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127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

NASHVILLE PAPER  
PUSHES CHURCH NEWS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Churches are news! Here in Middle Tennessee, where for years folks have taken their religion pretty seriously, the Nashville Banner has met this challenge with a young, ex-Air Corps bombardier named Bob Bell, Jr.

A little over a year ago Charles Moss, Banner executive editor, asked Mr. Bell, then a general assignment reporter, if he wanted to try a religious column. The two agreed on a column published tri-weekly confined to church news in metropolitan Nashville.

The response was immediate and overwhelming. Circulation men reported the column was selling papers even in rural areas.

Today the column - "Churches Are News" - is a five-day-a-week feature on page one.

Mr. Bell, who will be covering the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston next May for his paper, receives weekly from 150 to 200 pieces of mail. He prefers the mail to the phone as a means of transmitting news because it eliminates errors and permits him to handle a larger volume. Nevertheless, the Bell phone, both at the Banner and at home, gets a good workout.

He defines his column as "a personal approach to religious reporting with emphasis on people who normally get little recognition from their own church or public.

"Any church, any congregation," he says, "is made up of a lot of folks doing a little bit. We try to emphasize this."

Generally, the column contains about twenty entries per day which are boiled down telegraph style.

There are approximately 400 churches in Nashville, and Mr. Bell devotes a good part of his time to establishing and maintaining personal contacts at each.

A native of Nashville, Mr. Bell's newspaper career has included work on the Union City Daily Messenger, Jackson Sun, and Paris Post Intelligencer - before bombardier duty and confinement as a German prisoner of war - and the Banner since 1950.

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ILLINOIS MAY INVITE  
1956 SBC CONVENTION

CARBONDALE, Ill.--(BP)--Chicago is being discussed as the site for the 1956 Southern Baptist Convention, according to an editorial in the Illinois Baptist. No official invitation has been issued. The editor suggested that it would be a good way to help Southern Baptists in Illinois celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of their state association.

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## THE TRAINING SCHOOL GOES FORWARD

by Emily K. Lansdell

The Training School will get a new name after the Board of Trustees gathers on February 25, for their annual meeting.

In a sense already it is a new school, the fine tradition of the past being blended with the present as the program is expanded, men are added to the faculty and admitted to classes and plans are made for erection of the new wing for additional classroom and library space.

Last year Woman's Missionary Union voted to begin to enlarge the curriculum of the school along the lines of missions and Christian social work. The trustees were authorized to bring immediately to the Training School professors of highest qualifications and to take the necessary steps to gain accreditation.

### Additions to Staff

Dr. Maxfield Garrott, missionary to Japan, is a visiting lecturer at the Training School this year. Dr. Hugh Brimm, formerly Executive Secretary of the Social Service Commission and onetime head of the department of sociology at Mercer University, joined the staff on January 1 as professor of sociology and human relations. Announcement is now made of the appointment of Mr. George Carver as professor of missions, effective the next school session. Mr. Carver, formerly a missionary to China and now teaching at the Peddie School in Hightstown, New Jersey, is the son of Dr. W. O. Carver, professor emeritus of missions at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Mr. Carver was graduated from Yale University and Columbia University and attended Southern Seminary.

### Program of Study

According to the recommendation of the trustees last February, the Training School will continue to offer the Master's degree after two years of study beyond undergraduate college. This course is planned because of the conviction that many missionaries at home and overseas, particularly women, and other denominational workers such as Good Will Center leaders, church social workers, workers in Baptist children's homes and other institutions need a specialized training different from that of the pastor and the educational director of a local Baptist church. Such training will emphasize awareness and understanding of social situations and problems and the knowledge and techniques of meeting individual and group needs in the spirit and power of the Christian gospel.

All of the candidates for the Master's degree will, in a sense, major in Christianity and Human Relations but within this emphasis there will be opportunity for specialization according to the vocational need of the individual student along the lines of religious education, social work and missions.

The major in religious education will differ from the formal and classical curriculum of religious education in its stress on understanding people and the social situation, but will include group work techniques and program content. This course of study is designed for social group workers who look forward to service in institutional churches, settlement houses, Good Will Centers, camps and similar situations, for those who will direct a program of religious education in a children's home, among the migrants, in a foreign area, and for others.

The major in social work is designed for those who will be engaged in community missions, for social workers and visitors in the local church, for counselors, for case workers and others who will be serving in Baptist Children's homes and other institutions, for those who will deal with juvenile delinquents and dependents, with the underprivileged financially, morally or spiritually, for associational missionaries and field workers who will serve with minority groups, in city slums, in foreign areas - trained people who can reach those outside the churches for Christ, who can be liaison workers between the courts and the churches, between the churches and those of other cultures, races and environments.

Mission volunteers for service at home or overseas who do not choose to major in social work or religious education may take a missions major which will afford opportunity to choose some courses from both of these fields as well as additional courses in Bible, theology and particularly in missions.

All students who pursue the program toward the Master's degree will of course be required to study Bible and related subjects. It is expected that the Christian emphasis will permeate the spirit of the faculty and the total program of the school and that workers trained here will go out to reach people outside the churches with the saving power of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The school does not plan to duplicate unnecessarily courses already offered at the neighboring seminary but anticipates that Training School students will continue to take

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some classes at the seminary. At the same time Training School classes are open to seminary students, men and women.

#### Advanced Missionary Training

The Training School is developing a program of advanced missionary training. This year Dr. Garrott has made a beginning in this field by conducting a missions seminary where problems of the missionary's task are studied and discussed by furloughed missionaries, nationals, and student volunteers. Courses are being planned in social anthropology, modern revolutionary movements, geo-political problems, evangelism to non-Christian cultures, literacy education, teaching of English as a foreign language, phonetics and linguistics, and others. Some of these will be available next year for mission majors and others who study in Louisville. As soon as possible a considerably enlarged program will be set up with the hope that it would attract furloughed missionaries and overseas missionary candidates who have already completed their basic equipment in theology, religious education, human relations or other vocational areas. The purpose would be to augment this basic equipment by further intensive work which will equip the missionary for the task of working with people of other cultures and races.

#### Old and New

Such a purpose is not really a new program for the Training School but a logical and natural extension of its past program and policy. What Training School students have received in such subjects as Bible, theology, and the more formal phases of instruction in religious education have been provided by seminary professors, while our own staff has concentrated on social work and a missionary emphasis. The school was established in 1907 to train missionaries and in 1912 the Good Will Center, the first of its kind in Southern Baptist circles, was started by the Training School to provide a clinic for social work as well as a service to the community.

Last year Woman's Missionary Union again pointed the direction of the school. Definite progress has already been made toward that goal, but we will keep forging ahead, adjusting and developing the course of study in an earnest effort to discover and faithfully render the distinctive contribution of the school to the denomination and to the Kingdom of God. We believe the Spirit of God moved in the founding of the Training School and on down through the years. We pray that we will continue to follow him in the years to come.