

March 28, 1957

Sunday School Board
Asks To Retain Name

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The 1957 Southern Baptist Convention session at Chicago will be asked to drop the matter of considering a new name for the Baptist Sunday School Board, located here.

W. Perry Crouch, pastor of First Baptist Church, Ashville, N. C., said that the request to drop the matter came from the Sunday School Board itself. Crouch is chairman of committee appointed by the 1956 Convention to study the proposed name switch.

Complications over use of the word "Education" in the proposed new title--"Board of Education and Publication of the Southern Baptist Convention"--were given as major reason for asking that the matter be dropped.

The request for a new name originated with the Sunday School Board. James L. Sullivan, executive secretary of the board, Nashville, said the board had considered the change for 18 months before asking the Convention last year to approve it.

The request for a change in name developed because of increased activities of the board since its name was adopted in 1891. While Sunday school work remains one of its important functions, it also has many other responsibilities such as church music, architecture, church recreation, advertising, etc.

Crouch said that a petition came to his committee following the semi-annual meeting of the Baptist Sunday School Board last December. The petition asked the committee to recommend that the matter of the change be dropped.

The petition reported "there is some question in the mind of some as to whether the proposed title is adequately brief and specific" and that "some degree of misunderstanding and resistance to the proposed use of the word 'Education' in the new name" had developed.

The Sunday School Board's petition said it had "no desire to push this matter at possible cost to its present excellent relationships now sustained with all the agencies and institutions of the Convention."

Sullivan, explaining the different attitude of the board toward a change in its name, issued this qualifying statement:

"The Sunday School Board's committee on name change met last December to reconsider its previous recommendation and request that the name of the institution be changed to 'Board of Education and Publication of the Southern Baptist Convention.'

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It had been their request, approved unanimously by the Board, which brought the resolution for name change to the Kansas City Convention.

"A re-study of the matter revealed the apparent impossibility of finding an adequate name for the Board which did not incorporate the word 'Education' in some way. Complications arose over the use of that word, however, because 'Education' is a broad term which suggests areas also occupied by the seminaries and the Education Commission.

"This particular phase of the problem had been analyzed previously, but no serious conflicts were seen at that time because the seminaries and Education Commission are related to education in a specialized and institutional sense. The Sunday School Board is related more to mass education at the local church level. Each area is controlled by charters which cannot be changed except by Convention action.

"When the use of the word 'Education' was challenged, the Board's committee on name change felt it would be better to withdraw the request than to be misunderstood in its petition or to create any confusion.

"Being unable to find another title which was descriptive of the Board's character and functions which did not use the word 'Education,' it was concluded by the committee that the request should be dropped entirely and that the historic name of the institution should be continued even though it is an admittedly inadequate title when all the assigned functions of the institution are taken into account."

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COMMITTEE CONCERNING PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE NAME OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTED AT THE CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY MAY 1956 TO REPORT TO THE CHICAGO CONVENTION May, 1957.

Your Committee to Study Proposed Change in Name of the Sunday School Board has held two meetings during the past year. The first one looked into the background of the request for a change of name on the part of the Sunday School Board and the original purposes for the establishment of the Sunday School Board. Following this meeting James L. Sullivan presented to the committee a thorough study of the purposes back of the establishment and naming of the Sunday School Board. The second meeting was held in Nashville on December 10 at which time we received from the Sunday School Board the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Sunday School Board, in its 1955 annual session, voted to petition the Southern Baptist Convention for the privilege of changing its official name from "The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention" to "The Board of Education and Publication of the Southern Baptist Convention" and

WHEREAS, there is question in the mind of some as to whether the proposed title is adequately brief and specific, and

WHEREAS, this petition, when presented to the 1956 Convention at Kansas City, met with some degree of misunderstanding and resistance to the proposed use of the word "Education" in the new name, and

WHEREAS, the Sunday School Board has no desire to push this matter at possible cost to its present excellent relationships now sustained with all the agencies and institutions of the Convention,

Be It Therefore Resolved that

1. The Sunday School Board hereby express its feeling that in the light of the above named circumstance it is deemed best at this time to keep the same historic name

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of the institution.

2. We hereby appeal to the Convention's "Committee to Study Proposed Change of Name of the Sunday School Board" to consider our request that this matter be withdrawn and that it kindly report same to the 1957 Southern Baptist Convention.

RECOMMENDATION

In view of the differences of opinion concerning the change of name and in view of the resolution requesting that the matter be dropped, our committee unanimously join with the Sunday School Board in recommending that the matter of a change in name of the Sunday School Board be withdrawn and our committee be discharged.

J. Winston Pearce
Earl B. Edington
C. Vaughan Rock

Respectfully submitted,
W. Perry Crouch, Chairman
Leo Eddleman
Oliver Shields
James H. Landes

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH MUSIC CONFERENCE
Chicago, Illinois
May 27 - 28, 1957

Monday Afternoon

- 3:30 - Song Service - Frank Bozeman
Devotional - Edmond D. Keith
Special Music
- 4:00 - Constitution Committee - Forrest Heeren
- 4:30 - Election of Officers
- 5:00 - Adjourn

Monday Evening

- JOINT SESSION WITH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
- 7:30 - Song Service - J. O. Stroud
Devotional - Hugh King
Special Music - Dale Brubaker
 - 7:45 - Opening Addresses - J. M. Price
Paul McCommon
 - 8:00 - Panel Discussion - "Correlation of the Music and Education
Program in the Church"
 - 8:45 - Song Service
 - 8:55 - Address: "The Pastor and His Staff" - James P. Wesberry
 - 9:30 - Adjourn

Tuesday Morning

- 9:30 - Song Service - James R. Copeland
Devotional - Nettie Lou Crowder
Special Music - Bison Glee Club
- 10:00 - Address: "The Future of Our Work" - W. Hines Sims
- 10:25 - "Our Associational Program" - Cliff Holcomb
- 10:35 - "Our State Program" - J. O. Stroud
- 10:45 - Ridgecrest and Glorieta - W. J. Reynolds
- 10:50 - Song Service
Special Music - Bison Glee Club
- 11:00 - Our New Terminology - Cliff Holcomb
- 11:15 - Address: "The Southern Baptist Church Music Program" - Loren Williams
- 11:45 - Adjourn

Tuesday Afternoon

- 2:00 - Song Service - J. Malcolm Edwards
Devotional - Dan C. Hall
Special Music - Atlanta Association Choir
- 2:30 - Address: "The Pastor Looks at His Music Program" - J. W. Storer
- 2:55 - Hymn
- 3:00 - Departmental Conferences
Local Church Group - led by Frank Bozeman
Institutional Group - led by James C. McKinney
Denominational Group - led by W. Hines Sims
- 4:15 - Panel Discussion - Sid Davis, Leader (What's your Question?)
- 4:50 - Closing Address - our President
- 5:00 - Adjourn