

June 5, 1950

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

L. L. GWALTNEY RETIRES FROM ALABAMA
EDITORSHIP; LEON MACON IS NEW EDITOR

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--(BP)--Dr. Leon Macon, pastor, First Baptist Church, Bessemer, Ala., has been elected editor of The Alabama Baptist to succeed Dr. L. L. Gwaltney, who has resigned effective July 1. Dr. Macon will assume his new position at that time.

Macon is a native of Alabama, born at Whatley in Clark County. He graduated from the Grove High School in 1929 and from Howard College in 1933. He received his Th.M. Degree from Southern Seminary in 1938 and a D.D. from Howard College in 1949.

His first full-time pastorate was Bay Minette. He also pastored Athens and Atmore in Alabama and West Point, Miss. He came to the Bessemer church early in 1946.

His writing experience includes editorials and regular columns in several Alabama and Mississippi newspapers and contributions to the Baptist papers of the two states. His denominational experience includes nine years as member of the Alabama Executive Board and two years as member of the S.B.C. Radio Commission and several terms as associational moderator.

Dr. Macon gives as his proposed writing platform for The Alabama Baptist (1) loyalty to all Baptist causes, (2) avoidance of controversies, and (3) use of the paper as voice for entire constituency.

When asked about the removal of the paper from Birmingham to the state headquarters city of Montgomery, Dr. Macon said that he had not been approached by any on the subject. Though The Alabama Baptist is owned by the denomination, it is one of the few papers not published in the state convention headquarters.

Macon is married to Miss Emily Mae Bodden of Mobile, Ala. They have three children, Emily Martha, 12; June Sondra, 10, and Rodney Wayne, 5.

---30---

PRESIDENT TO ADDRESS
BAPTIST WORLD ALLIANCE

WASHINGTON, D.C.--(BP)--President Truman said here he would accept an invitation to speak at the eighth congress of the Baptist World Alliance in Cleveland on July 22 if his work will permit it.

He received the invitation from a committee of Baptists from Cleveland who visited him in his office at the White House.

---30---