

THEO SOMMERKAMP, editorial assistant

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

January 18, 1958

North Carolina Board  
Tables Bulman Apology

RALEIGH, N. C.--(BP)--The general board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina has tabled for one year a request for an apology made by James M. Bulman, Baptist minister of East Spencer, N. C.

Bulman, whose attempt to debate a question of church autonomy failed to secure approval of messengers at the state convention session last November, presented a letter from his church requesting an apology.

The church complained that it was due an apology because it failed to receive "its due representation" at the convention.

James W. Mason, Laurinburg, N. C., attorney and member of the general board, said that Bulman had appeared at seven Baptist meetings, including the state and Southern Baptist Conventions, with his church autonomy question in the last three years.

"Mr. Bulman has had more resolutions, motions, and points of personal privilege than any messenger to Baptist meetings in my memory," Mason declared.

"Baptists have been very patient with Mr. Bulman."

(After Bulman appeared at the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City in 1956, the Convention reaffirmed its 1928 stand asserting individual church independence.)

The general board appointed five of its number to meet with Bulman "in the spirit of Christian understanding." Warren Carr, pastor, Watts St. Baptist Church, Durham, is chairman of the group.

Convention General Secretary M. A. Huggins turned down a \$600 a year raise voted by the general board with the comment that "we're not meeting our goals." North Carolina was one of four states in the Southern Baptist Convention whose Cooperative Program (undesigned) gifts to the SBC last year were less than for 1956.

The general board also established a full-time department of audio visual aids to be headed by L. J. Morriss of Raleigh. Morriss has been serving as part-time audio visual aids worker while pastoring St. John's Baptist Church here. He will resign the pastorate.

New York, Pennsylvania  
Mission Pioneer Sought

COLUMBUS, Ohio--(BP)--The executive board of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio has voted to employ a pioneer missionary for western New York state and western Pennsylvania.

The missionary, who will be employed as soon as possible, will live at Buffalo, N. Y. Ray Roberts, executive secretary of Ohio convention, reports there are two churches and two missions in western New York affiliated with the Ohio group. The churches are at Niagara Falls and Syracuse.

There are two churches in Pennsylvania working with Ohio Baptists, at Erie and at Bradford.

The Ohio convention's area missionary for southeastern Ohio has moved residence to Charleston, W. Va., where he will work jointly with the SBC Home Mission Board and state Baptist conventions in Ohio, Kentucky, and Virginia.

All three state Baptist groups have affiliated churches in West Virginia, working in the area of the state nearest their boundaries. There are about 50 Southern Baptist churches in all in West Virginia, according to Roberts. The new West Virginia missionary is John I. Snedden.

The board voted to find a missionary to replace Snedden in southeastern Ohio.

The monthly Ohio Baptist Messenger, convention newspaper, will have a new editor in the near future. George Fletcher has been editing the newspaper and also serving as convention director of religious education.

Fletcher will continue as director of religious education except that state Baptist Student Union work will be separated from his responsibilities. The new man being sought by the board will both edit the newspaper and be state BSU secretary.

The Ohio Messenger will continue as a monthly for the present.

Roberts told the board that Ohio Baptists will hold their first state Brotherhood convention Feb. 1 in Reading, O. The state missed by only one reaching its 1957 goal of constituting 36 new churches. It established 70 new missions last year toward its goal of 80.

South Carolina Plans  
Royal Ambassador Camp

COLUMBIA, S. C.--(BP)--Plans for a Royal Ambassador camp near Pickens, S. C., expected to cost \$250,000 including property and buildings, was major item of business transacted here at the January meeting of the general board of the State Convention of the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina.

The camp will be established as soon as a way is found to finance it. The executive committee of the general board will recommend the method of financing the camp.

State Baptist leaders said the camp will not be available this summer, but they hope it will be ready for use in the summer of 1959.

Following the change effected last October within the Southern Baptist Convention, the South Carolina board voted to transfer RA work from the Woman's Missionary Union to the state Brotherhood department. The transfer will be accomplished next Oct. 1.

The general board authorized appointment of a steering committee to direct church extension work in South Carolina. This is following Southern Baptists' plans to establish 10,000 new churches and 20,000 new preaching stations by 1964.

South Carolina has set a goal for 1958-1964 of 200 new churches and 300 new missions.

-30-

Four Oregon-Washington  
State Offices Vacant

PORTLAND, Ore.--(BP)--The executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington, aware of four vacancies in convention offices, plans to employ new workers in the immediate future.

Vacancies exist in the convention's Sunday school department and in the combined Brotherhood and evangelism department. The offices of area missionary in Seattle, Wash., and area missionary in eastern Washington state also are vacant.

The board, in its January session here, voted to improve the convention's assembly grounds at Mount Baker, Wash. The convention holds a two-week encampment there each August.

The board authorized rental of a tent to be used as a temporary assembly hall at Mount Baker.

A new convention bookkeeper was employed as of Jan. 1. He is Roger N. Rogers

-more-

January 18, 1958

4

Baptist Press

of Vancouver, Wash. Rogers will continue to be pastor of a church at Vancouver.

Budgetary transfers and additions for 1958 approved by the board amount to an increase in the year's budget of about \$2700. The board added \$2500 to the fund for minister's retirement and social security and \$1000 to the general budget of the Pacific Coast Baptist, convention newspaper.

It cut board travel allowances \$500, evangelism and Brotherhood convention expenses \$100, and telephone expenses \$200.

The board established a goal of 60 new preaching stations in the convention's area in 1958.