

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee  
July 26, 1956

START CONVENTION ON  
MONDAY, McCALL URGES

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--Start the annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention on Monday instead of Wednesday, and let it run through Friday, a well-known Southern Baptist educator urges.

Commenting in The Tie, publication of Southern Baptist Seminary here, Seminary President Duke K. McCall says many of the messengers have already lost some of their "sitting-listening capacity" before the Convention starts.

They have come early for the two major pre-Convention meetings -- the Woman's Missionary Union annual convention and the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference. The WMU opens its meeting Sunday and the pastors meet Monday. The Convention, says McCall, becomes "almost an anti-climax" for them.

These messengers start for home before the closing session of the Convention on Saturday morning or Saturday night.

Because of the pace of present Convention procedure, according to McCall, matters that might go directly to the floor of the Convention for discussion are going instead to the meeting of the Convention's Executive Committee the day before the Convention begins. "Thus the business comes to the floor pre-digested in a report for an indifferent vote," he says.

McCall suggests that a committee study the matter of the annual Convention, and lists what he considers advantages to his proposal:

1. With a few exceptions, messengers could attend the entire Convention without missing a Sunday service.
  2. The Convention could have more practical inspirational services, and feature most of the program now offered by the Pastor's Conference.
  3. Afternoons would be free of sessions. Committees could meet during afternoons, and if necessary a special business session of the Convention could be held.
  4. The WMU convention could be held before, after, or during the Convention.
- In recent years, the committee on order of business, which plans the Convention's programs, has varied the system of meetings so that some years call for afternoon sessions and some don't.

Without the afternoon sessions, the Convention extends through Saturday night; with them, the Convention closes about noon Saturday.

Following the recent 1956 session of the Convention in Kansas City, a number of Southern Baptist editors called attention to the limited time available for transaction of major Convention business from the floor.

They urged consideration of this matter by Southern Baptists.

McCall, who made the new suggestions, is a former executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee, which acts for the Convention between its annual sessions in matters not previously provided for. The Executive Committee considers many of the major items of Convention business before they are presented during the convention.

TWO NEW DEANS NAMED  
AT LOUISIANA COLLEGE

PINEVILLE, La.--(BP)--President G. Earl Guinn of Louisiana College here has announced the appointment of two new deans.

Bruce W. Lowe, college vice-president and field representative, becomes dean of students, succeeding George C. Herndon. James D. Thrasher, chairman of the college's sociology department, becomes dean of men, succeeding F. Jay Taylor.

-30-

DAUGHTER OF MARYLAND  
PASTOR WINS TOURNEY

RIDGECREST, N. C.--(BP)--Patricia Pearce of Baltimore, Md., took first place in the Better Speakers' Tournament at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly here.

Miss Pearce is the daughter of J. Winston Pearce, pastor of Seventh Baptist Church, Baltimore, and principal speaker at Ridgecrest during the week of the tournament. She spoke on "The Cost of Alcohol."

Another tournament was held at Glorieta, N. M., for Western area speakers.

-30-

SOUTH CAROLINA GIRL  
SWORD DRILL WINNER

RIDGECREST, N. C.--(BP)--Nancy Dew, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Dew of Lake City, S. C., won the Southern Baptist Intermediate Sword Drill, held at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly here.

17-year-old Nancy, who was state winner from South Carolina, competed with winners from Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, Ohio, and the District of Columbia. She won four contests before competing at Ridgecrest. For the past five years she has entered the Sword Drill and each year except one has entered the state contest.

Sword drill contestants from Western states compete at Glorieta Baptist Assembly, Glorieta, N. M.

-30-

RA SECRETARY RESIGNS  
POST IN MISSISSIPPI

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--Joel D. Ray, of Jackson, Baptist state Royal Ambassador secretary since 1951, has resigned that position effective Aug. 13.

Ray, a native of Corinth, Miss., is a graduate of Mississippi College and the Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky. His plans for the future are indefinite, he said.

-30-

CORRECTION. Editors, please make the following correction in second paragraph of article entitled "Last Agency Survey Made in Depression," which was carried July 21. "Church property was valued at \$204,376,272." Thank you.--Baptist Press.

-30-

BP Folks & Facts

.....Texas Baptists honored Station KRLD--TV in Dallas recently by presenting station officials with a plaque for their "outstanding contributions made in the growth of religion through public service television programming."

-0-

.....Joseph P. Stiles, for 14 years pastor of Park Place Baptist Church, Houston, Tex., will join the faculty of Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, this fall as professor of church administration.

-30-