

May 24, 1956

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

TEMPERANCE INSTITUTE
AT SOUTHERN SEMINARY

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--The 12th annual meeting of the National Temperance Institute will be held on the campus of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here June 19-27.

Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Seminary, is also president of the National Temperance League which sponsors the institute.

On the program for the 8-day conference will be A. C. Miller, Nashville, executive secretary, Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission; Wayne E. Oates, professor of psychology of religion and pastoral care at Southern Seminary, and Temperance League executives from 11 states, Washington, D. C., and Canada.

The National Temperance Institute is designed to provide background information for temperance leaders and workers, and to train students for service in the various areas covered by the National Temperance League.

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CEREMONY MARKS GROUND
BREAKING FOR HOSPITAL

OKLAHOMA CITY--(BP)--First steps toward erection of a new 500-bed hospital in Oklahoma City were taken recently when ground was broken for the initial 200-bed unit of Baptist Memorial Hospital.

Ground breaking program included brief talks by T. B. Lackey, executive secretary of the Baptist General convention of Oklahoma; W. P. (Bill) Atkinson, who was chairman of the Oklahoma City fund drive in which \$1 million was raised for the hospital, and Senator Robert S. Kerr.

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ADD HONORARY DEGREES....

Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, N. C.----Douglas M. Branch, pastor, First Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, and president, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and Lt. Col. Ennis Pusey Thorne, Protestant chaplain at Veterans Administration Hospital, Bay Pines, Fla., doctor of divinity degrees; Christopher Crittenden, Raleigh, N. C., head of North Carolina Department of Archives and History, doctor of Literature.

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ROBERT L. LEE NAMED
LOUISIANA SECRETARY

ALEXANDRIA, La.--(BP)--Robert L. Lee, interim executive secretary of Louisiana Baptist Convention, has been elected executive secretary.

The convention's executive board also elected R. O. Cawker, of Shreveport, La., state superintendent of evangelism.

Lee has been interim executive secretary since the resignation of Executive Secretary Floyd B. Chaffin last November. Lee was assistant to Chaffin.

A native of Alabama, the new state secretary pastored churches in Mississippi and Louisiana before taking a post with the Louisiana Convention.

Cawker has been pastor of Highland Baptist Church, Shreveport, since 1946. He is a native of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, who has lived in the United States since 1917.

Both new officers of the convention will maintain office and residence in Alexandria.

BAPTIST FEATURES

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'DEFINITE PLACE' FOR CARVER SCHOOL By Olin T. Binkley

The committee appointed to study theological, religious, and missionary education in the Southern Baptist Convention has concluded that there is a definite place for the Carver School of Missions and Social work in the areas of church social work and missionary training.

This decision is in harmony with the increasing need for fully trained social workers in the churches and agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention. The churches in urban centers are beginning to employ Christian social workers in their ministry to persons in distress and to families in trouble. The Baptist homes for children are eager to secure the services of qualified social workers who are committed to Christ and motivated by Christian love. In his 1955 report Dr. W. C. Reed, General Superintendent of the Baptist Orphanage of North Carolina, said: "We can now bring under our care only one out of eight children for whom application is made. These facts point to the need for expansion of our services for the homeless child" (1955 North Carolina Baptist Annual, p. 147).

There is a growing need for Christian social workers in Baptist homes for the aging, city mission programs, and work among agricultural migrants. Interpreters of the Christian missionary enterprise draw attention also to the urgent need for the churches to develop techniques and programs of Christian social service in other lands.

The professional training^{of}/social workers is on the graduate level and requires high standards of scholarship. Three areas of the curriculum are social-work methods, including field-work practice, human growth and behavior, and the social services. Competent instruction in these areas is expensive, but it is essential to effective Christian social service in contemporary society.

We Southern Baptists have an opportunity to develop "a graduate school of social work where the concepts and skills are taught in a Christian climate and where the Christian philosophy of man's need for God through Christ is the foundation for training" (Dr. Emily Lansdell, Royal Service, February, 1956, p. 29). It is to be hoped that we shall support and control one school in which intelligent, consecrated, Baptist youth may be adequately trained for social work in our churches, institutions, and overseas missions.