

September 15, 1965

550 Students Attend  
First College Session

CHARLESTON, S. C. (BP)--A class of 550 students and the new Baptist College at Charleston began their first year of college together this September.

The new Baptist school, which plans to add a class level a year until it becomes a senior college, enrolled 350 in regular class sessions and 200 more in night courses. It is using a temporary location while its campus is developed.

It is the fourth educational institution operated by the South Carolina Baptist Convention. The others are Furman University at Greenville, Anderson College in the city of Anderson and North Greenville Junior College at Tigerville.

Presidents of the three sister Baptist colleges joined Charleston President John A. Hamrick, 49, in ceremonies launching construction on the campus, located on 500 acres at the junction of Interstate 26 and U. S. Highway 78 about 10 miles north of downtown Charleston.

At the ceremonies, the officials broke ground for three buildings on the campus. Contracts totaling \$1,660,000 provide for construction of a classroom building, science-administration building and gymnasium.

Horace G. Hammett, Columbia, general secretary of the sponsoring Baptist convention, and Robert W. Major, Charleston, convention president, had roles in the groundbreaking. Principal speaker for the occasion was D. J. Houghton, president of Lockheed Aircraft Corp., Burbank, Calif.

The new college was chartered first as the Baptist College of Lower South Carolina. Later, however, a new charter was secured with the title Baptist College at Charleston. The South Carolina Baptist Convention at its 1964 session accepted operation of the new college.

The Charleston school plans to stage its first graduation in June, 1969, awarding bachelor's degrees in arts or science. "We are spending \$50,000 this year on library books and materials," reports President Hamrick, who previously spent 25 years as pastor of First Baptist Church in Charleston.

"This is twice the figure required of us by the Southern Association (of Colleges and Schools) to meet accreditation requirements, but we do not want to stop at the minimum," Hamrick continued.

In November, the college will ask the convention to let it borrow funds to build a dining hall and dormitory complex, income from which will meet debt payments.

The new college is using temporary quarters in various parts of this historic old city. Classes meet in North Charleston in the education building of First Baptist Church. Administrative offices are in space at the First Baptist Church of Charleston itself.

Three floors of a downtown hotel are used to accommodate boarding students.

By contrast, when completed, officials expect to have a \$17 million campus where up to 2000 will pursue their studies. This would put its enrolment near that of Furman, with a total of 2300, and more than the combined total enrolment of Anderson, with 750, and North Greenville, with over 550, the other Baptist colleges in the state.

## Seminary News Director

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Wesley M. (Pat) Pattillo Jr., master of arts graduate of the school of journalism at Ohio State University, Columbus, has been appointed news director at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

At the seminary, Pattillo will write news releases about the seminary for Baptist papers and for daily newspapers and radio and TV stations. He will also serve as news editor for The Tie, monthly seminary publication.

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Hospitals Take 2  
Positions On Aid Form

9-15-65

ATLANTA (BP)--Directors of Southern Baptist Hospitals voted here to prohibit either of its two hospitals from applying for federal funds in hospital operations.

Southern Baptist Hospitals is the agency operating Southern Baptist Convention-owned hospitals in New Orleans and Jacksonville, Fla.

At issue was Form 441 of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The form specifies that the institutions would be "applicants" as beneficiaries for reimbursement for the care of patients under federally assisted health and welfare programs.

Directors cited the church-relatedness of the two hospitals as basic to their action. Fear was also expressed that signing Form 441 would introduce the federal government "as an active partner in the operation of the hospitals," neither of which has sought or used federal funds in building program, according to T. Sloane Guy Jr., New Orleans, executive director.

Form 441 is related to implementing the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Because of this fact, the directors "explicitly fixed" responsibility for "full compliance with the law" outlawing racial discrimination in operational and employment policies upon Guy, the executive director.

Guy reported on steps already taken and in progress on this matter. He was instructed to report to the next meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee. He will also confer with Health, Education and Welfare officials to seek an alternative course for the hospitals.

The SBC hospital agency approved a basic plan of reorganization, stemming from a management survey. Most significant change foreseeable, Guy pointed out, is creating four subsidiary corporations under the original corporation.

Each of the two hospitals will achieve subsidiary status. The hospital's foundation, Bethesda Foundation, will be chartered in Florida as well as in Louisiana. The plan envisions a staff of specialists to serve both institutions.

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New Orleans Seminary  
Target Of Hurricane

9-15-65

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--A New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary official estimated Betsy left behind \$2 million in damages to the seminary campus after throwing her fury at the city of New Orleans.

The hurricane damage estimate was made by Leonard Holloway, seminary vice-president and director of public relations. Holloway said he and other seminary officials inspected the campus shortly after the hurricane passed New Orleans.

At Southern Baptist Hospital, in another part of the city, damage was limited to broken windows, according to T. Sloane Guy Jr., executive director of the Southern Baptist Convention's hospital agency.

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First reports from Holloway and Guy indicated no loss of life or serious injury to people at the seminary and hospital.

Guy said many hospital employees stayed on duty, with brief rest periods, for 72 hours. Those whose homes were in the hardest hit sections of New Orleans had not seen their homes since the hurricane struck and did not immediately know the extent of damage.

Water which flooded areas of New Orleans was reported receding slowly. Full reports on damage were not available at once.

Mercer Irwin, executive secretary of the New Orleans Baptist Association, said many churches sustained "serious to extensive" damage from wind and water. He anticipated some were totally destroyed, but communications with churches in the hardest hit sectors had not been reestablished.

Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, near the seminary, reported water rose to second story level. It cancelled Sunday services, which were scheduled only two days after the hurricane moved through.

On the west side of the Mississippi River at Westwego, in greater New Orleans metropolitan area, the auditorium was a complete loss, Irwin said. Services on the following Sunday were held in the education building.

An appeal went out locally among Baptist churches for clothing to help those displaced from their homes.

Major damage at New Orleans Seminary was to roofing, according to Holloway. Estimated damage to a recently renovated women's dormitory was \$250,000. In some places, the entire roof was torn off by Betsy.

More than 200 trees on the seminary campus were uprooted or broken, Holloway continued.

He said a campus trailer park for students and their families received the full blast of the winds, which topped 100 miles an hour. Some trailers were a total loss; many others were turned over. The area had been evacuated before the hurricane arrived, preventing injury or deaths.

Volunteer student and faculty workers began clearing the campus of debris as soon afterward as they could. Water was boiled before drinking because of contamination. Classes on Friday, a few hours after the night-time visit of Betsy, were suspended.

Partial reports of damages to churches served by seminary students was expected when the students returned to classes on the Tuesday following. Even under normal conditions, the seminary has no Saturday or Monday classes.

Holloway said about 75 per cent of the damage to the seminary was insured.

New emergency power units at Southern Baptist Hospital got their first test other than on practice runs, Guy reported. Emergency power was needed when the hurricane knocked out electrical supply from outside.

Power was restored in less than 24 hours, Guy said, since the hospital has a high priority in the slow task of repairing utility breaks.

There was no flooding at the hospital. The main hospital building faces east, the direction from which the strongest gales came. Hospital staff evacuated 300 patients from rooms on the east side as a precaution. They were moved into hallways.

Large lobby windows on the east side were broken and some windows in patient rooms facing east were broken also, he reported.

"These people deserve badges of honor," Guy declared, speaking of the staff who had been on duty for 72 hours or more with little rest, and who still had not heard of or seen damage to their own homes.

Towns south of New Orleans, toward the Mississippi River mouth, were feared wiped out. Reports of death, injury and property damage were not immediately available. Guy and Irwin reported hard hit sectors were sealed off to the public, to hurry the rescue and other emergency work.

On the Mississippi Gulf Coast east of New Orleans, a preliminary inspection showed that Gulfshore Baptist Assembly near Gulfport suffered \$250,000 damages. It is located on a large bay close to the Gulf of Mexico. The assembly is the principal one maintained by Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Surging tides of sea water poured into all buildings at Gulfshore, Mgr. Tom Douglas reported. At Camp Kittiwake, a Baptist assembly five miles from Gulfshore, damage was not serious.

Assembly property was covered with the fullest amount possible, officials announced.

At Gulfshore, water rose to six feet in the main administration building, the manager's home, the cafeteria and kitchen and the guest houses on the beachfront. Baptist leaders immediately made arrangements to restore Gulfshore to normal operation.

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James R. Newton Joins  
Baptist Press Office

9-15-65

NASHVILLE (BP)--James R. Newton of Dallas has been employed as assistant director of the Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention, with offices here.

He will accept the new position Nov. 8, succeeding Theo Sommerkamp, who resigned.

Newton, 29, is a native of Kingsville, Tex. He has been with the public relations department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas since August, 1959. As press representative in the department, Newton has handled most of the news copy originating from the Dallas regional office of the Baptist Press.

In addition, he has been on the press room staff at the annual sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention for the past five years. The press room is operated by the SBC Executive Committee's public relations office, of which Baptist Press news service is a part.

Newton's coming to the post in Nashville was announced here by W. C. Fields, public relations secretary for the Executive Committee and director of Baptist Press.

Sommerkamp resigned the position he had held for 10 years to become the director of the European Baptist Press Service. For this purpose, he has received an appointment as a missionary associate with the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He and his family will live in Ruschlikon, a suburb of Zurich, Switzerland.

The Baptist Press, familiar to readers of Baptist state newspapers through the logotype (BP), is the service established in 1947 to serve the news media, especially the Baptist state papers. There are now 29 Baptist state papers; most are weeklies.

The Baptist Press also provides news about Southern Baptists to daily newspapers, to radio and TV stations, and to religious papers operated independently or by other denominations.

Newton has a bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University (Baptist), Waco, Tex., where he graduated in 1958 with a journalism major. He is married to the former Pat Tullos of Clinton, Miss., a romance which originated when Newton met Miss Tullos through the SBC Teletype Network.

He is the son of Mrs. W. E. Newton and the late Mr. Newton, former publisher of the weekly Bishop (Tex.) News. Newton was associate editor of the family weekly in south Texas for nearly two years after leaving Baylor.

His grandfathers and father all edited newspapers.

A member of First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, a Dallas residential area, he is superintendent of an Intermediate Sunday school department, church historian, and chairman of the Christian life committee of the church.

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Newton is a member of the Texas Baptist Public Relations Association, the Southern Baptist Public Relations Association, and Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalism fraternity.

His public relations duties with the Texas convention has included news reporting, photography, brochure production, filmstrip production and press relations.

Of his coming, Fields said: "Theo Sommerkamp has provided a decade of excellent workmanship with Baptist Press. His going to this new post will provide another bond between Baptists of Europe and the United States. We are fortunate in securing as his successor a young man with good training and broad experience. Jim Newton will be a major asset in the continuing growth of the denomination's press service."

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Graham Surgery Forces  
2 Texas Cancellations

9-15-65

By the Baptist Press

Evangelist Billy Graham, recovering from minor prostate gland surgery at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., was forced to cancel speaking engagements at two Texas Baptist schools and an evangelistic crusade in Waco, Tex.

Graham cancelled his "Heart O' Texas" Crusade slated Oct. 1-3 at Baylor University Stadium in Waco, a speaking engagement on the Baylor campus, and a dedication dinner engagement at the new Dallas Baptist College, Dallas, Tex.

The evangelist is expected to be in Houston's Astrodome for an evangelistic crusade Oct. 8-17, but the appearances will be reduced to evenings only while Graham is recuperating, said Grady Wilson, one of Graham's top aides.

Dallas Baptist College President Otis Strickland said the dinner banquet held in conjunction with the school's opening would be postponed until a later date, in hopes Graham could reschedule the meeting.

A Graham team associate and coordinator for the Waco crusade said there was little chance of rescheduling the meeting in Waco before 1967.

Graham was taken back to surgery a few days after his first operation because of hemorrhaging. He was expected to remain hospitalized for another three or four days. Attending physicians said his condition was good. (BP)

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## Picture A

BETSY DID IT--A street looks more like a canal after Hurricane Betsy thrashed her way across the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Faculty homes and student apartments located on this street lost roofing and windows from the over 100 miles an hour winds as well as encountered flooding. In the foreground left is a 24-unit student apartment building under construction. (BP) Photo

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## Picture B

TREE TOPPLES--Hurricane Betsy toppled this tree onto the religious education school building on the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Water poured in through the break caused by the impact and damaged several classrooms. More than 200 trees on the campus were uprooted or otherwise damaged, a seminary official reported. (BP) Photo

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## Picture C

MARYLAND BUILDING--Offices of the Baptist Convention of Maryland have moved from Baltimore proper to this site in suburban Lutherville, Md. The Baptist Book Store also moved from a separate downtown location to be next to the new Baptist Building. The new site is adjacent to Valley Baptist Church in Lutherville, 10 miles north of Baltimore and close to the Baltimore Beltway. (BP) Photo

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