

THE SEMINARIAN

*Majoring in the fundamentals
of creative living*



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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 en-
joys 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 culti-
vated. "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 thanks-
giving as a deliberate act. He sum-
mons "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 "re-
joice 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 anx-
ious: 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 Associa-
tion. Dr. I. H. Henderson, Jr., min-
ister 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 re-
gard would in all probability spell
defeat in the future.

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

The study group is under the super-
vision of the American Baptist Theo-
logical Seminary and persons study-
ing 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 Bap-
tist Church in Brownsville, Tennes-
see. Rev. W. S. Vance is minister of
the church and is a loyal and ener-
getic supporter of the American Bap-
tist 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 work-
ing harmoniously and progress is
being made for the Master's cause in
Springfield.

The president represented the in-
stitution in the One-Hundredth cele-
bration 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

ACTIVITIES

vention held at Rome, Georgia,
Thursday evening, November 18, 1948.
On October 24 President Riley at-
tended 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 even-
ing 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 keep-
ing 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 even-
ing school along with regular day
classes. Crowded conditions and fac-
ulty 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, presi-
dent 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 Bap-
tist 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, Tennes-
see 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 arrange-
ment by which some type of credit
will be given for the work taken.
Courses offered will give aid in con-
nection with Pastor's problems,
missionary opportunities and respon-
sibilities, Religious Education and
other religious subjects which come
in the category of the preachers work-
shop are planned in the coming sum-
mer 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 Helman 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 Mariorie 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 Aric 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 Ugholue
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