

August 15, 1958

Ashcraft New Professor Of Religion At Furman

GREENVILLE, S. C.--(BP)--Jesse Morris Ashcraft of Louisville, Ky., will join the Furman University faculty this fall as associate professor of religion, according to an announcement by A. E. Tibbs, Furman dean.

Ashcraft, who is a specialist in Biblical archaeology, has been on the faculty at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary since 1950. Earlier he was pastor of churches in Coy, Ark., Hustonville and Muldraugh, Ky.

A native of Malvern, Ark, he holds degrees from Ouachita Baptist College in Arkansas, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. During World War II, he was a chaplain in the Far East.

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Carver School Installs New President Brooks

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--Nathan C. Brooks Jr. will be installed as president of Carver School of Missions and Social Work here Sept. 23.

Brooks assumed the presidency in June, succeeding Miss Emily K. Lansdell. Carver School is an institution of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Special ceremonies on Sept. 23 will include an address by Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond. Cauthen's subject is "Baptists and Missionary Education."

Brooks will bring an address the same day highlighting the other phase of education for which Carver is responsible. His topic is "Baptists and Social Work Education."

Trustees of the school will be present and take part in inaugural activities.

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Morris Heads Public Relations In Alabama

MONTGOMERY--(BP)-- David K. Morris, assumed duty Aug. 1, as administrative assistant in charge of public relations for Alabama Baptist Convention, according to an announcement by A. Hamilton Reid, executive secretary for the Alabama Baptist State Executive Board. He will help promote Baptist work in Alabama through communication media.

A recent graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., he has for the past year-and-a-half been the director of the office of news and information for Southwestern Seminary. Prior to that, he was director of public relations for Mississippi College, in Clinton, Miss., for two years.

Originally from Illinois, Morris moved with his parents to Florida, and graduated from the public schools in Bradenton, Fla. He later attended the University of Florida, and has two degrees from that institution, the B.A., and M.A., with a major in public relations. He served two years with the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, and holds the reserve commission of first lieutenant.

He is married to the former Claire Platt of Columbus, Miss. They have two sons, David, Jr., 4, and Daniel, 2.

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Baptist Federation
Draws Up Declaration

By Porter Routh

BERLIN; Germany--(BP)--22 Baptist Unions, or as an American would say, Baptist conventions or associations comprise the European Baptist Federation. This group met in Berlin, June 26-31 to study ways and means of closer co-operation and more aggressive evangelism. The meeting took place against the background of one of the most dramatic tensions of our time, the struggle of East against West.

One of the more significant things accomplished was the summation of feelings and convictions in a Declaration. Following is the text of that declaration:

The Second Congress of the European Baptist Federation lies behind us. God has heard our many prayers, and has granted unto us a great and blessed fellowship. We have the firm conviction that this Congress has enabled us to take an important step forward toward a closer cooperation of the 22 Unions of our Federation. Most of all we are grateful that, for the first time since the last world war, it has been possible for Baptists from the people's democracies both from the east and from the west to have greater contact with each other. We found through our fellowship that we all have the same conviction, that Christ alone is our hope, because He has died for all and has risen again. He alone can redeem the world and set up the kingdom of peace and righteousness for which humanity at all times has been longing. We became one in our prayer to God that He may bring together those responsible in statesmanship, that they may find ways by which the powerful technical achievements of this century may not be used as weapons for a murderous war but as means for a securer peace and better conditions of life for all mankind. And, because we know through the Word of God about man's strong temptation to misuse the power at his disposal, we pray that God will send to all the nations the spirit of penitence, so that the hate and dissension that exist in the human heart will be rooted out and God's judgment will not come upon us in the form of another war.

The future of our churches was also the subject of our thoughts and prayers. Not that we wavered or were in disagreement about the fundamental principles of Baptists in all the world. But we see with deep sorrow the perverting power of sin, which in many ways expresses itself in modern culture, with its result, that the struggle of youth for purity of body and soul becomes much harder, and it is more difficult to maintain the sound foundations of marriage and family life. We therefore call upon all our churches to take heed to the clear message of the Word of God, not only in preaching and teaching, but also in pastoral care and education. In this way, according to the will of God, we shall be the salt and light of the earth.

But, before everything else, the Congress has had in view the year of evangelization in 1959 in which all the Baptists of the world will cooperate. In the foreground of our thoughts was placed the need for the clear witness both of the individual and the whole Christian community of believers, in order to spread the word of salvation in Christ. We cannot create a man-made revival, because God alone appoints the hour of salvation. With great joy the Congress has noted that even in countries where the adequate training of preachers is given only in a limited way, God none-the-less has raised up men and women who, through a consistent witness and simple preaching, have been able to lead many people to Christ.

So we all in joyous faith go back to our churches having set our hope on Christ alone and resolved to bear a steadfast witness for Him. May the Lord our God give to us all in all our countries His richest blessing.

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Carey and Judson Have Modern Counterparts

EDITOR'S NOTE: G. Avery Lee, pastor, First Baptist Church, Ruston, La., is associate conductor of a tour of Baptists travelling around the world. In Rangoon, Burma, the Lee party visited site of a school founded by that pioneer foreign missionary, William Carey. Lee here describes the visit.

By G. Avery Lee

RANGOON, Burma--(BP)--On a rainy afternoon the party hired a non-English speaking taxi driver and took off from Calcutta for Serampore College, founded by William Carey in 1818. The 15-mile drive took over one hour in monsoon weather.

After removing our shoes in mosques, temples, and pagodas, these Christians felt on holy ground as they sat in Carey's chair, (William Carey was a 19th century English Baptist missionary to India who is known as the father of modern missions), stood by his pulpit, saw his desk, and listened and watched as a book-loving male librarian revealed priceless manuscripts of Carey's monumental work of translating the Scriptures into 41 dialects.

A diminutive man physically, standing only 5 feet one inch, Carey was a spiritual giant.

Today's 12 million Indian Christians owe an irrepayable debt to Carey.

Carey's last words were: "Ah there, you are always speaking of Dr. Carey. When I am gone speak no more of Dr. Carey but speak of Dr. Carey's Saviour. As for my personal salvation, I have not the least shadow of doubt. I know in whom I have believed."

We arranged a Burmese style dinner in Rangoon. Special guests were Thra Tun Sein, general secretary of the Burma Baptist Convention and Erville Sowards, American Baptist Convention associate.

All Woman's Missionary Society members who read "Ann of Ava" know of Adoniram and Ann Judson who arrived in Burma in July, 1813, and baptized their first convert six years later.

Tun Sein says the Burma Baptist Convention was organized in 1865 and began to take local responsibility in 1948 shortly after Burma gained independence.

While the American Baptist Convention still contributes over \$200,000, they became subsidiary in 1954.

The churches have more than 200,000 baptized members and a much larger Christian community.

Adoniram Judson is held in high esteem by all Burma. Highly significant was the founding of Judson College in 1818. The College, now part of the Rangoon University system, has and will continue to train thousands of Burmese.

Visiting the old campus, seeing the place where Judson first preached, knowing of his difficulties, learning of his contribution, gives renewed appreciation and increased confidence in today's missionaries and their work.

We reminded ourselves that we have over 1200 modern counterparts of Carey and Judson, serving on Southern Baptist mission fields around the world.