

# The SEMINARIAN



STUDENT DORMITORY



STUDENT APARTMENT



LIBRARY



FACULTY HOME



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Vol. IX, No. 3

Published by American Baptist Theological Seminary, Nashville, Tennessee

April, 1953

## NEW LIBRARY CORNERSTONE LAYING



*Beulah Masonic Lodge No. 28, of Nashville, Tennessee, directed the laying of the cornerstone of the new Library building being erected on the Seminary campus. Shown in the foreground left to right, are: President R. W. Riley, Mr. G. A. Ezell, Sr., Grand Architect and H. D. Stuart, Grand Secretary, sealing the document-cache. The Grand Master of the ceremony was Edward E. Crawford, standing eighth in the second row. In the background may be seen members of the Trustees, Commission, student body and friends (see page 4 for details).*

Entered as second class matter January 4, 1947, in the Post Office at Nashville, Tennessee, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Acceptance for mailing at the special rate of postage provided by Paragraph 4, Sec. 638, Postal Laws and Regulation, authorized March 10, 1947.

Published six times per year, February, May, June, August, October and December, by the A.B.T. Seminary, 1800 White's Creek Pike, Nashville, Tenn.

---

---

SEMINARY DAY, MAY 17, 1953

*. . . Freely you have received, freely give.*

MATTHEW 10:8

---

---

## TRUSTEES IN ANNUAL MEET

The Board of Trustees meeting held at the Seminary on May 14, 1953, was a most significant and important meeting. Many of the trustees of the Southern and National Baptist Conventions which composed the Board, were present and voiced an opinion of praise for the work and progress which is being made by the institution. Some of the significant changes made in the Board meeting were as follows:

(1) The Board broke with the tradition of the past and held a one-day meeting of the trustees and the commission, rather than what has been customary for a two-day session in the past, and went on record as approving a one-day session in the future.

(2) The name of the "Administrative Committee" was changed to "Executive Committee," and there were elected six (6) members from each of the national constituencies to form the local committee.

The Executive Committee, as formerly, will act in the interim, and shall deal with the policies affecting the institution in the absence of the Board of Trustees.

(3) The Trustees further approved the granting of a one-year full scholarship to Rev. Neill McPherson, 37 Rose Lane, Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I., and made plans for an increased amount of scholarships for students throughout America.

The Board further approved the appointment of Mr. Charles H. Fitzgerald as Registrar of the institution, and the appointment of Dr. Victor T. Glass as Academic Dean of the Seminary.

The Board approved a proposal by the President, recommending further study for all faculty people on a rotary basis, the sabbatical leave having been already approved in a previous meeting.

The Board participated, at 12:00 noon, in the cornerstone laying of the new library building now under construction at a cost of \$107,000 made possible by a grant of the Southern Baptist Convention.

During the year of 1952, the institution received \$122,937. Of this amount, \$55,335.51 was spent for faculty and student housing. This year, the institution increased its budget more than \$10,000.00, and will spend, in addition, \$107,000.00 for the construction of the new library building which is now in progress.

An increased program of recruitment and promotion is underway, and the future of the institution seems brighter than ever.

The Board elected six new trustees, with the terms expiring in 1955. There were two from Tennessee, one from Indiana, one from Michigan, one from Florida and one from Ohio.

Approval was made, by the Board, of the employment of a full-time librarian who will assume his work June 1, 1953, and will have all the plans for moving into the library September 1, 1953, when the new building is completed.

# GRADUATION EXERCISES—MAY 27-JUNE 1

## SPEAKERS

### MEMPHIS EXTENSION



DR. SAMUEL A. OWEN

Dr. Samuel A. Owen, A.B., A.M., S.T.B., D.D., pastor, Metropolitan Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, will deliver the commencement address at the Second Annual commencement of the Howe School of Religion, an Extension Unit of American Baptist Theological Seminary on Friday evening, May 29th, at 8:00 p.m. Dr. Owen is the Moderator of the West Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Education Association and president of the Tennessee Baptist Missionary Education Convention.

### BACCALAUREATE



DR. THOMAS ELLIOT HUNTLEY

Dr. Thomas Elliot Huntley, a native North Carolinian, received his education at Friendship College, Virginia Theological Seminary, Atlanta University and Union Theological Seminary. Friendship College conferred upon him the honorary degree Doctor of Divinity in 1945.

Dr. Huntley has served a number of outstanding churches in the National Baptist Convention. Among those churches is the Spruce Street Baptist Church of Nashville, Tennessee. He is now serving the Central Baptist Church, St. Louis, Missouri, where he has been for ten years.

He has served the Baptist denomination as a member of the Social Service Commission and the Pastor's Advisory Section of the International Council of Religious Education. At the present he is representing his denomination as a member of the Division of Life and Works, National Council of Churches of Christ of America; serving on the following committees: The Department of Racial and Cultural Relations, and the Department of Social Welfare.

Dr. Huntley has also made contributions to the Christian community in other fields. He was the originator of the idea of Ministerial Prayer March on Washington; sponsored by the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches. He has contributed to the field of Christian Education in many other areas. His idea of the "Church on Wheels" has been noted and recommended to the Lutheran Church in the Missouri Synod and the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

### COMMENCEMENT



DR. LEON MOBLEY LATIMER

Dr. Leon Mobley Latimer is a native South Carolinian, the son of a school teacher. He is a graduate of Mercer University, A.B., 1908; attended the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1909; received the B.D. degree from Rochester Theological Seminary in 1911. He holds two honorary degrees: D.D. from Mercer in 1931 and LL.D. from Atlanta Law School in 1952.

His pastorates include: First Baptist Church, Salem, Ohio; First Baptist Church, Sylacauga, Alabama; Parker Memorial, Anniston, Alabama; First Baptist Church, Griffin, Georgia; First Baptist Church, Austin, Texas; and the First Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina, from which he retired last year to become Pastor Emeritus after a pastorate of seventeen and a half years.

He has served as trustee of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, delegate to the Baptist World Alliance, Stockholm, Sweden, Vice-President of the Texas Baptist Convention, a member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, Moderator of the Greenville Baptist Association, President of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. He is a Rotarian.

### Calendar for Commencement Week

May 27-June 1, 1953

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 27TH

8:00 P.M. Junior-Senior Banquet

#### THURSDAY, MAY 28TH

8:00 P.M. Senior Class Night Exercises

#### FRIDAY, MAY 29TH ALUMNI DAY

10:00 A.M. Annual Meeting of Alumni Association

8:00 P.M. President—Alumni Banquet for Seniors and Faculty

#### SUNDAY, MAY 31ST

3:00 P.M. Baccalaureate Service, Spruce Street Baptist Church, 313 Eighth Avenue, North  
Sermon, Rev. T. E. Huntley, D.D., Minister, Central Baptist Church, St. Louis, Missouri

#### MONDAY, JUNE 1ST

8:00 P.M. Commencement Service  
J. B. Lawrence Administration Building  
Address, Rev. L. M. Latimer, D.D., LL.D., Pastor Emeritus, First Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina

# CORNERSTONE LAYING

At 12:00 noon, April 15, 1953, in connection with the Board of Trustees meeting of the Seminary, the Trustees, along with a large number of visitors, friends and student body and A. F. and A. M. Masonic Lodge No. 28, participated in the cornerstone laying of the \$107,000 library building located on the grounds of the Seminary, adjacent to the J. B. Lawrence Administration Building.

The cornerstone laying of the new library building marks another milestone in the expansion program of the Seminary under the leadership of President Ralph W. Riley.

Participants on the program were Dr. T. L. Holcomb, Secretary of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention; Dr. A. M. Townsend, Secretary of the Sunday School Board of the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc.; and Dr. D. V. Jemison, President of the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., who brought greetings on the occasion.

The meeting was presided over by Dr. J. Harold Stephens, minister of Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville, and Chairman of the Commission.

In brief remarks made by Mrs. R. W. Riley, Acting Librarian of the institution, she pointed up the progress made at the institution from 1944, the facilities being used at that time for a library, and what is in the making at the present time. She said:

"One cannot appreciate stages or periods of life unless he takes them as they come. The pioneer seldom walks on the hard road after he has cut the bushes, dug the roots and burned the rubbish, but he is happy because he has made it possible for somebody else." She declared that "with the rising of the new building, we see the old order passed. The old library has gone forever, and when the new building is completed, we move into a new era of our Seminary life; and we want you to know that we appreciate this new building that is being erected and we will be ready to use it at the beginning of our next school year . . . It will be a blessing to us all."

In the course of Dr. Holcomb's remarks he said:

"A library is a collection of books, and books are: windows opening to the student a world vision . . . Keys to open doors of knowledge . . . Chains that link the past with the present . . . Friends that introduce students to great personalities."

"My prayer is that the students who study here may become world citizens, leaders and bearers of the good news to all men everywhere."

The following quotes were taken from the remarks of Dr. Townsend as he spoke of the library as fitting into the general plan of seminary life.

"Such was the spirit of Jesus, in the mind and heart of the founders of this Institution—the Southern Baptist Convention, and the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., as set out in the Charter, to establish and maintain a theological and missionary training Seminary, for the purpose of the education of individuals in any line of education whether academic, that is in the arts, sciences or literature—or, whether professional, religious, theological, or otherwise."

"The first armament in the quiver to this end—came Griggs Hall; the second armament—came J. B. Lawrence building. The third and essential armament in the preparation for building and battling comes, the Library."

The principal address was delivered by President R. W. Riley who brought greetings on behalf of the institution and the two Conventions; and speaking on the construction of the building, he continued:

"This building, in the process of being constructed, symbolizes Christianity's intellectual, moral and spiritual attack on the rising tide of Western materialism, and is the embodiment of the prayers and dreams of united protestantism in a gallant effort to keep pace in our own time and in the things which are going on all around us."

After outlining the purpose of the building and the importance of its facilities to the institution, President Riley closed by saying:

"May those responsible for its erection, equipment and maintenance sense a new responsibility to enlarge and increase its services by replenishing its shelves as the days come and go; and that it may, in the days ahead, actually become a real archive of Baptist life and history. May those who come here in the days ahead sense a new obligation—the duty to pass on to others as they depart—as students and graduates of this institution make it possible for those who come after them to share more richly in the services and advantages which their predecessors have so nobly begun."

## SOUTH-WIDE CONFERENCE

*Pictured are the delegates to the 8th annual South-wide Conference of Baptist Theological Students which met on the seminary campus March 25-26. More than eighty persons representing sixteen schools from nine states were in attendance.*

*Dr. Victor T. Glass, Acting Academic Dean of the Seminary, was elected chairman of a steering committee to plan next year's conference which meets at the Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, March 24-25, 1954.*

