

November 9, 1962

**Give Learning Reasons,  
Literacy Worker Asks**

ATLANTA (BP)--"We can't teach people how to read and write unless we teach the reasons for learning," Seth Spaulding of Washington, D. C., told delegates to the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's second annual Literacy Conference here.

Spaulding, representative of the U. S. Department of Education, spoke on literacy workshops in Africa, discussing techniques and methods that could be applied to literacy work everywhere. Spaulding also is representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

"Literacy workers must deal with the total life of the people learning," Spaulding pointed out. "The best literacy programs overseas have been in conjunction with health and social education."

"People in the United States have been brought to literacy by economic and social development of this country. People should study literacy as a package and not as independent of social and economic development," he stated.

He also discussed preparation of books.

Sunday school and Training Union programs for new Adult readers will be offered by the Convention's Sunday School Board for the first time in the latter part of next year, it was revealed at the meeting. Doris Cutter of Nashville, assistant editor of Adult lesson courses of the Sunday School Board, said the new material will be combined with programs now published for the deaf.

Plans for a literacy workshop for seminary credit were also announced. The sessions will be held next June 18-26 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

Resource people and others interested in this training can attend. Two hours of seminary credit will be granted for completion of the course.

Methods and materials developed by the Foundation for World Literacy were discussed by Miss Nell Peerson of Memphis, Tenn., while Richard Cortright of Washington, D. C., director of education for the Laubach Literacy Fund, Inc., spoke on the Laubach work now being done.

Thirty persons attended the conference, directed by Miss Mildred Blakenship, Atlanta, literacy missions field worker for the Home Mission Board.

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Note to Editors:

(11-9-62)

The Education Commission reports it has received enrolment figures now from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, which were unavailable when enrolment information was released to Baptist Press last week. Net student enrolment as of Oct. 1 is 678 and total enrolment is 726.

Baptist Press, Nashville

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Court Denies Hearing  
In Transfusion Case

WASHINGTON (BP)--The United States Supreme Court has refused to hear a case in which Jehovah's Witness parents objected to a blood transfusion for their infant child.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Perricone, members of Jehovah's Witnesses, refused to permit a blood transfusion for their son, who suffered from a "blue baby" condition. A New Jersey court gave custody of the child to the head of the medical staff at a hospital in order to provide the needed transfusion.

The case, which had gone through the New Jersey courts, was appealed to the Supreme Court on the ground the religious liberty of the parents was denied. The New Jersey courts in effect held that the religious liberty of the child was not violated because he was not old enough to have faith.

In denying certiorari in the case, the Supreme Court lets the decision of the state court stand.

Justice Douglas disagreed with his fellow judges by saying that he would have heard the case.

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Death Of 80 Christians  
Enhances Baptist Faith

(11-9-62)

SYDNEY, Australia (BP)--Anti-Christian atrocities that killed 80 Christians and razed 50 tribal villages apparently strengthened rather than dampened the consecration of New Guinea Baptists.

The massacre of Dani Christians in the North Baliem Valley occurred on Sunday, Sept. 30. It was led by two tribal chiefs who had harrassed religious activities ever since Australian Baptist missionaries moved into the valley in 1956.

Rather than frightening the surviving villagers and driving them from church activities, interest in the new religion has increased, missionaries still in North Baliem report.

"On the Sunday following the massacre there were more people at the church services in the area than had ever been seen before," A. C. Prior was informed here. Prior is a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance and representative of the Australian Baptist World Relief Committee.

"Another fact of significance is that the Christian people have declared they will rebuild their villages in the same location--because they want to stay near the mission where they can continue to hear the Christian message. It is the custom that when villages are destroyed in intertribal fighting the people will move to a new area. The Christians' declaration to rebuild is unprecedented," Prior reported.

Funds given by people around the world through the Baptist World Alliance are being used by Australian missionaries in New Guinea. They are being used to restore church property and replace the pigs and axes which furnish livelihood to the villagers. But top priority has gone to the restoration of soap and towels.

"One of the losses that distressed our Christian people most is the loss of their towels and soap," Prior said. "One of the marks of a Christian in this area is that he washes--a thing he had never done before his conversion. This is one loss we have undertaken to restore."

(In Washington, D. C., Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, said many contributions for relief of the New Guineans have been received following first publication of the massacre story two weeks ago. Contributions may be sent to the Alliance at 1628 Sixteenth Street, N. W., Washington 9.)

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Seminary Committee  
Awards Scholarship

LOUISVILLE (BP)--The woman's committee at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here has awarded its first \$500 scholarship.

The award has gone to Miss Margaret Ann Eakin of Murfreesboro, Tenn. Miss Eakin, a 1960 graduate of Middle Tennessee State College, Murfreesboro, is presently studying for a master of religious education degree at the seminary. At Middle Tennessee, she majored in English.

For one year, she taught French and English at Smyrna (Tenn.) High School. She plans to enter Baptist Student Union work after graduating from Southern Seminary.

The woman's committee, established last year as a way for women to participate in theological education at the seminary, plans to award the scholarship annually to a deserving woman student.

At least 50 per cent of the membership dues for those belonging to the committee goes into the scholarship fund. There are over 1100 members reported in 13 states across the Southern Baptist Convention.