

July 20, 1961

GLOBE-TROTTING With GINNY

By Virginia Harris Hendricks

Corporal Rejects Mass, Jailed For His Stand

PIERREFONDS, France (BP)--Monsieur Taquet, aged 85, lives in the Baptist Old Folks' Home here. He loves to tell about his uncle, Corporal Taquet, whose Baptist convictions helped to change French history.

Cpl. Taquet was a member of the Denain Baptist Church in northern France. In the late 19th Century, every soldier in the French Army had to go to mass on Sunday, when ordered, and present arms with his commanding officer. Cpl. Taquet was informed on Saturday that he must take part in this ceremony the following day.

"But I am a Baptist, and do not attend mass," he objected. He went to consult his commanding officer.

"If you refuse to comply, you must go to prison," he was told.

Cpl. Taquet went to mass next day but when the order was given to present arms as homage for the church, he refused. His commanding officer frowned furiously and repeated the order. Three times the order was given. The corporal refused to comply. He was court-martialed and sent to prison.

Taquet wrote to his pastor at Denain from prison, describing the injustice of this army law. The parliament representative from that area was consulted. The representative, a Baptist sympathizer, was outraged by the story. He presented the case before the General Assembly, arousing public opinion against the law.

As a result, a law was passed making it impossible to prosecute a man for refusing to obey a religious custom.

One individual Baptist who dares to be true to his faith can still change circumstances and environment. In America, where religious freedom is being threatened, there is a need for more Baptists of this caliber!

July 20, 1961

**Baptists Face Decline
In Christian Vocations**

ATLANTA (BP)--Southern Baptists are seeking ways to halt the decline in the number of young people entering Christian vocations.

"We hope to confront the problem through improved in-service training," said Lewis W. Newman of Atlanta, associate secretary of associational missions for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

An in-service training conference was scheduled for the University of Corpus Christi, Tex., for field guidance directors of Southern Baptist colleges and seminaries in the South and West.

Newman hopes this will be the first of many conferences of this type.

The field guidance directors are men responsible for the direction of in-service training in their schools.

The men will study sociological changes and their implication in American life, breakdown of American family life, problems of rural-urban population, and group dynamics. They will observe a pilot project in leadership training sponsored by the university and the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

"This workshop-type conference is an attempt by Southern Baptists to come to grips with the problem of training students for Christian vocations," Newman said.

Newman, who is leading Home Mission Board efforts in this work, helped develop the in-service training program at Corpus Christi as a professor in the university.

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**Smith Making Move
To East Lansing**

(7-20-61)

DETROIT (BP)--Editor Truett Smith announced in the Michigan Baptist Advocate here the bi-weekly paper will not have a full-time editor after Sept. 1.

Smith is moving to East Lansing, Mich., to serve as a pastoral missionary and worker with Baptist students at Michigan State University.

A recession in the Detroit area curtailed income used to support statewide Southern Baptist work. The paper will not suspend publication, but others in the state Baptist office will give part-time attention to it.

Smith handled Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador promotion in addition to editing the paper.

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**New Churches Sought
In Towns, Rural Areas**

(7-20-61)

ATLANTA (BP)--Southern Baptists have started a drive to begin new churches in the towns and rural areas of the United States.

"We believe that there are hundreds of towns and small cities which need a second or third congregation in order to minister to the entire community," said Arthur B. Rutledge of Atlanta, director of the missions division of the denomination's Home Mission Board.

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"We hope that our churches and associations will make careful surveys and then seek to meet needs which are revealed," he said.

An instruction sheet outlining a method of surveying such areas has been produced by the mission board. Rutledge said the piece, "Look On Your Field," is available from the board and from state mission offices.

The emphasis on town and rural areas will continue for the rest of 1961 and comes as a part of the denomination's 30,000 Movement.

This movement is an attempt by Southern Baptists to organize 30,000 missions and churches by 1964. Already 12,000 have been started since 1956.

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Witch Doctor Gives
Up Craft For Christ

(7-20-61)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptists had a part in winning a witch doctor to Christ in Southern Rhodesia.

"I've always known there was a God; I just didn't know he loved me," said the African witch doctor when he learned that God's only Son died for his sins. He accepted the Saviour, gave up his witchcraft and now devotes his time to spreading the news of God's love.

"You had a part in winning this man to Christ," the foreign missions representative told W. E. Grindstaff, director of Cooperative Program promotion for the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission here.

"Although you were not present, you made it possible for a Southern Baptist missionary and an African pastor to visit the witch doctor and tell him the good news. You and other missionary-minded Southern Baptists, with money channeled through the Cooperative Program, make it possible for many Africans to be won to Christ each year."

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Mission Offering
Just Shy Of Goal

(7-20-61)

ATLANTA (BP)--The Annie Armstrong Offering for home missions is only \$177,000 shy of the goal of \$2,470,000 set by the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

In making the announcement, Courts Redford of Atlanta, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, said that he is confident the goal will be reached.

All receipts in excess of \$2,220,000 will go into a church fund to augment the denomination's emphasis on church extension in 1962.

Of the \$2,293,000 received, \$2 million will support the mission board's operation, and \$220,000 will be used for mission buildings. The remaining \$73,000 will go for church sites.

The offering is taken in March during a special week of prayer for Southern Baptist Home Missions sponsored by the Woman's Missionary Union, Convention auxiliary. Funds continue to come in throughout the year.

Basic funds for the mission board's budget of almost \$4-1/2 million are provided by the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified budget plan.

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Modern Mission Hero
Builds Egypt Churches

By Herschel H. Hobbs
with Baptist Holy Land tour

JERUSALEM (BP)--Heroic chapters are being written on the mission fields. There is Seddik Gerghis in Egypt. A native Egyptian, he is a graduate of Texas Christian University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, both of Fort Worth.

In 1931 he returned to his native land, which had no Baptist witness, to establish a little Baptist church in Cairo. Together with his wife, they have developed it until there are now six churches and eight missions in Egypt.

A new church building is being constructed in Cairo. Since 1957 the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has contributed \$400 per month to this work.

Recently, Gerghis became an employe of the Foreign Mission Board and the work is related to the Jordonian mission.

In Beirut, Lebanon, the work goes forward. The new Baptist seminary is under construction and will be ready for occupancy by mid-October. About 20 students from over the Arab world are enroled.

Lebanon is looking forward to the Baptist World Youth Conference in 1963. While in Beirut, the Baptist group had a conference with the minister of information. Baptist work is highly-regarded in Lebanon.

At Ajloun, Jordon the Baptist hospital and schools are thriving.

In the vacation Bible schools just closed, about 1000 enroled. One school had 430 enroled with 41 decisions for Christ. The new building for the Ajloun Baptist Church has recently been dedicated.

A gift from the First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga., made possible this lovely building. Dick H. Hall Jr., pastor of the Decatur church, preached in the Ajloun church while making the tour.

In Amman, Jordon, the tour group had a conference with the Jordonian prime minister, a gentleman of the first order whose courteous reception was equalled by his friendship toward the United States.

A personal thrill was to preach in the Baptist mission in Jerusalem, Jordon. It is just one month old. Brother and Mrs. Bill Hern are off to a fine start here.

A Baptist Book Store is the nucleus of which this work is being built. There are two services in Arabic and one in English each Sunday. Thank God the message of our Lord is being preached and practiced and taught in the land of our Lord.

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