

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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July 30, 1963

Negroes Picket Houston
First Baptist Church

HOUSTON (BP)--Seven Negroes who were reported to be representatives of Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), picketed the First Baptist Church of Houston because of its refusal to admit Negroes as church members.

Three of the seven pickets were manned by Negroes who had applied for membership at the church where the president of the Southern Baptist Convention, K. Owen White, is pastor.

Worshippers at both the Sunday morning and Sunday evening services generally ignored the pickets, observers said, and the Negroes quietly ignored the churchgoers.

One usher taunted the pickets, however, and a young girl burst into tears when she saw the demonstration.

The Negroes carried signs which stated, "Jim Crow Must Go," "Father, Forgive Them," "How Can a Christian Church Be Segregated?" "Don't Worship God in this Segregated Church," "Respect for Human Dignity Is All We Ask," and "Is God Black or White?"

CORE had earlier given the church an ultimatum stating that unless Negroes were admitted as members, CORE would picket the church, stage kneel-ins on the steps, and pack the pews with Negroes so the church members would not have a place to worship.

Five Negroes had been denied church membership at the time of the picketing under a new policy adopted by the church which set up a screening committee to counsel with every candidate for membership--white and colored alike--on salvation experience, motivation, former church experience, etc.

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Radio-TV Industry Applauds
Editorial on Federal Control

(7-30-63)

FORT WORTH (BP)--Response to an editorial in a magazine published by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission indicates that the radio and television industry is strongly opposed to government control of the broadcasting industry.

A flood of letters from managers of radio and television stations has reached the Southern Baptist agency applauding an editorial in the August issue of "The Beam," which criticized the National Council of Churches for a resolution advocating government control of the broadcasting industry.

The editorial, written by Commission Director Paul M. Stevens, claimed that the "First Amendment of our Constitution guarantees the freedom of broadcasting just as surely as it guarantees the freedom of worship."

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Stevens took to task the National Council of Churches for a resolution which urged the Federal Communications Commission to "examine the performance of stations; to intensify its drive to force an increase in local programming; to be given power to regulate networks, and to divorce advertisers from control of program content..."

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Bolton Named Houston
College Vice President

(7-30-63)

HOUSTON (BP)--William C. Bolton, former assistant to the president and director of public relations at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, has been named vice president for development at Houston Baptist College.

Bolton will direct the new school's overall development program and will give attention to an annual \$200,000 sustaining fund drive.

He will also serve as an administrative officer for the college and will supervise the work of two other development staff members--Ross E. Dillion, director of development and Ray Mayfield, associate director of development.

Bolton has for the past year served as director of development at Northrop Institute of Technology, Inglewood, Calif. He was previously public relations director, assistant to the president and instructor in religious journalism at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

While at the Baptist seminary, Bolton served as a member of the Southern Baptist Public Relations Advisory Committee, and was vice president of the Baptist Public Relations Association.

A Baptist deacon, Bolton had previously served as newsman for station KPRC-TV in Houston, staff writer for the New Orleans Times-Picayune, and as Baptist Student Union Director for Louisiana College, Pineville.

He is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary, Louisiana College (Baptist), Pineville, La.; and attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

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Evangelism Messages
Available on Tape

(7-30-63)

FORT WORTH (BP)--Messages and special music from the Nation-wide Southern Baptist Evangelistic Conference held in Dallas are now available in a special tape recorded package produced by Southern Baptists' Radio and Television Commission here.

The five-tape package, containing 10 hours of recording, is similar to the Southern Baptist Convention package offered annually.

Speakers whose messages are on tape include: Warren Hultgren, Kenneth Chaffin, W. A. Criswell, H. Leo Eddleman, Buddy Dial, Baker James Cauthen, W. D. Lawes, Jimmy Karam, Joe Blinco, Leonard Sanderson, Julian Hopkins, Ralph Longshore, Alton Green, Ramsey Pollard, John Havlik, R. G. Lee, and C. E. Autrey.

Special music is by: Martha Branham, Buddy Dial, Bill Baker, Dallas Association Choir, Dick Baker, Joe Ann Shelton, Virginia Seelig, and Bill Pearson.

Price of the five tapes is \$12.00. For further information write: Tape Recordings, P. O. Box 12157, Fort Worth, Texas, 76116.

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Seminary Profs Lecture

Theologians from three Southern Baptist seminaries were lecturers when Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., held its third annual Conference on the Christian Ministry.

The visiting lecturers were Clyde T. Francisco, professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; C. W. Scudder, professor of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth; and Frank Stagg, professor of New Testament at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. (BP)

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Filming Nearly Complete
On Apostle Paul's Life

(7-30-63)

FORT WORTH (BP)--Location shooting in six countries has been completed for an hour-long color film on the life and journees of the Apostle Paul.

More than 24,000 feet of color film were shot showing the locations of incidents in the life of Paul from his dramatic conversion to his death.

The film is being produced jointly by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here and the National Broadcasting Company. The SBC agency is paying the \$90,000 production costs of the film, and the nation-wide television network is providing an hour of prime television time free.

The film will be premiered during the Southern Baptist Convention at Atlantic City in May of 1964 when the jubilee anniversary (150 years) of Baptist work in America is observed.

A nine-member shooting crew composed of two representatives from the SBC Radio-Television Commission here and technicians from NBC-TV traveled 17,000 miles during a two-month period to shoot the film.

Radio-TV Commission Director Paul M. Stevens and Television Consultant Truett Myers served as consultants to the NBC camera team which visited 17 filming locations in Lebanon, Isreal, Jordan, Turkey, Greece and Italy.

The entire script for the film will be the Holy Bible, Stevens said. "We are going to let the Word of God speak for itself. There will be some connecting script material," he said, "but very little."

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Hunt Named Southwestern
Seminary Music Teacher

(7-30-63)

FORT WORTH (BP)--Thomas W. Hunt of Chickasha, Okla., has been named assistant professor of piano and organ at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, here.

Hunt was instructor in organ and piano at Oklahoma College for Women in Chickasha before assuming the seminary position Aug. 1.

Originally from Arkansas, he is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist College, Arkadelphia, Ark., and North Texas State University, Denton, Tex. He has completed requirements toward a doctor of philosophy degree at North Texas and is working on his doctoral dissertation.

He succeeds Charles M. Sego, associate professor of class piano at Southwestern since 1957, who resigned to work toward a doctor of philosophy degree in music.

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"Jail Without Bars"
Is Subject of Film

FORT WORTH (BP)--The humanitarian efforts of a Baptist preacher who is now executive director of a rehabilitation project called "The Goat Farm" is the subject of a new documentary film being produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here.

The film, to be used on the weekly Baptist television series called "The Answer," depicts the efforts of Henry F. Cooper who feels the farm near Fort Worth has been "the answer" to hundreds of men "down on their luck."

Some of the men are chronic alcoholics, dope addicts, drifters, ex-convicts unable to get work, or volunteers for the farm.

The farm is designed to take such men off the street and into a healthy environment and useful existence, said Cooper, who started the farm six years ago as a non-denominational faith mission.

Today it is three-fourths subsidized by the city of Fort Worth. Cooper says the farm has substantially lowered city costs of having police patrols in Fort Worth's skid row.

At the farm, the men do everything--clean, cook, farm. They elect their own supervisors, including barracks manager, laundry manager, kitchen manager, etc. They follow the rules or are expelled.

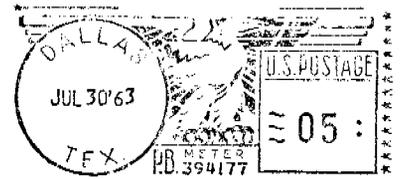
Cooper, who serves as pastor as well as executive director, is the only outsider on the farm. He offers general counsel and preaches to the men every Sunday. Cooper was director of the Downtown Rescue Mission (Southern Baptist) in Fort Worth before starting the rehabilitation farm.

The National Jail Association held its 25th regional meeting recently at the rehabilitation farm, and presented Cooper with a plaque for helping keep people out of jail.

Filming on the half-hour color film has already begun. It is being directed by Ted Perry of the SBC Radio-TV Commission staff. John Stevens of the Commission is writing the script, and Charles Gillespie of Richmond, Va., is serving as director of photography.



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