

March 4, 1961

Negro Pastor Discusses
Educational Assistance

NASHVILLE (BP)--The climate in which Southern Baptists began helping train Negro Baptist ministers is changing, a Negro pastor reported to a council here.

Garland Offutt of Louisville said the effort began with a "paternalistic" attitude by Southern Baptists and one of "half-hearted acquiescence by Negro Baptists. This grew out of the segregated pattern in the South, he added, a "sociological problem...stabilized with both the sanction and legal enforcement of contemporary government."

Offutt is pastor of West Chestnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville. He holds the doctor of theology degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary there, where he studied for 5-1/2 years. He teaches at Simmons University in Louisville also.

He discussed Negro Baptist seminary training in a talk to the Advisory Council on Southern Baptist Work with Negro Baptists.

Although Negro Baptists accepted this educational help with "mixed joy," Offutt said their accepting aid under these terms demonstrated the Negroes' "immaturity and helplessness. In many respects it was an affront to their individual dignity."

It was, he said, like a thirsty man reaching "happily and expectantly for a thimble of water, not forgetting he would prefer a cup."

Barriers erected by whites and Negroes beset this cooperation between Southern and Negro Baptists. Offutt said such barriers arose mainly from laymen. Some Southern Baptists disliked the idea of any cooperation in theological training.

National (Negro) Baptists feared accepting help would extend the status quo. They also failed to agree on what place ministerial education would have in relation to other Negro Baptist objectives.

Offutt said the past climate and the barriers to progress in education should not bring to an end this cooperation between the groups. "Much good has been accomplished," he declared.

Scholarships have enabled many worthy students to attend a school when otherwise they could not have secured an education. Weak faculties have been made stronger, Offutt said. Many Negro ministers have become more effective preachers because of this help. The cooperation of the two groups has "deepened the spirituality of all concerned and created an understanding and appreciation of Southern and National Baptists for each other."

The council elected Rogers M. Smith of Richmond, administrative associate, Southern Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board, chairman. He succeeded the late G. Kearnie Keegan of Nashville. Hugh A. Brimm of Carver School of Missions and Social Work, Louisville, was elected vice-chairman.

The council reelected Mrs. Mildred Dunn of the SBC Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, as recording secretary. The council is only an advisory body and has no agency status. Its members come from SBC agencies and from state Baptist departments of work with Negro Baptists.

The council meets annually, its 1962 meeting slated in Nashville Feb. 26-27.

Missionary Coggins
Called To Nashville

NASHVILLE (BP)--Ross C. Coggins, Southern Baptist missionary in Indonesia, has been called to be an associate in the Christian Life Commission of the Convention.

Coggins, 33, will assume duties in Nashville sometime during the summer. He accepted the call made by the commission at its annual meeting in Nashville.

Commission Executive Secretary Foy D. Valentine of Nashville said Coggins holds a "long-standing desire for a writing ministry." His work with the Christian Life Commission is to include writing articles for Baptist quarterlies, magazines, and newspapers.

"His coming will enable us to expand our writing and speaking ministry," according to Valentine. "We haven't been able to do all we wanted to, or to meet the opportunities we have had, because of shortage of personnel."

In accepting the call, Coggins told the commission, "Obviously we are never going to make any significant world advance apart from a realistic reappraisal of our conduct at home." Valentine added, "His world vision will be a great asset in the commission's emphasis on applied Christianity at home. He knows Christian conduct at home has a great influence on evangelism overseas."

Coggins, a term rather than permanent foreign mission appointee, is director of promotion and publication of the Indonesian Baptist Mission, Bandung. He promotes and publishes Baptist literature in Indonesian. He was appointed a missionary in 1955.

He is author of the hymn used in Baptist churches, "Send Me, O Lord, Send Me."

Prior to his appointment to Indonesia, Coggins was an associate in Baptist student work in Texas, a teacher and campus student secretary at Texas State College for Women in Denton, and pastor of First Baptist Church, Woodson, Tex. He is a native of Wichita Falls, Tex.

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Navajo Leadership
Needed For Missions

(3-4-61)

GALLUP, N. M. (BP)--Southern Baptists have set a priority on securing trained Indian leadership from among the 88,000 Navajos in the United States.

This was revealed here at the annual conference on Navajo work attended by 34 of the 38 missionaries employed by the denomination.

The increased use of Navajo leadership in mission work was cited by Gerald B. Palmer of Atlanta, associate secretary of the department of language groups ministries of the Convention's Home Mission Board.

The missionaries are employed by the mission board and the state Baptist conventions of New Mexico and Arizona.

"Four years ago our missionaries indicated an almost complete absence of leadership assistance from among the Navajo Indians," Palmer said. "This year the missionaries all told of the enlistment of Navajos."

"We were encouraged also by the missionaries' greater grasp of the work as evidenced by their study of the Navajo language and their understanding of the culture."

The conference heard Robert Young of Winter Rock, Ariz., assistant superintendent of the Navajo government agency, discuss the future of the Navajos.

Young indicated the Navajos are increasing more rapidly than the general United States population. He estimates there are 88,000 Navajos, with 78,000 living in or near the reservation in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado.

The Indians, according to Young, are progressing in education and in living standards, although their income averages one-fourth of the general population in these states.

The 3-day conference was conducted by Joe Carl Johnson of Albuquerque, director of missions in New Mexico, and Irvin Dawson of Phoenix, director of language missions in Arizona.

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Family Problems Come
To Assembly Attention

(3-4-61)

NASHVILLE (BP)--An effort to find practical Christian answers to family problems will be made this summer at Christian Life Conferences at Southern Baptist assemblies in Ridgecrest, N. C., and Glorieta, N. M.

The format for the two conferences will be identical to that used last year by the sponsoring Christian Life Commission of the Convention. Addresses by authorities in family life will be followed by group discussions.

Foy D. Valentine of Nashville, commission executive secretary, said topics include "Birth Control and Planned Parenthood," "Working Wives and Mothers," "Teen-Age Marriages," "The Christian Family and Its Aged Members," "Interfaith Marriages," "The Churches Face the Divorce Problem," "The Modern Church Program and Family Life," and "Biblical Foundations for Responsible Family Living."

The conference at Ridgecrest Aug. 24-30 will draw a man "considered by many the world's foremost authority on family life," Valentine said. He is David R. Mace, executive director of the American Association of Marriage Counselors in New York City.

"Dr. Mace is a specialist who speaks from a distinctive Christian viewpoint," he added. Mace's subjects include those of teen-age marriage, birth control, divorce and working wives.

The second speaker at Ridgecrest will be Olin T. Binkley of Wake Forest, N. C., dean and professor of Christian sociology and ethics at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Glorieta Baptist Assembly conference dates are Aug. 10-16. Program leaders on the same subjects will be T. D. Maston and R. Lofton Hudson. Maston is professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, and Hudson, a former Baptist pastor in Oklahoma and Missouri, heads a counseling service in Kansas City, Mo.

"We feel these topics are of particularly vital interest to all Southern Baptists. The conferences will help them see how Christianity offers answers to everyday family problems," according to Valentine.

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Baptists Will Attend
United Nations Seminar

(3-4-61)

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention voted here to participate in a United Nations and Foreign Policy Seminar.

It will be held Nov. 6-8 at United Nations, New York City. The American Baptist Convention invited Southern Baptists to have a part, along with Negro Baptists.

By SBC action, the Christian Life Commission provides observers to United Nations. The commission reelected its executive secretary, Foy D. Valentine of Nashville, as United Nations observer and Gainer E. Bryan Jr., of Baltimore alternate observer. Bryan edits the Maryland Baptist.

Valentine, commission chairman G. Avery Lee of Ruston, La., and the new staff associate, Ross C. Coggins, will attend the seminar.

In other action, the commission reelected Lee, vice-chairman Daniel R. Grant of Nashville, and recording secretary R. B. Culbreth of Miami Springs, Fla.

It voted to conduct its next annual meeting in Nashville March 5-7, 1962.

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'Sit-Ins' Said Topmost
Race Story For 1960

NASHVILLE (BP)--What was the most significant movement in the racial situation in the South during 1960?

According to a report to a council here, it was "the emergence of the Southern Students Protest Movement, characterized by 'sit-ins.'" The movement used non-violent techniques, and directed its attention first at segregated lunch counters in 10 cent stores.

The paper discussing racial events in the United States and abroad was drafted by John A. Barry of Nashville at the request of the Advisory Council on Southern Baptist Work with Negro Baptists.

Barry is associate secretary of placement services for the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. The commission, several other SBC agencies, and state Baptist Negro work departments provide representatives to this unofficial body in the denomination.

Barry outlined other developments in the United States on the race issue during 1960. He pointed out, however, that racial tensions also developed in England, the Congo, and other parts of world, and that the U. S. racial issue prevailed in the North as well as in the South.

The major new ingredient in race relations in the South was the impact of the young people in asserting and activating their concern for the problem," Barry declared. "The example of Negro college students, together with some white students, called attention to an interest which seemed to have been largely dormant within that group since World War II."

He continued, "In general, one might say race relations in the South come closer to what might be called a 'base for the respect for the individual and his rights' in 1960 than in previous years."

Through 1960, just over one-fourth of the Southern region's public school districts had desegregated. More than half of the South's public colleges have been desegregated. Barry said he secured information for his report from the Southern Education Reporting Service.

"No exact figures are available on the extent of desegregation in private colleges," he added.

Among religious actions on race in 1960 were the decisions by Kentucky Southern Baptists to desegregate hospitals and by Georgia Baptists to abolish their Social Service Commission, which reported on race.

"Greater freedom within the press of the Southern Baptist Convention has been shown," Barry noted. More articles on racial matters and their effect on Baptists were being published.

He said The Methodist Church, after four years of study, retained its separate Negro jurisdiction.

Barry called attention to the report of the federal Civil Rights Commission which said discrimination is not limited to the South. He mentioned race riots in London resulting from influx of Negroes from the British West Indies.

"Perhaps the most drastic development in race relations outside this country has been in the Congo," Barry stated. "One wonders if Christianity in Africa is going the way it did in China."

"One of the bright spots in the picture...has been where the white man through missionary activity has prepared as many as possible...for the task of self-government in Christian dignity," according to Barry. He observed the contribution of Southern Baptist foreign missions to Nigeria, one of the emerging new nations of Africa.

"If our mission at home in the South as well as in the world at large is to be of consequence for Christ, it is mandatory now for Southern Baptists to act as individuals and local churches in courageous faith to validate what we say we have believed as a New Testament denomination," he concluded.

354-Voice Choir Sings
For Detroit Meeting

By Truett Smith

DETROIT (BP)--Singing by an interracial, 354-voice choir highlighted a fellowship meeting here of six Baptist groups.

The choir, led by Lester H. Case, assistant pastor of Covenant Baptist Church, Detroit, an American Baptist Convention church, included members of churches of the six participating groups.

Busloads of Southern Baptists from other cities in Michigan came here for the Baptist Jubilee Advance rally. Other groups in addition to the Southern and American Conventions were the Baptist Federation of Canada; National Baptist Convention of America Uninc.; National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.; and the North American Baptist General Conference.

D. E. King, pastor of Zion Baptist Church (Negro), Louisville, and Theodore F. Adams of Richmond, immediate past president of the Baptist World Alliance, were featured speakers.

Adams told the nearly 3000 Baptists assembled about his round-the-world experiences as Alliance president. He described the different ways in which Baptists conduct their affairs in other countries. He told about the 1960 meeting of the Baptist World Congress in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, at which his successor was elected.

King took the text from the gospels, in which Jesus made a wet clay, placed it on a blind man's eyes, and told him to wash his eyes to receive sight. He said Baptists need to have their eyes opened so they may see the Lord more clearly, and see each other more distinctly.

Observers, who have attended previous joint rallies by the different groups, said they felt this latest one evidenced a growing spirit of cooperation between them.

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Editors Advice

(3-4-61)

Woman's Missionary Union's budget this year is approximately \$1.4 million. It comes, with the exception of \$100,000, from income from magazine subscriptions and sale of literature and supplies. The \$100,000 comes from the Southern Baptist Convention Foreign and Home Mission Boards.

Baptist Press

-30-

Folks and Facts.....

(3-4-61)

..... A \$4000 research grant has been awarded to Ray Frank Robbins, professor of New Testament at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. The grant was made by the American Association of Theological Schools. (BP)

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST PASTORS' CONFERENCE 36

KIEL AUDITORIUM

SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

May 22-23, 1961

Roy O. McClain, Georgia -- President
Carl E. Bates, North Carolina -- Vice-President
Ray McCollum, California -- Secretary-Treasurer

Theme - "Christian Maturity"

Scripture - Ephesians 4

Monday - May 22, 1961

Monday Morning Session

- 9:30 Song and Praise
Scripture & Prayer
Welcome...Response
Program Projections
Solo ----- Mr. Bill Sutter, N. C.
- 10:00 - "The Unsearchable Riches of Christ" - Eph. 3:8 - Dr. Chas. Howard, N. C.
Hymn--- (Congregation Standing)
- 10:40 Worship Through Art and Music ----- Dr. Karl Steele, Ill.
Solo ----- Mr. Frank Boggs, Minister of
Music at Large
- 10:55 Message - "Grow Up -- in Christ's Likeness ..." - Dr. L. D. Johnson, Va.
(Eph. 4:15)
Hymn --- (Congregation Standing)
Quartette
- 11:20 Message -- "According to the Power That Works In Us..." - Ephesians 3:20
(minister's name to be supplied later)

Monday Afternoon Session

- 2:00 Song Service
Meditation & Prayer
Announcements
Quartette
- 2:25 Message ----- "The Ramparts We Watch" --- Mr. Glenn L. Archer, Washington, D.C.
Hymn
- 2:50 Worship Through Art and Music ----- Dr. Karl Steele
- 3:15 Message - "Alienated From the Life of God Through Ignorance" - Ephesians 4:18
Dr. D. J. Evans, Georgia
Quartette
- 3:45 Message - "Sealed Unto the Day of Redemption." - Ephesians 4:30
Dr. Wm. Hull, Kentucky
- Benediction

Monday Evening Session

- 7:00 Song Service
Devotional
Special Music
- 7:20 Message - "Through the Eyes of a Layman" ----- Mr. Arch Avary, Georgia
Solo ----- Mr. Frank Boggs
Worship Through Art ----- Dr. Karl Steele
Hymn
- 8:10 Message - "Maturity's Pinnacle: Kindness, Tenderheartedness, Forgiveness" ---
Ephesians 4:32 -- Dr. Marshall Craig, Texas
Special Music
- 8:40 Message - "Keeping the Unity of the Faith" - Ephesians 4:3-13
Dr. Carlyle Marney, North Carolina
- Benediction

Tuesday Morning Session

- 9:00 Song Service
Prayer
Duet

2 - The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference

9:20 Message - "Through the Eyes of Youth" ----- Harold Cole, State Baptist Student Secretary, N. C.

Hymn

9:50 Message - "Be Angry and Sin Not" ----- Dr. Gordon Clinard, Ephesians 4:26 Southwestern Seminary, Texas

Choral Music

10:25 Worship Through Art ----- Dr. Karl Steele

10:40 Message - "Know Ye Not That the Body is the Temple of the Soul?" (speaker's name to be supplied later)

Hymn

Solo

11:15 Message - "Carried About With Every Wind of Doctrine" -- Ephesians 4:14 Dr. Dale Moody, Southern Seminary, Kentucky

Benediction

Tuesday Afternoon Session

2:00 Song Service
Scripture & Prayer
Announcements
Solo

2:25 Message - "Speaking the Truth in Love."-- Ephesians 4:15
Dr. J. B. Weatherspoon, Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

Choral Music

Worship Through Art ----- Dr. Karl Steele

Hymn

Solo ----- Mr. Frank Boggs

3:30 Message - "Walking Worthy of the Vocation" --- Ephesians 4:1-17
Dr. Earl Guinn, Louisiana

Benediction