

June 8, 1948

HE'S AN ACE, WHETHER ON COURT OR IN PULPIT

WACO, Texas---(BP)--Twenty-year-old Jackie Robinson goes to London this summer as a member of America's Olympic basketball team, but his chief interest has never been athletics.

His chief interest, instead, is religion and the gospel ministry....and he is a ministerial student in Baylor University.

In addition to his college work and basketball, he is pastor of the Ninth Street Baptist Mission in Waco and has been a leader in the youth revival movement sweeping across the Southwest the last few summers. Two winters ago he and four other students flew to Honolulu for a Christmas week revival resulting in 114 professions of faith and 140 rededications. He is president of the Texas State Baptist Student Union.

Robinson merited an all-Texas high school basketball berth for two consecutive years when he was a student at Paschal high school in Fort Worth. He became "all-Southwest conference" his freshman year at Baylor, and sparked Baylor to the conference championship. He helped the team to all time records this past winter by winning the Southwest conference championship, the western NCAA playoffs in Kansas City, and lost only to Kentucky in the NCAA championship matches in New York.

After the New York games in Madison Square Garden, members of the Olympic committee chose Robinson as a member of the American team. He already is practicing for the world championship tilts in London.

Likely as not, friends say, Jackie may slip off from the London tournaments and do some preaching. He did that one time in Austin, they relate. It was a strenuous contest between Baylor and the University of Texas and the game went into two overtime periods. But as soon as the last whistle blew, Jackie slipped into a Sunday go-to-meeting suit, hurried across the campus to the University Baptist Church and preached to an Austin youth rally.

C. E. Bryant
Baptist Press
Nashville, Tennessee

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400 CHURCHES SEEK INFORMATION ON ADVERTISING PROGRAM

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--Lawson H. Cooke, executive secretary of the Baptist Brotherhood of the South, said that more than 400 churches in 338 towns and cities have asked for information on how they can institute a religious billboard campaign in their community.

The billboard publicity program was started by the Baptist Brotherhood last January with the Baptist churches of Memphis contracting for 17 large billboards for the year 1948. Messages are changed monthly. Window cards, automobile plates, desk blotters, and newspaper advertising carrying the same message are scattered throughout the city.

Cooke said that the advertising is available to Baptist churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention territory.

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CHAPLAINS NEEDED FOR NATIONAL GUARD

WASHINGTON, D. C.--(BP)--Southern Baptist ministers have been asked to help fill the need for chaplains in local National Guard posts throughout their territory.

Col. Alfred C. Oliver, Jr., chaplain, has written that at present there are only 150 chaplains in the National Guard whereas present strength of the Guard calls for 580 chaplains. A total of 720 will be needed when the Guard reaches its full strength, he said.

"The immediate and pressing need to fill the chaplain ranks in the National Guard is obvious," Chaplain Oliver wrote the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. "Chaplains are particularly needed at this time to provide spiritual and moral guidance to approximately 250,000 men who will spend two weeks in field training this summer.

"America as ever must depend on this civilian army to furnish the backbone of her defense. The loyal men who comprise its ranks must never feel that the spiritual leaders of America are unwilling to sacrifice their time and efforts in this vital phase of national defense."

Chaplain Oliver suggested that ministers should visit their local National Guard armories or write the Adjutant General in their state to determine if a chaplain is needed in their area.

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PHILIPPINE BAPTISTS ARE
GRATEFUL FOR RELIEF GIFTS

ILOILO CITY, Philippines--(BP)--The Convention of Philippine Baptist Churches has voted to use portions of a \$25,000 contribution of Southern Baptists for the care of Philippine sick and indigent.

Restituto Ortigas, convention secretary, said that the \$25,000 was delivered through Church World Service who explained it was a relief contribution from Southern Baptists in the United States.

The Philippine convention voted that such portion of the money as is necessary will be used for purchase of an ambulance and equipment and supplies for a mobile medical unit to be operated by Philippine Baptists. A further allocation of \$5,000 was made for purchase of rice for indigent members of the Convention.

"We do hope that our Southern Baptist brethren would feel satisfied with the way we are using their monetary as well as other material helps, and that they are assured of our feeling of oneness in spirit with them," Mr. Ortigas wrote the Southern Baptist Convention. "May God continue to bless and use your Convention to rehabilitate our needy world."

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STUDENTS ESTABLISH FUND FOR
TRANSLATION TO PORTUGUESE

FORT WORTH, Texas--(BP)--A volunteer student movement for the purpose of raising funds for translation and publication of evangelical theological writings into the Portuguese language has been started at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Rev. James W. McClendon, president of the group which calls itself The Portuguese Translation Fund, said that the need for a fund became known when missionaries and Brazilian students on the campus advised that only ten evangelical theological works are available in Portuguese.

An arrangement with the Baptist Publishing House of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, designates them as publishers and provides that all profits revert back to the Fund for further translation expense. Approximately \$1,000 has already been raised toward a goal of \$1,500 for publication of "The Gospel of Redemption," a volume by Dr. W. T. Conner, seminary faculty member.

McClendon said that contributions may be mailed to Huber L. Drumwright, treasurer, Seminary Hill Station, Fort Worth 10, Texas.

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