



## BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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December 1, 1975

75-188

### Southwestern Adds Faculty, Approves Salary Increases

FORT WORTH (BP)--The board of trustees of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, in semi-annual meeting here, added two new faculty members, elected board officers, approved a salary supplement for faculty and staff and discussed a planned \$8 million fund raising campaign.

The board named Eddie C. Smith as associate professor of Christian ethics and Tom J. Nettles as assistant professor of church history.

Smith, a missionary with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board since 1960, is on the faculty of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Semarang, Indonesia.

A native Texan, Smith is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University. He holds master of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary and a master of arts degree from Fuller Theological Seminary. He held pastorates in four Texas cities before being appointed as a missionary.

A native of Brandon, Miss., Nettles is currently assistant to the pastor at Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La. A graduate of Mississippi College, he holds the master of divinity degree from Southwestern Seminary and is completing requirements on the doctor of philosophy degree at Southwestern. He has served churches in Jackson, Miss.; Alvarado, Tex., and Cleburne, Tex.

In other action, trustees elected a new board chairman, Oswin Chrisman, a Dallas, Tex., family relations court judge.

Recognizing the effects of continued inflation, the trustees authorized a special inflation equalization salary supplement of about eight percent of annual salary, effective for all faculty and staff in January. The supplement was made possible, according to officials, as a result of the "over and above" giving to the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program unified budget during the past year.

A major portion of the meeting involved discussion of the planned fund raising campaign to secure \$8 million by 1980. The money has been earmarked for selected facilities and campus improvements, with \$5 million designated for endowment.

To dramatize their personal and group interest in the campaign, the trustees adopted a goal of \$160,000--two percent of the \$8 million--to be raised among themselves.

The campaign, called "Eight by Eighty", was approved by the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee in September. It is restricted by SBC rules to solicitation of individuals and businesses, and may not solicit churches.

The trustees set their next meeting for March 11-12, 1976, to coincide with the planned kickoff of the Fort Worth phase of the "Eight by Eighty" campaign.

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### New Orleans Names Two New Faculty; Another Steps Down

Baptist Press  
12/1/75

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--The executive committee of the board of trustees of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary here elected two new faculty members and accepted the resignation of another faculty member.

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Billie K. Smith, a native of Spearsville, La., was elected associate professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, and Cos. H. Davis Jr., from Oceana, W. Va., was named assistant professor of childhood education.

Kelva Moore, professor of history and philosophy of education, resigned because of poor health and was named professor emeritus.

Smith, who has had 15 years of pastoral experience, is a graduate of Louisiana Polytechnic University, and holds a doctor of theology degree from New Orleans Seminary. Davis, a graduate of Belmont College, holds master of theology, master of religious education and doctor of theology degrees from New Orleans Seminary.

In other action, the board also heard plans proposing a new approach to offering its diploma of pastoral ministry, available to candidates who do not have undergraduate degrees, which would allow the opportunity to do more than half the work for the diploma off campus. New Orleans Seminary also offers diplomas in music ministry and religious education ministry, besides its regular degree programs.

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Church Gives \$25,000 For  
Dobbins Chair at Seminary

Baptist Press  
12/1/75

BIRMINGHAM (BP)--Shades Mountain Baptist Church in Birmingham has pledged \$25,000 toward the endowment of the Gaines S. Dobbins Chair of Church Administration at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

The gift, which will be paid at the rate of \$5,000 per year out of the church's budget over the next five years, brings the total pledged to the chair's endowment fund to about \$275,000. That's \$75,000 short of the total needed.

The church, where the well-known Southern Baptist pioneer in theological education has been a member since 1966, presented a plaque to Dobbins at the announcement of the gift, expressing appreciation for his life and influence.

Dobbins, 89, is still active, currently teaching future ministers at Southern Seminary's Boyce Bible School. He served on the seminary's faculty, and later as dean, from 1920-56, before retiring. For several years after retirement, he taught at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif. He has written 28 books.

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Louisiana College Refuses  
\$137,000 in State Aid

Baptist Press  
12/1/75

PINEVILLE, La. (BP)--The Louisiana College board of trustees unanimously passed a recommendation by Robert L. Lynn, president of the college, to decline acceptance of more than \$137,000 in state aid.

The board agreed with an earlier statement by Lynn that he felt the Baptist school could not accept the governmental appropriation because such action directly violated the traditional stand by the Louisiana Baptist Convention on separation of church and state.

Lynn was recently inaugurated as Louisiana College's sixth president in ceremonies at the college's Guinn Auditorium.

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Set the Record Straight  
About Child Services Act

Baptist Press  
12/1/75

By John W. Baker and Rosemary Brevard

WASHINGTON (BP)--Have you seen a circular warning you that the Federal Government is plotting to take away your children if you insist that they take out the garbage?

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The bills which the circular asserts contain this alleged plot are H.R. 2966 and S.626, the Child and Family Services Act of 1975. These bills, which are almost identical, are currently pending in House and Senate subcommittees, but the allegations contained in the circulars are false and misleading.

The Child and Family Services Act of 1975 is actually designed to help both children and parents--particularly those parents who are working or cannot, for a variety of reasons, adequately care for their children during working hours. It provides for full-time or part-time child care programs, before and after school as well as summer programs, education and consultation for parents, prenatal medical care for mothers who cannot afford it to help protect the unborn child, food and nutritional services for poor children, treatment of medical and psychological problems of children if their parents request such treatment, and help for children with handicaps or special learning disabilities.

The fact that Congress is even considering this act has generated a wave of unusual protest--unusual in that most of it seems to be the result of unsigned circulars which have been widely distributed by churches and individuals. These circulars, often headed "rearing children by the government or by parents," contain a welter of inflammatory misinformation and untruth.

Several versions of the circular assert that the office of Senator Dewey Bartlett (R-Okla.) had issued the information in the circular. Another version links a member of Senator Bartlett's staff to a proposed letter writing campaign against the act. Senator Bartlett's office denies it has had anything to do with the circular or letter writing campaign. That office rejects the circular as a misleading document.

Senator Walter Mondale (D-Minn.), chairman of the Senate subcommittee handling the Child and Family Services Act, in a speech on the Senate floor (Congressional Record, Nov. 19, 1975, pages S20397-S20401), stated that the act is ". . . being subjected to one of the most distorted and dishonest attacks I have witnessed in my 15 years of public service."

Mondale went on to speak of the allegations in the circulars and about the circulars themselves. "These allegations are absolutely and completely false. There is not a shred of truth in any one of them. If there were, neither I nor any member of Congress would be sponsoring this legislation. . . . Yet mimeographed materials being circulated . . . allege that the so-called 'children's rights' quoted (on the Senate floor in 1971 from a British) document are 'becoming part of' the Child and Family Services Act.

"That allegation is totally false, and I believe that the individuals or organizations making the allegation know it is false. I say that because the materials containing these allegations are unsigned -- a clear and significant sign that the organizations or individuals circulating these allegations know that they cannot defend or document them."

Some falsehoods attributed to the act are that parents who are not doing a good job will have their children taken away from them, that parents cannot teach their children about God, that a charter of children's rights is being added to the act, and that parents would lose the right to form their children's characters.

To set the record straight and to refute the above untruths the following facts about the act are given:

--1. The act, instead of taking child rearing away from parents, clearly states that ". . . Child and Family Service Programs must build upon and strengthen the role of the family and must be provided on a voluntary basis only to children whose parents or legal guardians request such services, with a view toward offering families the options they believe to be most appropriate for their particular needs."

--2. There is no "child advocacy clause" nor is there a "charter of children's rights" anywhere in the bill, and neither of them will be added. The "charter of children's rights" was developed years ago by the unofficial British Advisory Center of Education but was never even seriously proposed in England. Senator Carl Curtis (R-Neb.) read a portion of this British group's proposal into the Congressional Record in a Senate debate on another child services bill on Dec. 2, 1971. The text is found on page 44128 of the Record. However, that material was not a part of the 1971 bill and is not a part of the present act.

--3. The act specifically prohibits any practice which would " . . . infringe upon or usurp the moral and legal rights and responsibilities of parents or guardians with respect to the moral, mental, emotional, physical, or other development of their children."

--4. The act prohibits any medical or psychological examination or treatment unless the parent or guardian provides written permission.

--5. The privacy of families is protected by the provision that no " . . . section of this act be construed or applied in such a manner as to permit any invasion of privacy otherwise protected by law, or to abridge any legal remedies for any such invasion which are otherwise provided by law.

The statements of fact given above should not be interpreted to mean that the act is free of potential church-state problems. The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs gave testimony on the act before a joint House-Senate committee last spring.

In that testimony it was pointed out that the inclusion of religious organizations as possible operators of some child care programs would raise the problem of using public funds for what might be religious education and indoctrination.

In summary, close examination of the current bills simply makes it obvious that the allegations in the circulars now flooding the country are a "parade of imaginary horrors." If one is to oppose this act it should be done on the basis of informed judgment and not on the basis of a circular made up of patent untruths and wild distortions.

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#### Bicentennial Feature

Baptists Demand Equal Rights  
With Mass. State Church

Baptist Press  
12/1/75

BOSTON, December, 1773--(BP)--A new Massachusetts exemption law, under which Baptists would not be required to pay taxes to support the state church if they meet certain conditions, was rejected by Baptists. They said they would take their case to the King if Massachusetts authorities do not put an end to persecution.

Under the new law, Baptists will not be taxed to support another church if they can present certificates "signed by three or more principal members of the congregation and the minister, if there be any." The certificate is to testify that the holder is "conscientiously of the Baptist persuasion."

Baptists stoutly protested the law, saying it not only allows authorities to sit in judgment on the consciences of Baptists but also to reject the certificates of any who are not actually members of Baptist churches.

They also denounced the law on grounds that the civil power does not have the right to set one religious group up over another; the civil authority has assumed powers which rightly reside with the churches; government control of churches will destroy the life and purity of religion; by favoring one church and persecuting another, the government is fomenting contention and interfering with freedom of choice in religious matters.

Baptists have been attacked for threatening to take their grievances to the King and are being accused of disloyalty. The denomination has placed advertisements in newspapers, calling on Baptists to submit evidence of their persecution.

In defending their position--which they said was taken only as a last resort--Baptists declared that taxes imposed by the British Parliament on America are not more contrary to civil freedom than the Massachusetts clergy tax is to religious liberty.

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