

April 21, 1956

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

## BARTLE STILL TO GIVE SEC WELCOME ADDRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo.--(BP)--Mayor H. Roe Bartle will remain on the 1956 Southern Baptist Convention program to welcome it to Kansas City although some Baptists had suggested his name be withdrawn.

The executive board of the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists, meeting at Wichita, Kans., asked Bartle's withdrawal by the SBC committee on order of business. It said his liquor interests warranted such action.

The committee on order of business drafts the program for the convention each year.

Harold G. Sanders, pastor, First Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Fla., and chairman of the committee on order of business, declined to withdraw Bartle from the program.

He said: "Fortunately, every Baptist can speak for himself. Just as fortunately, no Baptist can speak for everyone. The Kansas brethren have spoken for themselves. As chairman of the committee on order of business, I take pleasure in re-inviting Mayor Bartle to give the address of welcome."

Mayor Bartle, according to Sanders, is speaking only as mayor of Kansas City. "He does not represent Baptists," Sanders added. Bartle offered to withdraw himself if he would embarrass the Convention.

Sanders himself is vice-president of United Christian Action, Inc., a Florida dry organization, and a long-time foe of liquor interests in that state.

### A Temperance Message

The convention will be addressed at one of its meetings in Kansas City by Millard J. Berquist, pastor, First Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla., and treasurer of the Florida temperance group. His is a temperance message.

Text of the appeal by Kansas convention board members follows:

"Whereas the committee on order of business of the Southern Baptist Convention has acted in good faith in engaging Mr. Roe Bartle, the mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, to bring the address of welcome at the Convention's forthcoming meeting of May 30-June 2, 1956;

"And whereas it has come to light that Mr. Bartle is a liquor dealer and a member of the board of directors of Missouri as largest independent liquor distributor;

"And whereas Southern Baptists are traditionally opposed to the evils of the liquor traffic;

"And whereas the Southern Baptist Convention is now engaged in a Crusade for Christian Morality:

"Be it resolved that the executive board of the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists requests the committee on order of business of the Southern Baptist Convention to withdraw the invitation to Mr. Bartle to address the convention."

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MERCER SENIORS VISIT  
SCHOOL FOUNDING SITE

MACON, Ga.--(BP)--For the fifth consecutive year, the senior class of Mercer University here took a pilgrimage to the site of Mercer's founding--historic Penfield, Ga.

About 150 seniors, the largest number ever, made the trip to the little town near Greensboro, in Greene County.

Louie D. Newton, pastor of the Druid Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta, spoke at services conducted in one of Georgia Baptists' most revered buildings, Penfield Chapel.

The senior class also went to Penfield Cemetery to lay wreaths on the graves of Jesse Mercer, for whom Mercer University was named, and Billington Sanders, its first president.

Penfield Chapel is now the meeting-place of the Penfield Baptist Church. It was built in 1845-46 by David H. Dama at a cost of only \$6,794. One of the South's finer examples of classic revival architecture, the structure was built 58 by 86 feet, and was adorned with six Doric columns.

After the Civil War, Georgia Baptists decided to move the University to a more populous area. Mercer moved to Macon in 1871.

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OKLAHOMA CITY HOSPITAL

OKLAHOMA CITY--(BP)--May 17 has been named as date for ground-breaking ceremonies for the new Baptist Memorial Hospital here. The hospital is to be built on a 17-acre tract in the northwest part of the city.

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TO RENEW TALK ABOUT  
RUSSIA HOME RELIGION

KANSAS CITY, Mo.--(BP)--A conversation begun last summer in London, England, will be resumed at the closing session of the Southern Baptist Convention here June 2.

While dining with Russian delegates at the Jubilee Baptist World Congress in London, Home Life Magazine Editor Joe W. Burton, Nashville, directed this question to Jacob Zhidkov, president of the Evangelical Union of Christian Baptists (the Russian group):

"What about religion in the home in Russia?"

"Religion in the home?!" Zhidkov exclaimed. "That's where religion is strong, in the home!"

The mealtime conversation was brief and not complete as far as Burton was concerned. As home education secretary and magazine editor for the Baptist Sunday School Board, Burton wants to hear more.

His discussion with Zhidkov will be in interview fashion before those attending the 10:45 a.m., Saturday Christian home and music session.

Zhidkov, also a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance, and four Russian Baptist associates are due in New York May 18 for a month's visit with Baptists in the United States. They will attend the Southern Baptist Convention sessions.

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folks & facts.....

.....George McLeod Bryan resigned as professor of philosophy and Christian ethics at Mercer University, Macon, Ga., to become professor of Christian ethics at Wake Forest College, Winston-Salem, N. C., at the start of the 1956-57 school year.

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.....One of the country's oldest legislative bodies, the general conference of The Methodist Church, opens its once-every-four-years meeting in Minneapolis, Minn., April 25. Tentative adjournment date is May 9. The conference has 766 voting delegates, including ministers and laymen.

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.....Miss Doris Jones will resign as dean of women at Wingate College, Wingate, N. C., June 1 to become dean of women at Gardner-Webb College, Boiling Springs, N. C. Both are junior colleges operated by Southern Baptists in North Carolina.

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.....Paul Brooks Leath, pastor, First Baptist Church, Brownwood, Tex., has accepted a call to become pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Fresno, Calif. He will move May 13.

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