

July 3, 1959

New North Carolina
Secretary Installed

RALEIGH, N. C.--(BP)--"In Douglas M. Branch, North Carolina Baptists are fortunate in having the happy combination of a man of thought and a man of action," A. Leroy Parker of Greensboro said as Branch was installed as the new general secretary and treasurer of the Baptist State Convention.

Branch, former pastor of First Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, N. C., began his duties as new leader of North Carolina Baptists on July 1. The installation service was conducted at Raleigh's First Baptist Church, with Parker, president of the convention, bringing the keynote message.

"The fields are still white unto harvest in North Carolina," the president of the North Carolina convention said. "Along with the new secretary, let us claim the harvest."

In tracing briefly the history of the office, Parker said that John Armstrong was named corresponding secretary when the convention was organized at Greenville, N. C., in 1830. It was not until Charles Maddry of Hillsboro, N. C., assumed the position in 1926 that the name was changed to general secretary. During his tenure of office, the duties of treasurer were added.

M. A. Huggins succeeded Maddry in 1932 when Maddry became secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. At the installation service, Huggins presented the convention seal and keys to the offices here to his successor. It was exactly 27 years ago that Huggins assumed the post. Last November he announced his intentions to retire on June 30.

The convention president said that the office of general secretary and treasurer has a vital relationship to many areas of Baptist life, especially evangelism, missions, stewardship, benevolences, and Christian education.

"An intelligent and inclusive evangelism will help to develop mature Christians," Parker said. With regard to stewardship, he declared that there were "great untapped resources in our state."

Others taking part on the program were L. H. Hollingsworth of Boone, N. C., president of the convention's general board, who presided; Roberts C. Lasater, assistant pastor of First Baptist Church, Raleigh; E. Lowell Spivey, Raleigh, who brought greetings from the convention staff; and Wiley Meares of Rocky Mount. A reception was held following the installation service.

Branch brings to this work experience as pastor, general state missionary, and service on many state and Southern Baptist Convention boards and committees.

He is past president (1954 and 1955) of the Baptist State Convention; past president of the state Baptist Pastors' Conference; has served on the late committee of 25 to survey state Baptist work; and was chairman of the Committee to Study Total Program of Southern Baptists.

He has been a trustee of Wingate and Wake Forest Colleges in North Carolina.

Eddleman Speaker
In South America

NEW ORLEANS, La.--(BP)--H. Leo Eddleman, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary here, was the inspirational speaker for the annual meeting July 6-10 of the Colombia (South America) Baptist Mission.

Eddleman, accompanied by Mrs. Eddleman and their daughter, Evelyn, left New Orleans by plane for Cartagena, Colombia, site of the meeting. The invitation was extended to Eddleman, a former missionary, by Hoke Smith, Jr., Southern Baptist missionary and president of the mission.

During the four-day meeting Eddleman delivered two addresses each day to the missionaries and national pastors.

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Golden Gate Dream
Of Campus Realized

MILL VALLEY, Calif.--(BP)--Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary has begun to function officially on its new 126-acre campus at Strawberry Point, according to Harold K. Graves, president of the school.

Upon the receipt of an occupancy permit issued by the Marin County board of supervisors July 1 the seminary's last technical hurdle was cleared.

Of the transition from Berkeley, Calif., to the new site just north of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge, President Graves had this to say:

"Our institution will take on entirely different personality as we leave the old facilities and move to the new. The Golden Gate seminary of 1959 on its new campus at Strawberry Point is a far cry from its days in a church building in Oakland from 1944 to 1947, or even from its early days in Berkeley in a single building, crowded and inadequately equipped.

"As many scores of young people turn this way for the beginning of their theological training this fall, and as others return who have already had the influence of the seminary, we have the opportunity of welding an institution into an atmosphere and environment that will be creative and inspiring, accomplishing God's purpose," Graves continued.

"My joy is increased in the recognition that what we build today is on the work of others. My hat is off to them for their vision, their labors, and their sacrifices that make my day possible."

With heavier allocations from the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program receipts for its capital improvement budget, the seminary has been building its new home across San Francisco Bay from the old site.

The seminary was chartered in Oakland, Calif., July 12, 1944 in the building of the Golden Gate Baptist Church. It moved to adjoining Berkeley in 1947. The first graduates, 17 in number, received degrees in 1949.

The 1950 session of the Southern Baptist Convention voted to accept control and support of the seminary and it was included in the Convention's budget for 1951.

Graves became president in 1952. Starting out with seven students in 1944, the seminary last year enrolled 350. It is the only Southern Baptist Convention institution west of the Rockies although some state Baptist groups have schools in the far western states.

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Receipts Approach
1959 Halfway Mark

NASHVILLE--(BP)--At the halfway mark of the year, the Southern Baptist Convention treasury is almost halfway toward its Cooperative Program goal of \$17½ million for calendar 1959.

Total received so far through the Cooperative Program amounts to \$8,318,741, according to Treasurer Porter Routh of Nashville. This is 47½ per cent of the year's goal.

With designations added to Cooperative Program receipts, total funds received at the treasurer's office here for the first six months of 1959 come to \$17,793,384.

Total receipts thus are running \$1,798,453---or 11.24 per cent---ahead of last year at the mid-year mark.

Cooperative Program income is up \$642,443 over the six-month period, an increase of 8.37 per cent. Designations are \$1,156,010 ahead, for a 13.9 per cent gain.

Percentage gains for 1959 over 1958 are continuing to stay higher than gains for 1958 over 1957.

During the month of June \$1,279,125 was received in undesignated, Cooperative Program funds. Another \$444,063 came in designations, making a month's total of \$1,723,189.

Cooperative Program funds go for the support of all work of the Southern Baptist Convention. They are divided according to a percentage scale adopted by the Convention. Designations, on the other hand, must go for the specific work indicated by the donors.

More than \$603,000 was disbursed to the Convention's Foreign Mission Board in June, swelling its total disbursements for 1959 to date to \$10,614,548. For the first six months, the Home Mission Board's disbursements have reached \$3,278,304 and those of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, \$1,269,439. No other agency has reached the half-million mark.

Funds reported do not include monies kept by local churches nor by state Baptist groups. Forwardings from state Baptist offices show that, during June, sent in \$ through the Cooperative Program and \$ in designations for a total of \$.

Going into the final six months, all states have forwarded more in designations in 1959 than in 1958. Only three have forwarded less in Cooperative Program funds---Arkansas, New Mexico, and South Carolina. However, the total amount from each state is greater this year.

BAPTIST FEATURES

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July 3, 1959

June Event-Filled
Month For Baptists

By the Baptist Press

Southern Baptist Convention assemblies opened their summer seasons at Ridgecrest, N. C., and Glorieta, N. M., in June, while similar developments were taking place at camps and assembly grounds operated by state Baptist groups.

Tens of thousands of Baptists will have attended the two Southern Baptist assemblies before their 12-week seasons close in late August. Many thousands more will attend state-sponsored assemblies nearer home.

June also is the month Southern Baptist educators, having just closed an academic year, discuss their common problems. Simultaneous meetings of the Education Commission, an agency of the SBC, and the Southern Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools, a voluntary association of administrators, were held in Nashville.

Events of the month, in capsule form, included:

TRAGEDY: The opening week of the assembly season at Ridgecrest, N. C., devoted to a convention of Baptist students, was marred by the death of one co-ed and serious injury of another. They were swept over Catawba Falls in a remote area after hiking from the assembly to the mountainside waterfall. The injured girl is president of the Baptist student union at Coker College, Hartsville, S. C.

DISCUSSION: Educators discussed the effect government legislation in the educational field will have on their schools, particularly in keeping with Baptists' belief in separation of church and state. No absolute answer was found, but the educators were alerted to legislation in Congress and urged to act with caution on "borderline" issues. Another speaker declared that Baptists must give more recognition to ministerial students who can not or will not attend seminaries. These attend Bible schools. If they are not provided for by Southern Baptists, they will turn to non-Baptist schools and perhaps lose interest in or become antagonistic toward the denomination, the speaker warned. Ralph A. Phelps, Jr., president of Ouachita Baptist College, Arkadelphia, Ark., was re-elected chairman of the Education Commission, and Charles L. Harman, president of Bluefield (Va.) College, was elected president of the association.

DEATHS: Several prominent Baptists died during June. A. S. (Steele) Hays, 87, father of past SBC President Brooks Hays, died in his home town of Russellville, Ark. W. F. Powell, for 34 years pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville, and for the same period president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, suffered a fatal heart attack. He was 81. Mrs. Powell died about three weeks later. D. A. (Scotchie) McCall, former executive secretary, Mississippi Baptist Convention, died in Chicago. Funeral services were held for T. C. Pennell, who died while preaching at Ingleside Baptist Church, Shreveport. He was past president of Louisiana Baptist Convention. J. Carl McCoy, long-time Memphis Baptist leader, died. He was 74.

NEW POSTS: E. N. Patterson of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary was elected president of Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz. Baylon University set aside its proposed chancellor system, retained W. R. White as president, but assigned active leadership of the Texas school--Baptists' largest---to newly-elected executive vice-president Abner McCall. Walker Knight of Dallas was elected secretary of department of editorial service for the SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

NEW WORK: Ohio Baptists called the president of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, W. L. Stigler of Tulsa, as secretary of evangelism. Indiana state convention voted to begin publishing a monthly paper, the Indiana Baptist.

PROBLEMS: Louisiana College, Pineville, La., took note of a plan to establish a state-supported junior college in its vicinity; thereupon the Baptist school voted to delay construction of a \$1/2-million fine arts building and \$4 1/2-million in other campus improvements, and seriously considered the possibility of moving to another---and probably larger---city.

LAWS ENACTED: Laws were enacted in Florida and South Carolina, but defeated in Alabama, granting witness stand immunity to ministers when called on to reveal confidences given them in spiritual counseling. Wording of the laws varied from state to state, but it was a definite effort to provide ministers with privileged communications status already afforded doctors and lawyers. The American Baptist Convention, at annual session in Des Moines, Ia., passed a resolution calling for nationwide recognition of ministerial court immunity.

ACTIONS BY OTHER BAPTISTS: American Baptist Convention, with a thinned-down, last-day attendance, voted by a narrow margin to amend a resolution on Red China. The amendment endorses the U. S. State Department and the United Nations in their refusal to recognize China's Communist government. The predominantly-northern body, at its pastors' conference, debated the SBC "invasion" but passed no resolution. T. B. McDormand, general secretary of the Baptist Federation of Canada, Toronto, resigned to accept an administrative post at Baptist school.

HONORS: Brooks Hays was honored as layman of the year by Religious Heritage of America in a dinner at Washington, D. C. A new student housing project at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., was named in memory of Southwestern's late president, Dr. J. Howard Williams. J. M. Dawson, Baptist minister and author and strong advocate of church-state separation, was given the Texas Baptist Elder Statesman's Award.