educators' Theme

DALLAS, Tex. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Religious Education Association will meet here in the Baker Hotel, June 9-10, 1974, with secular and religious education professionals to give inspirational and informational addresses during the two-day event.

Theme for the meeting will be, "Share His Love Now."

Edward B. Lindaman, an aerospace engineer and author who worked with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) before becoming president of Whitworth College in Spokane, Wash., will speak in the Sunday afternoon session, to begin at 1:30 p.m. His topic will be "Every Person's Genesis II."

Other educators to speak will include Grady C. Cothen, outgoing president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and president-elect of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, who will bring the Sunday evening message.

The Sunday evening session will feature also J. Earl Mead, retired education director from Dallas, and Morton Rose, assistant to the director of the Baptist Sunday School Board's church services and materials division. Mead will lead in worship, and Rose will speak on the "National Conference on Educational Ministry."

Monday morning speakers will include: Ralph C. Atkinson Jr., dean of the school of religious education at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., to speak on "Motivation, Manipulation, or Bribes"; and Lloyd T. Householder, manager of the Church Training department of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, "Training: Channel to Sharing."

Pat Vickery, minister of education and administration for Tallowood Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., will speak on "Supervising the Volunteer Worker," in the Monday morning session.

Nolan Estes, superintendent of the Dallas (Tex.) Independent School District, will speak on "Trends in Education," during the noon luncheon on Monday.

The final message on Monday evening will be brought by Jimmy R. Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, on "My Church Sharing."

A feature of the religious education sessions will be simultaneous age-group conferences on Monday afternoon to focus on the areas of preschool, children, youth, adult, and ministers of education.

Theme meditation for each session of the meeting will be brought by Violet Sturgeon, a psychiatrist from Norman, Okla. Music for the sessions will be provided by: Marvin Myers, Fort Worth; Sylvia Green, Dallas; Gale Dunn, Richardson, Tex.; Norris Cash, Arlington, Tex.; Truett L. Huffstutler, Dallas; and Lanny Allen, San Antonio. Featured music group will be Shiloh, a trio comprised of Tina English, David Baker and Dan Bolen, all from Dallas.

Testimonies will be featured in both evening sessions, with the new association officers to be presented also on Monday evening, during the business session.

Southern Baptist Religious Education Association
Baker Hotel, Dallas
June 9-10, 1974
Theme: "Share His Love Now"

Sunday Afternoon

"Prerequisites for Sharing His Love"

Luke E. Williams, San Antonio, Tex., Presiding

- 1:30 Registration
- 2:15 Theme Meditation--Violet Sturgeon, Norman, Okla.
- 2:55 Call to Order
Appointment of Committees
Program Preview
- 3:15 Music--Marvin Myers, Fort Worth, Tex., Sylvia Green, Dallas, Tex.
- 3:30 Message: "Every Person's Genesis II"--Edward B. Lindaman, Spokane, Wash.
- 3:50 Dialogue
- 4:00 Benediction--Allen B. Comish, Nashville, Tenn.

Sunday Evening

"His Love Was Shared With Me"

Jerry Stubblefield, Greenville, S.C., Presiding

- 7:00 Theme Meditation--Violet Sturgeon, Norman, Okla.
- 7:20 Musical Presentation--"Shiloh," Dallas, Tex.
- 7:35 Worship--J. Earl Mead, Dallas, Tex.
- 8:00 National Conference on Educational Ministry--Morton Rose, Nashville, Tenn.
- 8:10 Testimonies--Jack Hutchinson, Fort Worth, Tex., Joe Thompson, Memphis, Tenn.
- 8:25 Music--Gale Dunn, Richardson, Tex., Sylvia Green, Dallas, Tex.
- 8:30 Message--Grady Cothen, Nashville, Tenn.
- 9:00 Benediction--Omar Pachecano, San Antonio, Tex.

Monday Morning

"Sharing His Love With Co-workers"

Helen May, Alexandria, La., Presiding

- 9:00 Songs of Praise--Norris Cash, Arlington, Tex., Sylvia Green
- 9:10 Theme Meditation--Violet Sturgeon
- 9:30 Special Music
- 9:35 "Training: Channel to Sharing"--Lloyd T. Householder, Nashville, Tenn.
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 Broadman and You--Bob Dowdy, Nashville, Tenn.
- 10:30 "Motivation, Manipulation, or Bribes"--Ralph C. Atkinson Jr., Louisville, Ky.
- 11:00 Reactors--S.C. Ray, Greensboro, N.C., Lewis Martin, Columbia, S.C.
- 11:15 "Supervising the Volunteer Worker"--Pat Vickery, Houston, Tex.
- 11:45 Reactors--Mark Short, Houston, Tex., Bob Feather, Dallas, Tex., Ken Hofmeister, Nashville, Tenn.

Luncheon

Charles A. Tidwell, Fort Worth, Tex., Presiding

- 12:30 Invocation--Ed Laux, Dallas, Tex.
Lunch
- 1:20 "Trends in Education"--Nolan Estes, Dallas, Tex.
- 2:15 Adjourn to conferences

Monday Afternoon

2:55 Simultaneous Age-Group Conferences

1. Preschool--Wyvon Ramsey, San Antonio, Tex., Mrs. D.K. Harrell, Dallas, Tex., convenor
2. Children--Jack Noble, Sherman, Tex., Evelyn George, Jackson, Miss., convenor
3. Youth--Dick Stafford, Memphis, Tenn., Ewing Cooley, Dallas, Tex., Bob Oldenburg, San Antonio, Tex., convenor
4. Adult--Roger Brooks, Brownwood, Tex., Lucien E. Coleman Jr., Louisville, Ky., Bob Hines, Houston, Tex., convenor
5. Ministers of Education--Henry Love, Memphis, Tenn., Philip B. Harris, Nashville, Tenn., Nolan Estes, Dallas, Tex., Harry Piland, Houston, Tex., convenor

4:15 Adjourn

Monday Evening

"Sharing His Love Now in My Community"

William E. Young, Nashville, Tenn., Presiding

7:00 Music--Truett L. Huffstutler, Dallas, Tex., Sylvia Green

7:05 Theme Meditation--Violet Sturgeon

7:25 Business Session

Committee Reports

Presentation of New Officers

Recognition of Past Presidents

8:05 Testimony: "My Church at Work"--Dick Ivey, Dallas, Tex.

8:20 Special Music--Lanny Allen, San Antonio, Tex.

8:30 Message: "My Church Sharing"--Jimmy Allen, San Antonio, Tex.

9:00 Benediction--Charles A. Tidwell

President--Luke E. Williams

Vice-President and President Elect--Charles A. Tidwell

Vice-President--Jerry Stubblefield,

Vice-President--Helen May

Secretary-Treasurer--William E. Young

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer--Melva Cook, Nashville, Tenn.