



REGIONAL OFFICES

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Editor/161 Spring Street, N.W./Atlanta, Georgia 30303/Telephone (404) 523-2593
DALLAS R. T. McCartney, Editor/103 Baptist Building/Dallas, Texas 75201/Telephone (214) RI 1-1996
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Editor/200 Maryland Ave., N.E./Washington, D.C. 20002/Telephone (202) 544-4226

September 13, 1966

Charlotte Baptist Church
Sells Property to Negroes

CHARLOTTE, N. C. (BP)--A Southern Baptist church located almost in the shadow of a predominately Negro university here has sold its property to a negro Methodist congregation for \$150,000, transferring the property in a joint service at the church.

After nearly 50 years of service in the community, the Durham Memorial Baptist Church moved to a suburban area in Western Charlotte, selling its 14-year-old property to the Clinton Chapel AME Zion Church (African Methodist Episcopal).

The transfer of property took place in a dramatic joint service on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 11, when the Baptists said goodbye to their house of worship and welcomed the AME church "in a Christian spirit of brotherly love."

Trustees of both churches took part in the layman-led service. There was no preaching.

A Baptist layman read from the Psalms and led in prayer. A youth choir from the Negro church sang fervently.

Then Mrs. Jenny Johnson, a trustee for the Clinton Chapel who had personally raised \$3,500 to purchase the property, read a tribute to both church groups for demonstrating "a conspicuously Christian attitude."

She could not finish speaking, however, overcome with emotions. A junior high school girl who had sung with the choir came forward and completed her message.

Said Kenneth L. Hollifield, pastor of the Durham Memorial Baptist Church, of the entire transaction: "We have had and continue to have the finest spirit I have ever witnessed in a Baptist church."

The Durham Memorial church has built ~~new~~ buildings on a 9½ acre site at the corner of Toddville and Thrift Roads in Charlotte.

The AME church's new location is at 1901 Rozzells Ferry Road in Charlotte, not far from the Johnson Smith University. The neighborhood had been predominately white until recently.

-30-

Baptist Chaplain Wins
Fair Award for Bibles

9/13/66

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (BP)--A Southern Baptist chaplain's collection of 170 Bibles, no two alike, won the "best of the show" award at the California State Fair hobby show here.

The Bible collection, entered by Chaplain Lewie H. Miller Jr., of the U.S. Air Force, has won the "best of collections" award for three consecutive years at the State Fair, ever since the hobby show was started.

Chaplain Miller's Bibles, which range in age from editions dated 1535 to 1966, vary in context, color, type of cover, and language. They range in size from a few ounces to 32 pounds.

The Air Force chaplain has collected Bibles for 15 years. His collection was begun almost accidentally when he found a brass-bound Bible, 100 years old, in a church in Vienna.

The rarest book in the collection is a Bishop's Bible, which predated the King James edition and was the basis for the language usage in the King James Version.

Although Chaplain Miller has 210 Bibles in his total collection, only 170 were displayed in his exhibit at the Fair. Either Chaplain or Mrs. Miller was on hand at the exhibit at all times to answer questions.

The Bibles were arranged according to geographic origin of their 36 languages, beginning with the Orient and moving across the globe to the Americas.

-30-

William Carey College
Receives Federal Loan

WASHINGTON (BP)--The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved a \$700,000 college housing loan for William Carey College, a Baptist school in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Earlier this year, HUD announced reservations of funds for the William Carey projects. The loan is for construction of a new dining hall and renovation of three existing dormitories.

The Baptist college, an institution of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, is one of 10 church-related schools approved for loans totaling \$12,734,000. Five of the 10 institutions are Roman Catholic, three are Methodist, and one is Jewish.

-30-

Pastor of 2nd Largest
Church in SBC Resigns

9/13/66

LUBBOCK, Tex. (BP)--Pastor J. Ralph Grant of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, the second largest in the Southern Baptist Convention, resigned Sept. 11 when the church celebrated two anniversaries--Grant's 20th year as pastor and the church's diamond anniversary.

Grant and his wife will go to Misawa, Japan, where he will be interim pastor of the English-speaking Baptist church for a period from eight months to a year, beginning in January, 1967, through invitation of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

After the year, they expect to continue in similar work in other parts of the globe.

His letter of resignation, effective Nov. 30, was read at the close of the morning service to approximately 2,600 persons of the 8,153 membership.

A telegram from Baker James Cauthen, secretary of the SBC Foreign Mission Board, said: "We thank God for your great ministry in Lubbock and as a member of the Foreign Mission Board."

Grant was president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas from 1954 to 1956 and has served on numerous boards and committees of both the state and Southern Baptist Convention, including the SBC Executive Committee, the SBC Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

A graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Baptist school in 1942.

Before going to Lubbock as pastor in 1946, he served Texas Baptist churches including First Church, Beaumont; First Church, Childress; Park Heights Church, San Angelo, and First Church, Anson, all in Texas.

-30-

New SBC Annual Now
Being Distributed

9/13/66

NASHVILLE (BP)--The 1966 Southern Baptist Convention Annual, just off the presses, is now being distributed to pastors and denominational workers throughout the convention.

The new annual, with 712 pages, contains listing of membership of convention boards, committees and officers; copies of legal documents for the SBC; proceedings of the 1966 convention in Detroit; reports of SBC agencies and organizations; convention directories; and historical data on the SBC.

Edited by Clifton J. Allen of Nashville, recording secretary of the convention, the annual is distributed by the Executive Committee of the SBC.

Convention procedures provide that the annual "shall be made available without charge to all active pastors and denominational agents," said Porter W. Routh, executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee.

Others who desire a copy or additional copies may order them from the Executive Committee, 460 James Robertson Pkwy., at \$2.50 each.

-30-

September 13, 1966

3

Baptist Press

New Orleans Names
Development Assistant

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--John E. Mullican, 37, has been appointed assistant to the director of development for the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary here.

A native of DeQuincy, La., Mullican is a recent graduate of the seminary with a bachelor of divinity and a masters of religious education degrees. He also is a graduate of East Texas Baptist College, Marshall, Tex.

In his new position, he will primarily be responsible for placing students with secular jobs while they attend the seminary.

-30-