

July 25, 1958

### Committee To Draft Program For Illinois

CARBONDALE, Ill.--(BP)--A committee has been appointed to draft a 25-year future program of activities for Illinois Baptist State Association.

The proposed program will be presented to the state association for approval when it meets in 1959. The seven members of the committee will be appointed by A. E. Brown, Vandalia, president of the state association.

The present five-year program for the association ends in 1959. The board of directors of Illinois association want the next program to include a 25-year period because it said there are certain projects which require such long-term consideration.

The approval for appointing the future program committee was given at the July meeting of the association's directors at the state Baptist office here.

The committee will consider needs of Baptist institutions in the state, possible expansion of institutions and state missions, and goals for new churches, increased membership, and increased circulation for the state Baptist newspaper.

Directors also approved a Cooperative Program goal of \$600,000 for 1959, an increase of \$25,000 over the current year. It was pointed out that the increase would have been greater except for the fact that 75 Indiana churches now affiliated with the Illinois association will be among churches forming an independent Indiana convention in October.

Directors adopted a 1959 state association budget of \$453,010. Of this, \$390,000 will come in through the Cooperative Program. (This is the state's 65 per cent share of the \$600,000 goal; the other 35 per cent is for work of the Southern Baptist Convention at large.)

Items in the 1959 budget include \$28,000 in operating funds for the first six months of a new Baptist chair of Bible at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana.

The chair will be set up on July 1, 1959 with a president and two professors. It will offer courses in Bible starting in September of that year. The chair at Champaign-Urbana will be modeled after the present college of the Bible at Southern Illinois University here, a Bible program Illinois Baptists have operated for 20 years.

The largest single item in the 1959 budget is \$86,000 designated for pioneer missions. This will be spent for organizing new churches and missions, and for augmenting salaries of associational missionaries and pastors of churches in pioneer areas.

The association has a goal of 42 new churches, 42 new missions, and 84 new Sunday school organizations during 1959.

Directors of the state association further approved a budget of \$136,280 for the Baptist children's home at Carmi.

Budgets and budget goals are subject to approval of the association in its annual session in November.

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### Enrolment Reaches Peak

NEW ORLEANS--(BP)--Enrolment for the fall 1957-58 session at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary here reached an all-time high of 1142 students, Associate Registrar George C. Herndon announced.

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### Kansas Board Starts In Church Site Fund

WICHITA, Kans.--(BP)--The executive board of Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists voted here to place the major share of its special state mission offering in a church site loan fund.

The mission offering is taken in September. This year's goal is \$9500, of which the state Woman's Missionary Union receives \$2000. The remaining \$7500 will go into the church site fund.

In purchasing new church sites, using state funds, the Kansas board will take 30 per cent of the cost of the site from the church site loan fund. It will cover the other 70 per cent with bonds issued from the convention's own church loan association.

-30-

### St. Louis Baptists Ask College Study

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.--(BP)--St. Louis (Mo.) Baptist Association of churches has asked the Missouri Baptist General Association to consider establishing a college or university extension center in St. Louis.

There is no Southern Baptist college in St. Louis, but there has been a trend in the last three years in several states to establish branches of Baptist colleges in large cities.

The general association executive board referred the St. Louis petition to a special study committee.

In its July meeting, the executive board also voted to defer for the present a proposed \$10 million fund-raising program to meet capital needs of Baptist-operated colleges, children's homes, and other projects.

The board accepted the resignation of W. P. Arnold of Jefferson City, who is state secretary of Brotherhood work. Arnold has accepted pastorate of Memorial Baptist Church here, effective Sept. 1.

The Missouri board endorsed the work of the Christian Civic Foundation, state temperance organization, and of the nationwide Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State. It commended these two groups to its affiliated churches as worthy of receiving church contributions for the ongoing of their work.

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### California College Calls Loyed Simmons

RIVERSIDE, Calif.--(BP)--Trustees of California Baptist College here have elected Loyed R. Simmons of Phoenix, Ariz., as president.

Simmons, president of Grand Canyon College in Phoenix since 1955, has not yet announced whether he will accept the call. Grand Canyon College is operated by Arizona Southern Baptists.

T. W. Medearis, former executive secretary of Missouri Baptist General Association and former chairman of California Baptist College trustees, served as acting president of the local college last year.

P. Boyd Smith, who was first president of California Baptist College, resigned in 1957 and is now pastor of a Southern Baptist church in Manhattan Beach, Calif.

Simmons, a native of Paducah, Ky., is a graduate of Howard Payne College in Brownwood, Tex. and has a doctor of theology degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

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He was pastor of churches in Zeigler and McLeansboro, Ill., and Dallas and Fort Worth, Tex., before moving to Arizona in 1953 as pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Tucson.

He is also a member of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

California Baptist College was organized by Southern Baptist churches in the Los Angeles area in 1950, and came under control of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California in 1954.

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Bible Conference Week  
Shared By Commission

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention will share in Bible conference week at Baptist assemblies at Glorieta, N. M., and Ridgecrest, N. C.

The week at Glorieta is Aug. 7-13 and at Ridgecrest is Aug. 21-27.

C. Penrose St. Amant, professor of church history at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will bring a series of addresses on the general subject, "The History of Baptist Theology."

"Dr. St. Amant is particularly qualified to deliver these messages on a subject about which Baptists generally know very little," according to Norman W. Cox, Nashville, executive secretary, Historical Commission.

"It has been the theme of much of his research and work in past years," Cox continued. "He is in the process of preparing the manuscript of a book that will probably bear this title."

Topics of St. Amant's individual lectures include "Beginnings of Baptist Theology," "Baptist Theology and Baptist History," "Major Themes of Baptist Theology," "Baptist Theologians," and "Baptist Theology Today and Tomorrow."

After each lecture, there will be a discussion period.

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Gov. Clement Grants  
Pardon To Glisson

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Tennessee Gov. Frank Clement has granted a full pardon to James Glisson, pastor-student held in contempt of court for refusing to divulge information given to him in confidence during counseling sessions.

Glisson, pastor of a Baptist church in the small west Tennessee town of McLemoresville and student at Union University, Jackson, Tenn., was fined \$50 and given a 10-day suspended jail sentence.

The presiding judge at a divorce trial meted out the contempt of court sentence after Glisson refused to answer certain questions by attorneys for both the husband and wife involved in the suit. Glisson had counselled with both prior to their divorce action.

The divorce was not granted because the trial judge said testimony in the case was not sufficient.

Gov. Clement, a Methodist Sunday school teacher and one of the backers of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Crusade when it held a crusade in Nashville, said "a minister deserves as much recognition and protection as a lawyer."

Tennessee laws protect confidences between a lawyer and his client but do not grant the same immunity to ministers. (Laws in most other states also do not protect ministers in confidences received while counselling.)

Clement declared that a minister of any denomination should be able to "counsel in confidence without fear of being forced to disclose what has been communicated to him."

After Glisson's citation for contempt, Tennessee Baptist leaders were disturbed because of the effect the court's action might have on counseling relationships between a minister and parties coming to him for spiritual advice.

Several candidates for public office pledged to support a ministerial immunity law.

July 25, 1958

Baptist Press

Cutlines

AFTER BIOGRAPHIES---Leaders of Southern Baptist historical groups are pointing toward "Operation Baptist Biography" which seeks to secure biographical material on 45,000 denominational laymen and pastors. The leaders are from left, J. P. Edmunds, chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention Historical Commission; Norman W. Cox, Commission executive secretary, and R. N. Owen, president of the Southern Baptist Historical Society. Edmunds is secretary of research and statistics with the Baptist Sunday School Board; Owen is editor of the Tennessee weekly paper, Baptist and Reflector. Biography project is one of last Commission efforts directed by Cox, who retires in August, 1959.--Baptist Press Photo.

FROM  
WASHINGTON OFFICE  
W. BARRY GARRETT, REGIONAL EDITOR  
1628-16TH ST., N. W.  
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.  
TELEPHONE: ADAMS 2-1760

July 25, 1958

### Hill-Burton Hospital Bills Passed By Senate

WASHINGTON--(BP)--Two hospital construction bills have passed the Senate here. One is ready for signature by President Eisenhower and the other is referred to a Senate-House Conference Committee to iron out differences before final passage.

One bill extended the Hill-Burton Act that for the past 12 years has provided government grants to hospitals for construction purposes. The House of Representatives voted to extend the Hill-Burton program for three years and the Senate extended it five years.

The other bill was an amendment of the Hill-Burton Act and provides for long-term and low-interest loans to hospitals operated by religious organizations that are conscientiously opposed to acceptance of government grants. The loans are to be made to hospitals that qualify and under the same terms as the grants. Maximum repayment period is 40 years.

The loan bill has now passed all obstacles and awaits only the signature of the President. The other has only minor differences between the Senate and House versions that are to be compromised before final passage.

Common talk around Capitol Hill is that the loan bill was passed because of Baptist reluctance to accept government grants and because of specific requests from Baptist groups. The legislation makes it possible for Baptist hospitals and hospitals of other groups that insist on church-state separation to be eligible for credit from the government.

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### Texas Educator Expresses Views on Education Bill

WASHINGTON--(BP)--Church-state relations involved in the proposed National Defense Education Act of 1958 need to be reconsidered, according to Harold A. Haswell, executive coordinator of the Christian Education Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Expressing general agreement with the bill (H. R. 13247) Haswell wrote to Rep. Bruce R. Alger (R., Tex.) urging favorable action but with certain changes to eliminate the violations of the principle of separation of church and state.

The proposed bill provides for college scholarships, student loans, grants for educational equipment, language institutes and centers, fellowship grants for graduate study, and a program for counseling and testing. Action on the bill is pending in the House of Representatives, after which it must go to the Senate.

Specifically Haswell stated that he opposes Title III of the bill in its present form, which proposes student loan programs through contract with individual schools. He said, "I would like to see the loan funds handled in a similar manner to the scholarship funds, that is, through state student loan

-more-

July 25, 1958

2

Baptist Press

agencies which would make the student loans available directly to the students and not to institutions."

Expressing opposition to Title V which proposes Federal grants to institutions of higher education for institutes on the teaching of modern languages, Haswell said that it violates separation of church and state and that Baptist institutions would thus be penalized by their unwillingness to participate in the program.

Likewise Haswell said that Section VII of the bill violates separation of church and state by authorizing the U. S. Commissioner of Education to contract directly with institutions of higher education for guidance, counseling and testing programs.

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Proposes Solution To  
D. C. School Bus Problem

WASHINGTON--(BP)--A solution to a school transportation dilemma involving religious liberty has been suggested by a Baptist leader here.

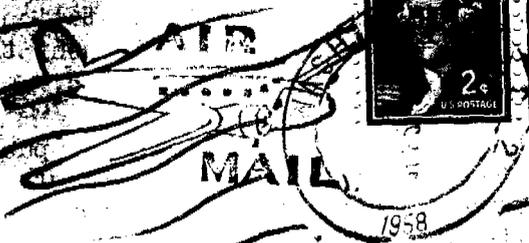
In a letter to the chairmen of the District of Columbia Committees of both the House of Representatives and of the Senate, C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, suggested that Congress include in its appropriation to the public school budget of the District of Columbia funds for the transportation of public school pupils.

The schools then could provide the pupils with cards entitling them to reduced fare considerations from the D. C. Transit Company. Payments could be made periodically by the schools to the D. C. Transit Co. for the reduced rate fares of the school children.

The problem has arisen recently by legislation introduced in both houses of the Congress that would provide funds to reimburse the D. C. Transit Co. for losses involved in transporting both public and parochial school children. There is no public school transportation system in the District of Columbia, and as part of its franchise agreement the D. C. Transit Co. has been carrying all school children at reduced fares.

Carlson's suggestion would make public funds available for the transportation of public school pupils in the District of Columbia, and at the same time would leave the parochial and private schools free to make their own arrangements with the D. C. Transit Co. without involving religious liberty problems.

"This plan," concluded Carlson's letter, "seems to meet the need for transportation aid to the pupils of the public schools. The bills which have been offered have met serious objections, particularly since they seem to propose a national precedent which can become a highly costly arrangement to public school treasuries and to public school effectiveness in many parts of our nation."



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W. BARRY GARRETT, *Regional Editor*  
1628 Sixteenth St. N. W.  
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

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Theo Sommerkamp  
Executive Committee  
127 Ninth Avenue, North  
Nashville, Tennessee

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