

April 3, 1960

Speaker Favors Unity
Move Among Baptists

NASHVILLE--(BP)--One of the American Baptist Convention's three organizers of new work in the Southland urged here greater striving for unity among Baptists, but he indicated that some present joint activities are not advancing Baptist fellowship.

J.C. Herrin of Chapel Hill, N. C., told the Fellowship of Baptist Theological Students at their conference:

"There is no such thing as a gospel according to Baptists, or Methodists, or Catholics . . . or Tillich, or Barth." (The latter names are world-renowned theologians.)

"How utterly demonic it is to be competing in Nigeria, or at the University of Missouri, or the University of Arizona, saying 'Dont' be an American Baptist; Be a Southern Baptist, or vice-versa,'" Herrin added.

Herrin, until 1954 Baptist student director at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, said he was "kicked out" by Southern Baptists because of student work done at Shaw University in nearby Raleigh, N. C.

Shaw, a school for Negroes, receives some of its support from the American Baptist Convention. Herrin said that segregation definitely was a factor in the loss of his job with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina in 1954.

He termed the Baptist World Alliance "A vacation for preachers" and the Baptist Jubilee Advance, in which at least seven Baptist national groups are participating together through 1964, a "polite way of sheep-stealing."

He counter-attacked opponents of the ecumenical movement as represented by the National Council of Churches and blamed differences over social ethics, rather than theology, for their opposition to the Council.

He declared that he did not consider Southern Baptists so much opponents of the ecumenical movement as he considered them "misinformed."

Herrin said that even though he was "kicked out" by Southern Baptists, he remains listed among ministers in the Southern Baptist Convention Annual. A check of the 1959 S B C Annual reveals his name in a section under "New York Ministers" and gives his former church connection in Scarsdale, N. Y.

This was his work after leaving his home state of North Carolina. Herrin said he considers himself personally "dually-aligned" both with American and Southern Conventions, although he is under employment by the American Convention.

Herrin said that the Southern Baptist Convention has come perilously close to disrupting Baptist fellowship in consideration of admitting messengers from churches in Canada. An amendment, proposed for the S B C constitution to allow seating of Canadian messengers, was withdrawn from the Convention's consideration because of faulty wording.

Herrin asked "How can we heal this break in our ranks" as Baptists, which shows at least seven major divisions of Baptist groups? "We need each other," he added. "Baptists in today's world are not thought of too well, for very poor reasons."

He defended comity (territory) agreements of the National Council of Churches and said Southern Baptists' rejection of comity agreements hurt the cause of evangelical missions overseas.

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Jubilee Revival
Literature Released

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--The first printing of ~~how-to-do-it~~ information on the Baptist Jubilee revival plan of Southern Baptists is now being distributed by state secretaries of evangelism.

The announcement came from Vernon Yearby, Dallas, Tex., associate in the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's division of evangelism, who is in charge of preparing the literature.

According to the first tract, "Baptist Jubilee Revival," this revival differs from other revivals "in that it is a . . . clearly-defined evangelistic program for an association and the churches in the association."

Planned for 1961-64, this new program of associational revival meetings will focus attention on the annual emphases of the Baptist Jubilee Advance of all North American Baptists.

"The genius of a Baptist Jubilee revival will be 'togetherness,'" Yearby says in the tract. The churches and missions in an association will locate prospects together, follow a uniform plan of work in preparation, conduct evangelistic services for the same two weeks, and inaugurate a spiritual growth program for new members.

A suggested plan of work for promoting the revivals and job assignments for Baptist Jubilee revival committee personnel are provided in the tract.

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Search Started For
First 30,000 Group

(4-3-60)

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Where is the first church or mission of the 30,000 Movement?

Several groups claim the distinction of being the first mission or church of Southern Baptists' effort to start 30,000 missions and churches by 1964.

C. C. Warren of Charlotte, N. C., director of the movement as well as its creator, reports receiving a number of letters from interested groups, all claiming to be the first mission or church started during the movement.

The official beginning of the 30,000 Movement is June 1, 1956. Warren reports that more than 10,000 of these churches and missions have been started since that date.

A mission, according to Warren, "Is anywhere one or more members are sent from the local church or churches at regular intervals to preach or teach the Word of God."

Was your church or mission started June 1, 1956 or near that date? You may be due recognition as the first of the 30,000. Write L. O. Griffith, 161 Spring Street, N. W., Atlanta 3, Ga., chairman of publicity committee of the 30,000..

Give the date your mission or church was started, as well as the hour of the day.

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Georgia Bookkeeper
Retired on March 31

(4-3-60)

ATLANTA--(BP) -Buren C. Smith, office manager and bookkeeper for the Georgia Baptist Convention for 40 years, retired Mar. 31. He estimated he had handled approximately \$100 million during his services.

Convention leaders and employes plan to honor him at a dinner Apr. 12.

Smith is being succeeded by O. Bruce Barbour, a veteran of 20 years experience in areas of office management and bookkeeping for commercial firms.

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Theological Students
Ask Rights Recognition

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The Fellowship of Baptist Theological Students here called for maintaining a Christian attitude toward the Negro's desire to obtain first class citizenship at all levels of the American culture.

The fellowship, inter-racial and including students from four Baptist conventions, adopted this statement:

"In the light of present-day demonstrations in many parts of our country, that we as Baptists encourage all people to maintain a Christian attitude toward the Negro's desire to obtain first-class citizenship at all levels of the American culture and that we encourage all efforts to be Christian."

The resolution was brought in by a committee after a student asked "Would this group take a formal position on the current situation?"

He was referring to the current "sit-ins" at lunch counters and libraries.

The student's motion to pass a resolution of this nature carried by a voice vote without apparent opposition.

The 14th conference was at the campus of American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, a seminary for Negroes jointly operated by the Southern Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc.

Students attending the fellowship came from the American Baptist Convention, both National Baptist Conventions, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Students Choose Wake
Forest For '61 Meet

(4-3-60)

NASHVILLE--(BP)--A group of seminary students from four Baptist conventions in the United States have chosen to meet at Wake Forest, N. C., for their 15th conference Apr. 5-6, 1961.

They accepted an invitation from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary there.

The group is the Fellowship of Baptist Theological Students, organized near the close of World War II. Several students conceived the idea of a conference of white and Negro Baptist theological students.

The group has continued to meet annually since that time, moving from campus to campus. The topic for the 1961 fellowship will deal with the ministries of local churches.

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Third Person Claims
Bible Reading Honor

(4-3-60)

ATLANTA--(BP)--A retired minister of Barnesville, Ga., is the third claimant to the title of being the first to complete reading the entire Bible in the New Year.

C. O. English says he completed the reading Jan. 29. He finished the New Testament for the second time in March.

Claimants for the honor were sparked by an earlier report that Warren Dixon of Jonesboro, Ga., completed the reading suggested in the Sunday School quarterly in February.

The third claimant is P. P. Jones, who belongs to the Baptist Church at D'Lo, Miss. Jones reported having read the Bible through from Jan. 1 to Feb. 23.

Reading the Bible through in 1960 is a goal set for every Southern Baptist as a part of the Baptist Jubilee Advance emphasis on teaching and training.

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Quarles Completes
Decade At Helm

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--Chester L. Quarles, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, on April 1 completed a decade of service as leader of Mississippi Baptists.

Quarles, a native of Wiggins, Miss., was called back to the state on April 1, 1950, to become executive secretary after an absence of several years.

He came at the time from the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Sylacauga, Ala.

Quarles was honored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention last November upon the occasion of his 10th convention as executive secretary-treasurer.

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Attendance High At
Schools Of Missions

(4-3-60)

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Despite flu and bad weather, schools of missions in 113 associations this year report some record attendances, according to L. W. Martin of Atlanta, secretary of the department of missionary education of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The Atlanta schools reported 97 churches participating with a total attendance of 132,329. Martin said, "This is the largest figure ever reported for an association, and First Baptist Church of Atlanta reported more than 1,000 in attendance on night, which is the largest for any church."

The schools are week-long meetings held by local churches with two-hour sessions where students study mission books and hear mission speakers.

More than 6,000 churches are scheduled to take part in a record 260 simultaneous programs during the year.

Martin said other associations reporting good attendance have been at Shreveport, La.; Charleston, S. C.; St. Petersburg and Jacksonville, Fla., and Austin, Texas.

Limitations on the number of missionaries available have reduced the number of schools for 1961 and no additional requests are being accepted. All future requests must be filed for 1962 or later, Martin said.

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Oklahoma Executive
Wedding Announced

(4-3-60)

TAOS, N. M.--(BP)-- W. E. Grindstaff, Oklahoma City, assistant executive secretary for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, was married at First Baptist Church, Taos, to Maxine C. Taylor of Red River, N. M.

Harry P. Stagg, Albuquerque, executive secretary of Baptist Convention of New Mexico, officiated at the wedding. He and Mrs. Stagg flew up from Albuquerque for the occasion.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, J. B. Carnett, of Red River. She is a niece of Ellis L. Carnett of Buckner Benevolences (Baptist) in Texas.

Two children of the bride, Eddy and Michael Taylor, and two children of the groom, Ann and Terry Grindstaff, stood with the couple.

After two weeks in New Mexico the family planned to make their home at Oklahoma City.

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Wife's Ways Win
Preacher's Praise

NASHVILLE--(BP)-- Preacher's wives have had many things said about them by their husbands - - especially from the pulpit. But one wife recently received a high compliment from her pastor-husband in a most unlikely place.

It all happened because of a survey being conducted by Leonard E. Hill, Nashville, production editor of the Baptist Program magazine, to find out how Southern Baptist churches secure their pastors.

In order to obtain this information, which is to be used in connection with this doctor of theology thesis, he sent questionnaires to a selected group of Southern Baptist pastors and laymen.

One question to be answered by pastors read, "What two things does your wife do bes in church work?"

A Virginia pastor's unusual, but most fitting reply was, "She radiates friendliness; she loves her pastor."

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Mrs. M. E. Dodd Dies;
Widow Of President

(4-3-60)

SHREVEPORT, La.--(BP)--Mrs. M. E. Dodd, widow of the late Dr. Dodd, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, died here Mar. 31.

Funeral services were planned for Apr. 2.

Mrs. Dodd accompanied her husband on many of the tours he made while serving as Convention president. Dr. Dodd was pastor of Shreveport's First Baptist Church from 1912 to 1950 when he retired.

He was president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1934 and 1935.

Dr. Dodd died in 1952.

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Americans to Start
Work By Invitation

(4-3-60)

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The organization of American Baptist churches in the South will be upon "specific invitation" of Baptist groups, an American Baptist Home Mission Societies officer declared here.

Telling of the new American Baptist Convention policy for establishing work in the South, Paul O. Madsen, New York, associate secretary of the Home Mission Societies said:

"We have no intention of going into any established church. We will not go to any group till they have specifically invited us as a group. We will not respond to appeals from dissident members."

He said that Clifford G. Hansen, the Societies' new general missionary to the Southland will have his offices in Philadelphia, Pa., near the future site of the American Baptist Convention headquarters. Hansen, appointed recently, will have the status of a state executive secretary among American Baptists in his new position.

William B. Hill, the former Joliet, Ill., pastor employed by the American Societies to organize new congregations and to work with them for six months, will live in Asheville, N. C.

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Hansen has been serving as executive secretary of the American Baptist-related Ohio Baptist Convention.

Madsen said that Hansen's work in the South could lead ultimately to the founding of state conventions which would co-operate with American Baptist Convention.

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Folks And Facts

(4-3-60)

. E. L. Ackiss, Atlanta, is featured in the Spring issue of the Navy Chaplains Bulletin. In a section called, "What Our Retired Chaplains Are Doing," he is presented with about 20 other retired Navy Chaplains. A retired captain, Ackiss serves as secretary of the ministry to military personnel with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's division of chaplaincy. (BP)