

March 28, 1958

Work On Miami Hospital To Begin In September

MIAMI--(BP)--Architectural plans for the first unit of Miami's Baptist Hospital will be completed June 26 and immediately let for bids, hospital officials announced.

Administrative Director Steve McCrimmon said ground for the \$3,550,000 structure will be broken in September and doors opened to patients between January and April, 1960.

The initial unit of a proposed dual operation will be constructed on a 55-acre tract on North Kendall Dr. and 89th Ave. in a suburban area south of the city. Long-range plans call for a second unit on a 10-acre downtown tract near Jackson Memorial Hospital.

The Baptist Hospital will be a 242-bed center easily expandable to 300 beds, McCrimmon explained.

The director said a fund drive for \$500,000 will be launched simultaneously with the groundbreaking to complete the financing program.

Sparking the three-year plans is Arthur Vining Davis, multi-millionaire aluminum company official and Florida land developer. He donated the 55-acre Kendall site together with funds for clearing it. On hand in the building fund is \$1-1/2 million from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundation and \$1,800,000 in pledges payable within five years.

The hospital will include \$500,000 worth of the latest medical equipment in addition to building costs.

It will feature a special cardiac wing of 34 beds, separated from the hospital proper by formal gardens. The unit will specialize in cardiac research and will house a special operating room for cardiac surgery.

The hospital will be of Italian Renaissance design with red tile roof, towers, and archways. Two artificial lakes will be dug on the property.

The treatment center will be completely air-conditioned. It will have four major operating rooms in addition to orthopedic and cystoscopic rooms. It will include three delivery rooms and a 30-bed maternity floor expandable to 54 beds. The nursery will accommodate 63 babies.

Baptist Hospital will become one of the largest of some 12 other major Miami hospitals which include a total of 2,450 beds.

McCrimmon, president of the Florida Hospital Council and former administrator of Doctors' Hospital here, said the county is more than 1,800 beds short, with present facilities badly overtaxed.

He said the new center will service a 15-mile radius which will need well over 800 beds by 1961.

The hospital will be built and operated under the auspices of the Miami Baptist Association on a non-profit basis, open to patients regardless of religious affiliation.

Stone Marks Oldest
Florida Association

MONTICELLO, Fla.--(BP)--A historical stone marker commemorating founding of Florida Baptist Association was unveiled at Ebenezer Baptist Church near here recently.

The association was organized in 1842 near Tallahassee, Florida's capital, three years before Florida became a state. The first recorded association session was at Ebenezer Church in 1843.

J. H. Avery, Panama City minister who is president of Florida Baptist Convention, and Doak S. Campbell, Baptist leader and former president of Florida State University, Tallahassee, were speakers.

Florida Baptist Association originally included all missionary Baptist churches in the Florida territory and some in south Georgia. Georgia churches later became affiliated with the Georgia Baptist Convention and formed their own associations of churches.

The area of Florida now covered by Florida Association includes six north-west Florida counties centered around Tallahassee. There are 38 churches in the present association.

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Adams, Stevens To Get
Honorary Doctorates

WACO, Tex.--(BP)--Two Baptist leaders will receive honorary degrees at Baylor University here May 23. A third honorary degree will be presented to a professor from Johns Hopkins University.

Honorary degrees of doctor of divinity will be presented to Theodore F. Adams, pastor, First Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., and to Paul M. Stevens, Fort Worth, director, Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

Adams, president of the Baptist World Alliance, was to have been awarded an honorary degree last year but an illness prevented his coming to Baylor.

The honorary LL.D. degree will go to Bentley Glass, Baltimore, professor of genetics and director of Mergenthaler Laboratory for Biology, Johns Hopkins University.

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