

January 28, 1962

North Carolina Turns
Down Eighth College

RALEIGH, N. C. (BP)--North Carolina Baptists said "No, thank you" to the offer of a former Presbyterian college, now closed.

The General Board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina said it appreciated the offer, but felt it would be unwise to take on an eighth institution to support.

The convention now operates seven colleges.

A foundation last fall offered Baptists the old Flora Macdonald (small d) College at Red Springs, N. C. The college was closed when the Presbyterians merged their higher educational system into a new four-year college in another community.

Flora Macdonald had operated since 1896.

General Board said it would take over \$500,000 to put the college in good condition.

The Baptist Council on Christian Higher Education had had the Macdonald offer under study since last October.

General Board also disassociated itself from anything to do with an insurance company being operated by a Hickory, N. C., minister and others. The company employs the word "Baptist" in the title.

A Committee on Church Autonomy met during the General Board session but had no report to make.

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Negro Coed Returns
To Mars Hill College

(1-28-62)

MARS HILL, N. C. (BP)--The first Negro to enrol as a full-fledged undergraduate student at one of the state's seven Baptist colleges has reentered Mars Hill College here.

Miss Oralene Graves of Asheville, N. C., entered last fall but dropped out after a month because of illness. She has returned to school and is living in a dormitory.

Last fall she lived with a grandmother off campus and was a day student.

Mars Hill President Hoyt Blackwell said Miss Graves' health was the sole reason for her dropping out last October. He said she was "well received" on the campus.

"We haven't had one word of criticism from our local community or our student body," Blackwell added. "We've had a very nice experience."

The little "outside" criticism has come from other states, he said.

Blackwell said he does not know whether Miss Graves has a dormitory roommate but said he imagined any Mars Hill girl would be glad to room with her.

"She is a very attractive girl, with the I Q (intelligence) for college work," he noted.

Miss Graves was an honor student in her Asheville high school.

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Kansas City Baptists
Support Blue Laws

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Baptists in Kansas City have taken an active stand on enforcement of Missouri's Sunday closing laws.

Paul M. Lambert, associational missionary here, said the Pastors' Conference commended the state attorney general for enforcing the so-called blue laws.

Lambert and George L. Burnham, chairman of the local Baptist association's Christian life committee, told a City Council committee that "when an interpretation of the necessary items (whose sale is allowed) was given it should have a religious and moral connotation to it."

Blue laws forbid the sale on Sunday of merchandise not essential to health and welfare. Discount houses have been one of the chief targets of the Sunday closing drive. These stores, in turn, are seeking a legal decision on which items in their stock are "essential."

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Mrs. Mathis Making
South America Tour

(1-28-62)

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Mrs. R. L. Mathis, Waco, president of Woman's Missionary Union, is on a five-week trip to Latin America at the invitation of the Southern Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board.

Woman's Missionary Union is auxiliary to the Convention.

She planned to visit Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, Paraguay, Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina. Purpose of the visit is to help strengthen Woman's Missionary Union organizations in churches of these countries, and to help organize new ones.

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75 Prayer Days Precede
Women's Birthday Year

(1-28-62)

BIRMINGHAM (BP)--On July 18, Southern Baptist women will begin a 75-day prayer period to mark the start of the 75th anniversary of Woman's Missionary Union.

A Convention auxiliary, Woman's Missionary Union begins its anniversary year in October.

Further plans for the birthday observance were outlined to state leaders of the missionary organization at the meeting here.

Local churches will work to meet these goals:

Anniversary prayer retreat, 75 per cent of members receiving Woman's Missionary Union magazines, 75 per cent of members reading a mission book, 75 per cent of leaders holding current leadership cards.

Fifteen per cent increase in Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions, 15 per cent increase in Annie Armstrong Offering for home missions, 15 per cent increase in tithers, 15 per cent increase in members.

Five-day observance of Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, five-day observance of Week of Prayer for Home Missions, study of the auxiliary's history, study of "World Awareness," a new book in a study series, special Cooperative Program presentations, organize or participate in the work of one mission, at least one honor woman's missionary organization, and representation at association, state or Conventionwide women's anniversary meeting.

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The six anniversary goals for associational Woman's Missionary Unions are: anniversary prayer retreat, 15 per cent increase in number of organizations, leadership training provided by associational anniversary featured at associational meeting, representation at state or Conventionwide anniversary meeting, and at least one honor union.

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New Orleans Hospital
Master Plan Approved

(1-28-62)

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Directors of Southern Baptist Hospitals have approved a master plan of expansion and development for the hospital operated here by the Southern Baptist Convention agency.

The agency supervises the only two hospitals maintained by the SBC proper--Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, and Baptist Memorial Hospital, Jacksonville, Fla.

Raymond C. Wilson, New Orleans administrator, presented the plan which will about triple total space for general patient services, ancillary services, education programs, special patient care areas and pastoral care facilities.

New construction, according to T. Sloane Guy Jr., executive secretary of the agency, will bring hospital beds to 600 for treatment of the acutely ill, compared with the present 467.

Also projected are parking facilities several stories high, and an apartment building for hospital staff and personnel.

The agency planned to go before the SBC Executive Committee seeking Convention permission to borrow \$1-1/2 million through mortgage loans. It will not be from government sources, Guy said.

Neither of the hospitals has been financed in any part by government grants or loans.

The Jacksonville hospital reported progress in developing its master plan. This plan will be presented at the agency's next annual meeting in January, 1963, in Jacksonville.

Members of the hospitals agency requested their annual meeting, now covering a night orientation session and a formal meeting the next morning, be extended. They want the briefing session the night before and a full day's formal meeting, Guy said.

Guy interpreted this request from members as coming from "their growing participation and high level of interest in board activities."

The Southern Baptist Convention, as a national body, operates only the two hospitals. However, there are many other hospitals related to Southern Baptists which are operated by state Baptist bodies and local associations of churches.

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Folks and Facts.....

(1-28-62)

.....C. E. Copeland, 70, administrator of Missouri Baptist Hospital, St. Louis, will retire March 1. He has been with the institution for 26 years, first as financial secretary and director of public relations, then as administrator. (BP)

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....."Hospital Hotel" is the title of a picture story in Look Magazine, telling about the progressive care center at North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, N. C. (BP)

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Executives Recognize
Utah Children's Home

By Erwin L. McDonald

LITTLE ROCK (BP)--The Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists, made up of children's home executives, has admitted to membership the head of a new Baptist home in Whiterocks (one word), Utah.

He is Bob Cooper, superintendent of Uintah Basin Baptist Children's Home.

The Executives, an organization of those with similar professional duties in Baptist life, has no official agency connection with the Southern Baptist Convention or with the state Baptist conventions which operate the individual homes.

The Utah home is the 34th to have a representative belonging to the Child Care Executives group. They come from 21 states.

In an interview for Baptist Press, T. M. Johns, superintendent of Florida Baptist Children's Home, Lakeland, described current trends in Baptist child care.

He said one of the most important recent developments is their increased reliance on professional personnel. Since Southern Baptists up to this time do not have an accredited school to train the personnel needed, the homes sometimes have to employ professional workers who are not Baptists.

Johns reported salaries for professional workers are better than they used to be. A starting worker in this classification may expect at least \$4250 a year, with salaries ranging upward to \$7000.

In-service training for staff is another new feature of Baptist child care work, the Florida executive added. There are now three training centers for one-week workshops each year.

Southwestern state workers assemble at the University of Texas in Austin, Southeastern states at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and Florida staffers at Stetson University (Baptist) in DeLand, Fla.

True orphans, that is with both parents dead, continue to make up only 3 to 5 per cent of the children in Baptist homes. The emphasis is on restoring a family breakup so that children in the institutions may be reunited with their families.

This is one of the reasons professional staff members are so necessary, according to Johns.

The 34 Baptist homes each year minister to about 2500 families. The average stay of the children in Baptist homes is three to 3-1/2 years, the average age when admitted is 11 years old.

The Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists voted to hold their January 29-31, 1963 meeting at Chapel Hill, N. C. They elected Edgar E. Blake, Bridgeton, Mo., as president; Harold C. Seefeldt of Monticello, Ark., vice-president; John C. Murdoch of Greenwood, S. C., second vice-president, and James V. Browning of Oklahoma City (reelected) as secretary-treasurer.

Ouachita Enrols 2
Rhodesian Students

ARKADELPHIA, Ark. (BP)--Ouachita Baptist College here has enroled two Baptist students from Southern Rhodesia for second semester, its first Negroes in the student body.

Michael Makosholo, 40, and his wife, Mary, have been teaching for seven years in the Baptist school at Gatooma, Southern Rhodesia--he in the eighth grade and she in the third grade. He plans to work toward a bachelor's degree with a major in secondary education.

Makosholo was a deacon in the Gatooma church.

Mrs. Makosholo enroled as a special student--not necessarily working toward a degree--taking elementary education and related courses.

The couple is living in faculty apartment housing on the campus, President Ralph A. Phelps Jr. told the Baptist Press. The enrolment procedure was quiet and routine.

"This is in keeping with a policy adopted by Ouachita trustees in April, 1960," Phelps continued. "The trustees voted for the school to admit any qualified students from our foreign mission fields provided they are recommended by two Southern Baptist foreign missionaries."

He added this is the first time the policy has been followed in receiving students.

The Makosholos came with the recommendation of missionaries Marion G. and Jane Fray, who are presently at home on furlough from Southern Rhodesia. The Frays, alumni of Ouachita, met the African couple at the airport in Little Rock on their arrival after a 9000-mile flight.

The Makosholos, who expect to be in this country at least 3-1/2 years pursuing their education, left their four children with grandparents in Southern Rhodesia.

The trip was financed by the Southern Baptist Mission in Southern Rhodesia and by money Makosholo raised by selling the cattle he owned, according to Phelps.

Phelps said he notified the student body at Ouachita a week before the arrival date of the Makosholos. The students had been advised in 1960 of what the trustee policy would ultimately mean, and also knew last fall someone was coming during the 1961-62 school year.

A campus service fraternity, he added, has been raising funds to help with some of the couple's personal expenses.

"In challenging the student body, I told them that the stakes involved are much higher than just how these two individuals are treated. We have taken this necessary and logical step as an essential part of our world mission program," the college president explained.

"Our missionaries in Africa and other parts of the world have told us the communists are 'beating them to death' with the fact that mission converts are not permitted to come to the school that sent out the missionaries.

"We are hoping to take the handcuffs off our missionaries in some of these areas where the struggle between Christianity and communism is so acute," Phelps said.

"I told the students and faculty they are in dead center of this world struggle in their treatment of these two products of our world mission program. I told them in a very real sense they hold the key to the future of Christianity in Africa," he continued.

Makosholo is originally from the Basuto tribe in Basutoland, in southern Africa.

The Makosholos are not the first Negroes to attend college in Arkadelphia. Henderson State Teachers College here has about 25 undergraduate American Negro students, Phelps said.

Oregon Board Elects
2 Top Staff Officers

PORTLAND, Ore. (BP)--The Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington has confirmed the appointment of Roland P. Hood as associate executive secretary.

Hood, a staff member of the board here for several years, also is director of cooperative missions.

The board called Miss Mary Jo Stewart of Atlanta, Young Woman's Auxiliary director for Georgia Baptist Convention, to be executive secretary of the Oregon-Washington Woman's Missionary Union.

She was expected to come about April 1. Miss Stewart succeeds Mrs. Roland P. Hood, who resigned Jan. 1 after 13 years as executive secretary, but who has been interim secretary pending election of her successor.

The Executive Board also will petition the secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention for the right to have Oregon-Washington representatives on SBC agencies. It reported passing the required 25,000 members of cooperating churches, on which representation is based.

The board designated its executive committee to be advisor to the Pacific Coast Baptist for 1962. The Baptist state paper was placed under the Executive Board's direction by a constitution change at the annual convention.

A writer will be selected in the near future to prepare a history of the Oregon-Washington convention to be published in 1968, the convention's 20th anniversary.

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Hardin-Simmons Head,
E. A. Reiff, Resigns

(1-28-62)

ADILENE, Tex. (BP)--Evan Allard Reiff, president of Hardin-Simmons University for the past 8-1/2 years, has resigned because he is "dead tired."

Reiff, 58, said he had been working day and night, and was too worn out to carry on the job as president.

"Hardin-Simmons needs strong, aggressive leadership," he said in submitting his resignation to the board of trustees.

His resignation will be effective July 1, or earlier should a successor be chosen or other proper arrangements be made by the board of trustees, Reiff said.

Reiff said he had no immediate plans for the future, but wanted to rest for a year or two.

W. B. Irvin of Dallas, chairman of the Hardin-Simmons trustees, said there was absolutely no connection between Reiff's resignation and the recent reorganization of the Baptist school's athletics program.

The Hardin-Simmons trustees recently combined the job of head football coach and athletic director in an effort to overcome a mounting deficit in the athletic budget. Soon afterwards, the head football coach, athletic director and three assistant coaches resigned.

Irvin said Reiff "is a wonderful Christian gentleman in every respect. He had done a fine job for the university." Describing Reiff as "a fine academic man," Irvin said his resignation will mean "a great loss to the school in many ways."

Reiff was the 10th president of Hardin-Simmons. He would have served for nine years in the post on July 1, the effective date of his resignation.

Before coming to the 1,726-student university, Reiff was president of Sioux Falls College, an American Baptist college in Sioux Falls, S. D.

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The former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Atchison, Kan., Reiff had also served as professor on the faculties of the University of Iowa, Iowa City; Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; Ottawa University, (American Baptist), Ottawa, Kan. and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, Pa.

Reiff is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University with a bachelor of arts degree, magna cum laude, and holds the master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from the University of Iowa.

He is the former chairman of the Southern Association of Baptist College and schools, 1960-61 and was chairman of the Southern Baptist Education Commission, 1957-58.