

February 3, 1948

ATLANTA YOUTH JOIN BATTLE AGAINST ALCOHOL

ATLANTA, Ga. -- (BP) -- Three hundred seventy five members of the Training Unions of Druid Hills Baptist Church here have adopted a resolution pledging:

"(a) That we will continue to abstain from use of alcohol as a beverage;

"(b) That we will refrain from attending any motion picture or plays where the actors or actresses are portrayed as 'men of distinction' or 'women of charm';

"(c) That we will continue to back our pastor in his fight against alcohol as a beverage."

The resolution was drawn up and adopted by the Training Union and presented to Dr. Louie D. Newton, pastor, just prior to the Sunday night preaching service.

Dr. Newton had preached Sunday morning on "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people," and had cited records of drunkenness in Atlanta and throughout the United States. He had concluded the sermon by asking, "What are we going to do about it?"

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DALLAS BAPTISTS PLAN CHRISTIAN HOME EMPHASIS

DALLAS, Tex. -- (BP) -- A four-day conference on family life is planned by Dallas Baptists May 2-5, coincident with national Christian Home Week.

Dr. Joe W. Burton of Nashville, Tenn., editor of Home Life and secretary of the Department of Home Curriculum of the Baptist Sunday School Board, will direct the emphasis.

The four-day program will begin on Sunday with sermons on home life in all Baptist churches of the city, and will be concluded with family dedication services at the regular midweek prayer meetings in the churches. Special conferences will be held at the First Baptist Church Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for church workers, parents, young people, and older boys and girls.

Dr. Burton said that "a positive note for Christian home living" will be the distinctive emphasis of the program.

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C. E. Bryant
Baptist Press
Nashville, Tennessee

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ABSTINENCE PLEDGE WILL BE
ASKED OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- (BP) -- Every member of Southern Baptist Sunday schools above 10 years of age will be asked to sign commitments for abstinence from beverage alcohol in a special temperance appeal Sunday, May 30.

The Baptist appeal will be similar to one planned by the nation's Methodists for February 15.

Dr. T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary, and Dr. Jerome O. Williams, educational secretary, of the Baptist Sunday School Board here, have written all denominational leaders asking that the full month of May be used "to lead millions of people to oppose the use of alcohol as a beverage.

All monthly publications of the Sunday School Board will carry articles on the subject in their May issues, and the Sunday School lesson discussions for May 30, entitled "Daniel Stands by His Convictions," will be developed "to lead all who are enrolled in the Sunday school to the point of making a commitment against the use of alcohol as a beverage."

Commitment cards will be furnished upon request to pastors and other leaders, Dr. Holcomb said. The cards, captioned "The Christian's Commitment," read:

"Because I love Jesus and want my life to count for Him and because I know that beverage alcohol is the foe of spiritual living and the destroyer of everything dear to the heart of my Lord, I promise myself that I will not use beverage alcohol and that I will never sell, give, or serve it to others."

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"SEND THE LIGHT"

HOUSTON, Tex. -- (BP) -- The men's Bible class of Second Baptist Church here wants to send physical as well as spiritual light to San Andres Islands off the coast of Colombia.

The men are raising a special fund of \$3000 to purchase and install an electrical power plant on the island where Rev. and Mrs. C. W. McCullough are serving as missionaries.

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON NEGRO EDUCATION
PLANS INFORMATION PROGRAM FOR FUTURE

By Una Roberts Lawrence

ATLANTA, Ga. -- (BP) -- The annual meeting of the Joint Committee on Negro Ministerial Education of Northern, Southern, and National Baptist Conventions, held at Morehouse College here, was marked by two vital and fruitful discussions:

1. The necessity of a thorough, nation-wide survey of the whole situation in Negro ministerial recruitment and education;
2. Plans for effective publicity for the facts that come into the hands of this Joint Committee.

An opening address on "The Present Crisis in Negro Theological Education" by Dr. George D. Kelsey spurred both discussions. It followed a survey of the critical situation in volunteers for the ministry brought last year by Dr. Benjamin Mays. These papers laid before the Committee the exceedingly grave and difficult problems of Negro youth with reference to the Christian ministry.

In the winter quarter of 1945 there were only 327 Negro students in all courses leading to all degrees in all the evangelical schools of Seminary grade in the United States. More serious is the evidence from first-hand inquiry in typical high schools that Negro youth is not thinking of the ministry and Christian life service; or, if so, it is usually as a profession to choose for its rewards, rather than as a calling from God to enter under divine compulsion.

Those present were Dr. Donald Cloward, Northern Baptist Convention, chairman; Dr. S. A. Newman, Southern Baptist Convention, co-chairman; Dr. Roland Smith, National Baptist Convention, secretary; Dr. Don Gardner, Dr. A. A. Medved, and Dr. Milton Froyd, Northern Baptist Convention; Dr. Ryland Knight and Mrs. Irvin Lawrence, Southern Baptist Convention; Dr. D. V. Jemison, president, National Baptist Convention, Inc.; Dr. Robert Riley, president, American Baptist Seminary, and the heads of theological schools in Bishop College, Shaw University, Selma University, Virginia Union University, Leland College and Florida Normal and Industrial Institute.

Virginia Union University was chosen as the place of the next meeting to be held in January 1949.