

# **The Evolution of the Baptist World Alliance Young People's Movement**

**Emmett Dunn**

## **Introduction**

From the outset of the founding of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) in 1905, Baptist young people were also seeking to establish a cohesive movement of their own. This new world body, BWA, would serve both as an inspiration and an encouragement that would lead a few young people to explore the possibility of creating for themselves the same kind of organization. Like the BWA, this new youth movement would create space and opportunity to help youth confront their world. The world of the early 1900s was filled with challenges affecting young people both inside and outside of the Christian community.

When Baptist young people met to organize themselves in 1923, the world was still recovering from the devastation of World War I, the still very young Baptist World Alliance was determined to reunite the Baptist world, and every effort was being made to hold the 3<sup>rd</sup> Baptist World Congress. It was during this congress, held in Stockholm, Sweden, that a handful of young people met and formed the World Baptist Young People's Union (WBYPY).

Speaking during the congress, James Asa White, general secretary of the Baptist Young People's Union of America and a founding member of the WBYPY, implored the audience to see the rising power and restlessness of young people around the world as an opportunity. He could see many things to take the thoughts of young people away from personal religion and church loyalty, but believed firmly that the time was fast approaching when the mighty host of young Baptists of the world would together make a tremendous impact upon the social, political, economic, and industrial problems of the world.<sup>1</sup> Following White's passionate plea to

the congress assembly of the need to bring Baptist young people together, E.E. Hayward, secretary of the British Baptist Young People's Department, moved for the formation of the WBYP, with the aim of uniting young Baptists in all countries. In his speech to the congress, Hayward reminded the delegates that not only was the church created by people, but, throughout history, renewal movements were inspired by people who were under 30. It was his desire and that of the founding members of the WBYP to establish youth groups of both young men and women between the ages of 16 and 25 who he felt were most open to the challenge of the gospel. While recognizing the need to cooperate with interdenominational groups, Hayward believed that it was time to "band ourselves together as young Baptists."<sup>ii</sup>

With the acceptance of the motion by Hayward, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Baptist World Congress gave birth to the WBYP. This union would grow into what today has become the Youth Department of the Baptist World Alliance. With a committee membership consisting of representatives from Europe, USA, and Asia in 1923, the BWA youth movement, after more than 86 years, truly has come a long way. Today the BWA youth committees have members from all six regions of the BWA actively involved in the many ministries available through the Youth Department. The founding members of the WBYP included: M. D. Timoshenko (Russia); Frank H. Leavell (USA); P. Chiminelli (Italy); Arnold T. Ohrn (Norway); J. Lee Lewis (Burma); S. Saito (Japan); B. Fetzer (Germany); E. E. Hayward (United Kingdom); James Asa White (USA); Per Gunnar Westin (Sweden); and N. S. McKechnie (Canada).<sup>iii</sup>

### ***A Call to unite...The early years, 1923-1953***

It was the intent of the founders of the WBYPUP that unity would be the fundamental goal on which to build this new movement. To this end, they sought not only to reach Baptist young people throughout the Baptist family but also to become more integrated into the life of the Baptist World Alliance. Acting on their desire to unite with the larger family, they met during the 4<sup>th</sup> Baptist World Congress in Toronto, Canada, in 1928 and decided to become more closely linked with the BWA. For the first five years of the WBYPUP, even though related to the BWA, the union was a separate organization. The decision to connect with the BWA meant that they would now become fully involved in the work of the Alliance, with representation on the BWA Executive Committee, and also assist with the appointments of future youth leaders.<sup>iv</sup> Another action taken at this congress was a change of name. From the WBYPUP, they became known as the Young People's Committee of the Baptist World Alliance (YPC). T. G. Dunning, leader of the Baptist Young People's Department of Great Britain, was elected chair person and Frank H. Leavell of the Southern Baptist Convention, USA, was elected as secretary.<sup>v</sup>

Three years after the integration into the life of the BWA, the YPC organized the first Baptist Youth World Conference (BYWC) in Prague, Czechoslovakia, (now the Czech Republic), with the aim of uniting Baptist young people in all countries. This conference brought together 400 participants from 16 countries,<sup>vi</sup> a number that was later revised to 20 countries.<sup>vii</sup>

In the minutes of the proceedings of the BYWC, Secretary Leavell described this first conference as follows:

Throughout the various expressions from the various lands, there was one continuous exchange of Christian love and affectionate fellowship. Hearts were made to beat in unbroken unison, and there was immediate mingling of mutual love, sympathy and affection, hurdling the barriers of different languages, costumes and customs, all made gloriously possible because of a common experience of grace and salvation through our common Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.<sup>viii</sup>

Building on the theme of unity, Leavell recalled a moment in the program when the presiding officer, J. B. Middlebrook of England, introduced Max Slawinsky of Germany:

Brother Middlebrook had an empty shirt sleeve. Dr. Slawinsky stood upon an artificial left leg. Both losses were sustained in the World War, one in the English army, one in the German army. The great Middlebrook clasped the hand of the noble Slawinsky, and still holding hands said: "It is a pleasure to present Dr. Slawinsky. He is a relic of the war. I also am a relic of the war. I may have shot his left leg off. He may have shot my arm off. I do not know. But today in Christ we love as brothers and are enlisted and working in the same army."<sup>ix</sup>

In August of 1937, the 2<sup>nd</sup> BYWC was held in Zurich, Switzerland, with 1,564 participants representing 28 nations.

The Second World War made it impossible to have another world conference until 1949 when the 3<sup>rd</sup> BYWC was held in Stockholm, Sweden. According to the BWA Executive Committee's report of July 20, 1950, 1,300 young people attended from 30 countries. During the period between the second and third conferences, the YPC held a gathering of international young people in 1947 following the Baptist World Congress in Copenhagen. In 1948 the BWA Executive Committee approved a request from the YPC to call a fulltime youth secretary to focus on the fellowship and cooperation of Baptist youth around the world.

Joel Sorenson, executive secretary of the Swedish Baptist Young People's Union, was appointed as the first fulltime youth secretary of the BWA on January 1, 1950 and served until 1955 when he resigned to go back into the pastorate. Sorenson, prior to his appointment as youth secretary, had served as the chief organizer of the 3<sup>rd</sup> BYWC and also as chair of the YPC. He succeeded Leavell who had served as a volunteer secretary since 1928. <sup>x</sup>

Also in 1950, a new constitution for the YPC was drawn up and approved by the BWA Executive Committee at the 8<sup>th</sup> Baptist World Congress in Cleveland in the USA. This constitution provided for more youth participation and for closer affiliation of the YPC and the BWA Executive Committee, and reshaped the organizational structure so that it conformed to that of the BWA. <sup>xi</sup>

With Sorenson's appointment as youth secretary, Robert S. Denny, youth secretary for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, was elected as the new chairman of the YPC along with Ronald Bell, Great Britain, as vice chairman. Together this new team of highly competent young leaders initiated new programs and opportunities to further the cause of uniting Baptist young people around the world. These included the publication of the first issue of *BWA Youth News*, an offshoot of the Youth Bulletin, in 1951. This publication would, in 1956, merge with *The Baptist World* to become part of the official BWA news magazine reaching all of the Baptist world and not just young people. Also in 1951, under the auspices of the Youth Committee, the first European Baptist Youth Conference was held at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, with 86 participants from 13 countries, and two international BWA work camps were held in Germany. The following year, Sorenson set his sights outside of

Europe and made visits to Latin America, Jamaica and the United States. Also, a second international Baptist Student Conference was held at the Baptist Seminary, Ruschlikon, with 79 students representing 14 countries.<sup>xii</sup>

From 1923 to 1952, almost all of the activities of the BWA youth movement were concentrated on the continent of Europe. The first three BYWCs were all held in Europe, two international student conferences were held there, as well as the two international work camps. 1953 would see a change. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, was chosen as the venue for the 4<sup>th</sup> BYWC. Held July 15-22, this conference brought together 1,428 participants from 30 countries. This was the first time that all continents were represented. Using the theme: “The Living Christ Must Reign,” the participants produced a “Conference Message” that was addressed to the “Baptist Youth of the World” and read in part:

We realize that we are living in one of the most serious periods of human history. We are aware of the social transitions of our time and the inescapable demands for social justice and human rights among all peoples of the world. We are also cognizant of the struggle between the secular and spiritual forces of the world. At the same time we recognize and rejoice over the unique opportunities of service, given to Evangelical Christianity in many places.

With this background in mind, we reaffirm our faith in the Living Christ. We are deeply convinced that every aspect of our lives both as individuals and as societies must be conditioned by God’s sovereign will as revealed to humanity in Jesus Christ.

This means that we as young Baptists everywhere must deepen our knowledge of the nature of the world in which we live, and our understanding of the meaning of the Christian Gospel for this very hour.”<sup>xiii</sup>

Speakers at the 4<sup>th</sup> BYWC included: Oscar Johnson, Roger Fredrikson, Duke McCall, Robert S. Denny and Joel Sorenson. Two significant meetings were held in addition to the regular sessions at the Boa Vista Park on the Sunday evening and the Fluminense Stadium on the Monday evening that attracted a crowd of approximately 8,000 each. It was also at this conference that the different countries had the opportunity to meet in regional meetings for the first time. The outcome of those meetings changed the way that each of the regions viewed themselves.

The report from Africa, Asia and Australia called for the BWA Youth Secretary to conduct more visits to all of the regions as a way to strengthen those areas that were struggling and also as a means of encouragement. They also desired their own regional youth conferences. Europe dealt with the question of cooperation between the Youth Committee of the European Baptist Federation and that of the BWA Youth Committee. It was agreed that the activities of the EBF Youth Committee be restricted due to the lack of funding from both the BWA and the individual union youth committees. Latin America discussed the necessity of forming a Latin American Baptist Youth Organization. On this issue, representatives from all 11 countries present were in favor. They also appointed Neftali Prato of Venezuela to chair a committee to further discuss the matter in detail. North America expressed interest in establishing a North American Baptist youth fellowship and requested the BWA Youth Committee to seek ways to promote such an organization through fellowship tours, visit exchanges, and the possibility of having a North American Baptist Youth Conference.<sup>xiv</sup>

It can be said that the 4<sup>th</sup> BYWC created the space for the regionalization of Baptist youth around the world. Prior to 1953, only Europe had such an organization. It was clear that the coming together of young people in a world gathering also birthed in the hearts of many the need to do the same in their parts of the world. The dream of the leaders of 1923 for the world was now the dream in 1953 for the regions. Realizing that funding would be their number one challenge, they forged ahead knowing that the same faith that made the first world gathering a reality would make their dreams come true. In 1956 the first Asian Baptist Youth Conference was held and in 1957 Latin America held its first regional conference.

### ***Crossing the Atlantic...from Sweden to Washington***

1955 saw another major change in the life of the YPC. The name of the YPC was changed to that of the Youth Department of the Baptist World Alliance.<sup>xv</sup> This would mark the second time since its founding that the youth body would have a name change. The first occurred in 1928 when the WBYPYU became the YPC as it fully integrated into the life of the BWA. The classification of the YPC as a department meant that the youth program had now become an auxiliary of the BWA with its staff person serving as an associate secretary of the BWA.

Sorenson, who became the first fulltime youth secretary, conducted the affairs of the committee from his home country of Sweden. Upon his resignation in 1955, Robert S. Denny, who was serving as the committee's chairman, was elected to succeed Sorenson and was named associate secretary of the BWA responsible for youth. Denny assumed the position on January 1, 1956, and relocated the youth office to the BWA Headquarters in Washington, DC,

USA. Interestingly, Sorenson, after leaving his post as secretary, replaced Denny as chairman. Denny remained secretary until 1969 when he became general secretary of the BWA.

The department operated under its own constitution, which was adopted in 1950, and had as its objective: *“To further the work of the Baptist World Alliance, in so far as it affects young people.”* A youth committee was formed to help lead the organization, consisting of 25 persons who were elected at a youth sectional meeting held in conjunction with a Baptist World Congress and 10 additional members who were co-opted as full members of the committee, either on the recommendation of the BYWC or on the initiative of the committee. These persons were required to be representing conventions, unions, and associations that were members of the BWA. Also, serving on the youth committee were the president, general secretary, the two treasurers and the youth secretary of the Baptist World Alliance.<sup>xvi</sup>

The affairs of the department were overseen by an administrative committee consisting of the chairman or vice chairman, the secretary, and three other members of the youth committee. Those serving on the administrative committee were elected from areas easily accessible to the youth secretary. With the secretary operating out of the office in Washington, DC, that meant that the entire committee was based in the United States and consisted solely of Americans. There were times when internationals studying in the US were invited to serve, but this was an exception. However, in 1978, the department adopted a new set of bylaws replacing the constitution of 1950. This new governing document reflected the new name and a new set of objectives. The administrative committee was dissolved and replaced with an executive committee. This new executive committee, with the responsibility of conducting the

affairs of the department in collaboration with the staff person, consisted of the chairman, four vice chairpersons, and five members-at-large. The chairperson and members-at-large were elected at the Baptist World Congress while the vice-chairs were elected at the BYWC. Also, the Youth Committee now consisted of persons elected by the member bodies of the BWA, with each member body having representatives based on their numerical size. This was very significant for two reasons: first, it meant that the committee was no longer limited to 35 people, most of whom were from the West and elected by their peers who had the means to attend the Baptist World Congress. Rather, the committee was now open for every member of the BWA to have its own representative(s) who were elected from the region and by the region. Secondly, the expansion of the youth committee made the department more of an international and inclusive movement, at least in its structure if not in the decision making process. The other significant change reflected in the bylaws of 1978 was to limit the BYWC to once every five years.<sup>xvii</sup>

The bylaws would see additional changes in 1984, 1988 and again in 1993. The amendment of 1984 called for the number of vice chairs to be increased from four to six, and, along with the chairperson, be elected at the BYWC and not at the congress as had been the case since 1928. Also, the six vice chairs must each come from a different region. All of the amendments of 1984 were proposed by the Youth Committee of the European Baptist Federation.<sup>xviii</sup>

In 1988, the bylaws were amended to change the nomenclatures for department leadership from chairperson and vice chairs to president and vice presidents respectively.<sup>xix</sup> In

1993, the chairperson of the International Program Committee of the BYWC became an elected position and a member of the Youth Executive Committee.<sup>xx</sup>

The bylaw changes created the space for young people of all races and cultural backgrounds to become fully involved in the Youth Department. The dream of the early founders of “uniting Baptist young people in all countries” was finally becoming a reality.

### ***Beyond Rio...***

The BYWC, first conceived as a gathering for fellowship, was now becoming the center piece of the Baptist youth movement. In addition to fellowship, the conferences were now planned to help participants to recognize their individual opportunities and responsibilities in the church’s worldwide mission and to inspire them to commit their lives to a continuing Christian witness. As interest in these gatherings grew, so too did the numbers.

The 5<sup>th</sup> BYWC held in Toronto, Canada, in 1958, brought together 8,022 participants from 67 nations. The special service held at the Maple Leaf Garden attracted an attendance of 15,000 with the Prime Minister, John Derfenbaker, who spoke from the theme “Path to Peace,” making this the largest one-time gathering of any BYWC.<sup>xxi</sup>

The BWA through the Youth Department has held 15 such conferences around the world. While each takes on the characteristics of the host country, all are centered on glorifying Christ and celebrating the unity amidst the diversity we share as Baptist Christians. At these gatherings young people see themselves as belonging to a much larger family and are able to

offer their own expressions of what it means to be a young follower of Christ, sometimes in oppressive and life threatening situations.

By 1958 the conference had developed into a forum for substantive dialogue and discussions. Issues ranging from race relations in the US to Apartheid in South Africa to youth demonstrations in Europe were all tackled with serious intensity. Those attending these conferences were now seeing themselves as world changers committed to creating a positive youth culture.

When the conference met in Berne, Switzerland, in 1968, many of the locals were so concerned that their city would experience the same kind of “shenanigans” that took place in Paris, France, Berlin, Germany, and Berkeley and Columbia University in the US, that they had prepared for the worst. At the conclusion of the event, Ernst Hergner, director of the Berne Tourist Bureau, told the conference, “You have conquered the city. You have conquered it with your behavior, with your love, and with your happiness. The locals did not know what to expect, but after two days, they fell in love with you.”<sup>xxii</sup>

The conference came to the United States for the first time in 1974. This was the 8<sup>th</sup> BYWC which was held in Portland, Oregon. This conference was designed for youth leaders only. With the US having the largest number of Baptists, it was felt that if it was not restricted, others coming from the rest of the world would be overwhelmed by their American friends. 5,000 leaders from 54 countries attended. This was the only time in the history of the youth department that this was ever done. The US would play host again in 1998 to the 13<sup>th</sup> BYWC which was held in Houston, Texas, with 8,000 participants from 87 countries.

In 1971 Theo Patnaik from India became the Associate Secretary for Youth replacing Robert Denny who was now serving as general secretary of the BWA. Patnaik, under whose leadership the 8<sup>th</sup> BYWC was held, would later resign in 1975 and was succeeded by Betty Lee Smith from the US, who was appointed as Assistant Secretary for Youth and Conferences until 1980 when Denton Lotz became Director (formerly associate secretary) of the Youth Department. Smith directed the affairs of the 9<sup>th</sup> BYWC held in Manila, Philippines, in 1978. Originally, this conference was planned to take place in Hong Kong, but because entry visas could not be guaranteed, it was moved to Manila. Fifteen hundred persons from 34 countries attended the Manila conference. Interestingly, Hong Kong almost met the same fate when in 2003 due to the outbreak of SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) the BWA took the decision to postpone the 14<sup>th</sup> BYWC. This postponement was the second time that the delay of a BYWC was a necessity. In 1982, the BWA General Council meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, took the decision to postpone by a year the 10<sup>th</sup> BYWC, slated for Argentina, due to the Falkland crisis (a conflict between the United Kingdom and Argentina). There were calls by many not to go to Argentina at all, but it was the sentiment of the majority that the BWA should stand in solidarity with Argentinean Baptists in promoting peace.<sup>xxiii</sup>

When the conference was finally held in 1984, a significant contingent of British Baptist young people led by Paul Montacute attended and were well-received and cared for by their host. Montacute would at that same conference be elected to serve the Youth Department as chairman. In 1989, he became the youth director, replacing Denton Lotz who had assumed the role of BWA General Secretary.

During Lotz's tenure as youth director from 1980 to 1988 emphasis was on youth leadership and internationalization. Lotz conducted regular training conferences for youth leadership development all over the world and created opportunities for many from the Two-Thirds World to find a home in the BWA. Assisting Lotz with the affairs of the department was Samson Mathangani, a student from Kenya studying in the US at the time. In addition to the 10<sup>th</sup> BYWC, Lotz also directed the 11<sup>th</sup> BYWC which took place in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1988, with an attendance of 7,000.

Africa hosted the 12<sup>th</sup> BYWC in 1993. Held in Harare, Zimbabwe, with 3,000 participants, this conference was very significant for African Baptists because this was the first time that the BWA had held any of its large meetings on the continent. Also significant was the fact that Chiromo Chamunorwa, who was himself a Zimbabwean and the first African to ever serve as president of the Youth Department, was a part of the leadership that made it possible for the conference to be held in Africa. Ronald Bobo, an African American pastor from St. Louis, served as chair of the program committee. Bobo succeeded Chamunorwa as president of the Youth Department in 1993. Montacute and the associate director, Regina Claas from Germany, directed the BYWC. Shortly thereafter, Montacute transitioned into fulltime service with Baptist World Aid while Claas was called to the mission field.

In 1994 I was elected to serve as the fulltime director of the Youth Department. During my tenure, BYWCs were held in Houston, Texas, USA; Hong Kong, China; and Leipzig, Germany, in 2008. While I was elected in 2000 to serve the department in a fulltime capacity, like those before me, I took on added responsibilities within the ministry of the BWA.

## ***The Value of our Assembling***

Over these many years, with more than 90,000 participants from almost every country in the world, the BYWC is still the heartbeat of the BWA youth movement. It is here that lives are transformed and relationships established; where young people hear the call of God to enter into fulltime service, and feel a sense of belonging to a larger family.

Fe Panfile from Venezuela, former youth leader from Latin America, said,

The BWA youth movement means a new family and a new challenge to develop leadership among Baptist young people in the world. In Latin America it helps us give as well as receive. This is a wonderful opportunity to belong to an organization, which strengthens us, encourages us and supports us. We do know that we have a place to go, people whom we can trust and people who share our same vision: preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.<sup>xxiv</sup>

For Iain Hoskins from the United Kingdom, “It is a way of seeing how God is working in the world and a catalyst for bringing together Baptist communities around the world. It enables young people to fulfill their mission.”<sup>xxv</sup>

While addressing journalists during the youth conference in Berne, Switzerland, in 1968, Billy Graham described the conference as “a magnificent witness to the power of God...testifying for Christ, for love, for peace, for goodwill.”<sup>xxvi</sup>

The many positive testimonies from participants crystallized the need to continue holding such gatherings because, for many, it is more than an event; it is an experience...a life changing experience!

### ***A catalyst for future leadership***

The BYWC is not just about bringing young people together for five days once every five years. The conference has become the breeding ground for the future leadership of the entire Baptist movement. Where will the BWA be today if not for the investment in the lives of young people? One only has to look at the roster of past and present leadership, both in the BWA and its member bodies, to see how the BYWC has been the catalyst for effective leadership. Duke McCall, BWA president 1980-85, spoke of his experience at the 1<sup>st</sup> BYWC back in 1931 as the moment he “acquired a worldview outlook.”<sup>xxvii</sup> Both Robert Denny and Denton Lotz went on to serve the BWA as general secretaries. Paul Montacute, who served the BWA first in the Youth Department and currently as director of BWAid had his first introduction to the BWA as a young lad attending the 1963 conference in Beirut, Lebanon. I was introduced to the BWA at the 1993 conference in Harare only a year before becoming youth director. Today the BWA regional secretary of Asia, Bonny Resu, and many current Baptist world leaders, found their voice first in the BWA youth movement. The BWA is better off today because of the vision of the faithful few who, back in 1923, had enough faith to start the Baptist youth movement.

### ***An eye on the future...where do we go from here?***

In 2013 when Baptist young people gather in Singapore to celebrate yet another BYWC, this movement will have been in existence for 90 years. Much will have happened by then but still more will need to be done. The world today is not really different from that of 1923. With some of the same issues confronting today's youth as there were back then, we must commit

ourselves to promote Christian fellowship, spread the Gospel and to support and encourage Christian values among young people around the world.

We must continue to act as an agent of reconciliation and for the expression of Baptist principles throughout the world. Through the many ministries of the department, we shall strive to give young people the opportunity to be expressive and creative as we seek to engage them in a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ.

We further seek to develop and train people to effectively lead the church into the future, equipping them with the necessary tools needed to meet the challenges facing this generation.

We shall continue to have a holistic approach to ministry, calling Baptist young people to total commitment and spiritual accountability.

Finally, we will seek to lead young people into a deeper understanding and an appreciation for who we are as Baptists and the contributions that we bring to the community of faith.

As we assess the past and prepare for the future, we pray that our ministry with young people will serve as an encouragement and as an example of Christ's love so that they in return will go out and touch the world for Christ.

---

#### Endnotes

<sup>i</sup> Baptist Together In Christ 1905-2005, A Hundred Year History of The Baptist World Alliance, ed. Richard V. Pierard (Falls Church, VA) p. 58

<sup>ii</sup> Ibid., pp. 58-59

- 
- <sup>iii</sup> Ibid., p. 150
- <sup>iv</sup> Ibid., p. 66
- <sup>v</sup> Baptist Youth World Conference, Report Book, 1958, p. 207
- <sup>vi</sup> Baptist Youth World Conference, Report Book, 1953, p. 143
- <sup>vii</sup> BYWC, Report Book, 1958, p. 207
- <sup>viii</sup> Ibid., p. 207
- <sup>ix</sup> Ibid., p.207
- <sup>xx</sup> Pierard, Baptist Together in Christ 1905 -2005, pp. 111-112
- <sup>xi</sup> BYWC, Report Book, 1958, p. 208
- <sup>xii</sup> BYWC, Report Book, 1953, P. 144
- <sup>xiii</sup> BYWC, Report Book, 1953, p. 7
- <sup>xiv</sup> Minutes from the regional meetings, BYWC 1953, pp. 43-45
- <sup>xv</sup> Pierard, Baptist Together in Christ 1905 -2005, p. 121
- <sup>xvi</sup> Constitution, BWA Youth Committee, 1950
- <sup>xvii</sup> Bylaws, BWA Youth Department, July 1978
- <sup>xviii</sup> Proposed amendments contained in a letter dated February 17, 1984 signed by Asbjorn Bakkevoll, on behalf of the EBF Youth Committee and address to Dr. Denton Lotz, Director Youth Department.
- <sup>xix</sup> Bylaws, BWA Youth Committee, July 1988
- <sup>xx</sup> Bylaws, BWA Youth Committee, August 1993
- <sup>xxi</sup> BYWC, Report Book, 1958, p. 4
- <sup>xxii</sup> BYWC, Report Book, 1968, p154-155
- <sup>xxiii</sup> Interview with Paul Montacute, director BWA Youth Department, 1989-1994, December 22, 2009.
- <sup>xxiv</sup> Baptist World, Special Youth Edition, 1998 p. 11
- <sup>xxv</sup> Baptist World, Special Youth Edition, 1998, p. 10
- <sup>xxvi</sup> BYWC, Report Book, 1968, p. 151
- <sup>xxvii</sup> Speech delivered by Duke McCall at the Fourth Baptist Youth World Conference, Rio de Janeiro, 1953