

May 14, 1958

Christian Index Passes Circulation Of 100,000

ATLANTA--(BP)--The Christian Index, weekly newspaper for Georgia Baptists, passed the 100,000 mark in circulation, setting a record for number of subscribers.

The Christian Index, edited by John Hurt, Jr., Atlanta, is the second oldest weekly religious newspaper in the nation in continuous existence. It has been informing Georgia Baptists since September, 1833.

The paper was established by Luther Rice, whose extensive travels and many speaking engagements helped launch Baptists of America in a foreign mission enterprise. It was named the Columbian Star when it began publishing in 1822 in Washington, D. C.

It later acquired the title Columbian Star and Christian Index, then subsequently dropped the first title. It was published for a time at Philadelphia. Before securing editorial offices in Atlanta, it was published in several Georgia localities.

The 100,000 mark represents doubling of its circulation within the past seven years, Editor Hurt reported.

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Press Previews New Campus At Furman

GREENVILLE, S. C.--(BP)--Newspaper, radio, and television officials from South Carolina and several nearby states attended a special one-day "Come and See" tour of Furman University's new multi-million dollar campus near Greenville.

They toured buildings, athletic areas and other facilities at the new 1200-acre campus. A luncheon, and talks by President John L. Plyler and Alester G. Furman, Jr., chairman of the Furman trustees, were on their schedule also.

About half of the major buildings planned for the campus have been completed or are nearing completion, Plyler said. Included among these are the James C. Furman Classroom Building, dining hall, four dormitories, administration building, James B. Duke Library, and center section of a proposed science building.

Also completed or now under construction are 14 tennis courts, a track, baseball field and stands, golf course, 30-acre lake, main entrance way with colonial style gatehouses, a mile and one-half of tar and gravel roads, and extensive landscaping, including the planting of over 20,000 trees and shrubs.

All men students and most of the senior women students at Furman will move to the new campus in September. Other women students will be moved as soon as funds for additional dormitories and other facilities can be raised, according to Plyler.

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North Carolina Child Care Director Named

THOMASVILLE, N. C.--(BP)--W. R. Wagoner, pastor, First Baptist Church, North Wilkesboro, N. C., will be the new general superintendent of Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina.

He succeeds W. C. Reed, retiring effective June 30.

Wagoner is a native Tar Heel, attended Mars Hill College and Wake Forest College, and also is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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Texas Baptists Alter
Child Care Program

DALLAS--(BP)--A major change in the Baptist General Convention of Texas child care program has resulted in two of the denomination's homes being licensed by the state department of public welfare for adoptions and foster home care, Walter Delamarter, convention domestic relations consultant, said.

The two homes now licensed for child placement are Texas Baptist Children's Home, Round Rock, and South Texas Children's Home, Beeville. The two homes have facilities for 244 youngsters.

Four other Texas convention children's homes will eventually request licenses from the state welfare department and are now in the process of establishing case work procedures. These homes are located in Dallas, San Antonio, Burnett, and Lubbock.

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Get Hometown Papers
While At Convention

HOUSTON--(BP)--"Get your hometown paper here!" That's the call of the Baptist Public Relations Association's booth in the exhibit area of Houston Coliseum here, site of the 1958 Southern Baptist Convention.

Among papers to be available at the BPPA booth are those from Birmingham, Little Rock, Washington, Atlanta, Kansas City, St. Louis, Louisville, Shreveport, Charlotte, Raleigh, Oklahoma City, Nashville, Dallas, Richmond, and Phoenix.

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'Last-Minute' People
Urged On To Houston

HOUSTON--(BP)--Have you decided at the last minute you'd like to attend the 1958 Southern Baptist Convention at Houston, but you're afraid to go because there might not be a place to sleep?

The Houston housing committee says "Come on." "Urge the people to come on to the Convention and we feel sure that we can care for them in (private) homes."

Hotels and motels have been full for a long time. Houston Baptist families however are opening their homes to accommodate messengers.

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Add Honorary Degrees.....

Howard College, Birmingham, Ala.---J. W. Lester, pastor, Colbert Heights Baptist Church, Tusculumbia, Ala.; Samuel E. Maddox, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dothan, Ala.; Richard Crowe, pastor, First Baptist Church, Albertville, Ala.; Charles C. Bowles, pastor, Hunter St. Baptist Church, Birmingham, and H. Van Eaton, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jasper, Ala., all doctors of divinity; Woodrow W. Elliott, superintendent, Shelby County board of education, Columbiana, Ala., LL.D. degree, and Claude H. Estes, Jr., Birmingham realtor, doctor of humanities.

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Florida Buying Land
For New Building

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.--(BP)--The Florida Baptist Convention board of missions has voted to buy property in south Jacksonville for \$87,000, on which it plans to build a new, four-story state Baptist office building.

The property is within five blocks of Baptist Memorial Hospital and about one and one-half blocks from the Jacksonville expressway.

Approval for the new building and for sale of the present Baptist office building in downtown Jacksonville must come from the convention at its annual

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meeting in November.

Reasons given for constructing a new office building were that the present location is not large enough and does not offer ample parking facilities. The new site would have more parking area.

Also, two offices of the Florida convention are located outside Jacksonville at present because of space limitations. The state Baptist student office is in Gainesville while the Florida Baptist Foundation office is in Plant City.

Plans for the new building include bringing these offices to Jacksonville, it was reported. The Jacksonville office of the Baptist Book Store is located at the present Baptist office building but would probably move, too, when the new building was opened.

Board members estimated the new office building, not including property, would cost \$600,000. One floor of the new building would be rented.

No construction date was set, pending approval of the project by the convention.

The state board of missions also adopted a new principle for granting aid to ministerial students attending Stetson University, DeLand, the state Baptist university.

Until the present, recommended ministerial students have received schooling at Stetson without paying tuition. The cost of tuition for them was borne equally by the convention and by Stetson.

Effective with the next school term, ministerial students must apply to the college for aid, certifying their need for financial help. During their first two years of college, even if aid is approved, the ministerial students must pay half, or more, of their tuition. The balance will be shared equally by the convention and Stetson.

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FOR INFORMATION ONLY

TO THE EDITORS: Because the following information has scattered in rumor form far and wide, we submit to you the details as far as we know them. We send you this material for information only. Any use you make of it is on your own.--
Albert McClellan.

Baptist Seminary Rift
At Top Level Probed

By Ora Spaid
Louisville Courier-Journal Church Editor

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has been the scene in recent weeks of a controversy between some members of its faculty and Dr. Duke K. McCall, the seminary's president.

The controversy appears to be over the role the faculty should play in the affairs of the school.

A committee of the seminary's board of trustees has been on the campus twice in the past two weeks investigating the clash. After concluding hearings with the president and faculty members Thursday, the trustee's committee declined to disclose its findings.

Any action on the controversy will come at a meeting of the full board of trustees in connection with the Southern Baptist Convention at Houston, Tex., May 19 to 23.

The investigating committee, headed by Dr. Howard Spell, dean of Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., will report there to the full board.

The investigating trustees were presented with a lengthy statement of criticisms of Dr. McCall's administration drawn up by 13 prominent professors of the school.

The statement was understood to question the manner in which new faculty members are hired, to cite alleged instances of the limitation of academic freedom, and to bring charges against Dr. McCall's use of administrative authority.

Neither the professors involved nor the president would make a formal statement on the matter.

Persons close to the controversy term it an impasse beyond the point of reconciliation. They say discharges or resignations appear likely.

Both sides of the clash insist that theological doctrine is not an issue.

The nearly century-old Lexington Road institution has been stirred by rumor and tension in recent weeks.

The student body, now in the midst of final examinations, has received no formal statements on the matter from the administration or the faculty.

But rumors---such as mass firing of faculty members and the resignation or discharge of the president---have permeated the life of the school.

The issues of the clash apparently have been brewing for many months, perhaps years, but it is not clear what touched off the current agitation.

The 13 faculty members who drew up the statement of criticism of the president are:

Dr. Theron D. Price, professor of church history; Dr. Henry E. Turlington, professor of New Testament interpretation; Dr. J. Morris Ashcraft, professor of

Biblical archaeology; Dr. Guy H. Ranson, professor of Christian ethics; Dr. T. C. Smith, professor of New Testament; Dr. William H. Morton, professor of Biblical archaeology; Dr. Heber F. Peacock, professor of New Testament; Dr. G. Hugh Wamble, professor of church history; Dr. John J. Owens, professor of Old Testament; Dr. William L. Lumpkin, professor of church history; Dr. J. Estill Jones, professor of New Testament; Dr. John M. Lewis, professor of Christian theology, and Dr. Thomas O. Hall, Jr., professor of Old Testament.

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Cutlines to Photo

TEXAS RANGER---Capt. Clint Peoples of the Texas Rangers will be on hand to welcome thousands of Royal Ambassadors to Fort Worth in August. He will be featured on the opening night session of the Second Convention-wide Royal Ambassador Congress on Aug. 12. Peoples is one of six Ranger captains. He has served with the Texas Rangers for 14 years. Peoples is a Baptist layman stationed at Ranger headquarters in Waco, Tex.