

March 1, 1958

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the first of six articles based on the report of the Committee to Study Total Southern Baptist Convention Program. This article considers the report as a whole. Subsequent articles will present sections of the report separately and in depth.

Committee Recommends
Two New SBC Agencies

By the Baptist Press

Creation of two new Southern Baptist Convention agencies is recommended in a report of the Committee to Study Total Southern Baptist Convention Program. The report is to be presented to the Convention for a vote at Houston in May.

The new agencies recommended are a Stewardship Commission and a Church Loan Board.

The "Survey Committee"--as it has been known--also recommends Convention recognition of the work now carried on by an unofficial organization, the Inter-Agency Council.

The report of the Survey Committee was released to Baptist Press by Douglas M. Branch, Rocky Mount, N. C., pastor who is chairman of the committee. Release is in accordance with Convention directions that the report be given for publication two months prior to the 1958 session.

The committee report follows two years of study, with the counsel of professional management consultants. Consultants employed by the committee were Booz, Allen & Hamilton of Chicago.

Other recommendations of the Survey Committee are directed at the internal functions of the various Convention committees, boards, commissions, and institutions. The report does not recommend abolishment of any agency.

While the report does not recommend a time for the changes to be placed into effect, Convention by-laws would prevent these agencies from coming into existence before 1960.

Section 14 of the Business and Financial Plan requires that any new work adopted by the Convention, such as creation of new agencies, be approved by two annual sessions. Thus, even at the earliest, final approval could not be secured until the 1959 Southern Baptist Convention at Louisville.

Changes within the agencies themselves probably could be undertaken earlier.

Budgets for Convention agencies for 1959 have been approved by the Southern

Baptist Executive Committee and will be presented to the Houston Convention for adoption.

1960 budgets will be approved at the December, 1958, meeting of the Executive Committee and be presented to the Louisville Convention in 1959 for adoption.

The Survey Committee reported that before reaching its recommendations, it discussed with each Convention agency the proposed changes affecting that agency.

No more than two-thirds of the members of a Convention committee or agency would be ministers or laymen, providing a balance between the two groups.

The Stewardship Commission would be created by removing the division of promotion from the present set up of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

The Church Loan Board would be an entirely new function. It would "extend loans to new and existing churches for the construction of new facilities and for the enlargement of existing facilities.

"The Church Loan Board should have the same relationships to the Southern Baptist Convention as other agencies of the Convention," the report says. The new board's members would be elected by the Convention as are members of other boards, and its business would have to conform to the Convention's business and financial plan.

The Inter-Agency Council, under committee recommendations, would not be considered an agency of the Convention. It would not have administrative offices or personnel. It would not make annual reports to the Convention.

The Inter-Agency Council would carry on principally the same activities in which it now engages--correlating and co-ordinating programs of the various agencies.

However, Convention recognition through adoption of the Survey Committee report would give all agencies representatives on the Inter-Agency Council. At present only the Sunday School Board, Home Mission Board, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission are represented.

A separate Stewardship Commission, the committee says, would "provide stewardship promotion the emphasis its importance warrants." It also would leave the Executive Committee in a better position to consider Convention matters "on the same objective basis."

The committee recommends that the Executive Committee and smaller Convention agencies located in Nashville be housed in a separate building together.

They are now using office space in buildings of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

The Survey Committee recommends development of a format on which Convention agencies would present their annual reports "on a more appropriate and comparable basis."

The Committee on Resolutions, appointed at each annual Convention, would have its membership increased from five to 10 members. Three of the members on the recommended new committee arrangement would also be members of the Executive Committee, in order to assure "information about recent work of the Executive Committee and Convention agencies."

With respect to home and foreign mission programs, the Survey Committee recommends that mission programs in Hawaii, Cuba, Panama, and Canal Zone be transferred to local Baptist conventions gradually.

"The present church loan function should be retained by the Home Mission Board," the committee says.

Functions of the Sunday School Board should remain unchanged, according to the report, but "the Sunday School Board should not be permitted or required to transfer funds to other Southern Baptist Convention agencies or committees."

This does not change the requirement that the Sunday School Board supply \$60,000 a year toward administrative costs of the Convention. The report would authorize the Sunday School Board to allocate additional funds to the Convention to be used as the Convention deems wise.

Commissions of the Convention, the report continues, "should work primarily with other Convention agencies and state conventions and their agencies rather than with local churches."

The committee recommends that seminary presidents "adopt a revised formula for distribution of Cooperative Program funds" to the six SBC seminaries. It also recommends that seminaries begin charging a nominal sum for tuition and increase their fees.

It proposes "more effective use" of existing seminaries before any new seminaries are established.

The committee recommends that hospitals at New Orleans and Jacksonville, Fla., stay under management of the Southern Baptist Hospital Commission. However, it recommends the Convention reaffirm its position that new hospital ventures are state and local mission projects, not Convention projects.

Enlargement of the administrative staff of Southern Baptist Foundation is recommended.

A full copy of the 63-page committee report will be published in the March issue of Baptist Program and will be contained also in the Book of Reports received by messengers to the Houston Convention.

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Four Major Addresses
Scheduled At Houston

HOUSTON--(BP)--The order of business for the 1958 session of the Southern Baptist Convention provides for four major addresses and a special program on the "present world crisis."

The schedule of the Convention includes sessions starting on Tuesday night, May 20, and closing Friday night, May 23. There will be sessions each of the three afternoons of the Convention.

The order of business (program) was released by Walter L. Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church, Meridian, Miss., who is chairman of the Committee on Order of Business.

The order of business is subject to adoption by the Convention at its first session on Tuesday night here.

The major addresses will be the annual President's Address and Convention Sermon, and speeches by Ralph A. Herring and Former Convention President R. G. Lee.

Herring is pastor of First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, N. C., and Lee of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

President Brooks Hays, Arkansas Congressman, will make his address on Tuesday night. The Tuesday session is considered a joint session of the Southern Baptist Convention and its auxiliary, the Woman's Missionary Union.

Robert E. Naylor, pastor of Travis Ave. Baptist Church, Fort Worth, is Convention preacher. He delivers the annual Convention Sermon on Wednesday morning.

Herring addresses the Convention at its Friday morning session and Lee at its Friday afternoon session.

The special program "on the present world crisis" comes at the closing session of the Convention Friday night.

Details of the special program were not announced.

The Foreign Mission Board makes its presentation at the Wednesday night session and the Home Mission Board at the Thursday night session.

The Committee to Study Total Southern Baptist Convention Program has an hour and 45 minutes set aside for its report on Thursday afternoon. -30-

March 1, 1958

Suggested Order of Business

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

May 20-23, 1958

Houston, Texas

Brooks Hays, President, Presiding
William J. Reynolds, Director of Music

GENERAL THEME: "Go---make disciples"
(Matt. 28:19 ARV)

Tuesday Night, May 20

Joint Session with Woman's Missionary Union

Go---make disciples
Through cooperative witnessing

- 6:45 Singing - - - William J. Reynolds, Music Director, Tennessee
- 7:00 Scripture (Matt. 28:16-20) and Prayer - - - Malcolm B. Knight, Florida
- 7:05 Secretary's Report on Registration - - - Joe W. Burton, Tennessee
- 7:10 Committee on Order of Business - - - Walter L. Moore, Chairman, Mississippi
- 7:15 Appointment of Committee on Committees, Committee on Resolutions, and Tellers
- 7:20 President's Address - - - Brooks Hays, Arkansas
- 7:50 Special Music
- 8:00 Jubilee Advance Program - - - C. C. Warren, North Carolina
- 9:30 Adjourn

Wednesday Morning, May 21

Go---make disciples
Through faithful stewardship

- 9:00 Singing
- 9:05 Reading (Luke 12:42-48) and Prayer - - - Fred Hubbs, Michigan
- 9:10 Recognition of Fraternal Messengers
- 9:30 Brotherhood Commission
- 9:50 Song
- 9:55 Executive Committee Administrative Report - - - Porter W. Routh, Executive Secretary, Tennessee
- 11:10 Special Music
- 11:20 Convention Sermon - - - Robert E. Naylor, Texas
- 12:05 Adjourn

Wednesday Afternoon, May 21

Go---make disciples
Through compassionate service

- 2:30 Singing
- 2:35 Scripture (Matt. 9:35-38) and Prayer - - - Lamar Jackson, Alabama
- 2:40 Hospital Commission
- 3:00 Relief and Annuity Board - - - R. Alton Reed, Executive Secretary, Texas
- 3:20 Singing
- 3:30 Miscellaneous Business
- 3:55 Election of Officers

Wednesday Night, May 21

Go---make disciples
In every land

- 6:45 Singing
- 7:00 Scripture (Acts 1:1-8) and Prayer - - - Joseph R. Estes, Kentucky
- 7:05 Baptist World Alliance - - - Theodore F. Adams, President;
Arnold T. Ohrn, Executive Secretary
- 7:15 Woman's Missionary Union
- 7:35 Special Music
- 7:45 Foreign Mission Board
- 9:30 Adjourn

Thursday Morning, May 22

Go---make disciples
By teaching the truth

- 9:00 Singing
- 9:05 Scripture (I. Tim. 4:6-16) and Prayer - - - J. E. Rouse, South Carolina
- 9:10 Education Commission
- 9:25 Historical Commission
- 9:40 Committee to study Theological, Religious and Missionary Education - - -
W. Douglas Hudgins
- 9:50 Southern Baptist Foundation
- 10:00 Committee on Church Related Vocations - - - Allen W. Graves, Kentucky
- 10:15 Committee on Canadian Baptist Cooperation - - - Brooks Hays, Arkansas
- 10:25 Special Music
- 10:35 Miscellaneous Business
- 11:05 American Baptist Seminary
- 11:20 Song

Thursday Morning, May 22 (Cont'd)

- 11:25 Southern Baptist Seminaries
 - Southern Baptist Seminary - Duke K. McCall, President, Kentucky
 - New Orleans Baptist Seminary - Roland Q. Leavell, President, Louisiana
 - Southwestern Baptist Seminary - J. Howard Williams, President, Texas
 - Southeastern Baptist Seminary - Sydnor L. Stealey, President, North Carolina
 - Golden Gate Baptist Seminary - Harold K. Graves, President, California
 - Midwestern Baptist Seminary - Millard Berquist, President, Missouri
 - Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary - L. S. Sedberry, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Tennessee
 - Seminary Extension Department - Lee Gallman, Director, Mississippi
 - Address: J. Howard Williams, Texas

12:30 Adjourn

Thursday Afternoon, May 22

Go---make disciples
Through efficient churches

- 2:00 Singing
- 2:05 Scripture (Exodus 18:13-24) and Prayer - - - Roy W. Babb, Tennessee
- 2:10 Executive Committee Promotional Report
- 2:45 Committee on Total Program of Southern Baptists - - - Douglas M. Branch
- 4:30 Adjourn

Thursday Night, May 22

Go---make disciples
By preaching the Word

- 6:45 Singing
- 7:00 Scripture (Rom. 10:8-15) and Prayer - - - Glenn Braswell, Montana
- 7:05 Chaplain's Commission - - - Alfred Carpenter, Director, Georgia
- 7:20 Southwestern Seminary Jubilee Program
- 7:50 Special Music
- 8:00 Home Mission Board
- 9:30 Adjourn

Friday Morning, May 23

Go---make disciples
By publishing the gospel

- 9:00 Singing
- 9:05 Scripture (Isaiah 52:6-12) and Prayer - - - Chester A. Molpus, Mississippi
- 9:10 American Bible Society
- 9:20 Committee on Committees
- 9:30 Committee on Denominational Calendar - - - Alma Hunt, Alabama

Friday Morning, May 23 (Cont'd)

- 9:35 Miscellaneous Business
- 10:05 Committee on Denominational Papers - - - Louie D. Newton, Georgia
- 10:20 Sunday School Board
- 11:20 Report of Radio and Television Commission - - - Paul M. Stevens
- 11:50 Special Music
- 12:00 Address: Ralph A. Herring, North Carolina
- 12:30 Adjourn

Friday Afternoon, May 23

Go---make disciples
By righteous living

- 2:00 Worship in Song
- 2:05 Scripture (Romans 12) and Prayer - - - Arlie L. McDaniel, California
- 2:10 Report of Committee on Boards - - - Dotson M. Nelson, South Carolina
- 2:20 Committee on Time, Place and Preacher
- 2:25 Report of Committee on Resolutions
- 2:40 Memorial Service
- 2:55 Special Music
- 3:05 Christian Life Commission - - - A. C. Miller, Executive Secretary,
 Tennessee
- 3:35 Address: Robert Greene Lee
- 4:20 Adjourn

Friday Night, May 23

Go---make disciples
For world peace

- 6:45 Singing
- 7:00 Scripture (Micah 4:1-5) and Prayer - - - Walter A. Pegg, District of
 Columbia
- 7:05 Presentation of Convention Officers
- 7:25 Committee on Public Affairs - - - Walter Pope Binns, Missouri
- 7:40 Special Music
- 7:50 Special Program on Present World Crisis
- 9:30 Adjourn