

February 25, 1959

3 Junior Colleges May
Elevate Their Status

GREENSBORO, N. C. --(BP)--A committee recommendation could pave the way for three Baptist junior colleges in North Carolina to become senior colleges.

Trustees of Mars Hill, Campbell, and Wingate Colleges could request the change in status "as soon as it seems desirable and possible to do so."

This is one of the major recommendations contained in a report of the "Committee of 25" appointed by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The committee will release its voluminous report at a meeting in Raleigh, N. C., Mar. 3. The committee has been at its task for two years, studying the operation of the state convention and its agencies.

With regard to two other Baptist-operated junior colleges---Chowan and Gardner-Webb---the committee will recommend that "these two fine colleges should continue as junior colleges for the foreseeable future."

"This recommendation does not prohibit any junior college from working toward senior college status," the committee adds. However, such a proposal would first require approval of the college's administration and trustees.

Then the council on Christian education would carefully study the proposal before passing it along to the convention's general board (and possibly later the convention itself) for "final review and action."

This procedure applies to Mars Hill, Campbell, and Wingate Colleges, it was made clear in a preliminary committee report, as well as to any other junior college thinking about changing its status.

Trustees of Wake Forest College, the convention's co-educational senior college, will be asked to "give consideration to resumption of graduate work, granting masters and doctors degrees, in keeping with its university status approved by the Baptist state convention in 1944."

Under committee recommendations, Meredith College, a senior institution for women, would be continued as such with an increase of its student body to 1000. Present enrolment is 637.

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Missionary Culpepper
Joins Southern Faculty

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--Hugo Hurlston Culpepper, missionary to Argentina, has been elected, effective June 1, assistant professor of missions at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

A professor in International Baptist Theological Seminary, Buenos Aires, since 1951, Culpepper is completing residence requirements at Southern this semester for a doctor's degree in Christian theology.

He is a native of Pine Bluff, Ark. He earned a master of theology degree at Southern Seminary in 1939, and was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1940.

He served in China, the Philippines, and Chile before moving to Argentina.

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Manhattan To Sponsor
New Hampshire Mission

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.--(BP)--Southern Baptists now have a mission in Portsmouth, N. H.

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The New Hampshire mission received official Southern Baptist status Feb. 22 when its 64 members were voted into fellowship of Manhattan Baptist Church, New York City, the nearest Southern Baptist church.

Manhattan church is affiliated with the Southern district association of churches in Maryland and the Southern Baptist Convention. Paul S. James is pastor as well as director of Southern Baptist work in Greater New York.

Here is how the mission developed. A bomber wing was transferred from Roswell, N. M., to Pease Air Force Base at Portsmouth, N. H., last summer. Along with the wing came many Southern Baptists from the South Hill Baptist Church of Roswell, N. M.

These displaced Southern Baptists began their own religious services. Capt. Willis G. Moore was elected chairman of the mission. He had met James when the latter was on a preaching mission in Fairbanks, Alaska, six years ago.

Capt. Moore invited James to address the mission Sunday, Feb. 15, at the Newington Town Hall near Portsmouth. There were 120 people at the worship service and 112 in Sunday school.

Manhattan Church voted to sponsor the mission Feb. 22. The church also authorized Chaplain Kenneth Israel, a Southern Baptist from Laredo, Tex., to baptize candidates received for membership.

There are 1,100 family units at the base, which belongs to the Strategic Air Command. Among these are at least 2,000 Southern Baptists. People are coming from eight communities to the mission.

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Stetson Says \$500,000 Given Building Fund

DELAND, Fla.--(BP)--Gifts and pledges totalling more than \$500,000 have been received by Stetson University here in the last three months for its building program, J. Ollie Edmunds, president, announced.

At the university's 75th anniversary convocation, held last November, the trustees and a group of civic leaders laid plans for a long-range development program designed to provide \$6 million for new buildings and a substantial sum of additional endowment for the university during the next five years.

Of the half-million dollars, nearly a quarter of a million has been subscribed by individual trustees. Included also is approximately \$150,000 recently contributed by the Florida Baptist Convention to help meet the university's most immediate building needs.

Among the buildings planned for the Florida Baptist school are a new library, science center, men's gymnasium, school of music building, fine arts center, chapel, building for the school of business, an infirmary, and additional facilities for outdoor recreation.

The objective for the current academic year was set at \$1- $\frac{3}{4}$ million.

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