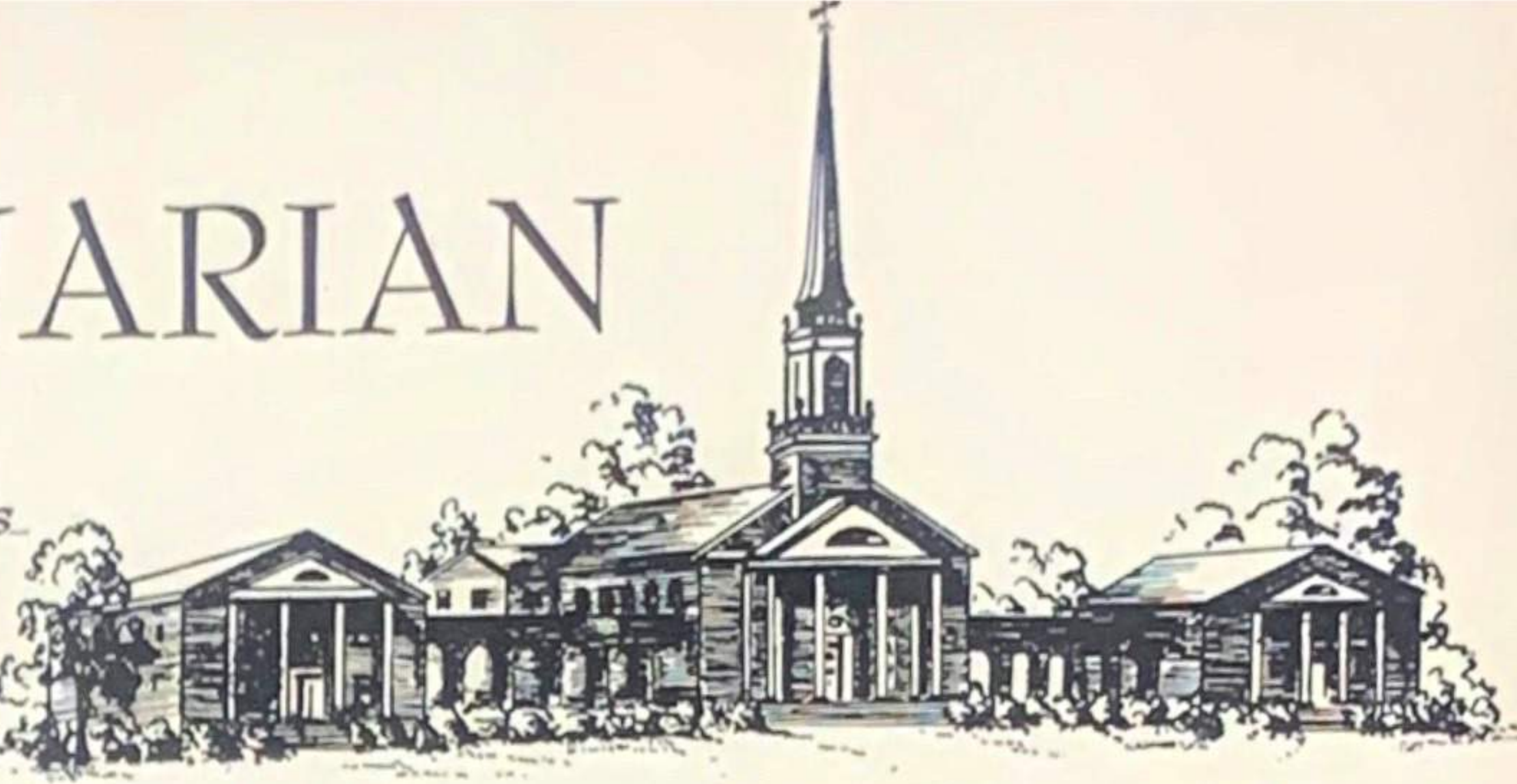


THE SEMINARIAN

*Majoring in the fundamentals
of creative living*



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December 1948



Progress Continues at A.B.T.

The workmen in the picture above are putting the finishing touches on the new fifty-foot addition to our present dormitory, Griggs Hall. The addition will provide an enlarged dining room in the basement and living quarters for approximately twenty more students on the second and third floors. The kitchen was renovated and new equipment, two electric ranges, new lighting system, new dishwashing machine and other improvements were added to go along with this new development.

Griggs Hall will now be able to accommodate ninety students without crowding, and the enlarged dining room will be able to seat one hundred and fifty people comfortably.

THE SEMINARIAN

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THE HABIT OF THANKFULNESS

"How sharper than a serpent's tooth to have a thankless child." There is no uglier word in the dictionary than ingratitude. The thankful spirit makes us better men and women. It promotes health and friendship. No man enjoys association with a pessimist. "You have a wonderful crop of apples this year, grandma," said a neighbor one day. "Yes," said grandma, "but I have always noticed that if I have a good crop this year, I do not have much the next year." The difference between a pessimist and an optimist is the thankful spirit.

The thankful spirit, like all other good things in life, has to be cultivated. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits," exclaims the Psalmist. He undertakes thanksgiving as a deliberate act. He summons "all that is within" him to the consideration of the goodness of God. It is no spontaneous outburst of the grateful heart, but a resolve to take an inventory. He stirs himself up to "count his blessings."

The thankful habit leads me into a life of satisfaction. The great Apostle exhorts us over and over again to "rejoice in the Lord." "Finally, brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you IT IS SAFE." On the side of thankfulness is the only safe place for the Christian to stand. Anything in your experience for which you cannot heartily be thankful, is a thing which will lead you to doubt the love and the goodness of God and finally to reach the place where in your heart you blame God for it. Again, he says, "In nothing be anxious: but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus." Why the "with Thanksgiving"? The life of faith knows that all things work together for good to them that love God, hence the appeal to Him leaves the prayer assured and satisfied. The thing which you are wont to be anxious about may not be avoided; it certainly will not be if there is some better things to which it will lead you, but deep satisfaction, "the peace of God" will possess your heart and life.

Truly, the friends of the American Baptist Theological Seminary have cause to be thankful. We have a splendid group of eager students, a

PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES

On September 9, 1948 President Riley presented his fifth annual report on the work of the Seminary and gave a stimulating address before the sixty-eighth session of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. in the Sam Houston auditorium at Houston, Texas. A gift towards the Alumni's project was presented to Dr. Riley by the President of the Alumni Association. Dr. I. H. Henderson, Jr., minister of the Friendship Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri; Rev. B. E. Callier, Minister of the Progressive Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee and Rev. W. H. Donaldson, minister of First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tennessee both graduates of the Seminary joined in the presentation of the gift to President Riley.

The Convocation Address to the student body was delivered by the President, Wednesday, September 22. The president urged upon men in training to be sure of the Divine call to the ministry and declared that the absence or uncertainty in this regard would in all probability spell defeat in the future.

On September 29 President Riley addressed a group of ministerial students in the First Baptist Church, Owensboro, Kentucky. The school is under the supervision of the Green River Valley and Davis-McLane Associations.

The study group is under the supervision of the American Baptist Theological Seminary and persons studying in the school will receive credits from the Seminary for work done at the Owensboro unit.

In October President Riley visited Birmingham Baptist College and was guest minister of Tried Stone Baptist Church of which Dr. T. W. Bussey is pastor and president of the Alabama College.

Dr. Riley on October 21 addressed the Tennessee B M & E Convention at Memphis and on the 22nd of October was guest minister of the First Baptist Church in Brownsville, Tennessee. Rev. W. S. Vance is minister of the church and is a loyal and energetic supporter of the American Baptist Theological Seminary.

On October 31 President Riley was guest minister of the First Baptist Church, Springfield, Tennessee. A recent Seminary graduate, Rev. W. J. Speed is minister of the church. Dr. J. Martin is pastor emeritus. Both pastor and pastor emeritus are working harmoniously and progress is being made for the Master's cause in Springfield.

The president represented the institution in the One-Hundredth celebration of Spruce Street Baptist Church observed November 7-19, 1948, in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. Riley was guest speaker before the General Missionary Baptist Con-

consecrated and well trained faculty, a young, vigorous, and far-seeing president, and the constituencies of two of the world's largest religious groups working and sacrificing for its success. Professor J. C. Miles

vention held at Rome, Georgia, Thursday evening, November 18, 1948. On October 24 President Riley attended the regular Arkansas Baptist State Convention and addressed the body at Little Rock, Arkansas.

EVENING SCHOOL BEGINS AT THE SEMINARY

Beginning the Second quarter the Seminary will offer evening training for ministers, lay people and other religious workers.

The classes will be held each evening Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. each week and courses in Practical Theology, Old Testament, New Testament, Religious Education and other Seminary subjects in keeping with regular courses offered at the Seminary. The regular staff of faculty members will teach and the subjects will parallel courses taught in the day at the Seminary.

Credit will be given for each hour of work successfully completed and in a length of time it will be possible for ministers in the city as well as other workers in Religious Education and Missionary Training to complete the work for the degree which they might be pursuing in the evening school.

The evening school grows out of a need upon the part of ministers whose duties make it, impossible to attend day classes. The Seminary during its early years conducted a regular evening school along with regular day classes. Crowded conditions and faculty shortages within the last few years made necessary the suspension of evening school. Nashville citizens welcome the opportunity and more than a dozen preachers have indicated the intention to be in attendance after the close of the first quarter, Dec. 10, 1948.

SUMMER CONFERENCE FOR PASTORS PLANNED

On December 9, 1948, a committee appointed by Dr. S. A. Owens, president of the Tennessee Baptist State Convention will meet at the Seminary to plan a Pastors' Conference to be held some time in June or July. Rev. C. A. W. Clark of Spruce Street Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee is chairman of the committee. Rev. E. P. Crutcher of Knoxville, Tennessee, Rev. Roy Love of Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. A. M. Townsend of Nashville, Tennessee and other outstanding men of the state will be present.

The committee in co-operation with the Administration of the Seminary hopes to work out plans by which a summer institute for Baptist Pastors will be held, and to effect an arrangement by which some type of credit will be given for the work taken. Courses offered will give aid in connection with Pastor's problems, missionary opportunities and responsibilities, Religious Education and other religious subjects which come in the category of the preachers workshop are planned in the coming summer session.

FOLLOWING THE ALUMNI

Walter J. Speed, B.Th., '48, has been recently called to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church at Springfield, Tennessee. The church has greatly grown under his leadership in membership and attendance. The parsonage has been completely furnished and renovated. During the annual session of the State Baptist Convention, Inc. which met in Nashville, Tennessee, Rev. W. J. Speed was elected Second Vice-President.

Talton Buford Fentress, B.Th., '48 is now director of Religious Education and Young People's Activities at the People's Baptist Church in Seattle, Washington and is assistant to the minister, Dr. F. W. Penick.

Charles Raymond Williams, B.Th., '48 since being called to the Second Baptist Church much progress is evident. The membership has grown tremendously and a new parsonage has been purchased for the minister.

Robert Lee Lillard, B.D., '48 is now the pastor of the Salem Baptist Church in Champaign, Illinois.

Norman McGill, B.Th., '48 has resumed his work at the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Arkansas as Pastor. It will be remembered that he was a member of the Seminary Choral Group and upon graduation received the individual initiative prize for seniors as "Best-Man-Of-Affairs at the institution.

Edward Lee Hicks, B.Th., '48 who has recuperated from a serious illness has returned to his work as pastor of the New Hope Home Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Walter Buford Rouse, B.Th., '48 former minister of the Kayne Avenue Baptist Church of Nashville, Tennessee is now the minister of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church of East St. Louis, Illinois. Since Rev. Rouse has been called to the church much progress has been seen through increased membership as more than 250 have been added under his leadership.

Henry C. Burnette, B.Th., '48 is a student at Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina and is director of the Music Activities at the St. Paul Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. The church choir is composed of 100 voices. Rev. James F. Wertz is the pastor.

Richard Pope is continuing his college work at A. & I. State College Nashville, Tennessee.

John L. Copeland, B.Th., '48 is in attendance at A. & I. State College and upon his recent election as minister of the Zion Baptist Church is doing an excellent work in his field. Rev. Copeland succeeds another Seminary son, Rev. C. T. Smith.

Ollie McClain, B. Th. '48 is now studying at A. & I. College.

Lobelia Moore, Jr., B.Th. '48 is the minister of the Bryant Grove Baptist Church and is studying at A. & I. State College.

Woodrow Hildreth, B.Th., '48 is pursuing college studies at Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Robert A. Sanders, B.Th. '48 is

pursuing his college work at A. & I. State College.

Sherman Wiley Baker, Jr., B.Th., '48 is pursuing his college work at A. M. N. College, Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

James Fiddmont, Jr., B.Th., '48 is studying at A. M. & N. College in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Mrs. M. F. L. Keith, B.Th., '48 Bishop of the House of God, Inc., has now established her headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee.

In connection with these headquarters, Bishop Keith has already constructed a home for girls and is constructing a new church on Heiman Street in the city.

Solomon Carter, B.Th., '48 is a pastor in Houston, Texas.

Leon William Campbell, B.Th., '48 is known as "Little" William Campbell, has re-enlisted in the United States Army and is attending a Chaplain's school located at Camp Campbell, Kentucky.

Ernest Hutcheson, Jr., B.Th., '48 has returned to his home in the Bahama Island where he is teaching at the Jordan Memorial Public School in Nassau. It will be remembered that Rev. Hutcheson was a very active student in the extra-curricula activities in the campus.

A. J. Lewis, B.Th., '48 has resumed his work as minister of the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Tullahoma, Tennessee and is doing a very good job.

S. S. Hodges B.Th., '48, Minister of the Thankful Baptist Church, Johnson City, Tennessee is doing a splendid job in East Tennessee and in his local community. It should be remembered that under the leadership of Rev. Hodges, the Thankful Baptist Church donates a monthly contribution to the Seminary.

Charles B. Lewis, B.D., '47 is a member of the faculty of Natchez College, Natchez, Mississippi.

Wm. Donaldson, B.Th., '41 is minister of the First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. In the Annual Session of the Stone River Baptist Association he was elected as its moderator. Rev. Donaldson is also secretary of the Alumni of the American Baptist Theological Seminary.

Rev. Donaldson is well loved by his membership and is doing a splendid work.

Rev. B. E. Callier, B.Th., '41 minister of the Progressive Baptist Church is studying for the Masters Degree at Fisk University and continues to succeed at Progressive Baptist Church. The installation of new pews in the church is another improvement made recently.

Rufus Hill, B.Th., '39 has been called to the First Baptist Church at LaGrange, Georgia. He is also the proud father of a baby girl.

Willie C. Cole, B.Th., '42 is observing his third anniversary as pastor of the St. Phillip Baptist Church in Washington, D. C. The church is in the observance of its 56th anniversary.

Arthur L. Garrett, B.Th., '40 is a

graduate student of Wayne University in Detroit where he is working on his Masters Degree.

A baby girl, Corrine Elizabeth Vaughn, has been born to Rev. and Mrs. W. P. Vaughn of Montgomery, Alabama. Rev. Vaughn, B.Th., '46 is the minister of the Hall Street Baptist Church which has been recently renovated under his leadership and he is also a student at Alabama State Teachers' College in Montgomery.

S. L. Spann, a former student, has been recently called to the pastorate of the White Oak Missionary Baptist Church of Jackson, Mississippi.

W. H. Brown, B.Th., '38 pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church in Nassau Bahamas is erecting an educational building at his church. Rev. Brown recently visited the Seminary. It will be remembered that he has shown unusual interest in aiding men from the Bahamas to study at the Seminary.

M. H. Ribbins, B.Th., '46, pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Chattanooga, Tennessee set the pace for churches in Tennessee and throughout the country in pledging to underwrite \$10,000.00 for the erection of a new building in Africa. Rev. Ribbins is secretary of the State Baptist M. and E. Convention and is also a Trustee of the Seminary.

L. S. Johnson, B.Th., '45 is principal of the Sand Hill Colored Vocational High School and recently held the Colored Fair in connection with the activities of the institution of the community. Congratulations to the principal and the department of Education and many of the citizens of Sand Hill, Mississippi.

Amos G. Johnson, B.Th., '48 was married to Miss Marjorie Shay at Salem Baptist Church in Nassau Bahama. Rev. Enoch of Beckford performed the ceremony.

H. L. Bowlin, B.Th., '48 former pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church has been called to the Second Baptist Church in Hutchinson, Kansas. Rev. Bowlin preached his farewell sermon February 22, 1948 and has now assumed his new duties in Hutchinson.

GRIGGS HALL ANNEX COMPLETED IN 1948

The addition of Griggs Hall our present dormitory has been completed and additional rooms for students and an up-to-date kitchen are some of the new improvements at the Seminary. Beginning the Second Semester living space and other facilities will be greatly improved.

Twenty-five hundred dollars worth of new books, including reference works, periodicals, magazines and recent publications and works have been placed upon the shelves in the library. With these additional new facilities the Seminary is increasing daily in its ability and effectiveness to serve its progressive and growing student body.

STUDENT NEWS

PERSONALS

Arthur Banks, a former student, was married to Miss Lillian Blade of the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Nassau Bahama, September 3, 1948. Rev. H. W. Brown of Nassau officiated.

Samuel Paul Thomas was married to Miss Colene Morrison in Statesville, North Carolina, August 7, 1948. Rev. J. C. Graham officiated.

A baby boy was born to Rev. and Mrs. W. N. Daniel, October 4, 1948. Rev. Daniel is the pastor of Pilgrim Emanuel Baptist Church.

Rev. Otha James Reeves of 327 East Chapel Street, Griffin, Georgia was married to Miss Mildred N. High of Carthage, Tennessee, October 25, 1948. Miss Mildred N. High is a Smith County School Teacher.

Rev. O. M. Hoover was elected moderator in September, 1948 of the Buena Vista Association, which convened in Carthage, Tennessee.

The Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Carthage will observe the second anniversary of its pastor, Rev. C. M. Hoover.

R. G. Hall, B.Th., '49, was married to Miss Berta Miller September 5, 1948 at Hollandale, Florida.

C. H. Maddox, B. Th., '49 was married to Miss Cartwright. Rev. C. H. Maddox has been recently elected as director of Religious Education in the State of Arizona and leaves the campus this week for Phoenix. The program in which Rev. Maddox will be working is under the joint cooperation of the auspices of the Southern Convention and the National Baptist Convention in offering a program of Religious Education and church supervision in the rural churches and communities in the State of Arizona.

Clarence H. Maddox, a member of the senior class, was ordained Tuesday, November 22, 1948. The ordination service was held at the Third Baptist Church of Nashville, Tennessee, Rev. Charles E. Armstrong Pastor.

The stork visited Rev. and Mrs. Julius R. Lockley November 25, 1948 at Riverside Hospital Nashville, Tennessee bringing them an eight pound, 4 ounce baby boy. The baby was named after his father, Julius R. Lockley.

SOUTH-WIDE CONFERENCE OF BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS

The fourth Annual South-wide Conference of Baptist Theological Students will meet April 14-15 at the A. B. T. Seminary. The conference now in its fourth year, has almost two hundred members on its roll. Rev. Joe M. Conley a graduate student of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky is the Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

The purpose of the Conference is to

bring together white and negro Baptist theological students to discuss common themes and to promote a richer personal fellowship with each other.

The Conference was held last year at the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

STUDENT PAPER ORGANIZED

Friday October 15, 1948 gave birth to the first Student Publication in the history of A. B. T. Seminary. Initiated by the English teacher, Miss M. A. Walton staunchly supported by a group of zealous newcomers, this monthly paper had its origin. Appropriately named "The Periscope" because of the vision exemplified in its organization. Its very fitting Motto is "Searching for higher ideals."

THE PERISCOPE STAFF

Editor in Chief..... Leroy Bain
Assistant Editor..... Arie L. Mangrum
Business Manager..... James Thomas
Cartoonist..... J. J. Williams
Assistant Cartoonist..... C. K. Williams
Supervisor..... M. A. Walton

With two creditable monthly issues already in circulation, *The Periscope* has shown unlimited possibilities, not only as informative and enjoyable but also inspirational. Look forward to the next issue of *The Periscope*.

LYCEUM

The project for the Lyceum this Year is already in action. The Boys club was organized, consisting of all of the boys in the neighborhood. Every Sunday at 6:30 P. M. the Club meets for Sunday school which is taught by members of the Lyceum. Wednesday nights of each week the club meets solely for the purpose of recreation. Their big event for the month of October was a Halloween party which was enjoyed by all.

Y. M. C. A.

The Y. M. C. A. chose for their project and their responsibility to encourage and uplift the boys at the Detention Home. Each Sunday the boys are visited by the members of this organization. They talk over their problems and discuss the Sunday School lesson.

To raise the moral and spiritual standards of the student body at the Seminary the Y. M. C. A. sponsors every Wednesday night prayer services which are held in the chapel. During prayer services the students are given a chance to preach to the congregation. The following students have brought the message to the school this school year.

L. E. A. Jones C. N. Hall
Robert Richards W. L. Moore
C. W. Washington James Sullen
W. Gentry Reed S. S. Cousin
Robert James

MINISTERS—MISSIONARIES CONFERENCE TO BE HELD MARCH 7-11, 1948

The Annual Ministers and Missionaries' Conference will be held at the Seminary in March is a joint conference of the Seminary and the National Baptist Missionary Training School. The institute this year will bring to the campus three of the denominations' best speakers. The Seminary and Training School look forward to this Conference each year as one of the high-lights of the school year.

SEMINARY UNITS RE-ESTABLISHED

Another feature which indicates the desire of the Seminary to better serve all of its constituency is the Extension School, known by former Seminary students as "Seminary Units." In former years the Seminary conducted units in Shreveport, Louisiana, Chattanooga, Tennessee and in Franklin, Louisiana.

The rapid growth of the Seminary, in recent years made a continuation of the work temporarily impossible. The feeling on the part of the Seminary that its responsibility extends to its constituency away from the school as much as those who are fortunate enough to be regularly enrolled, cause the administration to adopt the policy to again attempt this tremendous responsibility. Complete cooperation upon the part of units established is the only guarantee for the successful conducting of extension study once conducted by the school and now in the process of being revived. Groups interested in extension units being established in their various communities are requested to address the President for information. A complete draft for the plan of operation will be ready by the first of the year and will be sent upon request.

SEMINARY CLASSES ORGANIZED

Class of 1949

Sponsor..... Dean of Men, J. L. Powell
President..... R. G. Hall
Vice-President..... O. M. Hoover
Secretary..... O. J. Reeves
Treasurer..... W. L. Moore
Chaplain..... J. B. Gaines
Historiographer..... J. E. Thompson
Parliamentarian..... W. D. McNeil

Class of 1950

Sponsor..... Prof. A. L. Campbell
President..... C. N. Hall
Vice President..... R. M. Williams
Secretary..... E. W. Williamson
Assistant Secretary..... Robert Ugbole
Treasurer..... Louis Brooks
Business Manager..... Joel E. Atkins

Class of 1951

Sponsor..... Prof. W. B. Shealey
President..... A. L. Mangrum
Vice President..... S. P. Thomas
Secretary..... A. P. Conyers
Assistant Secretary..... C. C. Coleman
Treasurer..... T. H. Wilder
Chaplain..... James Sullen
Reporter..... J. M. Allen