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October 16, 1967

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Missouri School Holds
Pilot Evangelism Project

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COLUMBIA, Mo. (BP)--A pilot project aimed at involving students in campus evangelism has made its debut at the University of Missouri here.

Sponsored by the student department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, the evangelism workshop is a major step in a five-year emphasis on campus evangelism being projected by Southern Baptists.

The pilot effort "woke us up to the needs of the students," commented Roy S. Isbell, assistant director of student work for both the Missouri Baptist Convention and the University of Missouri.

"It gave us a vision of what could be done on our campus in evangelism, and helped us see a broader ministry on the campus, reaching more than just those already interested in religion," Isbell said.

Isbell added that the students were enthusiastic about teaching Sunday School or leading youth revivals, but were hesitant to face one person with the gospel. "This is what we are going to work on," he said.

The conference also aided the Baptist Student Union organization here in enlisting 140 people for person-to-person contact on the campus through the BSU greater committee. Last year there were 85 on the committee. The committee is planning a person-to-person evangelistic program for the coming school year.

The students were armed for their person-to-person campaign in group discussion meetings during the workshops.

"We weren't worried about the arguments others would throw up against them," Isbell said. The students were told to give their testimonies, that no one could shoot down their experiences, he added.

The workshop was the first of a series of similar conferences at other colleges and universities throughout the nation as part of an over-all Southern Baptist five-year emphasis on campus evangelism.

It was termed "very successful" by R. H. Falwell Jr., program director for the Baptist Sunday School Board student department.

"We may hold three or four of these conferences during the coming year," Falwell said, "but our main hope is that state departments of student work or individual campuses will adopt the procedures for themselves."

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Historic Baltimore Church
Votes To Move To Suburbs

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BALTIMORE (BP)--The historic Eutaw Place Baptist Church here, displaced by an urban renewal project, has voted to move to the suburbs and build a \$900,000 church plant.

The church was founded in 1869 and was the home church of Miss Annie Armstrong, first executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention Woman's Missionary Union. Miss Armstrong was a charter member and taught there for 30 years.

The new church building will include church offices, an educational building, and a 400-seat chapel. Cost on the initial building has been set at \$575,000 with an additional \$135,000 for the land.

Since 1871, the gothic-style Eutaw Place Church has been one of Baltimore's landmarks. The church reportedly does not yet have a buyer for the present property.

W. Clyde Atkins is pastor of the church, and has been on the church staff since 1930, and pastor since 1936.

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New England Baptists
Form New Organization

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BRUNSWICK, Maine (BP)--The New England Baptist Association meeting here voted to split into three smaller associations and band together in a new organization they called the General Association of Baptists in New England.

The three new associations will be the Upper New England Baptist Association which includes churches in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont; the Massachusetts Baptist Association; and the Southern New England Baptist Association including churches in Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Organization of the new general association composed of three groups took place at the Maine Street Baptist Church here.

Messengers from the churches represented divided according to their areas and organized the three associations simultaneously in the same building.

Southern Baptists first entered the New England area in 1958 when a mission was established at Portsmouth, N. H., by a group of Baptists from New Mexico stationed at an Air Force base there.

The New England Baptist Association was organized in 1962, with affiliation with the Maryland Baptist Convention.

Until recently the New England churches were also affiliated with the Northeast Baptist Fellowship which had anticipated formation of a Baptist state convention by 1970, but the fellowship voted in September to split into two smaller groups--the New England states, and the New York-New Jersey states.

Newly-elected officers of the General Association of Baptists in New England are John Hughston Jr., of Cambridge, Mass., as president and Gordon Thomas of Brunswick, Maine, as vice president. A board of directors was also elected, composed of 14 members from the three cooperating associations.

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Baptist Hospital Begins
Air Force Chaplains' Study

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WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (BP)--North Carolina Baptist Hospital here has instituted a unique training program for Air Force chaplains at the hospital's School of Pastoral Care.

Ten military chaplains have begun training in the six-weeks course designed to strengthen their effectiveness as ministers, especially in dealing with the sick.

"This form of chaplain training is a completely new program for the Air Force," said Richard K. Young, director of the school. Most programs have formerly consisted of short lecture-discussion workshops.

Young said that the Baptist school has signed a contract with the Air Force Chaplaincy Service agreeing to instruct 30 men a year. Two more groups, each with 10 chaplains, will receive training in other six-week classes.

The Air Force chaplains are attending classes with 15 pastors. About one-third of the 51 lectures in the six-week course are given by physicians at the Baptist hospital or the Bowman Gray School of Medicine of Wake Forest College (Baptist) here.

A similar training program is expected to get underway soon at the Institute of Religion in Houston, Tex.

Since the first clinical training program got underway at North Carolina Baptist Hospital here in 1947, more than 500 North Carolina ministers have been graduated from the six-week program, which is offered five times a year.

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HMB Appoints Ten Men
Career Missionaries

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ATLANTA (BP)--Southern Baptists' homeland mission force got an injection of masculine strength in October with the appointment of ten men as career missionaries.

The appointees are A. T. Walker, a native of Coffeetown, Ala.; Harold E. Cunningham of Hart County, Ga.; William T. Jenkins of Alton, Ill.; Marion F. Boyd Jr. of Marion, Ill.; L. T. Whitelocke of Westmoreland, Jamaica; Jerry Ray Kibbons of Villa Ridge, Mo.; Robert H. Brindle of Henrietta, N. C.; Leon D. Simpson of Snyder, Okla.; Charles A. Clark of Fort Worth, Tex.; and Waller M. Ethridge of Texas.

Boyd was appointed a superintendent of missions for Michigan; Whitelocke and Walker, as teacher-missionaries in Virginia and Mississippi, respectively; Brindle, Clark, Cunningham and Jenkins as pastoral missionaries in Vermont, Massachusetts, West Virginia and New Hampshire; and Ethridge, Kibbons and Simpson, directors of in-service guidance in Baptist colleges in Texas and Kentucky.

The new missionaries were appointed during the board of directors' meeting of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Former pastor of Knob Hill Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, Boyd will be superintendent of missions for the central area of Michigan. He is appointed by the board's department of metropolitan missions.

Whitelocke, former pastor of Second Mount Olive Baptist Church in Little Plymouth, Va., will be a teacher-missionary at Virginia Union University in Richmond. Serving under the department of work with National Baptists, he also has been an instructor at Florida Memorial College in St. Augustine.

Going as a teacher-missionary at Mississippi Baptist Seminary in Hattiesburg, Walker is the former pastor of Oak-Griner Baptist Church in Ocala, Fla.

An associate missionary now elevated to career status under the department of pioneer missions, Brindle goes from a pastorate at Faith Baptist Church in Glen Burnie, Md., to South Burlington (Va.) Baptist Church.

Clark has been serving as pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Springfield, Mass., and now is elevated to career status as pastoral missionary in this pioneer area. He also has been a pastor in Texas and Puerto Rico.

From a pastorate at First Baptist Church in Woodsfield, Ohio, Cunningham goes as pastoral-missionary to Mason (W. Va.) Baptist Chapel. He also has held three other pastorates in South Carolina.

Also elevated from associate to career status under the department of pioneer missions, Jenkins will be a pastoral missionary to Screven Memorial Baptist Church in Portsmouth, N.H. He has been a pastor in two Texas churches and one Illinois church.

A former vice president of East Texas Baptist College in Marshall, Ethridge now assumes the directorship of the in-service guidance program at East Texas Baptist College. He was a U. S. Air Force chaplain from 1950 to 1952.

Kibbons will direct the in-service guidance program at Campbellsville (Ky.) College (Baptist) while working there as a professor. He is a former Missouri pastor and teacher at Central Missouri State College, Warrensburg, Mo.

Simpson is the former pastor of Friendly Center Baptist Church in Van, Tex., and will direct the in-service guidance program at Cumberland College (Baptist) in Williamsburg, Ky.

These directors are appointed by the board's department of rural-urban missions.

West Virginia Anticipates
Convention Organization

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PARKERSBURG, W. Va. (BP)--Although no specific action was initiated, the possibility of the organization of a state convention was evident in the recent first annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of West Virginia.

A total of 55 churches and chapels in the General Association reported a membership of 11,000.

The minimum requirements to be eligible for financial assistance from Southern Baptist Convention agencies in the establishment of a new state convention are 70 congregations with 10,000 members.

The guidance of Southern Baptist work in the pioneer area has grown from a pastor's fellowship to a statewide missions committee, to the General Association of West Virginia. The next step normally would be the organization of a state convention.

Thomas Jones, a Parkersburg layman, was elected president, along with pastors W. D. Sharp of Williamson, vice president; Robert Steinmetz of Bluefield, clerk, and Charles Milam of Nitro, treasurer.

The association adopted a \$97,050 budget, including an anticipated \$40,000 from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board for pastoral and other salary assistance.

Progress reports highlighted the staging last year of the first statewide Sunday School convention with a registration of 304, the birth of two new churches, and the opening of state offices at 801 Sixth Ave., Saint Albans, W. Va.

Next year's meeting was set tentatively for Oct. 4-5 at Fairlea First Baptist Church. Cledith Campbell, pastor of Kenova's 20th Street Baptist Church will be the speaker.

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