

June 1, 1963

**Negro Seeks Membership  
In Houston Church**

HOUSTON (BP)--A young Negro who presented himself for membership at the First Baptist Church here was told a change in church policy would be required for him to become a member.

The young man, thought to be a college student, sat at the back of the church during the morning service. He was one of several people to come forward when pastor K. Owen White, also president of the Southern Baptist Convention, gave the invitation.

White explained the church's policy to the man, asked him to come for a conference the following Wednesday and seated him with the others who came. After he presented the others, White told the congregation another young man had come but that he wanted to have a private conference with him.

At the close of the Sunday night service, White mentioned the incident briefly. He asked the people to be Christian and to have cool heads and warm hearts and not hot heads and cold hearts.

A member of a Negro Baptist church in Houston, the young man, not identified by name, denied being promoted by any group, although some church leaders feel his coming may be a "test." He was described as "neat, well-dressed and carrying a Bible." To church members who greeted him at the close of the service, he said he "was spiritually blessed by the service and wanted to believe that this was the church for him."

The question of whether to change church policy to receive the Negro was expected to be the key item of discussion at the next monthly deacons' meeting. Their recommendations were expected to be presented to the church.

Earlier, the church had decided to seat Negroes after a disturbance resulted when ushers turned away the first group who tried to attend services. None had attended for several weeks, however. South Main Baptist Church of Houston has also been seating Negroes for some time.

"We are seeking God's will and trying to work it out the way it ought to be," said Roy Lee Williams Jr., minister of education for the First Baptist Church.

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**Parrish Resigns  
Stetson Office**

(6-1-63)

DELAND, Fla. (BP)--James W. Parrish has resigned as vice-president of Stetson University here to become pastor of the First Baptist Church, Winter Park, Fla., beginning Aug. 1.

"We are extremely sorry and disappointed to see Dr. Parrish leave," President J. Ollie Edmunds said. "He was brought to Stetson primarily to be in charge of church and alumni relations, and he leaves when these relationships have become the strongest in the University's history.

"During Dr. Parrish's service at Stetson," Edmunds said, "relationships between Florida's Baptist churches and Stetson (a Baptist school) have improved so that ties are now closer than ever. And there has been nearly a 100 per cent increase in alumni participation in University affairs."

Parrish assumed his Stetson duties in January, 1960 after serving 10-1/2 years as pastor of Riverside Baptist Church, Miami.

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Sullivan Society  
Honors Missionary

ROCK HILL, S. C. (BP)--Miss Pauline White, who has the longest career of any woman missionary who has served with the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, has been honored at Winthrop College here, her alma mater.

She received the Mary Mildred Sullivan medallion given by the New York Sullivan Society for her "outstanding and unselfish service to mankind."

Miss White, now retired, served 42 years as a Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil, returning in 1960. She now lives in Gaffney, S. C.

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Northeastern Region  
Talks Of Convention

(6-1-63)

SYRACUSE, N. Y. (BP)--A regional convention of Southern Baptist churches is in prospect in the nine-state Northeastern area of the nation.

120 Southern Baptists from churches in these states met here for their second fellowship meeting. Work in the region is sponsored by the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio and the Baptist Convention of Maryland.

They voted to have another regional fellowship in a year. They directed "that it be advertised as preparatory to a regional convention."

Roger W. Knapton, pastor, First Southern Baptist Church, Endicott, N. Y., was elected president. He was instructed to appoint a committee "to study the pros and cons of organizing a convention." The committee will report at the 1964 fellowship.

A. B. Cash of Atlanta, secretary, department of pioneer missions for the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board, said 50 million people live in the nine-state area. The states are New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Since the first fellowship meeting in August, 1960, "Southern Baptists have established work in every state in the region," according to Cash. There are now nine Southern Baptist associations of churches located partly or entirely in this region.

There are 7130 members of Southern Baptist churches in the Northeast.

There are now 28 state conventions of Baptist work in the United States cooperating with the SBC. Several have a regional character or regional work. Colorado, as an example, is the "state" name of a convention that includes not just that state but also the Dakotas, Wyoming, western Nebraska and Montana as well.

To secure financial aid from the Home Mission Board, which is a vital factor, a would-be state convention must meet these standards:

Five years' cooperative relations with Southern Baptist work.

Minimum membership of 10,000 in 70 churches or 12,500 in 50 churches.

Churches in the new convention giving an average of 10 per cent of their total budgets through the Cooperative Program, the SBC and state convention joint financial plan.

Two years' regional fellowship, sponsored by existing state conventions.

A church-established fund with which to begin independent activity.

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Southern Presents  
Award To Stealey

LOUISVILLE (BP)--S. L. Stealey of Wake Forest, N. C., received Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's first E. Y. Mullins denominational service award here.

Stealey, the retiring president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, a sister Southern Baptist Convention school, also delivered the 1963 commencement address to 124 Southern Seminary graduates.

Duke K. McCall, president of the local seminary, presented the award to Stealey, who retires July 31, "in recognition of Outstanding Christian statesmanship and for major leadership contributions to the Christian faith in contemporary society."

The award, consisting of the Southern Seminary seal mounted on beechwood from an historic tree cut from the campus here, is the only one of its kind presented by an SBC agency.

Stealey has the master's and doctor's degrees in theology from Southern Seminary. He also taught church history here from 1942 to 1951. For the past 12 years, he has been president of the North Carolina seminary.

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Folks and Facts.....

(6-1-63)

.....Herschel H. Hobbs of Oklahoma City received an award from Howard College, Birmingham, Ala., Baptist school, for "outstanding Christian stewardship" as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Hobbs, pastor of First Baptist Church in Oklahoma's capital, and Howard graduate, completed two years as SBC president at the 1963 Convention and was succeeded by K. Owen White, Houston. (BP)

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Ford Leaves Pastorate;  
To Lead Conferences

(6-1-63)

EL PASO, Tex. (BP)--W. Herschel Ford, immediate past president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, resigned as pastor of the First Baptist Church of El Paso after 16 years.

Ford said he would not be retiring or giving up the ministry, but would be going into a "wider ministry"--engaging in Bible conference work. He and his wife plan to move to Dallas in July.

The 63-year-old minister has served as vice-president of both the Southern Baptist Convention and the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Before coming to El Paso in 1947, Ford was pastor of Baptist churches in Atlanta; Jacksonville, Fla.; Knoxville, Tenn.; Hendersonville, N. C., and Andrews, N. C.

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Folks and Facts.....

(6-1-63)

.....Hardin-Simmons University backfield Coach Floyd Huggins has been promoted to head football coach of the Baptist school in Abilene, Tex. He replaces Jack Thomas who was dismissed for failing to follow administrative directives in the athletic program. Huggins had coached in Florida and Kansas high schools before coming to Hardin-Simmons last year. (BP)

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## Folks and Facts.....

.....Baptist services are being held on Sundays this summer in two popular resorts in the Canadian Rockies. In Banff, the service is in the school of fine arts; at Jasper, in the Masonic hall. Both are at 11 a.m. and are sponsored by the Baptist Union of Western Canada. (BP)

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Howard Payne Doctors  
Banker, Businessman

(6-1-63)

BROWNWOOD, Tex. (BP)--Honorary doctors of law degrees were awarded here during Howard Payne (Baptist) College's commencement exercises to two vice-presidents of their companies--a banker and an oil company executive.

Receiving the honorary degrees were Robert W. Kneebone, senior vice-president of National Bank of Commerce in Houston, and James H. Pipkin, senior vice-president of Texaco, Inc., of Washington.

Kneebone, an elder for the First Presbyterian Church of Houston, is a board member for the Howard Payne College Research and Development Foundation.

Pipkin, who has been with Texaco since 1934, has served in the Houston, New York and Washington, D. C., offices.

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## Folks and Facts.....

(6-1-63)

.....Arthur Roland Walton, director of housing and associate professor of psychology, Mercer University, Macon, Ga., has been appointed dean of students and instructor in psychology at Bethel College, Hopkinsville, Ky. Both schools are Southern Baptist. (BP)

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## Folks and Facts.....

(6-1-63)

.....L. Osmond Crosby, Picayune, Miss., Baptist layman, has received a Silver Buffalo Award from Boy Scouts of America "for distinguished service to boyhood" and the Scout Movement. Crosby is a trustee of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. (BP)

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