

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF SOUTHWESTERN AT MEMPHIS  
HELD IN THE DIRECTORS' ROOM  
PALMER HALL  
FEBRUARY 1, 1949

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The regular stated meeting of the Board of Directors of Southwestern at Memphis was held in the Directors' Room, Palmer Hall, on Tuesday, February 1, 1949, at 9:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Sidney W. Farnsworth, and was opened with prayer by Dr. George Lang.

The roll call showed the following members present:

Chas. E. Diehl, ex officio

ALABAMA:	LOUISIANA:	MISSISSIPPI:	TENNESSEE:
George Lang	J.S. Land	Frank A. England	William Hume
D.C. MacGuire	T.Walker Lewis	W.H. McAtee	S.W. Farnsworth
	Alfred C. Glassell	W.J. Millard	Moore Moore

The Secretary stated that Judge D.H. Edington, of Mobile, Alabama, and Mr. B.B. Taylor, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, were unable to attend the meeting because of illness; that Mr. W. Stennis Johnson, of McComb, Mississippi, found it impossible to attend; that Mr. W.S. Beasley, of Columbia, Tennessee, was unable to attend because of bad weather conditions, and that Mr. A.K. Burrow, of Memphis, was unable to be present because of his absence from the city.

Miss Erma Reese, Secretary to the President, was invited to sit in the meeting as assistant to the Secretary.

It was moved by Dr. Lang, seconded by Dr. Diehl, and carried that Dr. P.N. Rhodes, Vice-President, be invited to sit in the meeting.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Taylor, in which he stated that he thought it necessary for him to resign as a Director of Southwestern due to his physical condition. Mr. Taylor's term as a Director expires with the 1949 meeting of the Synod of Louisiana. Upon motion by Dr. J.S. Land, seconded by Mr. McAtee, the Secretary was requested to write Mr. Taylor a letter, expressing the regret of the members of the Board that he feels he should resign.

The minutes of the annual meeting of the Board of Directors held on September 14, 1948, which were read and approved at the close of that meeting, copies of which had been received by all the members of the Board, were read for information. The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held on September 24, October 22, 29, November 30, December 6, 13, 1948, and January 27, 1949, copies of which had been received by each member of the Board, were approved.

The members of the Board, as well as Dr. Rhodes and Mr. Roy L. Davis, Secretary of Public Relations, were invited to have luncheon in the Bell Room of Hugh M. Neely Hall at 12:30 P.M.

The Chairman announced for information the personnel of the House and Finance Committees, which were appointed at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors on September 14, 1948, to function through the 1949 annual meeting of the Board, as follows:

HOUSE COMMITTEE - J.S. Land, Chairman; George Lang, Frank A. England, T.Walker Lewis

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Alfred C. Glassell, Chairman; A.K. Burrow, William Hume, S.W. Farnsworth

The Chairman also announced the personnel of the Honorary Degrees Committee as follows:

Moore Moore, Chairman; W.J. Millard, Chas. E. Diehl, and two faculty members - W.R. Cooper and P.N. Rhodes

President Diehl made an oral report on the work of the college for the first semester of the 1948-49 session, as well as a statement concerning the future of liberal arts colleges like Southwestern at Memphis.

The following comparative income and expense statement, in mimeographed form, was distributed to the members of the Board:

COMPARATIVE INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT  
December 31, 1947 - December 31, 1948

	July 1, 1947 to Dec. 31, 1947	July 1, 1948 to Dec. 31, 1948
<u>OPERATING INCOME</u>		
From Students	\$ 99,525.71	\$ 105,963.56
Less Scholarships and Grants-in-aid	10,197.50	11,913.50
	<u>89,328.21</u>	<u>94,050.06</u>
<u>OTHER OPERATING INCOME</u>		
Dormitories, Dining Hall and Bookstore	70,607.82	81,590.44
Student Union Store	19,097.44	14,540.19
Endowment Income	45,871.95	55,553.39
Miscellaneous	785.12	1,047.96
Total Operating Income	<u>225,690.54</u>	<u>246,782.04</u>
Due from Veterans' Adm. for Student Instruction	53,215.50	47,145.00
TOTAL	<u>278,906.04</u>	<u>293,927.04</u>
<u>OPERATING EXPENSE</u>		
Instructional	107,801.60	114,839.81
Physical plant and Grounds	16,878.51	19,617.37
General and Administrative	26,522.49	24,905.98
Publicity, Promotion and Alumni	8,272.78	15,899.14
Retirement, Life and Hospital Insurance	8,131.87	9,150.20
Dormitories, Dining Hall and Bookstore	60,956.21	72,502.18
Student Union Store	19,695.24	18,461.76
Paid out of Student Fees	30,051.61	28,416.23
	<u>278,310.31</u>	<u>303,792.67</u>
Surplus or deficit before applying Contributions	595.73	(9,865.63)

	July 1, 1947 to Dec. 31, 1947	July 1, 1948 to Dec. 31, 1948
<u>CONTRIBUTED INCOME</u>		
Memphis Churches	\$ 2,434.80	\$ 2,478.43
Synod of Alabama	3,994.09	2,635.96
Synod of Louisiana	1,701.00	2,238.96
Synod of Mississippi	1,007.30	1,615.62
Synod of Tennessee	<u>1,906.68</u>	<u>2,214.39</u>
Total Contributions	11,043.87	11,183.36
Surplus	11,639.60	1,317.73

President Diehl announced that Mr. J.D. Duncan, of Greenwood, Mississippi, who was a faithful and valued member of the Board of Directors of Southwestern from 1921 to 1933, died on January 21, 1949.

In the absence of the Treasurer, Mr. A.K. Burrow, Mr. C.L. Springfield, Bursar and Business Manager, was invited into the meeting to answer questions pertaining to the financial condition of the college.

The matter of increasing tuition fees beginning with the 1949-50 session was fully discussed, after which Mr. Lewis made the following motion, which was seconded by Mr. Glassell:

That the tuition fees for students be increased from \$412.00 per year to \$500.00, beginning with the 1949-50 session.

After a further discussion of this matter, President Diehl amended the motion offered by Mr. Lewis to the effect that the tuition fees be increased not to exceed \$58.00 per year, thus making the total tuition fees \$470.00 per year. The amendment of President Diehl was in accord with a recommendation of the Bursar and Business Manager. This amended motion, which was seconded by Mr. McAtee, was lost. The original motion by Mr. Lewis was put to a vote and carried.

President Diehl stated that it is desirable to relocate Fargason Field on Southwestern's campus, and offered the following resolution, which was duly seconded by Mr. Glassell, and was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, certain conditions and limitations contained in the deeds to a portion of the property owned by Southwestern at Memphis bind it to maintain its athletic field on a 14.68 acre tract of land on the campus and require the said tract to be used for no other purpose and to be designated as Fargason Field and provides for the payment of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) cash, or a reversion of the land to the heirs of John T. Fargason, deceased, in the event of a breach of the conditions and limitations, and

Whereas, the future development of the campus in an efficient and well arranged manner is hindered and restricted by the present location of the said 14.68 acre tract.

Now, therefore, be it resolved:

First: That the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors be, and it is hereby, authorized to conduct negotiations with the heirs of John T. Fargason in an effort to obtain a relocation of the said 14.68 acre tract and to broaden the purposes for which the tract may be used after its relocation.

Second: That if such negotiations result in an agreement by the heirs of the said John T. Fargason permitting the relocation of the said 14.68 acre tract and/or enlargement of the purposes for which the tract may be used, on terms satisfactory to the Executive Committee, any two of the officers of the corporation be, and they are hereby, authorized to execute any contracts, deeds or other instruments necessary or proper to consummate the agreement so reached, and if necessary or advisable to protect properly the interests of the corporation against the claims of any minor heirs of John T. Fargason, deceased, to institute suit to have the agreement approved or confirmed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

The Chairman made a report on the progress of the Friends of Southwestern project, stating that a total of \$13,906.41 has been received to date. He stated the necessity of securing additional funds for the college, and urged members of the Board to keep this matter in mind as they have occasion to talk with people in their respective Synods. (See minutes of the Board of Directors meeting for September 14, 1948; minutes of the Executive Committee meetings for September 24, October 22, 29, November 30, and December 6, 1948).

Dr. J.S. Land reported that the Synod of Louisiana at its meeting in 1948 approved an apportionment of \$15,000 a year for Southwestern out of the benevolences of the churches, rather than \$20,000 a year which had been requested by the Board of Directors of Southwestern.

Mr. Roy L. Davis, Secretary of Public Relations, was invited into the meeting and made a brief oral report on his work during the past months and his plans for the future.

The Committee on Honorary Degrees, through its Chairman, recommended that the following degrees be conferred at Southwestern's commencement exercises on May 31, 1949:

DOCTOR OF DIVINITY

The Reverend Clyde C. Foushee, McLemore Avenue Presbyterian Church, Memphis  
The Reverend Ernest D. Holloway, First Presbyterian Church, Monroe, Louisiana

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Cecil M. Gooch, C.M. Gooch Lumber Company, Memphis  
S.J. Patterson, Jr., Director of Men's Work of the General Assembly, Richmond,  
Virginia

DOCTOR OF LAWS

Bennett Harvie Branscomb, Chancellor, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

The Committee also recommends that the Executive Committee be authorized and empowered to confer another honorary degree on May 31, 1949, if it seems advisable to do so.

Upon motion by President Diehl, duly seconded, the recommendations of the Committee on Honorary Degrees were unanimously adopted.

The Board took recess at twelve o'clock for luncheon, and reconvened at 2:00 P.M.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. Glassell, commenting upon the securities held by Southwestern, commended the Investment Committee on the character of the investments and the average current yield which amounts to 4.1 per cent.

Mr. Farnsworth, Chairman of the Committee on Selection to secure a successor to President Diehl, after recounting the work of the Committee during the past months, presented the name of Dr. Peyton N. Rhodes, who came to Southwestern in 1926 to take charge of the Department of Physics, and who, in addition to his teaching duties, has been Vice-President of the college since 1944, as the unanimous choice of the Committee. Mr. Farnsworth stated that Dr. Rhodes was born in Crozet, Virginia, on January 29, 1900, the son of the late Mr. Harry Peyton Rhodes and Mrs. Rhodes, who, since her husband's death in 1929, has been living with her son at 1950 Lyndale Avenue, Memphis; that he received his A.B., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Virginia; that he taught at Woodberry Forrest School, Orange, Virginia, 1922-24, and taught Spanish in the summer session of the University of Virginia, 1923-42; that he is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi (Scientific Research Society of America), The Raven Society of the University of Virginia, Omicron Delta Kappa, Delta Chi (social fraternity), The Engineers' Club of Memphis, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Physical Society, Tennessee Academy of Science, American Association of Physics Teachers, American Meteorological Society, and the Tennessee Education Association; that he is an Elder in Idlewild Presbyterian Church of Memphis; that his wife is the former Miss Alice Boisseau Archer, of Waynesboro, Virginia, and that they have one son, Joseph Carthon Rhodes, who attends Snowden Junior High School, Memphis. The Chairman also stated that Dr. Rhodes has the respect and regard of his colleagues on the faculty and staff, is well and favorably known in this section, as well as in the educational world, is a good administrator, and is well qualified for this important position.

The nomination of Dr. Rhodes was promptly seconded by several members of the Board, and was followed by the enthusiastic approval of every member present, especially by Dr. Diehl, who expressed the great pleasure and satisfaction he would find in having Dr. Rhodes as his successor. Upon motion, which was duly seconded, Dr. Rhodes was elected President of Southwestern at Memphis by a unanimous standing vote, to take effect on July 1, 1949, at a salary of \$10,000 a year.


Dr. Rhodes was invited into the meeting and apprised of the hearty action of the Board, after which he expressed his grateful appreciation of the honor conferred upon him, and his willingness to accept the position. He stated that he would earnestly strive to carry on the high ideals and standards of the college, both from the Christian and the academic point of view.

President Diehl left the room, and Mr. England noted that Dr. Diehl's retirement salary had been fixed at \$5,000 per year for his lifetime. (See minutes of meeting of Board of Directors for September 11, 1945, item 7, page 3). Upon motion by Mr. England, which was seconded by Mr. Glassell, the provision made for Dr. Diehl on September 11, 1945, was reaffirmed, and provision was made for Mrs. Diehl to receive \$2500.00 per year for her lifetime, should she outlive Dr. Diehl. It was brought to the attention of the Board that there is an indebtedness, approximating \$3000.00, on the home of Dr. and Mrs. Diehl at 1967 Snowden Avenue, Memphis. Upon motion, duly seconded, the Board voted to have Southwestern assume this indebtedness.

Dr. Diehl was asked to return to the meeting and was apprised of the Board's action. In a few feeling remarks, he expressed his grateful appreciation for the generous action of the Board on behalf of himself and Mrs. Diehl.

The proposed centennial celebration was discussed. Upon motion by Dr. Lang, seconded by Dr. MacGuire, the Board unanimously voted to try to arrange for simultaneous meetings of Southwestern's four cooperating Synods - Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee - in Memphis in September, 1949, in connection with the celebration of Southwestern's centennial. It was decided to have the final phase of the celebration and the inauguration of the new President of the college in October, 1949.

After the reading and approval of the minutes, the Board adjourned at 3:45 P.M., with prayer by Dr. Land.

  
Secretary