

**THE JOHN H. BUCHANAN  
PAPERS**

**AR 101**



**Processed by Dorothy Davis  
Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives  
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# The John H. Buchanan Papers

## AR 101

### Summary

Main Entry: John H. Buchanan Papers

Date Span: 1938 – 1953

Abstract: John H. Buchanan was a Southern Baptist pastor and denominational leader from Alabama. He served as pastor of the Southside Baptist Church in Birmingham and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The papers cover his period of service on the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. The collection includes minutes, reports, recommendations, articles, correspondence, budget information, and other material related to the work of the Executive Committee from 1938 – 1947. The papers include information on the work of the Convention, the committee to survey the agencies, the deferment of the meetings in 1943 and 1945, the Hundred Thousand Club (debt payment), the establishment of two seminaries, the establishment of the Western Assembly, war cost on the mission fields, the survey of Theological Education for the SBC, and the World Council of Churches.

Size: 1 linear ft.

Collection #: AR 101

### Biographical Sketch

John H. Buchanan served on the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1937-1948, and as its President from 1946-1947. While on the Committee, Dr. Buchanan worked on several sub-committees, including the Allocation, Administration, Capital Needs Survey, and Theological Education Survey. In 1945, he received an honorable mention from the United States Treasury Department for his work in the War Finance Program. Dr. Buchanan was also a member of the Foreign Mission Board from 1949 – 1955.

Dr. Buchanan received his Bachelor of Arts from Mississippi College, in 1910, and his Master of Theology from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1921, after returning from serving as an Army Chaplain during World War I in France. He held several pastorates, including Booneville Baptist Church (Mississippi), Finchville Baptist Church (Kentucky), Paris Baptist Church (Tennessee), First Baptist Church (Meridian, Mississippi), First Baptist Church (El Dorado, Mississippi), and First Baptist Church (Lynchburg, Virginia). Dr. Buchanan was pastor of Southside Baptist Church

(Birmingham, Alabama) from 1937 until his retirement in 1957. He worked as a trustee for Union University (Jackson, Tennessee), Ouachita University (Arkadelphia, Arkansas), Averett University (Danville, Virginia), and Howard College (Big Spring, Texas). Both Ouachita and Howard gave Dr. Buchanan honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees.

Born in 1887 in Blue Mountain, Mississippi, Dr. Buchanan died in 1976. He married Ruby Lowery and had four children – Lynn, Jean, John, Jr., and Anne. John H. Buchanan, Jr. served as United States Congressman for Alabama's Sixth District from 1964 – 1980.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The John H. Buchanan Papers (1938 – 1953) deal with his tenure on the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention and sub-committees, including the Allocation, Administration, Capital Needs Survey, and Theological Education Survey. The collection contains 1.5 linear feet of materials, in three document boxes, and articles, budgets, reports, financial plans, surveys, and correspondence. Materials are arranged alphabetically and then chronologically.

Much of the collection relates to either Convention finances or finances for other agencies. In addition, some material also covers the Woman's Missionary Union, World Council of Churches, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the establishment of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Other materials deal with the concerns about the financial impact of World War II on the Convention and its function. Dr. Buchanan corresponded with several prominent Baptist leaders, including E. P. Alldredge, Walter Pope Binns, Austin Crouch, J. E. Dillard, John L. Hill, T. L. Holcomb, John R. Jester, H. G. Lindsay, Duke K. McCall, Charles E. Maddry, Kathleen Mallory, T. W. Medearis, Hight C Moore, Pat M. Neff, Louie D. Newton, M. T. Rankin, Porter Routh, J. W. Storer, and C. C. Warren.

### **Arrangement**

Arranged chronologically within subject divisions

### **Preferred Citation**

The John H. Buchanan Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

### **Access Restrictions**

None

### **Subject Terms**

Buchanan, John Hall, 1887 – 1976

Gardner, Truman Cleveland, 1888 – 1908

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

World Council of Churches  
 Southern Baptist Convention.. Executive Committee  
 Theological education – Baptists

## Container List

### Box 1

- 1.1 Administrative Committee of the Executive Committee (SBC) – Agenda, 1943
- 1.2 Alldredge, E. P. – “The California Baptist Situation,” 1942
- 1.3 Analysis of Denominational Expenses, 1943
- 1.4 Baptist Brotherhood of the South – Account, 1946
- 1.5 Baptist Bulletin Service, 1946
- 1.6 Broadcasting Summary, 1944 – 1945
- 1.7 Buchanan, John H. – “A Problem Southern Baptists Must Face”
- 1.8 Budget, 1945
- 1.9 Budget, 1946
- 1.10 Budget, 1947
- 1.11 Budget for Home Mission Board, 1946
- 1.12 Business and Financial Plan
- 1.13 By-Laws of Southern Baptist Foundation
- 1.14 Centennial Committee
- 1.15 Charter of the Southern Baptist Convention
- 1.16 Clippings, 1946
- 1.17 Comparative Statement of Receipts by States, January, 1939 – December, 1940
- 1.18 Cooke, Lawson H. – “Men, These People are Hungry!”
- 1.19 Correspondence, 1942
- 1.20 Correspondence, 1943
- 1.21 Correspondence, 1944
- 1.22 Correspondence, 1945
- 1.23 Correspondence, 1946
- 1.24 Correspondence, 1947
- 1.25 Correspondence – Alldredge, E. P., 1942
- 1.26 Correspondence – Binns, Walter Pope, 1942 – 1946
- 1.27 Correspondence – Crouch, Austin, 1939 – 1945
- 1.28 Correspondence – Dillard, J. E., 1943 – 1945
- 1.29 Correspondence – Fuller, Ellis A., 1943 – 1945
- 1.30 Correspondence – Hill, John L., 1947
- 1.31 Correspondence – Holcomb, T. L., 1944
- 1.32 Correspondence – Jester, John R., 1944
- 1.33 Correspondence – Lindsay, H. G., 1944
- 1.34 Correspondence – Maddry, Charles E., 1942 – 1944
- 1.35 Correspondence – Mallory, Kathleen, 1943 – 1945
- 1.36 Correspondence – McCall, Duke K., 1943 – 1946
- 1.37 Correspondence – Medearis, T. W., 1946
- 1.38 Correspondence – Newton, Louie D., 1942 – 1946
- 1.39 Correspondence – Rankin, M. T., 1945 – 1946

- 1.40 Correspondence – Routh, Porter, 1946
- 1.41 Correspondence – Southeastern Seminary, 1950 – 1951
- 1.42 Correspondence – Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1942 – 1943
- 1.43 Correspondence – Storer, J. W., 1945 – 1946

## **Box 2**

- 2.1 Correspondence – Survey of Theological Education – New Seminaries, 1948 –
- 2.2 Correspondence – Warren, C. C., 1947
- 2.3 Correspondence – Watts, Thomas J., 1944
- 2.4 Correspondence – Woman’s Missionary Union
- 2.5 Correspondence – World Council of Churches, 1940
- 2.6 Crittendon, A. – “Let’s Adopt the Revision”
- 2.7 Crouch, Austin – “Post-Debt Program for Southern Baptist Convention”
- 2.8 Dillard, J. E. – “The Enlarged Co-Operative Program of Southern Baptists for 1946”
- 2.9 Education Commission – Resolution, 1943
- 2.10 Executive Committee – Facts of Record by Hight C Moore, 1942
- 2.11 Extra Expenses, 1939 – 1942
- 2.12 First Baptist Church (Montgomery, AL) – Financial Statement, 1944
- 2.13 Florida State Mission Board – Agreement with Home Mission Board
- 2.14 Foreign Mission Board – Emergency Funds, 1944
- 2.15 History of Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1938
- 2.16 Home Mission Board – Joint Committee
- 2.17 Memorandum on Operation of Double Budget
- 2.18 Memorial to Executive Committee of Southern Baptist Convention from the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention Concerning the Notes of the Hospital Commission held by the Home Mission Board, 1940
- 2.19 Minutes – Administrative Committee of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1944
- 2.20 Minutes – Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, 1940
- 2.21 Minutes – Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, 1942
- 2.22 Minutes – Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, 1943
- 2.23 Minutes – Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, 1944
- 2.24 Minutes – Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, 1945
- 2.25 Minutes – Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, 1946

## **Box 3**

- 3.1 Newton, Louie D. – “Southern Baptists Will Honor Carey,” 1942
- 3.2 Questionnaire, 1942
- 3.3 Relief and Annuity Board, 1943
- 3.4 Report of Committee on World Peace, 1944
- 3.5 Report on Finance Committee, 1943
- 3.6 Report of Investment Committee, 1947
- 3.7 Report on Special Missions, 1944 – 1945
- 3.8 Report of Southwide Funds, March, 1941
- 3.9 Report – Survey of Theological Education, 1947 – 1949

- 3.10 Reserve Fund
- 3.11 Southern Baptist Foundation Charter, 1946
- 3.12 Statement Concerning Request of Baptist Bible Institute, 1940
- 3.13 Survey Committee – Southern Baptist Convention, 1944 – 1945
- 3.14 Tennessee Baptist Convention – Executive Board, 1943
- 3.15 Watts, Thomas J. – “A Threat to Our Baptist Freedom: A Pending Congressional Bill,” 1943
- 3.16 Woman’s Missionary Union – Budgets, 1945
- 3.17 Woman’s Missionary Union – Recommendations, 1942