

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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February 8, 1963

Race Bias Called
'Sickness of Soul'

NASHVILLE (BP)--"Race prejudice is a sickness of the soul," the Advisory Council of Southern Baptists for Work with Negroes was told in its 1963 meeting here.

"The tragedy of our situation in the South is that for the most part our people do not realize that they are the victims of spiritual sickness in accepting and perpetuating unChristian racial patterns," a professor at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary stated.

Edward A. McDowell, of Wake Forest, N. C., said, "Who better than the Christian minister is equipped for this service? As a physician who can diagnose the illness and prescribe the cure?"

He said the sickness damages "the souls of white and black alike."

"It is difficult to see how the minister can escape accepting some responsibility for the racial situation in his community," McDowell continued.

He said the church should not close its doors to a Negro worshipper. "Even when Negroes come to a church to worship as a test, the white congregation should receive them in Christian love and seat them with the congregation," he added.

Earlier, Victor T. Glass of Atlanta spoke optimistically of race relations today.

"There are fewer secrets and there is less hush-hush about race relations today," he claimed. "Contrary to some observers, communication has increased among Negroes and whites.

"There is more good will in race relations now than at any time in American life," according to Glass, associate secretary for work with National Baptists, Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board.

Good will "is on a different basis. It is between persons rather than races," he declared.

"The climate is changing for the better in housing. The law is on the side of the Negro...not only in the courts, but law enforcement personnel have begun to protect the Negro to some extent even in the South," Glass went on.

"The Negro's voting power is increasing. The Negro vote is credited with giving Kennedy (the President) the margin he needed to be elected. For sure, the Negro vote elected the mayor of Atlanta," Glass said.

"World opinion is on his (the Negro's) side. Race-baiting is losing its political appeal," he reported. "The Negro is less afraid; he is willing to risk trouble. He now has the tools of protest."

Glass spoke of the racial issue as "theological."

(more)

"We have not made it clear that the race issue is a theological problem," he said. "It has been thought of as a social and economic issue."

Porter Routh of Nashville told the advisory council of continuing efforts of Southern Baptists to work with the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. (the largest Negro Baptist body).

Routh is executive secretary, SBC Executive Committee.

Erwin L. McDonald, Little Rock, described how business--to keep attracting new industry--works to create a good racial climate in certain Southern cities. He cited on the other hand a Baptist church which queried a prospective new minister on his racial beliefs.

The preacher suggested the pulpit committee turn to see what the Bible said. "We didn't ask what the Bible said about it; we want to know what you think about it," the committee replied.

The committee then made it plain it was seeking a pastor who would d fend segregation.

McDonald, editor of the weekly Arkansas Baptist, said a prominent Little Rock Baptist layman deplored the silence of the pulpit on the race issue--the most talked about subject among church members. Laymen who spoke out for human rights for Negroes found themselves without any support from their pastor, he lamented.

T. B. Maston, another seminary professor, said God may not be the father of all men but he has a fatherly attitude toward all men. He said Christians should have a brotherly attitude, because all men are potentially their Christian brothers.

Maston teaches at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

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Advisory Council Picks
Barry As New Chairman

(2-8-63)

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Advisory Council of Southern Baptists for Work with Negroes has elected John A. (Buddy) Barry of Nashville as its chairman.

Barry, associate secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission, Nashville, succeeds Hugh A. Brimm of Louisville.

Victor T. Glass, associate secretary of work with National Baptists, SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta, is the new vice-chairman. Ross Coggins, Nashville, associate secretary, SBC Christian Life Commission, is secretary.

The council meets annually to discuss work which SBC agencies and state Baptist conventions are doing with Negroes. It is not an official agency of the convention or state bodies, though it draws its members from both groups.

Its next meeting will be Feb. 24-25, 1964, in Nashville.

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Folks and facts.....

(2-8-63)

.....Circulation of The Beam, monthly magazine of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth, jumped 20,000 during 1962, Editor Virgil Hensley reports. Total circulation now stands at 47,500. A goal of 75,000 subscribers has been set for 1963. (BP)

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Protestant-Catholic
Tensions Discussed

By John J. Hurt Jr.

DENVER (BP)--Opposite views on the easing of Protestant-Roman Catholic tensions were presented to Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State (POAU) here.

Stanley I. Stuber of Kansas City presented an optimistic picture to the organization's annual conference. An American Baptist who is executive director of the Missouri Council of Churches, Stuber said Vatican Council II would cause the Roman Catholic Church to "begin to prove in action that religious freedom is the right of all."

Stuber attended the opening sessions of the council.

E. S. James of Dallas, editor of the Baptist Standard, disputed this forecast. The Standard has the largest circulation of any Southern Baptist Convention weekly newspaper.

James declared, "Regardless of their claims of allegiance to the principle of separation, I charge today that Roman Catholicism has always been, is now and will likely always be the chief antagonist of the principle. It is contrary to her logic, her pronouncements, her polity and her plans."

Stuber added in support of his prediction, the Vatican Council should make "at least three basic corrections" for religious liberty, including freedom for individual interpretation of Bible, recognition of equal church membership and the "whole matter of religious liberty."

He declared later, "Something will have to be done quickly and drastically" in the United States to "call off those who are waging a national campaign to get federal aid for parochial schools."

James criticized Roman Catholics for their bloc voting to establish political control, adding "What the hierarchy fails to get today by favorable legislation and intimidation, it hopes to get tomorrow by control of the population."

He elaborated to say "that control is being rapidly accomplished by controlled immigration and uncontrolled multiplication. While others plan the size of their families, she plans size of the church."

Glenn L. Archer of Washington, executive director of the organization, closed the conference with his appeal for unity in the fight to keep church and state separate.

"If clericalism succeeds in America," he said, "the historic dream of a free people will die; a free conscience will perish; human rights will yield to clerical dictation and domination, and democracy will be chained to institutionalism."

Added Archer:

"Clericalism is a cancer on the body of the church. It asks the state for a cure which the church alone should possess. Clericalism leans upon the state for a power that a God-blessed church does not need. It demands a public tax which is bound to be a millstone around the neck of the church that forces it. It implements a coercion which the founder of Christian religion abhorred."

A Presbyterian missionary to Colombia charged that President Kennedy's Alliance for Progress is an indirect subsidy for the Roman Catholic Church in some of its funds for education.

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James E. Goff, secretary of information for the Evangelical Confederation of Colombia, said \$40 million allocated for public schools in Colombia in a four-year period means "the United States is picking up the tab" because Colombia "has been handing over money to the Roman Catholic church at such a rate that it doesn't have enough left to provide adequately for the public schools."

Goff added there had been discrimination against Protestants. He asked: "In how many of the 200 new Alliance for Progress Schools now completed does a similar condition exist?"

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Gaddy Recommended
As Carolina Interim

(2-8-63)

RALEIGH (BP)--A retired Baptist division head has been nominated as acting general secretary of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

He is Claude F. Gaddy of Raleigh, who retired in 1961 as executive secretary of the convention's Council on Christian Education. This is a division of convention work.

Gaddy, a layman, has been nominated by the Executive Committee of the Baptist General Board. The full General Board was to act on the recommendation.

The appointment would be to fill the post pending election of a new general secretary. Douglas M. Branch, who was serving as the convention's top executive, was killed in a car-truck crash Feb. 1.

Gaddy is a native of North Carolina. He graduated from Wake Forest College (Baptist) in North Carolina in 1921. He was superintendent of Raleigh city schools for six years and then was administrator of a hospital.

He retired in 1961 after 15 years with the Council of Christian Higher Education.

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Louisville Students
Say 'Thanks' To SBC

(2-8-63)

LOUISVILLE (BP)--A student group at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here has said "thank you" to the denomination for Cooperative Program support of the seminaries.

The 11-member Student Executive Committee, in its resolution, said: "We are also grateful to Southern Baptist leaders who realized the need for an educated ministry and established this seminary 103 years ago.

"With a deep appreciation for their insight, we are grateful for sacrificial gifts made then and being made now so we can receive the best available seminary training.

"Without a portion of Cooperative Program funds allocated this seminary, most of us could not continue our education for fulfilling ministries within churches, the mission fields, and the denomination," the student leaders proclaimed. The committee spoke for the full student body.

Cooperative Program funds going to the seminary are a type of tuition subsidy. They amount to approximately \$400 per student.

(more)

Students pay matriculation and special instruction fees, the cost of books and their personal living expenses. In addition to tuition subsidies, Cooperative Program funds are also used for capital needs.

Southern Seminary received approximately \$570,000 from the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention for operating expenses last year.

The Student Executive Committee concluded their resolution with a further expression of "thanks" and a "pledge to be the kind of ministers who can best serve Christ and proclaim the Christian message in this generation."

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Missionary Tells
Spanish Situation

(2-8-63)

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--"Concepts of religious liberty in Spain are not greatly changed from the Middle Ages," a missionary to that country said at a New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary missionary day.

Charles W. Whitten, speaking to seminary faculty and students, told of a less rigid attitude toward evangelicals, although laws of Spain remained unchanged on the religious liberty question.

"At least officials are willing to talk, now," he said.

In recent years the normal procedure for Spanish officials is to close Protestant churches and forbid public manifestations of faith apart from Roman Catholicism, he said.

Whitten reported that Baptist churches in Spain "cannot look like a church." He added that evangelicals are not allowed to use newspaper announcements, radio or tracts in witnessing.

"But we still have personal witnessing," he said. "It is a door that no man can shut."

Whitten challenged the seminary students to surrender themselves to God both vocationally and geographically.

Terming the preponderance of Christian workers in America "an unfair distribution," he urged students not to feel that they must return to home states for Christian service. "Come over and help us" is still the call of the missions fields, he concluded.

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Golden Gate Student
Wins Photo Contest

(2-8-63)

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--Seminary student Bob Duffer was awarded first prize in a photo contest to find the most beautiful spot in Marin County.

His winning picture won an all expense paid trip for two to Hawaii. He and his wife and seven-month-old child will visit the islands following the spring school session.

Selected from more than 500 entries by professional and amateur photographers, Duffer's 35mm slide taken from the campus of the Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary on Strawberry Point was named number one. The seminary is located in Marin County.

Duffer received his college education at Ouachita Baptist College, Ark., and is a native of Memphis, Tenn.

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Plans 400-Voice Choir
For Beirut Conference

WASHINGTON (BP)--An international choir of more than 400 voices is being organized for the Sixth Baptist Youth World Conference at Beirut, Lebanon, July 15-21, 1963.

Baptist World Alliance youth committee leaders here announced that the choir will be directed by William J. Reynolds, director of editorial services for the Church Music Department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

Reynolds led a similar choir of 800 voices at the Fifth Baptist Youth World Conference at Toronto, Canada in 1958. He also directed music at the Tenth Baptist World Congress at Rio de Janeiro in 1960.

Young people who would like to sing in the Beirut Conference choirs are urged to apply immediately to Reynolds at 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville 3, Tenn. He will organize the choir by voice groups and experience through correspondence, and also will advise on music to be studied.

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New Houston Baptist
College Opens Soon

(2-8-63)

HOUSTON (BP)--A brand-new Baptist school, Houston Baptist College, will open its doors to an expected 400 students in September of 1963.

The new college will begin its first year of operation on a 200-acre campus just off a major freeway in Southwest Houston, the largest city in Texas.

President William H. Hinton hopes to enlist a total of 30 faculty members by the date of the school's grand opening in September.

Already President Hinton has signed up 26 faculty members, all of them Baptists. Twenty-two of the new faculty members have earned doctoral degrees.

Construction is expected to be completed just before September on four buildings connected with a covered walkway for the new school.

The initial campus will include a student center, an administration-classroom building, an additional classroom building, and a chapel.

School officials also hope to complete plans for two dormitories, a Bible building and a physical education plant before the school opens.

The 200-acre tract of land is completely debt-free, said school representatives. Baptists in Houston originally had purchased 390 acres in the Sharpstown district of Houston with the aid of a \$1 million loan from Rice University.

The trustees sold all but 200 acres of the land and used the income to retire the loan and obtain a clear title to the campus site.

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Billy Graham Treated
At Baptist Hospital

(2-8-63)

DALLAS (BP)--Evangelist Billy Graham was hospitalized at Baylor University Medical Center here, a Southern Baptist institution, for acute bronchitis and a slight case of pneumonia.

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Graham, a Southern Baptist himself, was in Dallas to speak at a meeting of a non-denominational Layman's Leadership Institute. Graham and several other Southern Baptists played key roles in sponsoring the meeting here.

Hospital spokesmen said that Graham's illness was not serious, and he was permitted to attend a prayer breakfast for President Kennedy in Washington, D. C.

All other appearances of the famed evangelist, however, were canceled to allow Graham an indefinite period of convalescence, rest and further treatment at his home in Montreat, N. C.

Graham had earlier been scheduled to preach at the First Baptist Church of Dallas where he is a member, but was forced to cancel.

His illness here came almost exactly two years after he was forced to cancel a speaking engagement at the Texas Baptist Evangelism Conference in 1960 because of a serious eye infection.

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Girls' Auxiliary Meet
To Be Doubleheader

(2-8-63)

BIRMINGHAM (BP)--The first nationwide Girls' Auxiliary Convention will be a doubleheader!

Convention No. 1 had been planned all along for June 18-20 at Memphis. Registrations ran so heavy that Woman's Missionary Union offices here have had to schedule a second meeting.

The second meeting for the girls' missionary group will begin at Memphis on June 20 and run through June 22. The same program outline will be used in the second gathering.

"We are overwhelmed with the enthusiastic response of the girls and their counselors," said Miss Betty Brewer of Birmingham, director of the Girls' Auxiliary Department for the Southern Baptist Convention Women's Missionary Union.

"By having two conventions, we will be able to give about 12,000 girls the opportunity to be a part of the first conventionwide gathering of Girls' Auxiliary members," she continued.

Convention No. 1 will end at noon Thursday. Convention No. 2 will begin that night and carry through Saturday noon.

"We have 6,500 reservations for the first convention," Miss Brewer reported. "This is a full house." Hundreds of unconfirmed reservation requests were on hand when the decision was made to have two conventions.

The nationwide gathering will commemorate the 50th birthday of the Girls' Auxiliary.

Another 6,500 girls are expected to attend the second convention.

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CORRECTIONS

State Baptist Editors:

In sending the program to Baptist Press to circulate, the Woman's Missionary Union office inadvertently made three inclusions which need to be corrected. The program, as you have it, lists two President's Addresses, one on Monday night and one on Tuesday morning. Delete the Tuesday morning entry, please. Also, the name of the William Jewell Choir Director should be changed to Forbis (I instead of E) and the name is D. J. Rollins (not Rollens) elsewhere in the same section of the program. Thank you for changing them.

Baptist Press, Nashville

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State Baptist Editors:

We goofed. We apologize. We left off some important information in getting out the cutlines of the picture to go with the Brooklyn church feature. We plain forgot to identify the people. The existing cutlines are okay as far as they go. Simply add the left to right identification--Pastor Morgan (wearing glasses), Mrs. Morgan (at pulpit, reading citation), and Dr. Britton. We regret the boo-boo.

Theo Sommerkamp, Baptist Press, Nashville

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