



April 30, 1951

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

SOUTHERN BAPTIST REVIVAL BREAKS OUT IN NEW JERSEY

PRINCETON, N. J.--(BP)--Southern Baptist evangelism reached the campus of Princeton University when a revival led by Ralph Langley, youth evangelist of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, brought fifty decisions, including eight professions of faith, two who answered the call to preach, one who volunteered as a medical missionary, and dozens of rededications of Christian lives. The announcement was made by J. W. McClendon, Jr., Baptist chaplain on the campus.

McClendon, formerly of Shreveport, La., is a graduate of Southwestern Seminary. He went to Princeton last fall on invitation of a group of Baptist students to become their chaplain.

McClendon says, "There is no Baptist church in the town of Princeton. In 1949, six Baptist students, led by H. Paul Pressler, III, a Southern Baptist student (Princeton '52) from Houston, Texas, organized a Baptist student fellowship on the Princeton University campus."

The chaplain also gives this account of the reception of the revival: "So strong was the prejudice against evangelism at Princeton that it was not possible to use the word "revival" in referring to the meetings. Instead, the services at which Ralph Langley preached were called "a week of Spiritual Awakening." The student newspaper, The Princetonian, heralded Langley's arrival in a front-page story, referring to him as a "revivalist." An able choir of Westminster Choir College students was directed by Carroll Kelly, Southern Baptist student from Chattanooga, Tennessee, who led the song services in the meeting.

"Nearly all of the decisions made were registered by college students. In the wake of the revival effort, the Baptist student group is organizing Bible study and prayer groups for interested students, and praying that the fires thus kindled may burn on other Ivy League campuses in the months ahead."