

**(BP)****BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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June 12, 1979

79-97

WrapupReligious Educators  
Pray for Unity

By Larry Crisman

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--William Pinson literally brought his audience to its knees here at the closing session of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association here.

After delivering a fiery speech in which he called for Baptist unity in a "crisis hour," the president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., asked about 450 persons attending the session in Houston's First Baptist Church to go to their knees in prayer.

"God didn't bring us to Bold Missions to splinter," Pinson declared. "I pray you will be agents of unity this week in Houston."

Pinson, who spoke on "The Religious Educator: Agent for Bold Mission," said since arriving in Houston for the Southern Baptist Convention, he has seen "friends for life at each other's throats."

He referred to the issue of inerrancy of Scripture brewing at the annual convention.

"Let's kneel and pray for unity," he said. "Let's make personal commitments to be agents for change this week."

According to Pinson, because of the possibility of convention division over inerrancy and the challenge of Bold Mission Thrust, Southern Baptists face "the greatest crisis hour" in their history.

Not since the "financial catastrophe of the 1930's" have Baptists faced such pivotal crossroads," he said.

"I'd hate to see it (the convention) tumble into division," he said. "We must believe the whole Bible and not just part of it. It may cost some of you your jobs."

Pinson called on Southern Baptists to "breathe fire" into their churches if they want to ensure the success of Bold Mission Thrust, the SBC plan to proclaim the message of Christ to the entire world in this century.

"When the people of God want to stay in Jerusalem all the time and when they do not want to go out into the uttermost, they get sick spiritually," he remarked. "Until Southern Baptists get serious about the going, we won't grow."

Pinson's speech climaxed a two-day agenda which focused on a theme of "Religious Education: Key to Bold Mission."

Lawrence Klempnauer, minister of education of Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth, was elected president for 1979-80. President-elect is J. Roger Skelton, professor of religious education/church administration, Golden Gate Seminary.

Other new officers include Roy Lee Williams, Union Baptist Association, Houston, vice-president, field services group; Thelma Williamson, director of childhood education, First Baptist Church, Ferguson, Mo., vice-president, church workers group; F. Marvin Myers, administration consultant, Church Administration Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, secretary-treasurer; and Tim Holcomb, minister of education, Polytechnic Baptist Church, Fort Worth, assistant secretary-treasurer.

Besides Pinson's speech, other highlights of the two-day meeting included addresses by Peter Wagner, professor of church growth at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., and Jesse C. Fletcher, president of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene.

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"As goes the Sunday School, so goes the church," Wagner said in a speech Monday morning.

"The Sunday School is still the most successful structure for growth in Southern Baptist churches," he said.

Fletcher, who spoke Sunday, called on Southern Baptists to get back to the basics of discipleship to ensure the success of Bold Mission Thrust. "There's no substitute for discipleship and inevitably we come back to it," he noted.

According to Fletcher, Southern Baptists sometime are hard pressed to practice biblically-taught discipleship because they find it hard to articulate.

Fletcher pointed out the Bible presents a formula for discipleship in 2 Timothy 2:2. This passage, he said, provides a multiplication approach to discipleship.

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U.S. House Moves to  
Support Voluntary Prayer

Baptist Press  
6/12/79

WASHINGTON (BP)--The U.S. House of Representatives agreed to language which would permit voluntary prayer and meditation in the nation's public schools.

The 255-122 vote came on an amendment by U.S. Rep. Robert S. Walker, R-Pa., declaring that one of the purposes of the proposed Department of Education would be "to permit in all public schools providing elementary or secondary education a daily opportunity for prayer and meditation, participation in which would be on a voluntary basis."

Although the House has yet to vote on the entire bill itself, the amendment is considered by many observers to be yet another obstacle to a measure whose chances for passage were already questionable.

Conservative members of Congress have argued that the proposed new department would result in further control by Washington bureaucrats over local educational matters.

The House also passed an anti-busing amendment to the measure. It would bar the present Department of Health, Education and Welfare, out of which the new department would be carved, from threatening to cut off federal funds from school districts which do not comply with HEW desegregation guidelines.

On the other side of Capitol Hill, the U. S. Senate passed a bill calling for the new department on April 9, but only after a bitter debate over the voluntary prayer question.

The Senate had passed language similar to that adopted by the house on April 5. Sponsored by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N. C., the language was struck from the Senate version four days later and attached to a Supreme Court jurisdictional bill given little chance of passage.

Helms has threatened to introduce his language as often as necessary to force both houses to act on the sensitive prayer issue.

Many congressional observers feel that conservative members are accomplishing a dual objective by sponsoring such language in the debate over the Department of Education. They can go on record in support of prayer in the schools while at the same time opposing what they consider the threat of yet another federal bureaucracy.

Regardless of their reasoning, the prayer amendment to the bill is generally seen as detrimental to its chances of passage.

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Son of Missionary  
Killed in Crash

Baptist Press  
6/12/79

ABILENE, Texas (BP)--Hoke Smith III, son of Southern Baptist missionary Wanda Smith and the late Hoke Smith Jr., died in Abilene, Texas, Sunday, June 10, following a motorcycle-car collision.

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Details were unavailable.

Smith, 21, was a musician in Abilene. He attended Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene during the 1977-78 term.

A June 14 funeral service in Longview, Texas, is pending the arrival of his mother and brother from Cali, Colombia, and a sister from Guatemala. Rader Funeral Home in Longview is handling arrangements.

The victim was born in Belton, Texas, while his missionary parents were on furlough. Since her husband's death in 1970, Mrs. Smith has taught music at International Baptist Theological Seminary in Cali.

Besides his mother, survivors include a brother, Parker Smith of Cali; two sisters, Arleigh Smith (Mrs. Tom) Kennedy, a Peace Corps worker in Guatemala, and Lesesne Smith (Mrs. C. A.) Jenkins of Abilene; a maternal grandmother, Mrs. Henry L. Karnes of Longview; and a paternal grandmother, Mrs. Evelyn P. Baker of Charleston, S. C.

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Quick Action Averts  
Disaster at Glorieta

Baptist Press  
6/12/79

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--A near disaster was averted at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center June 8 because of quick action by the center's fire department following a chlorine gas leak.

A total of 32 persons received emergency treatment, but only eight required overnight hospitalization. All of the persons affected by the gas were conference center employees except two, Neil Jackson and his son, John of Nashville. Jackson is a consultant in the Sunday School department of the Sunday School Board, which owns and operates the conference center.

Several of the persons involved in the incident were hospitalized because of other problems such as high blood pressure, diabetes and allergies, instead of inhalation of chlorine gas.

The chlorine gas escaped from a cylinder picked up in Albuquerque by a conference center employee when regular delivery of cylinders by a chemical company in Albuquerque was late. The chlorine was needed immediately for use in the center's water and waste water systems. Several calls had been made to the chemical company requesting delivery of the chlorine, said Larry Haslam, conference center manager.

Haslam, who first discovered the leak, said treatment was begun immediately on the affected individuals by members of the conference center fire department who had received instruction in dealing with a chlorine leak.

The conference center keeps only enough chlorine on hand to treat water and waste water for a two to three-week period. All chlorine gas cylinders at the conference center are stored in the water and waste water plants in full observance with safety laws and regulations, Haslam explained. The chemical company has assured the conference center that deliveries in the future will be made strictly on schedule to avoid potential recurrence of such problems Haslam added.

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Allen Urges Baptists  
To Refuse Division

Baptist Press  
6/12/79

By Larry Crisman

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Refuse to be divided and conquered was the impassioned plea of outgoing Southern Baptist Convention President Jimmy R. Allen in his swan-song speech to messengers to the 122nd Southern Baptist Convention here.

"As I perceive it, we are being pressed by good and sincere people right now to alter our agenda from Bold Mission Thrust," he declared. "We must resist that temptation."

Allen, who will step down as president of the 13.2 million member SBC--the largest Protestant denomination in America--was sometimes eloquent, sometimes bombastic in the annual president's address.

He was sanctioned by applause three times--once during an introduction, once about midway through his speech and, finally, at the end.

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Allen, who closes out his presidential tenure after two one-year terms, also illicited a small chorus of cheers from several more exuberant messengers when he bellowed that God has charged Southern Baptists with Bold Mission Thrust.

Bold Mission Thrust is the name of a plan by the convention to project the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world by the year 2000.

Before stepping to the podium to lower the curtain on his presidency, the native Texan struck a poignant profile against the expansive ceiling of the Summit as he lowered his head in prayer.

And when messengers stood and wildly applauded his introduction, Allen periodically sponged his eyes with a handkerchief.

Behind the podium, Allen was a changed man.

"We must remain a Bible-believing, Bible-sharing, Bible-obeying people committed to the Lordship of Christ," the pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, boomed.

Messengers reacted with hearty applause.

"The Bible says, 'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature,'" Allen reminded messengers.

Allen selected for his powerful speech the title of "Bold Mission Thrust: While It Is Yet Day."

"In His Amazing Grace, He has chosen us...you...and you...and you...and me...to be His conduits of transforming power," Allen preached to sporadic yelling.

"The wonder of it all! We are still, thank God, a movement of the people."

Allen stressed he still considers Southern Baptists God's picked people to evangelize the world, but only if they maintain a "commitment to priorities."

He cautioned messengers against straying into a maze of argument over biblical orthodoxy instead of sticking to Bold Mission Thrust.

"Bold Mission Thrust is the occasion for us to break out of the past patterns of part-time commitment into a new intensity of missions," he said.

According to Allen, the key to whether the vision of Bold Mission Thrust assumes the focus of reality lies in the fact that "time is running out."

"The night cometh," Allen admonished repeatedly.

The spectre of the coming night manifests itself in what he termed darkness in the world. He described this phenomenon as the "malignant darkness of sin."

"The curse of darkness meets its match in Jesus Christ, who is working 'while it is yet day, for night cometh,'" he said triumphantly.

"The call to us is not for panic reaction. We are not to be paralyzed by fear. We are not to be hyped up by artificial spiritual adrenalin. We are to deal with life one moment at a time. No time should be lost. No energy should be wasted. No task for God should be postponed. He calls us to join Him in harvest, in awakening, in revival, in mission. Night cometh. But it's not here yet. Let us claim His power and victory...while it is yet day."

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Adrian Rogers  
Elected SBC President

Baptist Press  
6/12/79

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--In an apparent expression of concern over the issue of biblical inerrancy within the Southern Baptist Convention, messengers elected "conservative" candidate Adrian P. Rogers, pastor of the 10,000-member Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, as president of the 13.2 million member body on the first ballot.

Rogers swamped five other candidates in garnering 51.36 percent of the votes and avoiding a run-off. Rogers, who had been endorsed by W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, during the pre-convention Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, was nominated by Homer Lindsay Sr., pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.

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In a reversal of form, however, Abner McCall, president of Baylor University, Waco, Texas, defeated T.A. Patterson, retired executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Patterson, supported by those advocating biblical inerrancy as an issue lost, to McCall, 2,905 (54.4 percent) to 2,431 (45.5 percent) in a runoff.

McCall was one of five other candidates defeated by Rogers in the presidential election.

The following day, the convention was scheduled to elect a second vice president from among four nominees. They are Homer Lindsay Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.; Roy Ladd, pastor of Baptist Temple, Houston; Don Touchton, Tampa Bay, Fla., pastor; and Milton Cunningham, pastor of Westbury Baptist Church, Houston.

During the opening address of the Pastors' Conference, Rogers expressed fear that liberalism was taking over Baptist colleges, universities and seminaries.

Immediately after his election, Rogers said, "I have come not with blood in my eyes but with love in my heart. I've learned in the pastorate that you can do more by affirming something than by tearing it down.

"I'm not so much a crusader as a leader and a helper," he continued. "The presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention does mean that certain people feel certain ways or a certain man would not be elected, but that doesn't mean he has control of the convention."

Rogers pledged "100 percent support" for continuing the emphasis in the denomination on Bold Mission Thrust, the SBC plan to proclaim the gospel to the entire world by the year, 2000.

The Memphis pastor received 6,129 of the 11,933 votes cast.

First runner up in the race for the SBC presidency was Robert Naylor, retired president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. Naylor, who was nominated by John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmore Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., received 2,791 of the votes or 23.39 percent.

The remainder of the ballots were cast for William L. Self, pastor of Wieuca Road Baptist Church Atlanta, Ga., 1,673 votes; McCall, 643 votes; Doug Watterson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., 474 votes; and C. E. Price, vice-president of Westinghouse Corp., Pittsburgh, Pa., 223 votes.

Rogers, 48, was born in West Palm Beach, Fla., and was captain of his high school football team. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from Stetson University, DeLand, Fla.; and a master of theology degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; and received the D.D. from Trinity College, Clearwater, Fla., and the Lett. D. from California Graduate School of Theology, Glendale, Calif.

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SBC Messengers React  
To Adrian Rogers' Election

Baptist Press  
6/12/79

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Messenger reaction to the first-ballot election of Adrian Rogers as president of the Southern Baptist Convention was mixed but few felt it signals a shift to ultraconservatism.

Messengers polled by Baptist Press, however, do expect some shift to a more conservative theological stance, a position many believe has been the position of the convention all along.

Most messengers polled expressed satisfaction with Rogers' election as president of the 13.2 million member denomination, the nation's largest protestant denomination.

"I don't attach much significance to it (the first ballot victory)," said Marjorie Harris of Nashville, Tenn. "I just think it is because he is a decent man."

"Well," said Bob Hollingsworth, pastor in Riceville, Tenn., "it looks like the convention is ultraconservative. I know he (Rogers) is ultraconservative. But I don't think you can read too much into it; we have always been a conservative denomination."

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One note which was injected into Rogers election which has not been in any recent SBC election was the question of politics. "I hate to say it, but it meant politics," said Howard Taylor, from Greenville, Miss.

Several gave major significance to the endorsement of Rogers by W. A. Criswell, pastor of the denomination's largest church, First Baptist Church of Dallas, and a former president of the convention.

"Dr. Criswell okayed him, so anybody that Criswell says he'd like elected, gets elected," said Charles Bradshaw, 79, from Corpus Christi, Tex.

Gary Boyd of Coleman, Texas, also noted that "Criswell's endorsement carried a lot of weight" among the messengers.

Criswell made a ringing endorsement of Rogers during the opening night of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, an endorsement which drew heavy applause.

But what meant politics to some meant unity to others.

Buddie Gregg, a campus minister from Silver City, N.M., said the election "meant there was a lot of unity behind him."

Paige Bowman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Va., added the election was "a good sign of unity among the messengers."

Messenger Boyd expressed relief that the biblical inerrancy issue did not become divisive. "I came hoping there wouldn't be controversy over the biblical inerrancy issue, as there could have been. The messengers in general wanted to avoid confrontation."

Some felt the conservative element would be stronger, as did Jerry Glisson, pastor of Leawood Baptist, Memphis, Tenn. "This represents a trend to the right after years of moving to the left. However, that doesn't mean the convention is becoming ultra-conservative like some people think."

Another, Bill Patterson, pastor of Buffalo Baptist Church in Buffalo, Ky., said: "I think the election means that the messengers want some focus on evangelism while upholding the Bible. But I don't think it will be biblical orthodoxy instead of Bold Mission Thrust.

"I think his election will be unifying. The biblical inerrancy people no longer have a big issue. I think it has taken the steam out of their campaign without blunting Bold Mission Thrust."

A deacon from Gatewood Baptist Church in Houston, Harvey Black, expressed hope that Rogers will be able to "make conservatism more dominant in the convention."

Among the messengers who feel Rogers election is significant for the conservative viewpoint came these comments:

"I think it is a result of something that has been fermenting in our convention for years. People seem to think there needs to be something done. There's a feeling there are some people in our seminaries who don't hold the viewpoint Rogers and others hold. I think the election is a statement of the feeling, 'Let's get on with it...'," said Murray Hardy, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in New Caney, Texas.

"I think it means we're headed upwards. People are saying, 'Let's get back to the basics.' We are going to have to get back to simple unadulterated preaching of Jesus and that's what Adrian does," said Rudy Hernandez, an evangelist from Grand Prairie, Texas.

David French of Swartz Creek, Mich., added: "The key to the whole thing is that (Robert) Naylor got defeated. That was like voting against grandma. I think Naylor was picked by the establishment as a popular candidate who could defeat Rogers."

One messenger, Luther Burton, pastor of Chapel by the Sea Baptist Church on Tybee Island, Ga., commented: "I think this is a step in the direction whereby the ultra-conservatives would like to get in control of the convention. Especially would they like to get control of the seminaries, but thank goodness we have boards of trustees."

Ignoring the political and theological disputes, other messengers commented they were glad Rogers was elected.

"He's biblically sound and can pick up the gauntlet from Brother (Jimmy) Allen," said Charles Miller of Glenmora, La.

Added Joyn Gamblin of Kevil, Ky.: "I think he is God's man for the hour. I feel there's a sense of division among Southern Baptists and he's the man who can bring us together."

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06-12-79

Wrapup

79-96

Allen Urges Unity  
Not Division

By Bracey Campbell

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Southern Baptist Convention President Jimmy Allen called on Woman's Missionary Union members to unite in prayer that threatened divisions would not splinter the nation's largest evangelical group.

Pulling the curtain on the 91st meeting of the WMU, Allen spoke directly of the possible problems that will confront the convention over the issue of biblical inerrancy.

"Satan is seeking to negate and stop the opportunity that God has given to us to share the gospel with the world by the year 2000," said Allen, who is stepping down after two years as the top elected official in the SBC.

"If you have ever prayed for anyone or anything, I call on you now to pray that we as Southern Baptists can retain the privilege God has given us."

The San Antonio, Texas, pastor said the temptations for Baptists are division, anger and to become embroiled in the emotions of the hour. "But the challenge for all of us is not to abandon the moment that God has given us. We cannot ignore the outstretched hands that can be seen around the world."

Allen's message ended two days of sessions for about 2,300 participants from across the convention with an emphasis on missions and the increasing role of women in Southern Baptist life.

Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of the Birmingham-based WMU, said the organization is and always has been a missions strategy.

"Some folks want us to be the women's lib movement in Southern Baptist churches. Others think we already are. Some want us to be the PTA of the church, doing all the nice helpful things that somebody ought to do around the church.

"I believe it is essential that we commit ourselves to being a missions education organization, not only through the materials, but in every meeting that is held across the convention."

Miss Weatherford said that it was always easier for women to gather and discuss fashions or a dozen other feminine subjects. "In our noblest highest hour, we teach missions, thus helping the church to carry out its missions task."

Anne Davis, a professor in social work education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., called on the SBC, to take steps to make young women aware of the difficulties facing them if they answer God's call to enter denominational work.

She said that too many young women arrive at Baptist seminaries thinking a degree will guarantee them a place in denominational life.

"Our denomination in its literature and through other processes must begin earlier to acquaint young women called of God to what may be in store for them if they answer that call."

Miss Davis said it is more difficult for a woman to pursue a denominational career today than 20 years ago.

Laura Fry, women's evangelism consultant for the Home Mission Board in Atlanta, said some women need to become more conscious of the role they can assume in Southern Baptist life. Too often, women are ruled out of jobs just because they have always been occupied by a man, she contended.

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"Just the suggestion that it could be filled by a woman often opens doors," she said.

The gathering of WMU members was replete with biblical dramatizations, interviews with pastors and missionaries and brief messages describing the life-changing results that had come through association with the woman's organization.

Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory of Danville, Va., and Mrs. William Ellis of Shelbyville, Ky., were elected to their fifth one-year terms as WMU president and recording secretary, respectively.

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### Wrapup

Baptist Press

#### Pastors Urged To Purge 'Liberals'

By Jim Newton and Charlie Warren

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Pounding the pulpits and waving their Bibles for emphasis, a parade of preachers urged 8,000 persons attending the two-day Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference here to lead out in purging Baptist seminaries and colleges of "liberalism" and recommitting the Southern Baptist Convention to the belief that the Bible is the infallible, inerrant word of God.

In the opening address, Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, expressed fear that liberalism was taking over Baptist colleges, universities and seminaries. He also attacked Baptist publications for their support of seminaries and denominational agencies.

Rogers argued that every Baptist church with an excellent track record in annual baptisms is "a conservative, Bible-believing church with a pastor who "believes in the inerrant (without error), infallible word of God."

Lashing out at liberalism in the SBC, Rogers claimed that "if those liberals will ever come to the cross of Christ, all heaven will break loose."

Moments after Rogers spoke, W. A. Criswell, pastor of the 20,000-member First Baptist Church in Dallas, enthusiastically endorsed Rogers as a candidate for the presidency of the 13.2 million member SBC.

"We will have a great time here if for no other reason than to elect Adrian Rogers as president of the Southern Baptist Convention," Criswell told the applauding pastors in the Houston Coliseum.

Although there was no connection between the two elections, the pastors later elected James T. Draper, pastor of First Baptist Church in Euless, Texas, as their conference president. Draper once served under Criswell as associate pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas.

A Texas Baptist evangelist, James Robison of Hurst, devoted most of his opening night address to an attack on liberalism in the denomination.

If Southern Baptists tolerate liberalism in the convention, "we will be guilty of the death" of the convention, Robison charged.

"We must elect a president (of the SBC) not only dedicated to the inerrancy of the word of God, but who will stand to remove any seminary president who doesn't believe in the inerrant word of God," Robison said.

Robison questioned how many seminary graduates have a zeal for winning people to Christ. "There are some," he noted, "but it's in spite of and not because of our institutions," he claimed.

He decried Baptist publications for editorially attacking Harold Lindsell, editor emeritus of Christianity Today and president of the independent Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship who said it would be a small price to pay if 500,000 liberals left the SBC.

Robison argued that "without the Bible, you have no message...no evangelism...no mission...and it does matter which Bible you believe."

Although criticism of liberalism and pleas for inerrancy of the Bible grabbed the headlines during the pastors' conference, many of the sermons emphasized the need for strong preaching and for pastors to grapple with problems in the ministry.

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William Ricketts, pastor of Price Avenue Baptist Church in Athens, Ga., observed that some pastors are defeated and discouraged and feel that if they could just go to some other church as pastor, everything would be all right.

"A lot of time in the pulpit, we (pastors) are like sounding brass and tinkling cymbals because we don't really believe what we are preaching, and don't really practice it in our lives," Ricketts said.

Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church in Orlando, Fla., attributed a decline in baptisms within the SBC to the lack of strong pastoral leadership.

Preaching on the pastor's role as shepherd, Henry quipped, "Some churches want lap dogs, some want yap dogs, and some want lead dogs. God has called us as lead shepherds and you will find, nearly without exception, that the churches that are doing business with God are marked with strong pastoral shepherds."

Another speaker, Clark G. Hutchinson, pastor of Eastside Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga., pointed out that the churches that are winning the world to Christ are the ones that are "grounded on the word (of God) and controlled by the Spirit."

James A. Ponder of Jacksonville, director of evangelism for the Florida Baptist Convention, contended that many pastors have lost the cutting edge of their ministry, and urged the pastors to restore their effectiveness by confessing their failures.

Ralph Stone, pastor of North Jacksonville Baptist Church in Jacksonville, encouraged pastors to have a positive attitude and to face every problem "as an opportunity for God to show his greatness."

Another Florida pastor, Bobby Welch of First Baptist Church in Daytona Beach, urged the pastors to get excited about the person of Jesus, the program of Jesus, and the power of Jesus.

An Alabama pastor, Jimmy Jackson of Huntsville, cautioned the pastors against committing "the sin of quenching the Holy Spirit," adding that "most of us are guilty of it right now."

The pastors' conference closed with a stirring sermon on the glory of God by Jerry Vines, pastor of Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Ala., and a patriotic appeal by Charles F. Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta.

Warning that America is headed down the pathway toward socialism and humanism, Stanley charged that "we are about to lose our republic." Part of the blame, according to Stanley, is liberalism among the nation's churches.

Stanley decried trends toward communism and socialism in America, attacks on the American home, gross immorality and the flood of pornography and drugs in America, a welfare system "that promotes laziness and slothfulness," and government red tape leading to the demise of the small business in America.

In addition to the election of Draper as president of the organization, the Pastors' Conference also elected Larry Lewis, pastor of Tower Grove Baptist Church in St. Louis, as vice president, and James Miller, pastor of Ridglea West Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas, as secretary-treasurer.

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#### Wrapup

Campus Ministers  
Explore Issues

Baptist Press  
6/12/79

By Linda Lawson

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Southern Baptist campus ministers are going to be pressed to account for their programs, methods and philosophies of student ministry, the newly-elected president of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers said in the closing session of their two-day annual meeting here.

Ron Brown, campus minister in Roanoke, Va., said the challenge to accountability has come because many active Baptist Student Union members are not continuing their involvement in churches after graduation.

In their third annual meeting, almost 100 members of the association explored the future implications to campus ministry of a wide-ranging list of theological issues.

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In three presentations, John Newport, vice president of academic affairs at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, addressed a variety of theological issues including morality, biblical inerrancy and the arts and media.

He said he is hurt by criticism that he doesn't believe or teach the Bible, after giving his life to defending biblical truth. "People saying we're not conservative or don't believe the Bible is the thing I resent."

"We could not allow anyone to teach at the seminary who didn't subscribe to the (statement of) Baptist Faith and Message," Newport said. "I don't think I'm teaching heresy and I don't think our faculty is."

In the second of three presentations to the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers, Newport predicted that biblical inerrancy will be a major issue among Southern Baptists for several years and, therefore, needs serious attention.

He said inerrancy is a legitimate issue but criticized those who impose 20th century categories such as technical science "on a book God ordained to be written centuries ago. "I hope we will allow the Bible to lead us," Newport said. "It constitutes a powerful book that accomplishes God's purpose."

Newport said that throughout history biblical truth has been misinterpreted both by people on the left and the right. "The genius of Southern Baptists is that we haven't been caught in either extreme," he said.

He said the inerrancy debate could raise important questions and have positive results if all concerned would commit themselves to fairness and not building up one group by tearing down another.

"This is a difficult time," Newport said. "We want to meet the need of our constituency without compromising our integrity."

President Brown said campus ministers should answer the challenge to accountability by being change agents. "We are expected to be creative and innovative in our ministry," said Brown, noting that BSU has been the testing ground for relational Bible study and discussions of issues such as integration and homosexuality.

"The other edge of the sword comes when some think we're too far ahead," he said.

Brown said campus ministers should lead out in opposing highly simplified answers to complex problems such as nuclear disarmament and care of the earth.

"Rather than seeking easy answers, part of our prophetic role is to give time to offering complex answers to complex problems," he said.

Brown also urged the ministers to be sure their methods are consistent with their theology and to continually evaluate their programs for balance. "To emphasize one aspect of the gospel to the neglect of the other is to promote a sub-Christian gospel," he said.

Wendell Belew, director of the missions ministries division of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, said Southern Baptists' major frontier is the theology of the church.

"The awful truth is that Southern Baptists are sick at church," he said.

Belew predicted that if Baptists don't deal with defining the church that by the end of the century the great mission fields may be in the south and the great sending fields may be the newer convention territories.

In spite of these problems, Belew called Southern Baptists "the greatest evangelical crowd in the world, but only because God has given us the torch for awhile."

In addition to Brown, other officers elected were vice president of administration, Russ Arch, University of Southern Colorado, Pueblo; vice president of membership, Sam Caruthers, Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tenn.; and vice president of program, Burt Purvis, University of Houston.

WrapupMusicians Explore and  
Display Energy

By Jim Lowry

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Missions, energy and hearty singing highlighted the two-day Southern Baptist Church Music Conference at Tallowood Baptist Church here.

Approximately 1,000 church musicians and other music enthusiasts attended opening sessions to hear a series of mini concerts by top choirs and individual artists plus an address on bold missions by Russell Dilday Jr., president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Music ranged from classical to traditional throughout the conference, highlighted by a grand finale performance of the 1979 Texas All State Band and the Singing Men of Texas at First Baptist Church.

Dilday told the musicians that the witness of Southern Baptists needs to be person centered. "No matter how advanced we become in the media and mass communications, nothing will ever take the place of one individual sharing with another on a one-to-one basis. We have to relate to people not as a mass but to each one. That is the kind of Bold Mission Thrust that will reach people in our day."

A person's witness needs to be sensitive, pleasant and pungent, he said. "Leave them with a salty tang of genuine experience that is from the heart, not a professional, memorized echo that you heard somewhere."

Gwenn McCormick, director of the Department of Church Planning for the Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Raleigh, spoke to the denominational division of musicians' conference about the energy crisis and its effect on Southern Baptist churches and denominational agencies.

"American people are beginning to reluctantly accept the fact that there is an energy crisis," McCormick said. "Even with that admission, though, there is still doubt, suspicion and the urge to find a scapegoat."

"Americans' use of energy must be recognized for what it is--irresponsible and sinful," he said. "We've got to adjust to the fact that saving energy is more important than saving time."

He also said that there is a strong possibility that Southern Baptists would soon have to examine the feasibility of holding annual conventions in light of shortages and high costs of energy.

During the business session, church music conference members voted by a 62-46 margin to increase dues by 50 percent to \$15 per year to offset inflation, higher program costs and increased postage. Opposition to the dues increase was based on a budget balance of more than \$5,000 after 1979 music conference expenses.

Thad Roberts, minister of music of Houston's South Main Baptist Church, began his two-year term as president of the music conference, succeeding James McKinney, dean of the school of church music at Southwestern Seminary.

Al Washburn, associate professor of church music at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif., was elected president-elect of the music conference. He will assume the presidency in 1981.

Other officers are Polly Riddle, director of keyboard studies at William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., vice president of the education division; Bill J. Pearson, minister of music at Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas, vice president of the local church division; and Charles Gatwood, director of the church music department of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Raleigh, vice president of the denominational division.

Milburn Price, chairman of the music department at Furman University, wrote the anthem, "O Give Thanks to the Lord," especially for the 1979 music conference. His song is the 14th commissioned anthem written for the conference.

Wrapup

Baptist Colleges Challenged  
To Recommit To Missions

By Dan Martin

GALVESTON, Texas (BP)--Baptist colleges have been challenged to instill a new worldview and mission involvement among students, faculty and supporters.

Appeals for such a revamping were sounded during the National Conference on Bold Christian Education and Bold Missions, held here under the sponsorship of the Southern Baptist Education Commission.

For three days, more than 300 persons--educators, theologians, missions personnel, laypeople--discussed the implications of education and missions in a religiously pluralistic world.

"What we have attempted to do in this conference is make college administration and faculty more sensitive to the historical mission of the institutions and to communicate to the agencies (of the convention) that there is no rivalry between a missions emphasis and educational interests," said Arthur L. Walker, Jr., executive director-treasurer of the commission.

For three days, the participants heard addresses by educators, theologians, missions strategists and spokesmen from the Third World, pointing out that missions, education and a new view of the religiously pluralistic world is essential if Southern Baptists are to minister and evangelize in the last fifth of the Twentieth Century.

One of the highlights of the meeting was a session in which educators, theologians and representatives of Southern Baptist agencies discussed the implications of bold education and bold missions.

Topics ranged from factors in the contemporary world which influence missions and education to ways of fostering missionary spirit on college campuses to how Baptist schools can help in focusing attention on critical issues in world missions.

Mission strategist Gerald H. Anderson of Ventnor, N. J., said: "Christians have no time to take up our cross and relax in a world with eleven times as many non-Christians as when Jesus Christ preached the Sermon on the Mount."

He added that Christians of North America have much to learn from Christians of other nations who have survived and maintained Christian witness through lifetimes of authoritarian government and religious pluralism.

Participants also heard an address from Orlando E. Costas, an internationally known Third World author and educator, who warned Southern Baptists and other "First World" Christians that they should listen to believers who have "lived and witnessed in lands of the oppressed and persecuted." He said they should try to understand the religious and cultural traditions of Third World Christians.

Participants also heard a presentation from Glenn Ingleheart, director of the Department of Interfaith Witness at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. "Southern Baptists must fashion a coherent Christian apologetic for life and witness in this pluralistic world," he said. "Every agency, institution, church and college must give this priority.

"The Baptist college must have teachers with a global view; people from the Third World must be included on the faculty. The students must build global consciousness and competence, but at the same time, Baptist students must be grounded in the elements and distinctives of their own faith."

Jesse Fletcher, president of Hardin-Simmons University, said a Baptist college's priority should be on its output of students with a world awareness, rather than on the input of recruitment and resources.

Fletcher asked, "What kind of church members will our students become? Do they come into our churches with a world view of missions involvement?"

He said that Baptist colleges are facing two tensions which relate to mission awareness: the priority of output or input, and the emphasis on curriculum or context.

"Maybe more than anything else we can develop a philosophy of history which reveals God through Jesus Christ is active in our world," the college president stated.

Another missiologist, Hugo Culpepper of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, told participants that "most people in our churches do not take missions seriously. A church is not regarded as being a mission agency, involving all of its members in the world of missions."

He said three factors make missions go awry: "First is making missions less than our reason for being, both as individuals and as the church. Second is doing missions with unworthy motives and mistaken goals and objectives. Third is falling under a spirit of triumphalism or arrogant pride."

He added: "Missions is not understood as the reason for being by the whole body of Christ. If it were accepted as such, there would be a profound transformation in the pattern of congregational life, of ministry and of Christian action in the world."

A fervent appeal to repair "a great divide between missions and education" which has produced "priests and scribes," was sounded by R. Kirby Godsey, the newest president of a major Baptist university.

Godsey, who was elected president of Mercer University two days before, said: "The vitality of missions is closely linked with the competence of our educational perspective. The two cannot remain foreign territories...education is the foundation of missions; missions is the destiny of education. Without education, mission remains empty; without missions, education remains blind."

He concluded with the affirmation that unless missions and higher education "can walk together, neither of us has anywhere to go."

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#### Government Regulations Threaten Baptist Schools

By Rex Hammock

GALVESTON, Texas (BP)--Baptists must be willing to fight excessive governmental regulation if their colleges and universities are to survive, an expert in education law said.

John Fant, legal counsel at Baylor University, Waco, Texas, told representatives of Southern Baptist state education committees that members of the nation's largest Protestant denomination "should rise up and draw the line" on governmental interference.

The meeting was held in conjunction with a National Conference on Bold Christian Education and Bold Missions sponsored by the SBC Education Commission.

"Bold education," Fant said, "can be totally thwarted by legal matters. Universities have been bombarded with governmental agency regulations of laws passed by Congress."

Fant cited several examples of dramatic increases in agency regulations, claiming that the "government has moved into an adversary role."

Fant admitted most of the laws were needed to protect the rights of students but chided different agencies of the federal government for imposing conflicting regulations.

"We're now in a 'Catch 22' situation in trying to comply with some of these agencies," he said. "There are too many agencies that deal with education. Sometimes they are in direct conflict with each other as to what they require the college to do."

Fant, a former judge, also claimed the cost of complying with agency demands is becoming prohibitive. "Handicap, environmental impact and occupational safety regulations could exceed \$13 billion to the education community," he said. "Soon 50 cents out of every dollar of Federal Student Aid will go to administrative paper work."

Fant did not put all of the blame for the explosion in regulations on Washington, however. "We as Baptists have let this emerge," he said, explaining, "at least in theory the people are the government."

"Baptists," he said, "must become legally intelligent in fighting government interference and must be willing to give up a low profile."

"Would it be appropriate to say that Baptists and other denominations should join in a 'people's revolt' against these regulations?" he asked, comparing such a "revolt" to California's Proposition 13.

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"Baptists must be willing to go into a courtroom and get beat, knowing that next time we could win. We can't always wait to be sure that we are going to win. Our faith is not built on being sure."

Fant admitted that Baptist colleges would never get back to the days when the government has a "hands-off education stance," but claimed that "we can get back to a position of sanity."

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O'Hair 'In God We Trust'  
Suit Fails In High Court

By Stan Hastey

WASHINGTON (BP)--The U. S. Supreme Court announced here it will not hear atheist Madalyn Murray O'Hair's challenge to the constitutionality of the motto "In God We Trust" on coins and currency.

The high court's action marks the final defeat of the Austin, Texas-based O'Hair's efforts to remove the slogan.

Mrs. O'Hair filed suit against Secretary of the Treasury Michael Blumenthal in January 1978, in a federal district court in Austin. That court ruled against her three months later, holding that she failed to show a "cause of action."

On appeal, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans declined to hear the case last January.

The challenged slogan has appeared on U. S. coins for more than a century and on all currency since 1955, when former President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law a bill requiring that it be used.

Over the past 17 years, Mrs. O'Hair has come to the Supreme Court challenging the constitutionality of various religious practices in public life.

Her suit challenging mandatory prayer and Bible reading in the public schools resulted in a 1963 decision by the high court outlawing such devotional exercises. The high court had ruled in 1962 that a New York board of regents prayer designed to be read each day in state public schools likewise violated the "no establishment" of religion clause of the First Amendment.

In 1968, Mrs. O'Hair challenged the National Space and Aeronautics Administration for permitting astronauts in space to read from the Bible. She argued then that the famous Christmas Eve 1968 reading of the Christmas story violated the rights of non-believers.

On two separate occasions, however, the nation's high court declined to disturb lower court rulings disallowing her objections.

Since 1975 Mrs. O'Hair has been in the news frequently as the supposed author of a petition to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) which would ban religious broadcasting from the nation's airwaves.

The actual petition, filed by two California men, asked the powerful regulatory agency to refrain from assigning new educational television channels or radio frequencies to organizations which broadcast religious programs exclusively.

The FCC ruled unanimously on August 1, 1975, that such a policy would violate the free exercise of religion guarantee of the First Amendment.

Rumors linking Mrs. O'Hair to the effort have flourished, nevertheless, causing millions of Americans to sign petitions which have deluged the FCC for the past four years.

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