

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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### Texas College Integration Urged, No Action Taken

DALLAS (BP)--A Baptist foreign mission appointee who is leaving a lucrative dental practice to go to Nigeria urged the Texas Baptist executive board to desegregate eight Texas Baptist colleges, but the board took no action on the appeal.

Dr. W. E. Wyatt of Hurst, Tex., (near Fort Worth) told the 192-member executive board that desegregation must be met in a Christian way and that the executive board was the place to start.

He urged the board to take some positive action as "a mark in our favor." He added, "If we wait until this thing is pushed down our throats, then it is going to be a mark against us."

Dr. Wyatt said that he did not have the answer to the problem, but added that there must be a change in men's hearts in order to overcome racial prejudice. "The Bible teaches that in God's sight there is no difference between Jew and Greek, between the slave and the free, and there is no difference in these people and in us," he said.

"I for one would be in favor of actually integrating our schools of higher education," he said.

Dr. Wyatt made the statements during an impromptu testimony before the board in reflecting on the problems he would face as a missionary to Nigeria. He had been asked to give his testimony about his personal surrender to the missionary role.

The board did not discuss nor take action on the desegregation of Baptist schools.

T. A. Patterson, Texas Baptist executive secretary, acknowledged motions and resolutions passed by Baptist pastors' conferences and associational executive boards in Houston, Waco and Lubbock, urging Texas Baptist schools to admit all qualified students regardless of race, but said that no action by the executive board was required and that it was a matter for the boards of trustees of the schools to consider.

In other action, the board employed a professional fund-raising firm, Ward Dreshman and Reinhardt of New York City, to help conduct a \$28 million "crusade" for building and equipment needs of eight Texas Baptist schools.

Debate on whether or not to employ a professional fund-raiser raged for more than two hours. The proposal was passed after the board members decided that the four-year campaign would not be successful without professional help.

The board also adopted a two-point program emphasizing doctrinal teaching at Baptist schools without raising the total number of semester hours of Bible required for graduation, and establishing faculty-student Christian maturity councils in Baptist schools.

Last September the board had referred for further study a proposal that would double the Bible requirements at Baptist schools, hiking the total from six semester hours to twelve semester hours.

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A survey conducted of Baptist schools showed that all but two of the eight colleges could not add six hours of religion without increasing the total number of hours required for graduation, necessitating a  $4\frac{1}{2}$  year graduation program instead of a four year curriculum.

In other action, the board filled five vacancies on the Convention's state missions commission. The board elected the following to positions:

Cecil Ray, associational missions superintendent in San Antonio, Tex., for the past five years, named secretary of the cooperative program and church finance department;

Bob Randall, pastor of the Springdale Baptist Church of Fort Worth, named associate in the Convention's division of evangelism;

Rudy Sanchez, pastor of Primera Baptist Church of Fort Worth, named associate in the language missions department in charge of Brotherhood and Training Union work among Latin American congregations in the state;

S. W. Prestidge, San Antonio evangelistic music director, named associate in the church music department;

Miss Nelda Williams of Dallas, staff secretary in the Sunday School department for the past two years, promoted as the Sunday School department's children worker.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

You may want to make two stories out of the above wrapup, adding the following lead graph and picking up with the last five graphs of the wrapup:

Texas Executive Board  
Names Five Employees

DALLAS (BP)--The executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas has elected five new employees to fill vacancies on the staff of the state missions commission.

They are:

pickup with graph beginning "Cecil Ray, associational....."

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Cuba Crusades Close  
With 5,166 Conversions

(3-10-61)

ATLANTA (BP)--Evangelistic crusades in 92 Baptist churches and missions of Cuba have resulted in 5,166 conversions in four months.

"This was the finest series of crusades Cuba has had," said Herbert Caudill of Havana, superintendent of Cuba missions for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, in his report of the revivals.

All but three of the Baptist churches affiliated with the Mission Board took part in the crusades, one in the hills of Escambray did not because, according to Caudill, "the situation is a bit tense."

Actually the crusades started in November and ended in March, with no meetings held in December. The revivals were staggered so workers from other sections could assist churches holding the two-week meetings.

Totals for the churches and missions were 5,166 conversions, 852 requesting baptism, 106 baptized, 481 Bibles, 3,515 New Testaments, 29,175 Gospels, and 293,247 tracts distributed.

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Pastors are now holding special studies for those who have made professions, and Caudill says, "we believe a large number of these will be baptized during the year."

He said attendance was hurt by the beginning of the harvest of cane, tomatoes, tobacco, and cotton. November is considered the best month for such meetings, since it is still warm and harvesting has not started.

Caudill cited a church in Havana which held services one night in 60 homes and six parks. There were 132 people leading meetings that were attended by 1,400 persons. The following night services were held at the church, and 40 people responded to the invitation to accept Christ.

Caudill acknowledged existence of "a sugar cane curtain" which he hoped would not detain a visit to Cuba by Loyd Corder, secretary of the language groups ministries department.

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Dallas Church Starts  
Dial-A-Prayer Service

(3-10-61)

DALLAS (BP)--The world's largest Southern Baptist church has initiated a telephone devotional service designed to meet the spiritual needs of Dallas residents who are "down in the dumps."

By dialing the First Baptist Church at Riverside 2-4057, the caller can hear a brief recorded devotional message that is changed daily.

Assistant Pastor Mel Carter greets the caller with a cheery, "Thank you for calling the First Baptist Church," and closes with a prayer and by asking the caller to contact a church staff member if they can be of help.

The service, originated by Carter, is patterned after "Dial-A-Prayer" projects sponsored by church groups in a few New England cities.

Carter had conducted a similar program while serving at the Tremont Temple Baptist Church in Boston. So successful was the original one-number installation that two additional lines were required to relieve the overloaded telephone circuit.

"A great number of people made decisions for Christ because of the telephone contact," said Carter. "They would call to say that they had dialed the church's inspirational service and wanted to know more about being a Christian. Then a staff member or deacon would make a personal visit," Carter said.

The "Dial-A-Prayer" service is a project of an adult Sunday School class taught by Dr. George Sheafor. Two of the class members are underwriting the service.

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Nursery For Wee Ones  
Planned At St. Louis

(3-10-61)

ST. LOUIS (BP)--A nursery will be available at the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis this year. However, parents are advised that it would be much better if they could arrange to leave small children with friends or relatives back home.

For messengers who must bring children, the local arrangements committee is preparing an air-conditioned room at Kiel Auditorium to accommodate babies up to three years of age. The room will be partitioned into "departments" and will be staffed by church nursery workers from St. Louis churches.

The charge will be 75 cents per session per child, or \$2 per day. Children must be picked up by parents after each session.

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Evangelism Clinics  
Emphasize Soul-Winning

DALLAS (BP)--Southern Baptists' emphasis on personal soul-winning has dominated the more than 800 associational clinics held this year throughout the United States.

"Every church member must become a soul-winner," said C. E. Autrey of Dallas, director of the Evangelism Division of the denomination's Home Mission Board. "If one out of every seven could be enlisted, Southern Baptists would win more than a million souls each year.

"But this percentage will not be pledged and will not be trained to win souls unless soul-winning is promoted, taught, and directed in detail."

This was the purpose of the clinics, he said, and they will be followed by classes and emphases in churches.

Indicative of the success of the clinics, according to Vernon Yearby of Dallas, associate director of the Evangelism Division, is the report from the Baltimore Baptist Association in Maryland.

Attendance at the clinic reached 1,100 for the one-day meeting which held 16 separate studies by ages for workers. Each was given packets with a New Testament to be marked with the plan of soul-winning, soul-winning tracts, and information on helps and suggestions for soul-winners.

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4 Baptist Basketball  
Teams In Top Tourneys

(3-10-61)

By The Baptist Press

Wake Forest College at Winston-Salem, N.C., proved the most successful of Baptist colleges seeking a place in the major college national basketball tournaments.

The Deacons won the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament at Raleigh, N.C., by downing Duke University of Durham, N.C., 96-81. The victory entitled the Wake Forest team to compete in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) playoffs for the national trophy.

Carson-Newman College of Jefferson City, Tenn., Georgetown College of Kentucky, and East Texas Baptist College qualified among Southern Baptists' smaller colleges for the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Tournament at Kansas City, Mo.

This tourney decides the national small college champion.

Carson-Newman defeated Christian Brothers College of Memphis, Tenn., in overtime, 68-61. Georgetown downed Pikeville (Ky.), 72-70, for another spot in the 32-team tournament at Kansas City. East Texas Baptist College of Marshall downed Wayland Baptist of Plainview, Tex., 74-71, for another entry.

Last year four Baptist small colleges went to this tourney. Stetson University of DeLand, Fla., faltered in district play and lost to Oglethorpe, (Ga.), 81-68, in the finals. It had beaten another Baptist school, Mercer of Macon, Ga., on the way.

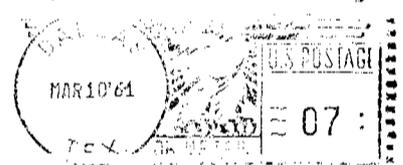
In other major college play, Furman University, Greenville, S.C., and University of Richmond (Va.), other Baptist colleges, lost their first-round games in Southern Conference basketball tournament play. Furman bowed to William and Mary of Williamsburg, Va., 86-84, in a three-overtime thriller, while Richmond fell before Citadel of Charleston, S.C., 70-66.

The Wake Forest win was considered significant since several Atlantic Coast Conference teams rated in the top 10 in the nation at one time during the season. Big Len Chapell's 33 points paced the Deacons to their victory.

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