

May 13, 1960

Mississippi Names New Training Union Associate

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--James Harrell of Pascagoula, Miss., superintendent of missions for Jackson County Baptist Association, has accepted the position of associate in the Training Union department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, effective June 1.

He will replace Miss Louise Hill, who resigned recently. In a realignment of responsibilities in the department he will be in charge of associational promotion and church administration, according to Kermit S. King, secretary of the department.

In the field of church administration he will be the liaison man in the state for the department of church administration of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

Harrell, a native of Monroe, La., is a graduate of Mississippi College and holds the B. D. Degree from New Orleans Baptist Seminary.

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New Centers Planned By Seminary Extension

(5-13-60)

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--Plans to set up additional centers in the Arizona and Colorado Conventions and the reading of encouraging reports featured a meeting of the staff personnel of the seminary extension department at its office here.

Lee Gallman, director, said the new centers would be in cooperation with Grand Canyon College, Phoenix.

A statistical report noted that as of April 18, 1960, 618 new correspondence students have enrolled, 87 old correspondence students re-enrolled, while 2090 have enrolled in extension since Sept. 1, 1959.

New developments in adult education were studied and steps essential in preparation of research projects which the department is developing were listed for the group.

Committed to the principle of life-long learning and to the importance of continuous study. The group called for a revision of curriculum concepts to include something beyond formally out-lined subjects.

Appearing before the group were W. R. Roberts, of Jackson, state representative of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board; and Richard Cortright, director of the Baylor University Literacy Center of Waco, Tex.

Associates in the department at the meeting were W. A. Whitten, Bloomington, Ind.; Albert Fauth, Kansas City, Kan.; G. Ray Worley, Ft. Worth, Tex.; Frank Koger, Gastonia, N. C.; and Eugene Wallace, Riverside, Calif.

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Ohio Appoints Delmar Akron Area Missionary

(5-13-60)

COLUMBUS, Ohio--(BP)--O. R. Delmar has accepted the call extended to him by the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio to be area missionary in the Akron-Mansfield area.

For the past seven years Delmar has been area missionary for Wyoming, Montana, and North Dakota. Delmar was ordained in 1941 by the First Baptist Church of Seminole, Okla. He has been pastor of churches in Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona, and Wyoming. He has served as area missionary for the past seven years for Wyoming, Montana, and North Dakota. As additional missionaries were added, his area decreased to the point that he served only the state of Montana. He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and attended Southwestern Seminary.

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Tornadoes in Oklahoma
Bring Death, New Life

WILBURTON, Okla.--(BP)--A tornado converted this Latimer county town into a valley of death Thursday evening, May 6. But, in spite of the debris, sorrow and suffering left in its path, the storm played a part in at least three persons receiving new life.

"I know of at least three persons who have accepted Jesus as Saviour following the tornado," R. L. Phillips, 39, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, which was leveled by the twister, said.

"I talked to two of these persons myself and one of my church members talked to another, a nurse." Each of the three said the tornado and the realization that death can come to anyone at any time had a part in their not putting off any longer accepting Jesus and the eternal life he gives, Phillips said.

Wilburton, nestled between two hilltops in the San Bois Mountains, was hardest hit by twisters that killed 29 persons and injured 250 persons in several Eastern Oklahoma communities the night of May 6.

Five of the 12 persons killed in Wilburton were in Calvary Baptist Church preparing for the annual farewell banquet the church gives for its members who are sophomore members of the Baptist Student Union at Eastern Oklahoma A&M (junior) college in Wilburton.

There were about 25 persons in the church at the time, Phillips said. All were either killed or injured, although three, including Phillips, received comparatively minor injuries.

Mrs. Phillips and two of the Phillips' three children--Gary, 13, and Barbara, 11--were hospitalized. Gary only recently was moved from the critical list. His condition still is considered very serious. Another son, James, 16, escaped injury. He had driven a car to the college to pick up students planning to attend the supper and was not in the path of the twister.

Phillips suffered multiple bruises and a back injury. When interviewed the Tuesday following the tornado he was preparing to conduct two funerals and assist with a third.

"I feel the Lord preserved me because he knew the pastors would be needed to comfort all these bereaved people," he said.

Phillips said he has received word that churches both in Latimer Association, of which the Calvary church is a part, and in other associations, are taking offerings to help rebuild Calvary's building, which was leveled.

"The people who come and look upon this scene stand in amazement at how I am walking around," Rev. Phillips said. "It is only by God's mercy that I am here," he said. "It is always by his mercy but sometimes we don't stop and realize it until times like these."

Earlier, Phillips had reported, "We were bounced around as if in a cage" (when the twister hit). "It seemed as if the whole earth had fallen from beneath us. It seemed we were falling forever."

"The church was a total loss. As I looked about, what hurt me most was the sight of my own son and members of my church whom I loved as my own family. Their faces were so covered with mud and blood you could hardly recognize one out of ten."

An Oklahoma City storm also interrupted simultaneous revival meetings and damaged automobiles of persons attending the meetings.

A member of one church said, "Some of the little children became frightened when electric power went out during the service, but the evangelist calmed them and talked to them about God caring for them. We had our invitation by candle light and there were several decisions for Christ."

In another church, several members of one family rededicated their lives out of gratitude the Sunday morning following the Oklahoma City storm and a seven-year-old girl in the family accepted Jesus as Saviour.

The little girl and her mother had been spared when their home blew away by hiding under a sink. The mother said, "I know the Lord took care of us. I just never would have thought of hiding under the sink myself."

Baptists of Bokoshe, in Eastern Oklahoma, plan to meet in a schoolhouse temporarily since their church was destroyed the night of May 6. The pastor, C. Dennis Treat, who was with his family and friends in a storm cellar, when tornadic winds struck the town, was out on the street after the storm inviting the homeless to "come stay in my house; we have plenty of room." The storm cellar was across town from his house and church.

Then he heard a man asking for the Baptist preacher, "Your church and parsonage have been destroyed," the man said.

"I looked to see if the man was grinning," Treat's wife, Marlene, said, "I could tell he wasn't kidding."

"It had never dawned on us to check on our own house and church."

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Doctors' Building Bids
Taken By Oklahoma Group

(5-13-60)

Oklahoma City--(BP)--Bids in a contract to build a new doctors' office building next to Baptist Memorial Hospital, Oklahoma City, are expected to be accepted within 90 days.

A Baptist laymen's corporation, organized in Oklahoma in February, will erect the four-story structure which will have suites for 32 doctors. The project will be financed with self-liquidating bonds. The laymen's group already has received commitments to buy bonds totaling \$211,500. Initial bond issue will total \$500,000, and the laymen's corporation has authorized issuing a total of \$1 million in bonds for the project.

A banquet, kicking off the bond-selling campaign, was held May 9.

The building will provide office space tailored to physicians' needs, and is designed for expansion later to 10 stories.

The Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma has deeded property on which the doctors' office building will be erected to the laymen's corporation. The land and building will be deeded back to the convention when the building is paid for.

The structure will be connected to the hospital by an underground walkway.

The bond issue financing the project is expected to be liquidated by leasing office space.

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Texas Hospital For Aged
Begins Multiple Services

(5-13-60)

DALLAS--(BP)--Texas Baptists have approved a multiple-service program at the Baptist Memorial's Geriatrics Hospital, San Angelo, Tex., the state's only Baptist Hospital for the care of chronically ill, aged persons.

The denomination's 15-member Human Welfare Commission cleared the way for the first phase of the plan. It will recommend to the 191-member Texas Baptist Executive Board meeting here next month that permission be granted for construction of six cottages on the hospital campus.

The cottages will be built by individuals seeking security of living near the geriatrics facilities, said Mrs. Louis Gayer, institution administrator. Upon death of the owners, the dwellings will accrue to the hospital to be sold or rented to other aged people.

Mrs. Gayer said construction is beginning on a new wing which will increase the hospital's bed capacity from 113 to 168 beds.

The Human Welfare Commission also approved a plan for a pastoral care workshop in Dallas June 3. Discussions at the meeting will center on qualifications for chaplains, administrative relationships, budget requirements and definition of phases of hospital work.

In addition, the commission passed upon preliminary budget procedures for Texas Baptists' eight hospitals and four children's homes. In 1960 the hospitals will receive \$720,000 and the children's homes \$816,000 from the Cooperative Program of giving to world missions.

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1960 Southern Baptist Convention
Miami Beach, Fla.
W. C. Fields, Press Representative
Theo Sommerkamp, Assistant

For Information

Convention Week Dates, Miami Beach, Fla.

SATURDAY, May 14

Pre Convention W M U board - 7:30 PM, Roney Plaza Hotel

MONDAY, May 16

Opening Session Pastors' Conference - 9:00 AM, Exhibition Hall

Church Music Conference executive council - 10:00 AM - 12:00 noon, Riverside Baptist Church, Miami

Opening Session W M U annual meeting - 9:30 AM, Miami Beach Auditorium

Brotherhood leadership meeting for state and Convention workers - 2:00 PM, Nautilus Hotel

Opening session Religious Education Association - 2:00 PM, Miami Beach Community Church

Committee on Boards (dinner meeting) - 5:00 PM, Saxony Hotel

Central committee meeting of Radio-TV Commission - 7:00 PM, Saxony Hotel

TUESDAY, May 17

Brotherhood leadership breakfast for state and Convention workers 7:00 AM, Nautilus Hotel

State paper editors, breakfast, 7:30 AM, Saxony Hotel

Relief and Annuity field men's seminar - 9:30 AM and luncheon, Delano Hotel

Executive Committee meeting - 9:00 AM, Veranda Room, Saxony Hotel

Association of Baptist Foundation Executives luncheon - 12:30 PM, Shelborne Hotel

Evangelism state secretaries, HMB Div. Evange. sponsor - 1:00 PM, LaPetite Ballroom, Saxony Hotel

Southern Seminary Alumni Association, executive committee and presidents of state alumni association dinner - 4:30 PM, Shore Club Hotel

Press diner for Secular Press, 5:15 P.M., La Petite Ballroom, Saxony Hotel

Christian Life Commission dinner - 6:00 PM, tickets, \$2.75

Opening session S B Convention - 6:30 PM, Exhibition Hall

WEDNESDAY, May 18

Southwestern alumni state presidents' breakfast - 7:00 AM, First Baptist Church, Miami Beach, Southwestern Seminary host

Carver School alumni breakfast - 7:15 AM, Surf Room, Shore Club Hotel, tickets, \$1.75

B P R A Breakfast, 7:30 AM, Saxony Hotel

Golden Gate Seminary breakfast - 7:30 AM, Hotel Di Lido, tickets, \$2.00

Southern alumni luncheon - 1:00 PM, Hotel Seville, tickets, \$3.25

Southeastern alumni trustees' luncheon - 1:00 PM, Shelborne Hotel, tickets, \$3.00

New Orleans Seminary state alumni presidents' luncheon - 1:00 PM, Shore Club Hotel, New Orleans Seminary host

Southwestern alumni luncheon 1:00 PM, Le Grande ballroom, Saxony Hotel, tickets, \$2.75

Radio-TV Commission - 1:30 PM, Seville Hotel (luncheon)

Southern trustees - approximately 3:00 PM (following Southern Seminary alumni luncheon), Seville Hotel