

April 20, 1953

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

GLORIETA READY FOR
SUMMER CONFERENCE

GLORIETA, N. Mex.--(BP)--E. A. Herron, manager of Glorieta Baptist Assembly, has announced that the first series of buildings is now complete. These are the initial units of the auditorium, dining hall, New Mexico Hall, eight housing units, and six housekeeping cottages. Mr. Herron further stated that such improvements as water, sewer, power lines, sewage disposal plant, large water storage reservoir, three miles of hard surfaced roads, plumbing, welding, painting, and electrical and woodworking shops have been constructed.

Mr. Herron said that twelve weeks of assembly are planned at Glorieta and that he is expecting capacity attendance for each of the weeks.

Glorieta will be operated on the same basis as Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly. This means the same rates will be charged for rooms, meals, and other services furnished by the Assembly. Sixty choice college students will be on the staff, Mr. Herron announced.

Glorieta is located nineteen miles east of Santa Fe, N. Mex., on U. S. Highway No. 85. The 1300 acres making up the Assembly property cover both sides of the Glorieta Pass and the Pass itself. The main development area is one-half mile off the highway.

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BARNETTE SPEAKS TO
SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS

KANSAS CITY, Mo.--(BP)--J. N. Barnette of Nashville, Tenn., secretary of the Baptist Sunday School Department of the Sunday School Board, called today for a million more members next year.

Speaking to more than 1,000 pastors and leaders from twenty-two states at the Convention-wide Sunday school clinic being held in Kansas City, Dr. Barnette said:

"There are 21 million persons living in areas where there are Baptist organizations who are not in practical reach of a Baptist church, and there are 450,000 children and infants under four years of age in the areas who are not enrolled in Sunday school."

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THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
By Porter Routh
Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Executive Committee

It is always helpful to our thinking to have Dr. L. E. Barton discuss a problem in the denomination. He was chairman of the committee which revised the constitution, and he is perhaps as familiar with the wording of the constitution, setting up the provisions for the Executive Committee, as anyone.

It should be noted, however, that the action to enlarge the Executive Committee did not originate in the Executive Committee but came as an instruction from the Southern Baptist Convention. The Southern Baptist Convention last year in Miami approved the following action, which was presented on the floor by Dr. M. A. Huggins, of North Carolina:

- (1) The Convention go on record as favoring an enlarged Executive Committee with the members of the Committee distributed as equitably as possible among the co-operating states of the Convention.
- (2) The Convention authorize and direct the Executive Committee, in co-operation with the administrative officers of the institutions and agencies of the Convention, and the state secretaries, and editors, to study the matter and bring from the December meeting a recommendation to the 1953 Convention.

The recommendation to be presented at Houston does not increase the duties or powers of the Executive Committee, but it only implements the action passed by the Convention in Miami.

Dr. Barton is certainly right when he states that we need to be careful in our stewardship in the use of funds, but the budget of the Executive Committee is not as large as he indicates. The Southern Baptist Convention allocates \$75,000 out of the Convention Operating Budget to the Executive Committee. By agreement, the Sunday School Board provides \$60,000 of the Convention Operating Budget.

The proposed enlargement will increase the size of the Executive Committee about one-third. It must be borne in mind, however, that the membership of the Southern Baptist Convention has more than doubled since the Executive Committee was first set up, and the amount of money given for missions has increased more than five times.

It was certainly not in the mind of any member of the committee that the Executive Committee should be enlarged to such a place that it might consider itself a policy-making group. The only purpose was to make it more representative, as instructed by the Convention. When the Executive Committee was set up, there were nine "at large" members, and the thought behind this was that these men should be so located

that they could get to Nashville overnight on the train. Of course, with modern transportation it is possible for men to get to Nashville in a short time from any place in the Southern Baptist Convention, and so it has been felt by many that the representation should take into account the Baptist population; and yet note was made of one point that Dr. Barton mentions, and a provision was made that no one state should have more than five members of the Executive Committee.

If I am any judge of the spirit of the Executive Committee, my sincere feeling is that these men who give their time to study prayerfully and thoughtfully the responsibilities committed to them would be the last men in the world to want to assume any authority or responsibility which was not specifically assigned to them in the operation of the Convention's business. An examination of the actions of the Executive Committee will provide evidence on this point.

This discussion by Dr. Barton is a very healthy thing, and I hope that all Baptists will think through the best way for all of us to work together in doing that which God has committed to us.

I have a deep conviction that the Southern Baptist Convention, if it takes the time to get all of the facts, will usually make a very wise decision.

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LIBRARY CORNERSTONE LAID
AT AMERICAN SEMINARY

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The cornerstone of the new library of American Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville, Tenn., was laid April 15.

This building is the first of a series to be followed by a chapel building as soon as sufficient funds are received, Mr. Sedberry announced.

He said that the library when finished will take care of 50,000 volumes, and a student body capacity of 300. There is a possibility of doubling this space in the future.

The following people, all of Nashville, were on program: L. S. Sedberry, Secretary of the Southern Baptist Commission on the Seminary; J. Harold Stephens, chairman of the Southern Baptist Commission on the seminary, and pastor of Inglewood Baptist Church; J. C. Miles, professor of Old Testament, American Seminary; T. L. Holcomb, executive secretary of the Sunday School Board; A. M. Townsend, secretary of the Sunday School Board of the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc.; Mrs. R. W. Riley, acting librarian, American Seminary; Ralph W. Riley, president, American Seminary; and W. L. Varnado, chairman of Board of Directors, American Seminary.

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