

November 22, 1962

### Honolulu Church Pays For Naboth's Vineyard

HONOLULU (BP)--Olivet Baptist Church here faced what many of its sister churches on the mainland have faced--the high cost of buying property adjacent to the church.

For several years, Olivet's auditorium and education building have been separated by a short, rocky, dusty strip of land owned by the City of Honolulu and called the Alexander St. Extension. It was of little use to traffic.

Olivet used the part of the extension next to the church for parking. A supermarket leased for parking the strip of the extension down in the next block. Church members nicknamed the plot "Naboth's Vineyard," after a piece of land described in 1 Kings 21.

Negotiations were begun in 1949 to purchase the property. No firm progress was made until 1961 when the supermarket and Olivet Church joined petitions to obtain the two blocks of the extension.

Months of legal maneuvering followed involving various city agencies--the planning commission, city council, sewer department, water department and others. Then the land was offered for auction.

The 16,084 square feet sold for \$102,170. Olivet, which has been self-supporting for only a short time, was forced to go nearly \$30,000 beyond the current market price in order to secure the land, a Baptist leader here said.

Real estate speculators forced the bidding beyond what the church believed to be the fair value of the tract.

Olivet, already struggling with a heavy debt, had no choice. It needed room to enlarge. Apartment houses and businesses surrounding the church made it difficult to find land.

The church will use the former Alexander St. Extension for parking and for recreation until funds can be raised for more education space.

Olivet is the largest Baptist church in Hawaii with a membership of 596. Its annual budget is \$75,000 and current debt is \$178,000. Dan H. Kong is pastor.

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### Figures On Southern Enrolment Changed

(11-22-62)

NASHVILLE (BP)--"Because of some corrected figures on last year's enrolment, the 1961 regular student and total enrolments for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary should be changed," Rabun L. Brantley, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission, said here.

"The 1961 net enrolment (students taking 12 hours or more of courses) reported earlier should have shown 731 instead of 847. The total enrolment (students in all categories) for 1961 should have read 847 instead of 962."

The net and total enrolments as of Oct. 1, 1962 remain the same.

"This shows an increase of 35 this year, over last, in net enrolment and an increase of eight this year, over last, in total enrolment," Brantley continued.

The change was made after an exchange of correspondence between Brantley and the registrar of the seminary at Louisville.

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New Guinea Baptists  
Drive Back Attackers

SYDNEY, Australia (BP)--Baptist people through the North Baliem Valley of New Guinea have rushed to the assistance of their brethren who were victims of a savage anti-Christian massacre at Maki. The uprising had left 80 dead and 50 villages burned out.

There are about 4,500 Baptists in New Guinea.

Fresh reports from the area, where Australian Baptist missionaries have worked since 1956, say that Christians from the neighboring areas of Tion, Pit River and Jukwa came to the aid of the stricken people at Maki. Together they have driven Diangwa and Yambalek, chieftains who led the massacre, from the valley.

This is a reversal, of course, of the plans of Diangwa and Yambalek; they had planned to drive the Christians out. Also, ironically, Christians rendered homeless through the plunder of Diangwa's men are now living in Diangwa's village, one of the few in the area not burned down. Conveniently, Diangwa's village is a very large one--he has six wives--and it is therefore ideal for temporary housing of refugees.

The church at Maki reported larger attendance on the Sunday following the massacre than previously. "The church has emerged triumphant from this fierce persecution, and we have every reason to believe that it will be stronger and more virile than ever as a result of the fires of suffering and trial through which it has passed," one report to the Baptist World Alliance said.

Financial aid for the rebuilding of villages and restoring the personal possessions of surviving Christians is being contributed from all parts of the world through the Baptist World Alliance, Washington, D. C.

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Folks and Facts.....

(11-22-62)

.....First Baptist Church, Spartanburg, S. C., was heavily damaged by fire whose origin firemen could not immediately determine. Press reports said damage would be \$500,000, and that the blaze almost destroyed the 60-year-old auditorium. The 2500-member church is the sixth largest Southern Baptist church in the state. John L. Slaughter is pastor. (BP)

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S. Otho Williams, 51,  
Illinois Worker, Dies

(11-22-62)

CARMI, Ill. (BP)--S. Otho Williams, 51, superintendent of the Illinois Baptist Children's Home here, died Nov. 17 of a heart attack.

Death came at Harvey, Ill., where Williams was conducting a revival. The funeral was conducted at First Baptist Church here. Glenn Toler, pastor, officiated, assisted by Noel M. Taylor and L. H. Moore of Carbondale.

Taylor is executive secretary of the Illinois Baptist State Association, which operates the children's home, and Moore is editor of the newspaper, Illinois Baptist.

Burial was in Harrisburg, Ill.

Williams became superintendent of the Carmi home in 1961. In 1960, when the state association met in Rockford, he preached the annual convention sermon.

Survivors include his widow; a son, and two daughters.

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