



# BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

## NATIONAL OFFICE

SBC Executive Committee  
460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
(615) 244-2355  
Wilmer C. Fields, Director  
Dan Martin, News Editor  
Craig Bird, Feature Editor

### BUREAUS

**ATLANTA** Jim Newton, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 873-4041  
**DALLAS** Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996  
**NASHVILLE** (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300  
**RICHMOND** (Foreign) Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151  
**WASHINGTON** Stan L. Hastey, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

February 1, 1984

84-16

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION ROE BARTLE HALL, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI June 12-14, 1984

Theme: "If my people...I will...." (II Chronicles 7:14)

### Tuesday Morning, June 12, 1984

- 9:00 Music for Inspiration--Choir, First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas
- 9:30 Call to Order  
Congregational Singing--Bob Woolley, music secretary, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, Mo.  
Prayer
- 9:40 Registration Report and Constitution of Convention--Lee Porter, registration secretary; design editor, Sunday school department, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.  
Committee on Order of Business--Fred H. Wolfe, chairman; pastor, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.
- 9:50 Welcome--Rheubin L. South, executive director, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, Mo.
- 9:55 Response--Dan H. Kong, executive secretary, Hawaii Baptist Convention, Honolulu
- 10:00 Theme Interpretation--Lewis Drummond, Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.
- 10:15 Announcement of Committee on Committees--Resolutions and Tellers
- 10:20 Executive Committee Report (Part 1)--Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.
- 10:55 Presentation of Gavels  
Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 11:25 Congregational Singing--Bob Woolley, Jefferson City, Mo.
- 11:30 Music--Choir, First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas
- 11:35 President's Address--James T. Draper Jr., pastor, First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas
- 12:00 Benediction

### Tuesday Afternoon, June 12, 1984

- 1:30 Evangelistic Singers
- 2:30 Congregational Singing--Doyal Spence, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va.  
Prayer--David Walker, pastor, First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Texas
- 2:40 Theme Interpretation--Lewis Drummond, Louisville, Ky.
- 2:55 Messenger Information Survey--Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; manager, research services department, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- 3:00 Election of Officers (First)
- 3:20 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 3:30 Congregational Singing--Doyal Spence, Roanoke, Va.
- 3:35 Executive Committee Report (Part 2)--Harold C. Bennett, Nashville, Tenn.
- 4:00 Sunday School Board Report--Lloyd Elder, president, Nashville, Tenn.

--more--

DARGAN-CARVER LIBRARY  
S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

- 4:30 Business  
 Election of Officers (Second)  
 Committee on Committees Report  
 Committee on Boards Report  
 Miscellaneous Business
- 5:15 Benediction--Albert A. Peverall Jr., pastor, Tabernacle Baptist Church, Salem, Va.

Tuesday Evening, June 12, 1984

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration--Centurymen
- 7:00 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, convention music director; associate professor of music, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas  
 Prayer
- 7:10 Election of Officers (Third)
- 7:30 Home Mission Board Report--William G. Tanner, president, Atlanta
- 8:30 Music--Centurymen
- 8:40 Launching of ACTS and Baptist TelNet--Jimmy R. Allen, president, Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, Texas; Lloyd Elder, president, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
- 9:30 Benediction--Tom Melzoni, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Dallas

Wednesday Morning, June 13, 1984

- 9:00 Music for Inspiration--Men's Chorus, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
- 9:30 Congregational Singing--Wesley Forbis, secretary, church music department, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Prayer--Roy E. Holder, director of missions, Transylvania Baptist Association, Brevard, N.C.
- 9:40 Election of Officers (Fourth)
- 9:55 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Report--Roy L. Honeycutt, president, Louisville, Ky.
- 10:10 Theme Interpretation--Lewis Drummond, Louisville, Ky.
- 10:20 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report--Russell H. Dilday Jr., president, Fort Worth, Texas
- 10:30 Annuity Board Report--Darold H. Morgan, president, Dallas
- 10:40 New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Report--Landrum P. Leavell II, president, New Orleans
- 11:00 Business  
 Election of Officers (Fifth)  
 First Report of Resolutions Committee
- 11:25 Canada Study Committee Report--Fred E. Roach, chairman; real estate developer, Dallas
- 11:55 Congregational Singing--Wesley Forbis, Nashville, Tenn.
- 12:00 Music--Men's Chorus, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
- 12:05 Scripture and Prayer  
 Convention Sermon, Russell H. Dilday Jr., president, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas
- 12:30 Benediction--Bill Heaton, pastor, Helena Baptist Church, Helena, Ala.

NO AFTERNOON SESSION

Wednesday Evening, June 13, 1984

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration--The Missouri Singing Men
- 7:00 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Fort Worth, Texas  
 Prayer--Bertha Smith, retired foreign missionary, Cow Pens, S.C.
- 7:10 Presentation of Past SBC Presidents
- 7:15 Presentation of Newly Elected SBC Officers
- 7:20 Stewardship Commission Report--A.R. Fagan, executive director-treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.
- 7:30 Bold Mission Thrust Report--Harold C. Bennett, Nashville, Tenn.
- 7:40 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Fort Worth, Texas
- 7:45 Foreign Mission Board Report--R. Keith Parks, president, Richmond, Va.
- 8:45 Business
- 9:00 Benediction--C.L. Culpepper, retired foreign missionary, Memphis, Tenn.

--more--

Thursday Morning, June 14, 1984

- 9:00 Music for Inspiration--Senior Adult Choirs, Kansas City, Mo.  
 9:30 Congregational Singing--Harry Taylor, music secretary, Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, Topeka, Kan.  
 Prayer--Charles E. Jackson, insurance agent, Mobile, Ala.  
 9:40 Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary Report--Franklin D. Pollard, president, Mill Valley, Calif.  
 9:50 Woman's Missionary Union Report--Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, Birmingham, Ala.  
 10:00 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Report--W. Randall Lolley, president, Wake Forest, N.C.  
 10:10 Christian Life Commission Report--Foy Valentine, executive director, Nashville, Tenn.  
 10:20 Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Report--Milton Ferguson, president, Kansas City, Mo.  
 10:30 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Report--James M. Dunn, executive director-treasurer, Washington  
 10:40 Theme Interpretation--Lewis Drummond, Louisville, Ky.  
 10:55 Congregational Singing--Harry Taylor, Topeka, Kan.  
 11:00 Business  
 Resolutions Committee (Final Report)  
 12:30 Benediction--Cathey Goodroe, pastor's wife, Calvary Baptist Church, Wilmington, N.C.

Thursday Afternoon, June 14, 1984

- 2:00 Music for Inspiration--Faye Burgess, concert artist, Nashville, Tenn.  
 2:30 Congregational Singing--Steve Taylor, music evangelist, Greenville, S.C.  
 Prayer--Richard Perry Ellis Jr., pastor, Cedar Creek Baptist Church, Cedar Creek, Texas  
 2:40 Introduction of Fraternal Messengers  
 2:50 Radio and Television Commission Report--Jimmy R. Allen, president, Fort Worth, Texas  
 3:00 Education Commission Report--Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director-treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.  
 3:10 Southern Baptist Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary Report--Arthur L. Walker Jr., secretary-treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.  
 3:20 Historical Commission Report--Lynn E. May Jr., executive director-treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.  
 3:30 Congregational Singing--Steve Taylor, Greenville, S.C.  
 3:35 Theme Interpretation--Lewis Drummond, Louisville, Ky.  
 3:50 Baptist World Alliance Report--Gerhard Claas, general secretary, Washington  
 4:00 Business  
 Committee on Denominational Calendar--Russell Bush Jr., chairman; physician, Columbia, Miss.  
 Denominational Press Report--Wilmer C. Fields, SBC Press Representative, assistant to the executive secretary and director of public relations, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Other Matters  
 4:30 Benediction

Thursday Evening, June 14, 1984

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration--William Jewell College Festival Wind Ensemble, Philip C. Posey, conductor, Liberty, Mo.  
 7:00 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Fort Worth, Texas  
 Prayer--Neil Jeffries, minister of youth, Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas  
 7:10 Introduction of Local Committees  
 7:15 Southern Baptist Foundation Report--Hollis E. Johnson III, executive secretary-treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.  
 7:25 Brotherhood Commission Report--James H. Smith, president, Memphis, Tenn.  
 7:35 American Bible Society Report--Alice E. Ball, general secretary, New York  
 7:45 Congregational Singing--William J. Reynolds, Ft. Worth, Texas  
 7:50 Music--Dean Wilder, director of vocal studies, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.  
 8:00 Laity Emphasis--James Jeffries, financial developer, Overland Park, Kan.

8:25 Music--Rosemary Hoover, concert artist, Independence, Mo.  
 8:30 Message--Zig Ziglar, motivation speaker, Dallas  
 9:00 Benediction

#### Convention Officers

James T. Draper Jr., president; pastor, First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas  
 John Sullivan, first vice president; pastor, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.  
 C. Edward Price, second vice president; retired executive, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; manager, research services department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Lee Porter, registration secretary; design editor, Sunday school department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Harold C. Bennett, treasurer; executive secretary-treasurer, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.  
 Wilmer C. Fields, press representative; assistant to the executive secretary and director of public relations, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.  
 William J. Reynolds, music director; associate professor of music, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas

#### Committee On Order Of Business

Larry C. Crawford, physician, Burlington, N.C.  
 Morris H. Chapman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas  
 J. Nixon Daniel III, attorney, Pensacola, Fla.  
 James T. Draper Jr., pastor, First Baptist Church, Euless, Texas, president, Southern Baptist Convention, ex officio  
 Charles G. Fuller, pastor, First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va.  
 C. Bruce McIver, pastor, Wilshire Baptist Church, Dallas  
 Fred H. Wolfe, chairman, Cottage Hill Baptist Church, Mobile, Ala.

--30--

SBC Program Features  
 Emphasis On Revival

Baptist Press  
 2/1/84

KANSAS CITY (BP)--Spiritual renewal and "real revival for the people of God" will be emphasized during the three-day annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention June 12-14.

Fred H. Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hill Baptist Church of Mobile, Ala., and chairman of the order of business committee for the 1984 meeting, said the seven-member committee selected a revival verse from Second Chronicles as the theme of the meeting.

"We came together thinking that some of our themes of the past have been on reaching out and reaching the world with the gospel. That certainly is our basic goal, but we feel if we are to reach the goal and to accomplish the purposes of Bold Mission Thrust, there must be a spiritual awakening and a real revival for the people of God," he said.

"We choose a revival verse, praying that the convention will be given new life and new power so Bold Mission Thrust can become a reality," he added. Bold Mission Thrust is the denomination's plan to present the gospel of Jesus Christ to every person in the world by the year 2000 AD.

He added the committee believes "real unity in our denomination will come out of God doing a new and deeper work spiritually in the lives of those of us who are his children."

The theme of revival will be carried through in five theme interpretation messages by Lewis Drummond, Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

"He is a real authority on the history of revival and spiritual awakening in our denomination," Wolfe said. "We have asked to use the theme of II Chronicles 7:14, 'If my people...I will....' to speak to us on revival."

--more--

Wolfe said another highlight will be ceremonies launching American Christian Television System (ACTS) and Baptist TelNet, two new telecommunications efforts of Southern Baptists.

"We believe it (the launch) will be a historic occasion. We will look back on this as one of the greatest things we have ever done to reach our nation for Christ and to strengthen our churches," he said.

ACTS, designed as a television network to present alternative broadcasting, is an effort of the SBC Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth, Texas. Baptist TelNet, a program of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn., is a plan to provide teaching and training programs to churches via satellite transmission.

Wolfe said another highlight of the program will be a Thursday night emphasis on laymen, featuring addresses by James (Jeff) Jeffries, a well known athlete now a financial developer in Overland Park, Kan., and Zig Ziglar, a motivational speaker and author who is a member of First Baptist Church of Dallas.

"We are concerned about the development of laymen in the convention, so we have set up Thursday night as layman's night. We hope to involve laypeople from the Kansas City area in the program," Wolfe said.

Among the business items Wolfe pointed to as highlights is the election of a president to succeed James T. Draper Jr., pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless, Texas, who has served his allowed two one-year terms. Other items include reports from the 20 agencies or institutions of the 14-million member SBC, a report from a special committee studying seating of messengers from Canadian Southern Baptist churches, and adoption of a record budget.

"We have tried to allow plenty of time for conducting of convention business," Wolfe said, noting the convention is not only planned for inspiration, but also to conduct the business of the nation's largest non-Catholic denomination.

"We feel we have a balanced program. We are very excited about it," Wolfe said.

--30--

Grady Cothen Lauded  
As Friend, Servant

By Jim Lowry

Baptist Press  
2/1/84

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Grady C. Cothen, described as a denominational servant and friend of Southern Baptists, was honored on the eve of his retirement by friends and Baptist leaders for a distinguished career of service to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Cothen, who retired after nine years as president of the Baptist Sunday School Board on Jan. 31, has shared a remarkable career with Southern Baptists, according to master of ceremonies William G. Tanner, president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

In more than 40 years, Cothen has been a pastor, executive secretary-treasurer of a state convention, and president of a Baptist university, a seminary and an SBC agency.

Testimonies of Cothen's influence into various arenas of Southern Baptist life were offered by persons who had worked with him at different points in his career.

Robert Lynn, president of Louisiana College, Pineville, called Cothen "my model in Christian higher education." He said Baptist college and university leaders had found in Cothen an "enduring counsel who gave them confidence by his example." Lynn was assistant to Cothen when he was president of Oklahoma Baptist University.

Milton Ferguson, president of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., said, "Grady Cothen loves the churches, people and programs of the Southern Baptist Convention."

--more--

Duke K. McCall, former president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and president of the Baptist World Alliance, lauded Cothen for his concern for evangelizing the world and having the vision and courage to do something about it. According to McCall, when he asked Cothen to serve as chairman of the education division of the Baptist World Alliance, Cothen said, "Let's don't talk about world evangelism, let's do it."

As a tribute to Cothen's leadership, McCall announced a gift from trustees of the board to the BWA Christian Literature Project, which will provide several thousand mini-libraries for worldwide distribution to Baptist pastors in other countries who "are struggling to fulfill God's call with few resources."

Each of the mini-libraries will consist of 12-15 books, including a Holman Master Study Bible, a hymnal, concordance and other basic resources for use in study and sermon preparation.

The most emotional moment of the evening came when James Hatley, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn., read a message from a former government official who said Cothen had been instrumental in leading him to become a Christian and had ministered to him through personal crisis.

Hatley said he had received the message by telephone from members of the family of the man only hours after the man's death on the morning of Jan. 30.

Other speakers included James Roberts, a deacon at Olivet Baptist Church, Oklahoma City; Denton Lotz, associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance; James Clark, executive vice president of the board, and Richard Kay, director of the board's office of planning.

Additional tributes received to honor Cothen included letters from President Ronald Reagan and former President Jimmy Carter; and certificates of appreciation from Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander; the Office of the Chief of Chaplains, United States Navy; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and the Southern Baptist General Convention of California.

Because of Cothen's frequent references to fishing, state executive secretaries compiled a book of favorite fishing spots for Cothen in each of their states, accompanied by an invitation to try his luck whenever possible.

Alton McEachern, chairman of the board of trustees, presented Cothen with a car, a satellite receiving antenna and other gifts from the trustees in honor of his retirement. McEachern is pastor of First Baptist Church, Greensboro, N.C.

In response to the tributes and praise, Cothen said it "has been my high privilege and honor to spend my life with the elect people of the earth.

"I cannot say too much in gratitude," Cothen said, to employees, trustees, pastors and denominational leaders for the support and friendship offered through the years. "Your generosity is beyond my ability to imagine."

As for the future, Cothen said he plans to "recuperate a bit" in the early days of his retirement, which comes 18 months before his 65th birthday due to health problems. Then he said he plans to start fishing. After that, his priority list will include teaching in a Southern Baptist seminary and "preaching every place you'll let me."

McCall said, "We have all been strengthened and enriched because of the faithfulness of this servant of God." The denomination will miss his leadership, McCall said. "Men like Grady Cothen are hard to spare."

--30--

(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Sunday School Board bureau of Baptist Press

Reagan Repeats Familiar Themes  
As Reelection Campaign Begins

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP)--One day into his campaign for reelection, President Reagan told a cheering, chanting convention of religious broadcasters he still is committed to new laws banning abortion and restoring prayer in public schools.

During his first major speech following his Jan. 29 announcement to the nation he will seek reelection to a second term, the 4,000 in attendance at the annual meeting of the National Religious Broadcasters repeatedly rose to their feet to cheer.

By the end of his address, some in the crowd were chanting, "Four more years! Four more years!"

In what has become an annual appearance before the group, he also addressed publicly for the first time the issue of the "Nebraska Seven," a particularly emotional dispute for conservative and fundamentalist church leaders.

The phrase refers to the case of independent Baptist pastor Everett Sileven, of Louisville, Neb., who has been jailed repeatedly for defying a state order he close down his Faith Baptist Church parochial school for failing to meet state teacher accreditation standards.

Last November, the situation deteriorated further when a local judge ordered seven parents whose children attend the school arrested for failing to testify in court about the school's operations. At last report they were still in jail.

Reagan said the problem "is how to find a balance between assuring quality of education and preserving freedom for churches and parents who want their schools to reflect their faith."

While reasserting his view that "this nation is a federation of sovereign states," the president posed the question: "...but isn't it time for the Nebraska courts or legislature to solve this problem by a speedy reconsideration?" Reagan said he hopes "some way can be found to resolve the legal issues, without having people in jail for doing what they think is right."

While those remarks received applause, the audience gave Reagan repeated standing ovations and cheers when he pledged to fight for a ban on abortion and restoration of school prayer.

Declaring "God's most blessed gift to his family is the gift of life," as shown by the fact "he sent us the Prince of Peace as a babe in a manger," Reagan added: "This nation cannot continue turning a blind eye and a deaf ear to the taking of some 4,000 unborn children's lives every day--one every 21 seconds.

"We cannot pretend America is preserving her first and highest ideal--the belief that each life is sacred--when we have permitted the death of 15 million helpless innocents since the Roe vs. Wade decision," he said further.

Reagan said he will "continue to support every effort" to ban abortion, including a "Respect Life" bill in Congress sponsored by Rep. Henry J. Hyde, R-Ill., and Roger W. Jepsen, R-Iowa. He pledged also to support new federal regulations "upholding the sanctity of life of infants born with physical or mental handicaps."

On the equally emotionally-charged issue of school prayer, Reagan warned Congress to pass his constitutional amendment restoring the practice, or face the "wrath" of the people.

"I think Americans are getting angry," he declared. "I think they have a message and Congress better listen: We are a Government of, by, and for the people. And people want a constitutional amendment making it unequivocally clear that our children can hold voluntary prayer in every school across this land."

Resorting to a phrase he has used often, Reagan said: "God, source of all knowledge, should never have been expelled from our children's classrooms.... And if we could get God and discipline back in our schools, maybe we could get drugs and violence out."

On other subjects, the president promised to sign a new law designed to fight child pornography and to enforce anti-obscenity laws already on the books. "We are also intensifying our drive against crimes of family violence and sexual abuse," he said.

The president did not refer to tuition tax credits for parents who choose private schools for their children, although he reasserted his support for the tax credits in the State of the Union message Jan. 25.

Nor did Reagan mention his recent nomination of William A. Wilson as U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, which has resulted in protests from many people, including Southern Baptist bodies.

After the address, Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church, Atlanta, told Baptist Press he believes Reagan mentioned the Louisville, Neb., situation as a result of a Jan. 18 White House meeting when several religious leaders, including Stanley and Southern Baptist Convention President James T. Draper Jr., told top presidential assistants they should ask Reagan to express sympathy for the plight of Sileven and the jailed parents.

Stanley, who directs a rapidly growing television ministry called "In Touch," and is widely rumored as a possible candidate for SBC president this year, also said Reagan avoided the subject of the ambassador to the Vatican because it would not have been well received by the broadcasters.

Asked if he intends to support Reagan's reelection, the Atlanta pastor replied: "I'll put it this way. I voted for him last time and will vote for him again. I worked for him last time and will work for him again."

--30--

All Africa Baptist Body  
Takes Another Step Forward

Baptist Press  
2/1/84

HARARE, Zimbabwe (BP)--Representatives from nine African nations took the second step toward making "the miracle of an Africawide cooperation" come true at the first assembly of the All Africa Baptist Fellowship in Harare, Zimbabwe, Jan. 17-22.

The group's general secretary-treasurer, S.T. Ola Akande of Nigeria, said the "miracle was sparked by the awareness of African Baptist leaders of the continentwide need for cooperation in evangelism and training of leaders."

Akande, also general secretary of the Nigerian Baptist Convention, told 136 registered delegates and observers that Nigerian Baptists will finance scholarships for training potential Baptist leaders from across Africa at the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary in Ogbomoso, which offers degrees in theology and religious education.

The Nigerian seminary, which has a long-standing relationship with the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., recently gained accreditation in its own right from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in the United States.

Nigerian Baptists want to provide the scholarships to help Africans train leaders just as Southern Baptists gave through their Foreign Mission Board and missionaries to train leaders for Nigerian Baptists, Akande explained.

Akande said the 134-year-old Baptist work in Nigeria has grown into a strong, stable convention, the strongest in Africa, because of the efforts of Southern Baptist missionaries in providing education and emphasizing stewardship training, the willingness of missionaries to let Nigerians move into positions of responsibility and the willingness of Nigerian Baptists "to be selfless in educating leaders for tomorrow."

The new fellowship was constituted and elected officers in July 1982 during the general council of the Baptist World Alliance in Nairobi, Kenya. It still must find ways to resolve its financial difficulties and increase membership beyond some 20 nations now represented. But Akande and other leaders express optimism for what it can mean in the future.

--more--



During the Harare sessions, the group formed an All Africa Baptist Youth Fellowship and relief, men's and communications committees to go along with Christian education and theological education committees formed earlier.

--30--

WMU Missions Chariot 'Full'  
At Executive Board Meeting

By Carol Sisson

Baptist Press  
2/1/84

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Dorothy Elliott Sample has urged WMU members and all Southern Baptists to "get in the chariot together" as worldwide mission supporters.

Sample's address from II Kings echoed a theme that threaded itself through speeches from other Southern Baptist Convention agency personnel and Woman's Missionary Union leaders at the January executive board meeting.

June Totten, executive secretary, Women's Department, Baptist World Alliance, said, "I think what WMU means to the world is 'us.' Foreign Mission Board staff, Home Mission Board staff, seminary personnel, and, in fact, the whole SBC family are part of what WMU means to the world."

United effort toward missions outreach, and the way this outreach is carried out, are distinguishing marks of Southern Baptists, R. Keith Parks, Foreign Mission Board president said. He noted WMU's spiritual ancestors had the insight and wisdom to focus on what is uniquely important to Southern Baptists: missions.

"You continually sound the note that we as Baptists know is an authentic note. It strikes a resonance in the hearts of Southern Baptists," Parks said.

Enlarging the convention's mission support network was affirmed by the WMU Executive Board as it voted to begin "Vision 88," a special WMU enlistment program. This plan will seek to enlarge WMU membership to two million women, girls and preschoolers by September 1988.

In other Board action, the Scope Document for the Teach Missions task was adopted. Luther Copeland, former missionary in Japan and author of the document, told members, "We all have our place in the Christian mission. The highest calling in the world is not the call to be a missionary, but the call to be a Christian."

Copeland pointed to a shift in the center of Christian strength to the Third World. "Now, the Christian population of that area comprises just about half of the Christian population of the world," he said. If present rates of growth continue, Christians in the Third World soon will considerably outnumber Christians in the western world, Copeland said.

Home Mission Board President William G. Tanner said more than 40 percent of this country's population do not affiliate with any church, and thousands of others are church members in name only.

Still, he said, "I am encouraged by the knowledge that our God is in control. He has a plan and we need to mesh our plans with his." HMB plans include reaching the growing ethnic/language-culture population in the United States, and this means reaching the cities.

"The ability of Southern Baptists to evangelize the Mega Focus cities is dependent on their ability to witness and minister effectively not with, not down, but among ethnic persons," said Oscar Romo, director of the HMB Language Missions Division.

Calling WMU leaders "as great an influence as we have in the Southern Baptist Convention for good and the cause of Christ around this world," Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer, Executive Committee, asked for their support in the upcoming 15-year Planned Growth in Giving emphasis.

Part of the projected plan is that "by the year 2000, or sooner, we as Southern Baptists will allocate 75 percent of SBC Cooperative Program receipts to home and foreign missions," Bennett said.

Baylor University Gives Alcohol  
Fuel Equipment To Honduras

By Nancy Barcus

WACO, Texas (BP)--Baylor University's Institute of Environmental Studies has donated solar-powered alcohol fuel production equipment to a Honduras farmers' cooperative which turns surplus sugar into home-produced fuel.

The equipment will enable farmers at Aqua Blanca Sur on the northern Honduras coast to stand on their "economic feet" for the first time, says institute director Merle Alexander.

Local Hondurans say the equipment will arrive just in the nick of time. Honduran sugar farmers are being squeezed out of the depressed sugar market and have had nowhere to sell their crops. They and their families face ~~in~~ poverty, even starvation.

But by converting their own sugar crops to alcohol fuel, these farmers can raise their incomes and living standards, and make their country energy-independent.

If all goes well, just one-third of all the sugar cane raised in Honduras could supply all the fuel needed by that country. That independence would be quite a change from the total dependence on foreign fuel that the country experiences today.

Too, this peasant farmers' cooperative should be able to produce fuel at half the price of foreign rates, Alexander said. With national industry looking for fuel bargains, the outcome for this farmers cooperative--and eventually others--should be a giant step away from poverty for the first time ever.

Taking solar-energy alcohol fuel production to Honduras is "the bridge from all our own intellectualizing to the real world of human need," Alexander said. "We so often see pictures of a sea of faces, and we feel there's nothing we can do to help. As Christians, we want to help individuals, but we must find ways to help that will multiply. I'm convinced that with this particular form of help, we have a remedy that multiplies like crazy. We could have an impact on these people's lives within just one year."

Senor Guatama Fonseca, a Honduran official, agrees: "This is truly a novel means to generate income. We couldn't change the economic situation in our country unless something like this happened. I hope within three years there will be improvement in income, housing, health, education. Income from this project will go directly to the people. The small farmers are direct owners, so they are investing in their own resources."

In exchange for the equipment, the rural Honduran farmers will work closely with Baylor graduate students, turning classroom learning into practical experience.

The alcohol fuel production equipment has been closely tied to the Baylor institute for several years. Just a few years ago, Baylor graduate students built a small ethanol production unit. Later, a larger industrial-sized unit began independent operation in Waco, making alcohol fuel from candy bar waste products from the M&M-Mars candy factory.

It was that fuel which helped power a historic cross-country flight by Baylor mathematician and aerobatic pilot, Max Shauck.

As the equipment is set up in Honduras, Baylor personnel will be there to supervise and offer technical assistance. Since the plant already has been operational in Waco, Alexander foresees an easy transition to the new site. During assembly, the equipment will be checked for any needed maintenance.

The use of solar energy to power the production unit solves an otherwise expensive problem, Alexander said. Solar panels which absorb energy from the sun can heat water to temperatures necessary for processing the sugar cane into fuel, he said. Thus, petroleum fuel will not be needed.

Many of the Third World countries are especially suited for fuel production by solar-powered equipment, he said, "because all that is needed is the simple technology, feedstocks (such as sugar) and the sun."



**BAPTIST PRESS**

460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219

060  
CD  
~~SM~~  
SM

LYNN MAY NO  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
127 9TH AVE NO  
NASHVILLE TN 37234