



**BAPTIST PRESS**

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September 18, 1974

New Baptist Press Bureau  
Scheduled at Memphis

**NASHVILLE (BP)**--The Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention will become the sixth bureau in the newsgathering network of Baptist Press news service, Oct. 1, according to Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee here.

The Memphis-based operation will "add an important dimension to coverage of Baptist Press in reporting the widespread involvement of laymen in Baptist life," said W.C. Fields, Nashville, director of Baptist Press.

The Brotherhood Commission is assigned by the SBC to involve men and boys in the SBC's missions outreach, which includes more than 5,000 missionaries in the United States and 81 foreign countries.

Roy Jennings, executive assistant to Brotherhood Commission Executive Director Glendon McCullough and a former night city editor of the Commercial Appeal in Memphis, will serve as chief of the new bureau.

Jennings, a native of Oklahoma, is also press representative for general news flowing from the Brotherhood Commission. Jim Newton, press representative for the commission's Baptist Men's division and editor of World Mission Journal, and Tim Fields, press representative and magazine editor for the Royal Ambassador (boys) division, will participate actively in bureau operation.

Baptist Press, SBC news service which operates out of the denomination's Executive Committee in Nashville, also has bureaus located at the SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta; the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond; the SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville; the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington; and the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas.

Besides six bureaus, Baptist Press has access to some 300 Baptist news and public relations personnel, numerous "stringers" or part-time correspondents and press representatives in 81 countries around the world.

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Changing Attitudes  
Seen Among Israelis

9/18/74

**JERUSALEM, Israel (BP)**--A change in attitude among both Arab and Jew in Israel is seen by two Southern Baptists living and working in the country.

Ray G. Register and Milton Murphey, Southern Baptist representatives there, recently shared their ideas and views of Israel.

Register, while studying in Jerusalem, lived on the Mount of Olives overlooking the city. He stayed with a Muslim Arab family, subletting a room from a priest.

Each day he traveled over the mountain to the Hebrew University where he was enrolled as a special graduate student.

"I sat in class or drank coffee in the snack bar with Jewish students from Russia, South America and the United States. There were numerous opportunities to interpret to them the feelings of the Arabs in Nazareth, among whom I had lived for the past eight years," Register said.

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"To my delight I found an unusual openness to the dilemma of Israeli Arabs, both among the student body and the faculty," he said.

"It was a year of growing in understanding and sharing in the traumas of the land. For the first time I was exposed to the deep-seated feelings of Jews for the country of Israel," Register said. "I sensed their feeling of hopelessness of ever living at peace with their Arab neighbors. It was the year of the Yom Kippur War (October, 1973) and I suffered inwardly as I shared the loneliness and pain of teachers whose husbands and relatives were fighting in a war they did not want."

Murphey was interviewed at the headquarters of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., soon after he left Israel for a furlough in the United States. Working with both Arabs and Jews in the Baptist village, he sensed the Israelis feelings too.

"It's not so much talk about Zionism right now as it is talk about survival, survival of the nation of Israel," Murphey said. "Involved in this survival is the idea of human freedoms which have often been denied the people of Israel. I think you'll find more of an idealism than Zionism."

"There is a Zionistic feeling but I don't believe it's as strong now as in the past. It depends on whom you are talking to," Murphey said.

According to Murphey, the younger Jews are seeing the needs of the Arabs and are more open to the problems faced by the Arabs than are the older Jews. He said change is taking place. Younger Jews want more of the leaders of Israel to be native-born Israelis instead of immigrants.

Things are continuing to change for the Arabs, too. Murphey finds there are two kinds of Arabs--Israeli Arabs and those living in occupied territory, like on the west bank of the Jordan.

Many of the Israeli Arabs have a measure of economic success, according to Murphey, which gives them a middle-class status. This does not mean that a higher income level has made the middle-class Israeli Arab forget those in occupied territory. All seem to want peace and are caught along with the Jews in a confusion of cultures and religions, Murphey said.

Register echoed the Arab desire for peace by saying, "I learned a great deal living in a Muslim atmosphere. They also want to live in peace and are enduring the traumas of the changing situation in the Middle East."

"It deepened my love for Galilee," said Register, "that green, relaxing mountain area to the north where Nazareth lay nestled securely in the hills that Jesus loved."

"It was there I returned each weekend with a sigh of relief to home and family. This year has taught me in a deeper way why Jesus loved to work in Galilee and why he stood on the Mount of Olives and wept over Jerusalem, the 'city of peace.' I can now pray more intelligently for the peace of Jerusalem, that it may find its Messiah."

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Oklahomans Pick OBU Prof.  
As Demo. Nominee for Gov.

9/18/74

SHAWNEE, Okla. (BP)--David Lyle Boren, assistant professor of government at Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU) here and a Methodist, won the democratic nomination for Oklahoma governor in a runoff ballot. He defeated U.S. Rep. Clem Rogers McSpadden, the great nephew of the late cowboy philosopher, Will Rogers.

McSpadden conceded the election to Boren, with returns complete but still unofficial. Boren led by a 37,000 vote margin and had 53 per cent of the vote with all 3,043 precincts accounted for, according to unofficial returns.

Boren, at age 33, has been serving as state representative from Seminole County, Okla., and if elected will be the second youngest governor in Oklahoma's history.

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The OBU professor, who has been chairman of development for the school and former chairman of its government department, will run against Jim Imhofe, a republican from Tulsa.

An attempt by some McSpadden supporters to draw Baptist votes away from Boren by bringing his identity as a Methodist into the runoff race between the two candidates had "little effect," one observer said.

Boren, whose father, Lyle Boren, is a former congressman, began his campaign a year ago, running against McSpadden and Oklahoma Governor David Hall.

The governor was defeated in the primary with McSpadden picking up the most votes among the three at that time.

McSpadden has indicated he will support Boren in the latter's continuing run for the governorship of Oklahoma.

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Weatherspoon Gifts to  
Seminary Exceeds \$30,000

9/18/74

LOUISVILLE (BP)--The estate of Emily Lansdell Weatherspoon, who died in Georgia June 10, has provided \$30,000 in endowment funds and a collection of manuscripts, copyrights and royalty agreements for The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

She was the former president of the Carver School of Missions and Social Work, now merged with the seminary, and was the widow of former Southern Seminary professor Jesse Burton Weatherspoon, who died in 1964.

Recently Mercer University in Macon, Ga., and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., received bequests totaling \$30,000 from the couple's estates.

Mrs. Weatherspoon's will gives the seminary library all of her husband's unpublished manuscripts, sermons and lectures, plus the copyrights and future royalty income of his books, in keeping with his wishes. An endowment of \$5,000, to be added to a \$5,000 gift made shortly before her death, will provide annual income to the library as a memorial to the late professor.

The bequest also establishes two \$10,000 endowment funds. One would provide scholarships to women students in memory of Mrs. Weatherspoon's mother, Ruth Kilpatrick Lansdell, who studied at Southern Seminary before the WMU Training School (predecessor of the Carver School) was established in 1907. The other would assist wives of students, in memory of her husband's first wife, Ada Jones Weatherspoon, who befriended many student wives at the seminary.

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Committee Asks \$51 Million  
Cooperative Program Goal

9/18/74

NASHVILLE (BP)--A goal of \$51 million in receipts through the Southern Baptist national Cooperative Program unified budget was approved here for 1975-76 by the Southern Baptist Convention's (SBC) Executive Committee.

The goal is subject to approval at the annual SBC meeting in Miami Beach next June. It includes a basic budget of \$44 million, \$1 million in capital needs and \$6 million in challenge funds to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the SBC's Cooperative Program. The total 1974-75 budget is \$40 million.

The Executive Committee also asked SBC agencies to "submit priorities or action plans proposed for the utilization of funds which might be received from the anniversary challenge goals" and that its program subcommittee "evaluate these in terms of the major convention objectives in recommending the distribution of the funds received in the anniversary challenge segment of the total budget."

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Other budget action resulted in approval of a \$531,000 operating budget for the SBC Executive Committee for 1974-75 and approval of distribution to the Executive Committee a proportionate share of the Convention Operating Budget overage expected from the Cooperative Program in the final month of the 1973-74 fiscal year.

In other business, the Executive Committee declined to extend SBC Cooperative Program financial support to Baptist Bible Institute in Florida, authorized funding of an image magnification system for the SBC's annual meeting in Miami Beach in 1975 and approved transfer of funds and real property from the SBC Home Mission Board to the SBC Foreign Mission Board to facilitate previously approved shifting of mission work in Panama and the Canal Zone from the Home Mission Board to the Foreign Mission Board.

The Executive Committee also decided that the SBC Stewardship Commission should retain the "Together We Build" program, which consults with local churches on fund raising for capital needs, and approved continuation of a Long-Range Planning Forum for at least one year after the Cooperative Program's anniversary celebration. The forum was formed by the Stewardship Commission and the Executive Committee to plan for the celebration.

The SBC Annuity Board was granted approval to include seminary students in a 1971 action of the Executive Committee which allowed the board to print and distribute a pamphlet presenting a plan for using earnings from a memorial fund to pay dues necessary to provide retirement for pastors working in "pioneer areas" where Southern Baptist work is new.

The question of Cooperative Program assistance for the Baptist Bible Institute came from the board of the Florida Baptist Convention in 1972 and resulted in a two-year study by the Executive Committee.

The study revealed a definite need for diploma-type Bible education for pastors without higher education and noted that Southern Baptists have been attempting to alleviate the problem through diploma programs on and off seminary campuses, the SBC's Seminary Extension Department, college extension programs and state convention supported Bible schools in Florida, Texas, Kentucky and North Carolina.

The Executive Committee noted that "numerous local Bible schools exist under private and church auspices. Some states would like to start such schools for local training purposes. To open the SBC Cooperative Program to one or two would mean it would need to be open to all."

The Florida school, however, will continue to receive Cooperative Program funds from the state level.

The committee commended the state convention-supported Bible schools in Florida, Texas, Kentucky and North Carolina "for their forward looking substantial work." It reminded state conventions contemplating such schools "to explore carefully all options open before launching other schools," adding, "We feel that present programs will care for our long range needs in this area."

Last year at the annual SBC in Dallas, two giant image magnification screens cost some \$45,000. It's expected to cost about one-half that much in Miami Beach because use of only one screen is anticipated.

The Executive Committee approved funding procedures for image magnification similar to those used in Dallas--one third from the Convention Operating Budget, one third from the SBC agencies on a proportionate basis and one-third from offerings at the convention. If the offering is more than one third, cost to the agencies and the Convention Operating Budget will be proportionately reduced. If the offering is less than one third, the balance will be paid out of the Convention Operating Budget. The estimated cost to all the agencies would be about \$8,000.

The Stewardship Commission's Together We Build program had been under study after the Committee of 15, which conducted a four-year-study of convention agencies, recommended that it be studied by the Executive Committee's finance committee in consultation with the Stewardship Commission.

The Executive Committee commended the Stewardship Commission for its handling of the Together We Build program.

SBC President Jaroy Weber, in his address to the Executive Committee, alluded to the U.S. Bicentennial, saying he hoped Southern Baptists wouldn't stand on the sidelines but would instead "help America keep in mind that it was founded on the principles of God, which we need to survive as a nation.

"I believe God wants to do great spiritual things in every church in America," Weber said, "America and its churches need revival. We are the people God can use."

Weber said Southern Baptists are people who believe in the Bible as the Word of God but aren't bound by creedal statements.