

April 5, 1959

Bylaw, Constitution  
Changes Necessary

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Putting into effect the portion of the Survey Committee report adopted by the 1958 Southern Baptist Convention at Houston will require approval of changes in the Convention's constitution and bylaws.

These changes are contained in the recommendations which Porter Routh, Nashville, will present for the Convention's Executive Committee. He is its executive secretary. The recommendations will be made at the 1959 convention in Louisville in May.

Some of the topics included in the proposed revisions are conditions for changing the meeting place of the annual Convention if it should become necessary, nominating speeches for Convention offices, provision that no more than two-thirds of any committee or agency membership shall be ministers or laymen, membership on the Executive Committee, and the development of a format for agencies to use in making their report.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 31, 1959

WHEREAS the action of the Board of Trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary on June 12, 1958, when 13 faculty members were dismissed, has been criticized by the A.A.T.S. Accrediting Commission;

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees has made a restudy of its action and its procedures;

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees desires to repair damage done to the former faculty members and to the Seminary and to any other persons involved;

WHEREAS there was neither precedent nor procedure by which the Board of Trustees might have been better guided;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, MEETING IN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, ON MARCH 31, 1959:

1. That we express appreciation to the Committee of Convention Presidents for its prayers, efforts, and leadership for the extraordinary session.
2. That we express appreciation to the former faculty members for their willingness to be present for the extraordinary session, and for their desire to be helpful.
3. That we express appreciation to the faculty for its presence in the extraordinary session, and for its fine statement and spirit.
4. That we assure the former faculty members that there is no bitterness in our hearts towards any one or all of them; we love each of you.
5. That we admit errors in the dismissal procedure followed, and express our regrets for such errors.
6. That we rescind the June 12, 1958, action in which the former faculty members were dismissed; and, that we respectfully request the resignation of each as of this date.

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7. That the faculty and president are at liberty to consider by current faculty acquisition procedures any person deemed appropriate for faculty membership.
8. That we encourage the trustee subcommittees on Faculty Acquisition Procedure and Tenure to continue its work looking to adoption in May of improved Faculty Acquisition and Tenure procedures.

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Folks and facts.....

.....The number of beds for patients in denominational hospitals in the traditional Southern state area is about equally divided between Protestant and Catholic hospitals.

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.....A Baptist hospital administrator estimates that the cost of building a Baptist hospital is equally provided through three areas of support---a third from the denomination, another one-third from funds raised in the community where the hospital will be located, and the final third borrowed and funds repaid from what patients pay for hospital care.

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.....There were 42 new Baptist churches organized in Georgia during 1958. Georgia Baptists have adopted a goal of 75 new churches for 1959.

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.....A study indicates that The Methodist Church is expected to increase from its present 9,700,000 membership---largest Protestant group---to more than 12 million by 1975. The Methodist Publishing House, which distributes a large share of books, supplies, and lesson materials for the denomination, plans to establish six regional distribution centers in key U. S. cities to meet the growing needs.

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WMU Registration  
Hours Scheduled

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--Registration hours for those attending the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention here in May have been announced. The registration will be at Freedom Hall, where WMU sessions are scheduled.

The days and hours to register:

Sun., May 17, 1:30 to 6:30 P.M.

Mon., May 18, 8 A.M. to 9:30 P.M.

Tue., May 19, 8 A.M. to 1 P.M.

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Louisville College  
Gets Final Go-Ahead

MIDDLETOWN, Ky.--(BP)--Plans for two educational institutions were approved by the executive board of the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky at its meeting here.

Establishment of a Louisville Baptist college, about four years in the planning stage, received final approval from the board. The college, due to open next year, won't be a branch of Georgetown College, however, as proposed earlier.

It will be a four-year college and will seek its own individual accreditation. Under the wing of Georgetown, Baptist senior college east of Louisville, it would have been covered by Georgetown's accredited standing.

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A president for the new school is being sought. A 238-acre site has been bought.

The executive board also authorized Oneida Baptist Institute at Oneida, Ky., to undertake a special \$50,000 fund-raising campaign to furnish and equip a new girls' dormitory.

If the \$50,000 can be raised by the school, a donor who prefers to remain anonymous will give Oneida Institute \$250,000 necessary to construct the building itself.

Oneida Institute is a boarding high school serving a mountain area of Kentucky, but draws students from other states and several foreign countries. There are 235 students enrolled.

The general association executive board also heard a progress report from its survey committee. The committee will recommend to the general association in session in November that age-level workers for all groups be employed in both the Sunday school and Training Union departments of the association during the next decade.

Another recommendation will call for establishing a department of evangelism with a full-time secretary.