

December 8, 1952

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

DR. J. B. LAWRENCE RESIGNS  
EFFECTIVE END OF 1953

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Dr. J. B. Lawrence, executive secretary Home Mission Board, has resigned to become the emeritus secretary at the end of 1953. Dr. Lawrence, who will be eighty next July, submitted his resignation to the annual Board meeting December 3.

In accepting the resignation, the Board went on record as recommending to the Board, which will be in power at the next annual meeting, that Dr. Lawrence request be granted by electing him secretary emeritus and that he "work in connection with the radio program of the Board and as a writer."

Dr. Lawrence's resignation will be effective in either November or December 1953 when date of the meeting has been fixed.

Dr. Dick H. Hall, Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church of Decatur, Ga., was elected chairman of the committee to nominate a successor. Other members of the committee are O. M. Seigler and George W. Sparks, Atlanta; J. C. Wilkinson, Athens, Ga.; J. Ralph Grant, Texas; Hugh R. Bumpas, Oklahoma; Claude Ammerman, Alabama; James T. Horton, Louisiana; and Frank Brasington, D. C.

Dr. Lawrence became executive secretary of the Home Board in 1929 when it had a debt of two million dollars and only 106 missionaries. The debt was retired in 1943 and the missionary personnel has increased to a grand total of 912, plus 362 summer student workers. The Board has its offices here in a million dollar building, most of which is rented commercially. Retirement of the construction debt will provide income for all administrative salaries.

Expansion of the Board program has created departments of cooperative missions including the city, rural and mountain mission work; school of missions; education and promotion and also the Chaplain's Commission. Dr. Lawrence's administration also has directed the expansion of Southern Baptist work into Western states and Alaska.

G. Frank Garrison, Atlanta layman, was re-elected president of the Board. Dr. W. A. Duncan, Atlanta, was re-elected vice-president and Mrs. Ralph B. Smith, Decatur, was re-elected recording secretary.

In addition to Dr. Lawrence, others re-elected for 1953 included Dr. Courts Redford as assistant secretary.

J. W. Wing, office secretary, was retired on the age limit and that position left vacant temporarily. B. M. Crain was re-elected business manager and assistant office secretary.

YALE GROUP TO  
ANALYZE PAPERS

NEW HAVEN, Conn.--(BP)--Southern Baptists along with twelve other American denominations will be subject of a two-year survey to be conducted by Yale Divinity School. The literature produced by these denominations will be carefully examined "to determine the extent of racial and religious bias and prejudice it contains."

Dean Liston Pope said that the survey, financed by a grant from the American Jewish Committee, can make "a very important contribution to the battle against bias and prejudice in this country."

"We have every reason to believe," he added, "that the religious editors themselves will be glad to cooperate in making improvements."

When an example of bias or prejudice is discovered in any piece of writing, the matter will be called to the attention of the editor or publisher under whose name it has been issued. The survey committee will notify the editor or publisher as soon as an illustration of bias has been discovered, rather than wait until the survey has been concluded two years hence. In addition to citing the offending passage, the committee will transmit its view on how the biased matter can be eliminated.

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BROTHERHOODS SPONSOR  
MAN-BOY PROBATION PLAN

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--Something new in Christian service is being sponsored by Baptist Brotherhoods in two Tennessee cities.

In Memphis the associational brotherhood under the leadership of W. C. Hornsby, a Baptist layman, has arranged with the local juvenile courts for individual Baptist laymen to sponsor boys placed on probation by the courts. Contact and promotion will be done by the Brotherhood organization. The plan was approved at the annual Brotherhood banquet at which Judge Elizabeth McCain of the city juvenile court was one of the speakers. The arrangement calls for the eventual sponsorship of around forty youths.

A similar plan has been functioning in Knoxville, Tenn. for some time.

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LATE REPORT ON  
ADVANCE PROGRAM

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Home and foreign missions received \$664,459 from the Advance Program between November 7, when that part of the Southern Convention budget went into effect and November 29, the date of the latest report, according to Porter Routh, treasurer of the Convention. Foreign missions received \$498,344 and home missions \$166,114.

Southern Convention Cooperative Program receipts are up 13.54 per cent for the first eleven months in 1952. In 1951 the total for the January-November period was \$7,360,073, this year \$8,356,459, or an increase of \$996,385.

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BOLTON RESIGNS  
SBC FOUNDATION

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Dr. Charles H. Bolton, executive secretary for the Southern Baptist Foundation, has resigned to become pastor of the Avon Park Baptist Church in Avon Park, Fla. Dr. Bolton has been with the Foundation since 1949. Before that he served Florida churches as pastor and was for a number of years state secretary for Florida Baptists.

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MISSISSIPPIAN HEADS  
CANADIAN SEMINARY

HAMILTON, Ont.--(BP)--A graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary is now dean of the Divinity School of McMaster University in Hamilton. He is Dr. N. H. Parker who was installed on October 24. Before moving to Canada as professor in McMaster, Dr. Parker had served as pastor in the Southern Baptist Convention. The Divinity School of McMaster is a Baptist supported seminary.

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WASHINGTON BAPTISTS  
INVITE 1955 CONVENTIONS

WASHINGTON, D. C.--(BP)--District of Columbia Baptists have invited both American and Southern Baptists to hold their conventions in Washington in 1955. The invitation was issued in the form of a resolution adopted at the annual meeting of Washington Baptists. Time and duration of the meetings will be left entirely to the conventions themselves, according to Dr. M. Chandler Stith, secretary for Washington Baptists. He also stated that the invitations did not mean the conventions were being invited for joint sessions.

Mr. George B. Fraser, Washington attorney, and recording secretary for the SBC was designated by the group to convey the invitations to the conventions.

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HOLCOMB ACCEPTS  
BOARD MUSIC POST

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Clifford A. Holcomb was elected as associate in the Church Music Department, Division of Education and Promotion, Baptist Sunday School Board, at the monthly meeting of the Board. This announcement was made November 29 by Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary-treasurer, and Harold E. Ingraham, business manager.

For the past seven years, Holcomb has been head of the Department of Church Music for the Florida Baptist State Convention. His undergraduate studies were done at Howard College and Texas Wesleyan College; his graduate work at Southwestern Seminary.

Prior to his service in the army, he was director of music in churches in Fort Worth, Texas, Pineville and Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Holcomb will serve primarily with the promotion of church music education within the states and associations.

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LEONARD LEAVELL  
DIES IN GEORGIA

NEWNAN, Ga.--(BP)--Leonard O. Leavell, sixty-six year old retired pastor, died at his home in Newnan, Georgia, November 26. Dr. Leavell had served in pastorates in Tennessee, Mississippi, Kentucky, Alabama, and Georgia. He had lived in Georgia for the past ten years, the last two in retirement.

Dr. Leavell was one of nine brothers, several of whom have been active in Southern Baptist denominational life. His brother, Roland Q. Leavell, president of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, conducted the funeral services at Newnan.

A native of Mississippi, Dr. Leavell graduated from the University of Mississippi and received his Ph.D. from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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Baptist Press  
Nashville, Tenn.

Dec. 8, 1952

FORD AND HOWELL  
TO BIRMINGHAM FIRST

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--(BP)--J. T. Ford, pastor of First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Alabama, has accepted a call to become pastor of First Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama. Ford succeeds John L. Slaughter at this post.

Charles Ed Howell, of Nashville, has accepted the call of the church to become its educational director. Howell has held a similar position at First Baptist Church, Nashville, for the past two years. Prior to this he had been an associate in the state Sunday School Department in Alabama. He assumes his new duties January 1.

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BAPTISTS ON THE MARCH

By E. C. Routh

Baptists on the March is a condensed, accurate, re-write of Baptist history. Written by E. C. Routh, a man whose heart is fervent with appreciation of Baptist history, this book fills a wide need in Baptist life.

The appetites of those who read this book will be stimulated to desire to know more of the subject. The author wrote it not for scholars or theological students, but the multitudes of Baptist people. Those who read it will be helpfully served.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

Here is the background story for an article in the most recent Baptist Press. It appeared in the New York Herald Tribune for December 2. I thought you would like to have this complete information. If you have further questions you can direct them to Dean Liston Pope, Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Connecticut.

Albert McClellan

YALE SURVEYS  
CHURCH WRITING  
FOR PREJUDICE

2-Yr. Divinity School Study of Protestant Literature Financed by Jewish Unit  
(Special to the Herald Tribune)

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 1.—Yale University Divinity School has begun a two-year survey of literature published by Protestant churches in the United States to determine the extent of racial and religious bias and prejudice it contains.

Dean Liston Pope said today that the survey, financed by a grant from the American Jewish Committee, can make "a very important contribution to the battle against bias and prejudice in this country."

"We have every reason to believe," he added, "that the religious editors themselves will be glad to cooperate in making improvements."

#### Denominations Studied

The denominations whose materials are to be studied represented 35,000,000 of the estimated 46,000,000 Protestants in the United States. The denominations are Methodist, Southern Baptist, Northern Baptist, National Baptist Convention, Presbyterian, Protestant Episcopal, United Lutheran, Disciples of Christ, Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Ohio and other states, Congregational - Christian, Unitarian, Quaker and Church of the Nazarene.

The findings of the survey are to be gathered into an over-all report which will be made available to church groups, religious educators, writers, publishers and others interested in attacking bias in church teachings.

When an example of bias or prejudice is discovered in any piece of writing, the matter will be called to the attention of the editor or publisher under whose name it has been issued. The survey committee will notify the editor or publisher as soon as an illustration of bias has been discovered, rather than wait until the survey has been concluded two years hence. In addition to citing the offending passage, the committee will transmit its view on how the biased matter can be eliminated.

#### Four Aims of Survey

Four general aims of the study have been outlined:

1. What are the implied and explicit teachings of current Protestant curriculum materials as they bear upon the field of intergroup relations?

2. Is the total intergroup content of Protestant curriculum materials oriented in any definite direction, toward biased ideology or against it? How do the various denominational and non-denominational publishers differ, if at all, in this respect?

(more)

2...Yale Surveys

3. What themes or subject matter serve as the occasions for intergroup references, and how have these been handled by various writers?

4. What suggestions may be made by Protestant curriculum writers and publishers to improve their materials?

The Reverend Paul H. Vieth, Horace Bushnell professor of Christian nurture, is chairman of the faculty administrative and advisory committee for the project. Other committee members include the Reverend Hugh Hartshorne, professor of the psychology of religion; the Reverend Kenneth W. Underwood, assistant professor of social ethics, and the Reverend Franklin D. Young, assistant professor of the New Testament.

The Reverend Bernhard E. Olson, pastor of Grace Methodist Church in Waterbury, Connecticut, and graduate student in religious education at Yale, has been placed in direct charges of the survey.