



BAPTIST PRESS

News service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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September 15, 1967

North Carolina Homes End
Printing, May Start Unit

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THOMASVILLE, N.C. (BP)--Trustees of the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina voted today to cease commercial printing at its print shop here, and authorized purchase of land and development of a new children's home unit in Western North Carolina.

Following an extensive two-year study on the feasibility of its operating a modern printing plant, the trustees voted to phase out of the commercial printing operation "as soon as economically feasible."

The printing plant has printed Charity and Children, the 80-year-old weekly newspaper since the late 1890's. Plans now call for printing the weekly paper by contract.

The homes will continue to train children in the graphic arts in a classroom setting in the print shop building, trustees said, but most of the equipment will be sold.

"Our studies with the aid of leading consultants in the printing field proved that it is not practical today for us to continue to do printing on a commercial basis," said Raymond Stone, chairman of the board.

In another major action, the board authorized the administration and a committee to acquire land and develop a children's home in Western North Carolina. The board has an option on 91 acres between Waynesville and Clyde, N.C.

A tentative proposal for erecting a central administration building and four family-style cottages was presented by Architect Jack Adams of Statesville, N.C. About 12 children and houseparents would live in each dwelling.

The setting was described as "a picturesque mountain valley at about 3,000 feet altitude, with hospital facilities, churches and schools nearby."

The board also approved the employment of Roger Williams as superintendent of the Kennedy Home replacing W. A. Smith who retired; Isaac Terrell as director of development, replacing Williams; Blan Minton as director of Greer Home in Chapel Hill who resigned for health reasons.

Two new employees were approved by the trustees: Eugene Baker as director of public relations, and Don McIntyre as director of a children's home unit to open soon at Wallburg, N.C., between Thomasville and Winston-Salem.

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Seminary Gets \$20,000
Gift For Med Center

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FORT WORTH (BP)--Mr. and Mrs. F. Howard Walsh here have given \$20,000 to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for a new seminary medical center and clinic.

The center will be designed as a separate building and will provide facilities to care for the medical and dental needs of seminary families. Included will be a complete laboratory, pharmacy, examining rooms, office and living quarters for a nurse.

Mr. Walsh became a member of the seminary board of trustees in 1963 and is chairman of the trustees' building and grounds committee. He and his wife have made frequent gifts to the seminary.

Construction of the clinic is anticipated during the current school year, according to Seminary President Robert E. Naylor.

Dr. W. Gordon Maddox is the seminary physician. Facilities now being used are located on the ground floor of an instructional building. Approximately 6,000 patient needs are met during an 8-month period in the present overcrowded and inadequate facilities according to Maddox.

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---FEATURES

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EDITOR'S NOTE: During recent months, there has been increased interest in pastor-church relationships throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. The Atlanta Baptist Association recently considered appointment of a committee which would provide information to pastors needing a church, or to a church needing staff members. North Carolina Baptists have such a service through the staff of their state convention. Here is a report on how it operates in that state.

North Carolina Staff Helps
With Data On Church Staffers.

By Toby Druin
Associate Editor, The Biblical Recorder

RALEIGH, N.C. (BP)--On almost any given Sunday, almost 10 percent of the 3,450 Southern Baptist churches in North Carolina are pastorless.

But what's more, on any given Sunday, there are hundreds of Baptist pastors in the state who are looking for a new church, but can't find one.

To help the churches in the state looking for staff members obtain information about available persons, and to help pastors and church staff members find a place of service, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina has assigned a state convention worker the task of coordinating an information service to fill these needs.

Since 1964 the job has been handled by Robert H. Bruhn, an administrative assistant to General Secretary W. Perry Crouch. Working with Crouch on the information service is Bruhn's primary task, although his job description includes other responsibilities.

Basically, the information service is designed to bring together minister-less churches, and church-less ministers.

The service was begun in 1964 when about one-third of Crouch's mail and at least one-third of the top convention executive's time was being required to take care of requests now handled by the informational service. Crouch was left little time for administrative duties.

Since it was established in 1964, the informational service has grown to the point that it now includes biographical data on more than 1,000 North Carolina Baptist pastors.

On the cards, about 90 percent indicate they are interested in making a change, said Bruhn. "And 50 percent want to move yesterday."

The information has been gleaned from the men either as the result of inquiries from some of the state's 3,450 churches about the men as prospective pastors or from the men themselves offering it to the service.

Most of the information has come from the former method. A church pulpit committee will come to Raleigh with a list of men it is considering and will ask Bruhn or Crouch for biographical information on each of the prospects. If the data is not in the growing files, the pastor is asked for it.

In other instances, pastors simply ask that their names be added to the list of men who wish to change pastorates.

It is emphasized that no recommendations are made to a church as to which man it should contact or call. If a church asks for names of men who wish to move, it is given a list of from three to five men--never less than three--whose qualifications, including salary, education, etc., best match what the church is seeking.

Unless a church specifically asks for it, Bruhn never gives information on a man in the same association of same general area.

more

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The information gleaned from each man includes such things as "How does your wife feel about your calling?" and his education and experience. He is also asked about his support of the Cooperative Program and his attitude toward the aims and purposes of the Baptist State Convention.

Each man is also asked to respond to a three-part statement on his attitude toward changing pastorates:

- A. I am interested in making a change.
- B. I would consider a change if challenged.
- C. I would not consider a change now.

If the man indicates he is interested in making a change, he is asked to give his reason.

Pastoral Mobility

Bruhn's and Crouch's experiences in the informational service indicate that though there is an increasing stabilization in the pastoral ministry in the state, there remains a great deal of mobility among the pastors.

They estimate the average length of an N. C. Baptist pastorate would be near the Southern Baptist Convention average of 22 months. It is emphasized, however, that this figure includes men serving interim pastorates and the state's large number of student pastors. Many churches also are still on quarter-time or half-time bases and others still issue annual calls.

"Churches now seem to be broadening their scope of looking at a man," Bruhn said. "They are not just hearing one sermon before extending him a call."

It has also provided pastors with a "friend"--a place to go for advice and counseling.

"The pastor has no pastor," Crouch said. "Through this informational service we have been able to counsel with many of them on their personal problems."



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MEMORANDUM TO: Baptist State Paper Editors

FROM: Baptist Press

Alaska Baptists have urgently requested that eight more painters be sent to help complete repairs to flood-damaged churches in Fairbanks. The eight additional volunteers have already been enlisted, bringing to 101 the number who went to Alaska on this mission of mercy. The total task force, however, is about 115, counting Alaska volunteers and others who traveled on their own.

Here is the list of the eight additional men, their hometowns, and telephone numbers. You may wish to add their name to the list and change any stories mentioning the number from your state, if someone from your state is on this list. The eight men are:

James Johnson
Conway, S. C.
803-248-2686

Bill Lamb
Phoenix, Ariz.
602-265-3133

Alvin Gates
Oklahoma City, Okla.
405-ME4-7532

Joe Akren
Phoenix, Ariz.
602-276-4023

Bobby Georgeson
Columbia, S.C.
803-794-2847

James Shepard
Nashville, Tenn.
615-CA7-1201

Don Stakemiller
Phoenix, Ariz.
602-939-8712

Vernon Weeks
Springer, N.M.
505-483-2974

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