

LOUISIANA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
DIES AFTER MONTH-LONG ILLNESS

ALEXANDRIA, La. --(BP)-- Dr. W.H. Knight, executive secretary of the Louisiana Baptist Convention since 1941, died early Thursday morning, December 13, in Alexandria, following a month-long illness. He had been in the Baptist Hospital here since early November when he suffered a heart ailment.

Dr. Knight, a native of Louisiana, has been active in Baptist leadership since his student pastorates while in Louisiana College. He received his bachelor of arts degree from that school in 1914 and the master of theology from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth in 1917.

Serving on the Southwestern Seminary faculty as professor of missions from 1918 to 1923 and again in 1929-1932, he also earned the doctor of theology degree from the institution in 1919.

Prior to coming to Louisiana as head of the state work, his pastorates included Riverside Church, Fort Worth, Texas; First Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1923-1927; First Church, El Dorado, Arkansas, 1928-1929; Baptist Tabernacle, Atlanta, Georgia, 1932-1938; and First Church, Pineville, Louisiana, 1938-1940.

Several churches while under his ministry were well-known for their high record of baptisms.

He served on many boards and committees for various institutions during his more than thirty-five years of service. Among them were the state executive boards of Louisiana, Georgia and Arkansas, in addition to the Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board and the Education Commission.

Funeral services were conducted December 15 in Alexandria.

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TULSA CHURCH SCHEDULES  
WEEK OF TV PROGRAMS

TULSA, Okla. --(BP)-- Five fifteen-minute television programs during Christmas week were scheduled for the Immanuel Baptist Church of Tulsa, according to Dr. Allen W. Graves, pastor.

Station KOTV in Tulsa arranged the programs for 12 noon, Monday through Friday, without charge to the church.

Each day's program is featuring a different theme with a musical program scheduled for one day, the Christmas story another, and a family scene and chapel services for the others. A brief message by the pastor will close each program.

Other TV programs will be arranged by the church over Tulsa's television station in the future, Dr. Graves said.

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INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL NAMES  
DR. ALLEN AS NEW CHAIRMAN

NASHVILLE, Tenn. --(BP)-- The Inter-Agency Council of the Southern Baptist Convention, meeting in Nashville December 10 in one of the more than fifteen December meetings scheduled here, named Dr. Clifton J. Allen, editorial secretary of the Sunday School Board, as chairman for next year.

The Council is composed of representatives from the ten or more agencies of the Convention and functions as a correlating educational channel for promoting the work of the agencies.

Other officers elected were Mrs. J.M. Dawson, Washington, D.C., vice-chairman; Dr. Frank K. Means, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia, recording secretary; George W. Schroeder, Baptist Brotherhood, Memphis, Tennessee, assistant recording secretary; and Dr. J.O. Williams, education and promotion division of the Sunday School Board in Nashville, treasurer.

Dr. Allen was also named by a committee on home and foreign missions as writer of the suggested Sunday school assembly program for Home and Foreign Missions day, March 29, 1953.

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ILLINOIS BAPTISTS ADD  
THIRTY-TWO NEW CHURCHES

CARBONDALE, ILL. --(BP)-- An average of one new church every two weeks is part of Illinois Southern Baptists' record of advance.

Including six new churches scheduled to have been organized in December, the report is of thirty-two new churches in the last fifteen months, according to Dr. Noel M. Taylor, executive secretary. Ten churches are new since the early November meeting of the state convention in Carbondale, he said.

In November three congregations, those at Enfield, Alton and Havana, organized. Duncanville was organized December 2, sponsored by the Flat Rock Church in Palestine Association.

Fred Propst, superintendent of city missions for Illinois Baptists, led in the organization at Collinsville, December 9, and A.G. Rednour, state missionary, is serving the Whiting church, organized December 16. Also organized December 16 was the church at Mackinaw, served by Richard G. Bryant, state missionary.

Southern Baptists at Greenville were scheduled to organize December 23 and December 30 was set for the birth of the second Southern Baptist Church in Peoria, a city of 200,000 people.

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TWO-DAY NASHVILLE MEETING  
EMPHASIZES EVANGELISTIC YEAR AHEAD

NASHVILLE, Tenn. --(BP)-- Emphasizing the continuation of the biggest evangelistic program ever projected by Southern Baptists, the two-day meeting of the Convention's Over-All Planning Committee on Evangelism in Nashville, December 10-11, included speakers representing all phases and agencies of the denomination's work.

Dr. C.E. Matthews, Dallas, Texas, head of the department of evangelism of the Home Mission Board and director of the meeting, in his call to Baptists to continue in evangelism, emphasized that "our denomination has always meant for every pastor to be an evangelist. Now the aim is for every one of our church members to consider himself a soul-saver as well."

He continued by pointing out that the most effective system of evangelism ever known is the association-wide simultaneous crusades, in which many churches of an area hold revival meetings in a single period of time.

"Evangelism and Stewardship, Inseparable Companions" was the message Tuesday morning from Dr. Merrill D. Moore, director of promotion for the Executive Committee in Nashville. "Stewardship grows out of evangelism and evangelism grows out of stewardship," he said, pointing out that one does not thrive long without the other.

Later Tuesday, Dr. John Maguire, executive secretary of Florida, emphasized to the group that as Baptists "we have been too lax in keeping our people together."

"Whatever our program is, Southern Baptists must stay together," he said. "I am alarmedly surprised at the success some forces are having in dividing us. A broken fellowship will wreck the program of the convention... because a broken fellowship will blight the future."

Present for the two-day conference, one of the first of more than a score of planning meetings scheduled for Nashville in December, were state evangelistic and executive secretaries, editors of denominational publications, directors of the Convention agencies, presidents and professors of evangelism in the five theological seminaries, and pastors representing various sections of the Convention's territory.

COMMITTEE OFFERS STRATEGY FOR ENLISTING  
NON-RESIDENT CHURCH MEMBERS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. --(BP)-- A "keener conscience" was called for in considering the non-resident church member problem in a report to the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Nashville, December 11-13.

Citing that more than one-fourth of all enrolled Southern Baptists are not living in the communities where they have their church membership, a sub-committee of the Executive Committee appointed to study the question also asked the denomination "to build and maintain greater church loyalty."

The report of the sub-committee was submitted by Dr. Paul Wheeler, Columbia, South Carolina, chairman.

The report asked each state convention to appoint committees to study the problem at state and local levels. It was also suggested that the question be freely discussed in state convention and associational meetings.

Four principles for dealing with the problem were recommended to pastors as follows:

(1) that when members move to a new community or city, the home church notify a pastor of the community into which they have moved;

(2) that the home church write the non-resident members once or twice a year urging them to transfer their membership to a church of the community that they may keep their membership active;

(3) that church rolls be revised from time to time and accurate records be kept not only of the names but of the addresses of all the members;

(4) that the executive committees of associations lead in the organizations of new churches where needed.

Convention-wide agencies and institutions were urged to create art and write articles to keep before the people the need of transferring church membership when removing from one community to another.

Churches were asked to conduct special Training Union classes in the training of new church members.