

(6) That the five agencies form a group to develop and ordinate a comprehensive Missions Education Strategy.

80. The floor was opened for nominations for first vice-president. Gene Watterson (N.C.) nominated Olan Runnels (Mo.). Ron Fisher (Mo.) nominated Milton Morales (Mo.). Ballots were cast for first vice-president.

81. Second Vice-President Mrs. Carl Bates (N.C.) was asked to take the chair. She explained the unique nature of the major feature of the evening program, a combined presentation by the Radio and Television Commission, the Foreign Mission Board, and the Home Mission Board on the theme, "Let the Church Reach Out—by Means—to All People—Everywhere!"

82. Secretary Routh presented Fred Gregg (D.C.), the teacher of a Sunday School class in Washington of which President Jimmy Carter is an active member. Gregg spoke of the keen personal interest of President Carter in the Bold Mission Thrust of the Convention and, particularly, of recent conversations with the President resulting in a group of the Convention's leaders being invited to a conference with the President to discuss ways to enlist a large number of young people, also older people, as volunteers for a period of missionary service. A historic feature of Gregg's presentation included a message by President Carter heard by the messengers on videotape: a challenge to commitment to our mission task.

In this connection, Owen Cooper (Miss.) presented Recommendation No. 23 in behalf of the Executive Committee and moved for its adoption. The motion passed.

Recommendation No. 23

(1) We recommend that the Southern Baptist Convention, working in cooperation with the state conventions, seek to enlist by 1982 5,000 persons, groups of churches, or churches who would agree to provide and fund 5,000 missionaries, volunteers who would go for one or two years, either in the United States or overseas, in an effort to reach the objectives of the Bold Mission Thrust. It is hoped that the churches will also encourage an increase in Cooperative Program giving by some percentage each year and that the churches will seek as a goal to double their Cooperative Program gifts during this same period of time as projected by the Stewardship Commission.

(2) We would urge the state mission boards, the Home Mission Board, the Foreign Mission Board, working with Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood Commission, and Sunday School Board, to join in the enlistment and utilization of these volunteers to the greatest degree possible during this five-year period.

(3) We suggest that a workgroup composed of five (5) state secretaries be named by that group's organization; five (5) persons representing the five agencies mentioned in Item 2 (2) above; and five (5) members of the Executive Committee, to be appointed by the Executive Committee chairman; plus other desired members as the workgroup may feel necessary; be named to be present at the September Executive Committee meeting methods, plans, and programs to activate, enlist, and finance this mission activity, and that the chairman of the Executive Committee be named as the chairman of the workgroup.

83. An effective audiovisual feature presented the challenge "that every person in the world shall have the opportunity to hear the gospel of Christ in the next twenty-five years, and that in the presentation of this message, the biblical faith be magnified so that men, women, and children can understand the claim Jesus Christ has on their lives" (from the report of the Missions Challenge Committee of the Convention, 1976).

84. The Chair announced an offering to assist in defraying the expense of the program just presented.

85. Following special music by Southern Baptist Singing Men, singing "Glory to His Name," Frank Pollard (Miss.) spoke on the subject, "The World God Loves." Bruce Gardner (Idaho) led the Convention in prayer to conclude the evening session.

Wednesday Morning, June 15

86. Pre-session music was presented by the Weiucan Road Baptist Church Choir, Atlanta, Georgia, directed by Jack Gantt.

87. President Sullivan called the Convention to order. Jack Gantt (Ga.) led in singing "To God Be the Glory." Lloyd E. Batson (S.C.) led the messengers in reading selected Scriptures. Calvin M. Bailey (Penn.-N.J.) led in prayer.

88. Secretary Kendall reported the tabulation of ballots for officers: For recording secretary—Martin B. Bradley (Tenn.), 4,841; Searcy S. Garrison (Ga.), 3,100. For registration secretary—Lee Porter (Tenn.), 4,253; Larry Maddox (Mo.), 2,758. For first vice-president—Olan H. Runnels (Mo.), 3,556; Milton Morales (Mo.), 3,532. The Chair declared the election of Bradley, Porter, and Runnels for the respective offices.

89. Secretary Kendall reported that 15,505 messengers were enrolled as of the preceding night.

90. The Chair opened the floor for nominations for second vice-president. Philip H. Briggs (Tex.) nominated Ron Stone (Ky.). Gene Garrison (Okla.) nominated Richard Sutton (Kan.). Howard H. Aultman (Miss.) nominated John F. Gibson (Ga.). Ballots were cast for second vice-president.

91. The Chair recognized Daniel R. Grant (Ark.), chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, for the first report of the committee. By common consent, it was agreed to limit debate to three minutes for each person speaking, and to have alternate viewpoints presented in order. Grant commented on the work of the committee and the procedure to be followed in presenting resolutions for consideration.

92. Alvin W. Wood (Alaska) presented Resolution No. 1 and moved its adoption. The motion passed.

Resolution No. 1—On Appreciation of the Host City

WHEREAS, The Southern Baptist Convention is enjoying the gracious hospitality of Kansas City for the fifth time, and

WHEREAS, The facilities of Bartle Hall are of exceptional quality and have served well the needs of this Convention, and

WHEREAS, The city officials and other civic leaders, the Police Department, the bus and taxi operators, and the management of hotels and motels, all have spared no effort in assisting the messengers in the work of this Convention, and

WHEREAS, Baptists of the Kansas City region, working under the leadership of Olan Runnels, chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee, have served untiringly in providing the necessary supports for this meeting, and

WHEREAS, Midwestern Seminary faculty and students have graciously given so freely and untiringly of their time and energy to make this Convention a success, and

WHEREAS, The newspapers, radio, and television personnel have been exceptionally gracious in their coverage of the activities of this Convention.

Be it therefore Resolved, that we express our profound gratitude to all of these who have contributed so much to the enjoyment of our visit and the efficiency of our work.

ANNUAL

OF THE

SOUTHERN BAPTIST
CONVENTION

Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-seven

ONE HUNDRED TWENTIETH SESSION
ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SECOND YEAR

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI
JUNE 14-16, 1977

FUTURE SESSIONS TO BE HELD IN

Atlanta, Ga.—June 13-15, 1978

Houston, Tex.—June 12-14, 1979

St. Louis, Mo.—June 10-12, 1980

Los Angeles, Calif.—June 9-11, 1981

Prepared by Clifton J. Allen, Recording Secretary of the Convention

Mrs. Martin B. Bradley, Assistant to the Recording Secretary

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