

September 25, 1953

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

NATIONAL BAPTISTS ELECT
CHICAGO MAN PRESIDENT

MIAMI, Fla.--(BP)--J. H. Jackson, pastor, Olivet Baptist Church, Chicago, Ill., was elected president of the National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., world's largest Negro religious body, at the annual meeting of the group in Miami. He succeeds 77-year-old D. V. Jamison, Selma, Ala., who has been president for thirteen years.

Jackson defeated the pre-convention favorite, E. W. Perry, Oklahoma City.

Racial tension in the famous Southern resort city predicted to run high before the convention met, did not develop. Describing the city's welcome to the 20,000 delegates as "a true exemplification of the untold progress being made everywhere in the United States" and "a potent antidote to Russian propaganda," Walter F. Offutt, the denomination's publicity secretary, disclosed that sixteen Miami Beach ocean front hotels had "quietly opened their doors" to convention delegates as they arrived.

The delegates chose St. Louis, Mo., as the site of next year's annual meeting.

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TEXAS BAPTISTS PROMISE
FREE TV TIME TO CATHOLICS

DALLAS, Tex.--(BP)--The Baptist General Convention of Texas is seeking a license for a commercial TV station at Corpus Christi, Tex., and has promised to make free time available to the Roman Catholic Church if it is granted permission by the Federal Communications Commission to operate a television station.

The Convention said it would devote 71.2 per cent of the station's time to entertainment, 4.2 per cent to religious programs, 3.3 per cent to educational programs, 3.6 per cent to discussion of public issues, and 3.6 per cent to community service programs as required by law.

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SOUTHWESTERN PROFESSOR
BECOMES COLLEGE HEAD

FORT WORTH, Tex.--(BP)--Ralph A. Phelps, Jr., member of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary faculty since 1948, accepted the presidency of Ouachita College, Arkadelphia, Ark.

Phelps, a native of Dallas, received the A.B. and M.A. degrees from Baylor University, and the Th.M. and Th.D. degrees from Southwestern Seminary.

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TEXAS CHURCH UNDERWRITES
COLORADO BUILDING PROGRAM

DALLAS, Tex.--(BP)--The East Grand Avenue Baptist Church, Joe Weldon Bailey, pastor, has underwritten half of a \$50,000 note for construction of the University Hills Church in Denver, Colo. It is thought that this is the first guarantee of its kind. The Colorado church is the result of recent Southern Baptist mission activity in Denver.

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SOUTHERN PROFESSOR SPENDS
SABBATICAL YEAR IN CALIF.

BERKELEY, Calif.--(BP)--Clyde T. Francisco, professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., is spending his sabbatical year studying at the University of California, and the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley. He is also serving as visiting lecturer at Golden Gate Seminary.

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OKLAHOMA SENATOR
DEDICATES CHURCH

LINDSAY, Okla.--(BP)--Sen. Robert S. Kerr brought the main address at the formal dedication of the new \$76,000 educational building of First Baptist Church, Lindsay, Okla.

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ELEVEN FOREIGN STUDENTS
ENROL IN GOLDEN GATE

BERKELEY, Calif.--(AP)--Eleven foreign students have enrolled for the fall semester at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Berkeley, Calif., along with 224 American students. This brings the final total enrollment to 235.

One hundred seventy-nine of the students enrolled in the School of Theology, forty-seven in the School of Religious Education, and nine in the School of Music.

Texas leads the states with a total of forty-three enrolled, and California and Oklahoma each have twenty-six.

The foreign students are from Brazil, China, Formosa, Hawaii, Italy, Japan, and Ireland.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY MARKS ORIGINAL SEMINARY SITE
BY: Loulie Latimer Owens

The original site of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Greenville, S. C., was marked with a bronze plaque on September 14 by the South Carolina Baptist Historical Society. In appropriate ceremonies, tribute was paid to the four founders, James P. Boyce, John A. Broadus, Basil Manly, Jr., and William Williams, who started the Seminary with twenty-six students in 1859. The classes met in a borrowed meeting house (later purchased) on the edge of a little village. The village has grown to be the largest city in the state, and the old site, near the heart of the business district, had become disputed. Only the most careful research established its location. An earlier marker had disappeared.

J. A. Barry, president of the South Carolina Baptist Historical Society, presided. The Seminary's oldest living alumnus, David M. Ramsay, class of 1887, led the invocation. Mrs. Ollin J. Owens, secretary-treasurer of the Historical Society, presented credentials for locating the new plaque on public property and the photostatic copies of court records documenting the site. These were to be forwarded to the Seminary archives to insure against future questions regarding location.

The president of the Greenville Baptist Minister's Association, C. Monroe Warren, unveiled the plaque and read the inscription. The principle speaker was D. M. Nelson, Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church, Greenville. A. E. Tibbs, dean of Furman University, pronounced the benediction.

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EARLY BAPTIST LEADER
HONORED BY VIRGINIANS

ORANGE, Va.--(BP)--The Orange County Junior Chamber of Commerce and Drew Pearson, Washington, D. C., newspaper columnist, will join together here on October 4 to pay tribute to a great Baptist leader of nearly 200 years ago. The occasion will be the dedication of the Leland-Madison Monumental Park in acknowledgment of "Religious Freedom for all Men" and celebrating a famous agreement between James Madison, the statesman, and John Leland, Virginia Baptist leader, in which Madison promised to introduce to Congress the first amendment in the Bill of Rights if Leland would withdraw as an opposing candidate in Madison's race for Congress.

The Orange County Junior Chamber of Commerce has recounted the event as follows:

The Revolutionary War had ended. The Articles of Confederation had been drafted but were inadequate. The new government had to be reworked. The Philadelphia Convention in 1787 drafted the Constitution largely under the leadership of James Madison, Jr.

To become operative this new charter had to be ratified by nine states. All eyes were upon Virginia. Virginia was a pivotal state; her influence was powerful. As Virginia went so would the nation. There was opposition to ratification in Virginia. There was opposition in Orange County.

The Baptists under the leadership of Elder John Leland, who was strong, opposed it because of the lack of certain civil and religious guarantees. The situation was tense. Madison was a candidate for the Richmond Convention of 1788. There was dire need for his presence there. Elder John Leland opposed him and had a following which was ominous.

A meeting of the two men was arranged. The upshot: Leland waived his opposition and supported Madison, guaranteeing Madison's election. Madison saved the day for Virginia's ratification--went to the first Congress as a Representative and introduced and had passed the National Bill of Rights as amendments--the first of which guarantees religious liberty which satisfied Leland and his followers. A friendship between the two men followed.

Leland was born in Massachusetts in 1754 and later moved to Virginia where he settled in Orange County. He lived in Virginia until 1791 at which time he moved back to Massachusetts.

Leland, an exceedingly popular preacher, possessed a wide interest in political affairs and conferred with Washington and Jefferson as well as Madison.

ASSAILS ARMY'S DOUBLE-DEALING
ON RECENT CHANGE OF LIQUOR STATUS

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--Duke K. McCall, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here, and of the National Temperance League, Inc., has assailed the secret way in which the adjutant general of the army handled the recent introduction of liquor in the army camps. The general issued a reversal of the half-century regulation forbidding the sale of liquor on military posts. His document was red-bordered, which meant that the action was classified and to be kept from public knowledge. Earlier there had been many denials from the army that the change was under consideration.

On the action McCall said, "How can military leaders who resort to such double-dealings expect men and women willingly subject their sons to their commands. It is this kind of thing which makes me a violent opponent of the adoption of any universal military service regulation. If the times demand, my four sons will gladly serve their country as volunteers or draftees, but between now and then their father will have written every congressman and senator asking that at least some effort be made to keep the officers under whom they serve sober."

Expressing his good will toward the army he also said, "I have great respect for literally thousands of officers in our army, navy, and air corps. I do not believe, however, that the sale of liquor in the open messes of officers and non-commissioned officers clubs will help these men, and I am sure it will help debauch others of less sturdy character."

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GRAHAM RESIGNS
RETREAT PROJECT

MONTREAT, N. C.--(BP)--"I have determined that my program will be integrated with existing churches and conference centers," Billy Graham said in announcing his resignation as honorary chairman of a group interested in purchasing a spiritual retreat center. The Glen Eyrie estate near Colorado Springs, Colo., was the site considered for the center.

"After much prayer and thought, and in view of the present world conditions," Graham said, "I have decided to devote my entire time to the program of evangelism, concentrating more and more on the medium of television. Therefore, I have decided not to go ahead with the project.

"I will have no part in any future plans that may develop relative to this or any other property."

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MISSOURI HOME FOR AGED
ELECTS JOHN BURNEY AS HEAD

IRONTON, Mo.--(BP)--John Burney, for the past seventeen years secretary and general office man for the Home for Aged Baptists, Ironton, Mo., was elected superintendent of the home. He succeeds D. J. Scott who recently retired.

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WORLD BATTLEGROUND
IN THE HEARTS OF MEN

TOKYO--(BP)--"The battleground is in the hearts and minds of men," Luther Holcomb, pastor of Lakewood Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., told a group of clergymen and educators in Tokyo, Japan, recently. "The basic issues of the world today are often said to be ideological, but they are essentially theological. Faith, morale, and courage can surmount them. The spiritual qualities of the universe and man must be recognized," he said. "Democracy as a process of government cannot stand by itself unless there is behind it supreme belief in human worth and soul."

"One of the great things we need is deep experience between nations, cultures, and religions. We need compassion far beyond our national boundaries and deep understanding for what is happening in the lives and hearts of our fellow men."

"If we place first things first, and if we can have these human understandings and other essential characteristics of man," he said, "we can build a world based upon righteousness--a world which will be fit for our children, our children's children, and generations yet unborn."

Holcomb is on an air force sponsored preaching mission to military installations in the Far East.

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SOUTHEASTERN SEMINARY
ENROLS 343 FOR FALL TERM

WAKE FOREST, N. C.--(BP)--Final fall enrolment in the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary rose to 343 as announced by the Seminary.

North Carolina leads the states with 158 enroled, Virginia second with 52, South Carolina third with 50, and Georgia fourth with 32. Other states represented are Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Indiana, New York, West Virginia, and Ohio.

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