

Baptist Informer

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.

VOLUME 87

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, NOVEMBER, 1965

NUMBER 11

Convention Adopts \$431,000 Budget Reaffirms Unified Program

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come unto you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

—Acts 1:8

- Jerusalem Ministry—State Missions—30%
- Judean Ministry—Shaw University—44%
- Samaritan Ministry—Central Orphanage—06%
- World-Wide Ministry—Foreign Missions—20%

WHAT IS MEANT BY THE UNIFIED PLAN?

It is an attempt to unify—to make one—to bring together the financial support of the objectives of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. It is a way by which the Baptist Churches of the state can support all of our objectives in a systematic way; it is a plan that will divide contributions in such a way that each time a contribution is sent to the State Headquarters a definite proportion will be given for the support of Shaw University, our Educational objective; a definite proportion for spread of the work of Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, our Foreign Mission objective; a definite proportion to expand our State work, our Home Mission objective; a definite proportion for the North Carolina Central Orphanage at Oxford, our benevolent objective; a definite proportion for state institutes and training schools, our Religious Educational objective; and a definite proportion to underwrite the cost of the Baptist Informer, our official Convention paper. This means that with each contribution sent to Baptist

Headquarters the contributor shares in the support of all convention objectives. THIS IS THE UNIFIED PLAN.

WHEN DID THE UNIFIED PLAN BEGIN?

The Unified Plan was presented and adopted by the Convention in session in Raleigh, in 1935. Just as the organizing of the General Baptist State Convention was the answer almost a century ago to a recognized need to unite in order to do effectively the work of the Kingdom of God; so almost three score years after its organization, the Convention realized a need for a financial plan which would be most nearly acceptable to all of the church — a financial plan that would apply to all churches alike — a financial plan that would permit small and large churches to support the objectives of the Convention in the same proportions — a financial plan that would meet both the interests and financial abilities of each church more adequately. Now for a quarter of a century the Unified Plan has been supported in a limping sort of way. The time is here for us to start supporting the Unified Plan in such a way as to do away with the limp.

HOW DOES THE UNIFIED PLAN WORK?

When a church or organization sends \$20.00 to the General Baptist State Convention for the Unified Program, what happens to the money? The money is divided four ways on the basis of Objective needs.

Shaw University	44%	or \$ 8.80
State Missions	30%	or 6.00
Foreign Missions	20%	or 4.00
Central Orphanage	06%	or 1.20

TOTAL: \$20.00

(Continued on Page Four)

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

COLEMON W. KERRY, JR., *EDITOR*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class Paid at Raleigh, N. C.

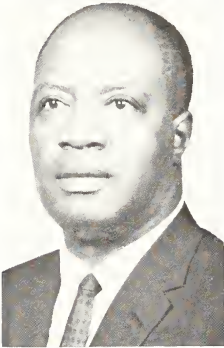
Address all communications for publication and inquiry to, *Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, N. C. 27601*

SUBSCRIPTION \$2:00 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

W. H. Davidson, *President Emeritus*
R. M. Pitts, *President Emeritus*
J. W. White, *President*
C. R. Edwards, *1st Vice-President*
A. D. Moseley, *2nd Vice-President*
C. A. Hart, *3rd Vice-President*
J. J. Johnson, *4th Vice-President*
O. L. Hairston, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
J. C. Harris, *Statistician*

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SPEAKS



As we recall the experiences shared during the past Convention year we are grateful for your untiring and generous efforts in support of our Convention p r o g r a m. There were times that the hills looked too steep to climb and the valleys too low. With faith and trust in Almighty God, we were able to surmount each hurdle.

During the Annual Convention Session our hearts were made glad as we went on record

to reaffirm the Unified Program. Your faith, confidence and support of the Unified Program will make it become a reality. We are looking to Y-O-U to make it work.

To bring and sell the Unified Program to the Baptists of North Carolina, we shall schedule Clinics for each association in the state. Meet us there as we endeavor to interpret the adopted program to ministers, church officers, laymen and laywoman.

*"Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait."*

(from a Psalm of Life by H. W. Longfellow)



CHURCH PAYS OFF MORTGAGE — The final payment on the indebtedness of Bethel "A" Baptist Church was recently made to the Brevard Federal Savings & Loan Association, and Jerry H. Jerome, Executive Vice President and Treasurer of the Association is pictured here preparing to present church officials with the deed to the \$75,000 edifice.

Taking part in the happy occasion, left to right are: Eddie T. Moss, Trustee, Rev. S. A. Raper, pastor, Mr. Jerome, Cornelius Hunt, Trustee, and Miss Mable E. Sharp, Financial Secretary. Absent when the picture was made were Ulysses Wynn and Tom Wynn, Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE READY TO ASSIST

The Executive office is always ready to lend its assistance to churches in need of pastors. We are willing to supply information about supply pastors, procedures for calling, and to talk with pulpit committees.

Let us serve you in any way that we can in helping you to continue God's work during the interim when you are without a pastor.

Woman's Page-----



My Dear Sisters:

I have just returned from St. Louis, Mo., where I was the honored speaker for Woman's Day at Central Baptist Church, Dr. T. E. Huntly, pastor. It goes without saying that I remembered you to that great church and its members send thanks to you. Thank you for what? My trip to our Mission Field. The slides of the Spiritual Safari to Africa and Europe were shown and a new sense of missions prevailed. I say thank you also.

Now Sisters, Our ONE DAY SESSION will be held in Winston-Salem instead of Raleigh. Here is the general information:

ONE DAY SESSION — Saturday, January 8, 1966
First Baptist Church —

Highland Avenue and 7th St., N.E.
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Dr. D. R. Hedgley, Pastor
Hours — 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
State Missions Goal — \$3,000.00

Please bring a liberal offering for State Missions. May we go the second mile? May we reach our goal? — Encourage your Young People and Your Adults to be present.

Dinner will be served at the Church or you may bring your lunch — Come praying — come and be informed.

Your President,
Mrs. M. A. Horne

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 7, 1965

Dear Mrs. Horne:

The President asked me to thank you for your very kind letter from the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina. Your tribute to the President's leadership and your assurance of support with prayers as he continues to chart our Nation's course toward a more prosperous and peaceful society meant a great deal to him.

With the President's hope that your convention was an enjoyable and worthwhile occasion, and with his best wishes,

Sincerely,
Paul M. Popple
Assistant to the President

Mrs. M. A. Horne
President
Woman's Baptist Home and
Foreign Missionary Convention
of North Carolina
1467 Trade Street, NW.
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27105

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED THE MONTH
OF OCTOBER, 1965
THROUGH THE OFFICE OF
WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN
MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF N. C.

HOME MISSIONS

Undesignated	\$1,205.03
Self-Denial	16.69
Institutes	36.00

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Undesignated	239.93
Foreign Scholarship	10.00

DESIGNATED GIFTS

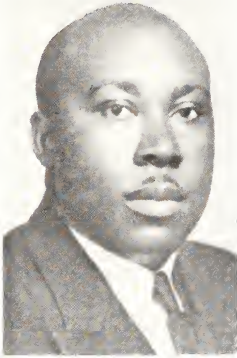
Shaw University Drive	295.91
Central Orphanage	122.41

SALES - SERVICES

Helpers	548.60
Guide-Handbooks	44.10
Mimeography work	4.00
Books-Literature	9.99
Portfolios	1.00
Rent	33.09

TOTAL \$2,566.75

DR. WHITE BAPTIST CHIEFTAIN



Dr. John W. White, pastor of the historic Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Asheville, North Carolina, was unanimously elected President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The Convention held its 98th Session at Shaw University with Martin Street and First Baptist Churches sharing the entertainment.

Dr. White comes to this position well recommended and qualified. His support of the Convention is unquestioned and his loyalty to the Cause is undaunted.

When contacted Dr. White stated, "I am deeply grateful and humbled for the confidence expressed in my behalf. It is my desire that all who supported me and sustained me know that I shall endeavor to give my best."

He further stated, "It is my sincere prayer that the Baptist folk will close ranks, join hands and support the Cause as never before. Every Pastor, Church, Moderator, Association and Auxiliary have a part to play and every assistance will be given to that end"

When asked about a program or his views, Dr. White stated, "It's too soon to really know. We will have a series of meetings and conferences and chart our course from there. However, have the members of the Convention know that they can call upon me any time and I shall be happy to confer with them."

Others elected with Dr. White are:

- C. R. Edwards—First Baptist, Fayetteville
First Vice President
- A. D. Mosley—Mr. Gilead, Durham
Second Vice President
- C. A. Hart—Phillipi Baptist, Cofield
Third Vice President
- J. J. Johnson—First Baptist, Fairmont
Fourth Vice President
- O. L. Hairston—Shiloh Baptist, Greensboro
Recording Secretary
- J. H. Ferguson—Hilly Branch, Lumberton
Assistant Recording Secretary

- J. C. Harris—First Baptist, Statesville
Statistician
- W. B. Lewis—Fayetteville Street, Raleigh
Historian
- J. Ray Butler—Ebenezer Baptist, Wilmington
Chairman of General Board
- Congratulations to all of you and may God crown your every effort with success.

CONVENTION ADOPTS

(Continued from Page One)

WHEN OUR CONVENTION REACHES ITS GOAL OF \$431,000.00:—

Shaw University will receive 44% or \$189,640.00
State Missions will receive 30% or 129,300.00
Foreign Missions will receive 20% or 86,200.00
Central Orphanage will receive 06% or 25,860.00

TOTAL: \$431,000.00

HOW CAN A PERSON OR A CHURCH SHARE IN THE UNIFIED PLAN?

They can share in the Unified Plan by sending their money directly to our Baptist Headquarters, preferably monthly, designated UNIFIED PROGRAM. Our Executive Secretary will see to it that it is distributed on a percentage basis. In this way, whether the amount is \$1.00 or \$1,000.00 the contributor can be sure of supporting the total program which will allow none of the causes to suffer. Why not decide now to share in the total program by giving the UNIFIED way!

HOW DOES THE UNIFIED PLAN CHALLENGE NEGRO BAPTISTS?

All of our objectives must be supported. There must be unity of effort on the part of General Baptists of North Carolina. No one objective should suffer for the lack of support. This means that we must give more of the Lord's money to the Lord's work. We believe that the UNIFIED way is the best way. "Together we stand but divided we fall." We must live together or die separately. We also believe that each objective is worthy of our support.

The challenge is ours to see that all bills are paid and all objectives supported in keeping with their needs. Please ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE OF SUPPORTING THE PROGRAM THE UNIFIED WAY FOR yourself and for your church. Send SOMETHING each month!

Send all money to:

O. L. SHERRILL
603 South Wilmington St.
Raleigh, North Carolina

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR DR. W. R. GRIGG

Nine years ago, when the Department of Interracial Cooperation of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina was established, the most optimistic person did not expect the concrete accomplishments that have been realized. We have seen the Baptist forces of our state move in the direction of Christian interracial cooperation and fellowship. We have seen Baptists of both races meet together, study together and worship together. We have also seen the establishment of a line of communication that has enabled Baptists of each race to understand the problems that each faces. This has brought about an understanding that was not before possible.

The accomplishments of this department are due to a great degree to the dedicated service of its Secretary, Dr. W. R. Grigg. In recognition and appreciation of his dedicated service, we the members of the Baptist Fellowship, representing the General Baptist Convention and the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, resolve the following:

- I. That we offer our gratitude to God for the leadership of His Holy Spirit and for using as an instrument in His hands for these nine years "the man named Grigg."
- II. That we commend the Home Mission Board for its assistance in the work of this department.
- III. That we express to Dr. Grigg our profound appreciation for the outstanding and effective service that he has rendered. It was through his service that many thousands of Negro Baptists regained lost faith in the sincerity of white Baptists. It was his practical demonstration before people of his own race that proved the power of Christian love to transcend racial prejudice. He is a shining example of what he preaches.
- IV. That we invoke the continued guidance of the Eternal God upon Dr. Grigg as he assumes his new position with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board as Associate Director of Work with National Baptists.

Jerry Drayton, Winston-Salem	C. W. Ward, Raleigh
Howard Mitchell, Gatesville	Frank Marshall, Asheville
O. L. Hairston, Greensboro	Dr. Ellen Alston, Raleigh
O. L. Sherrill, Raleigh	R. M. Pitts, Winston-Salem
Olin D. Hefner, Marion	Wayne Deitz, Lilesville
C. R. Hinton, Albemarle	Hoyle Langford, Fayetteville
Mrs. John Garner, Concord	Miriam Robinson, Raleigh
E. L. Spivey, Raleigh	Lin Fincannon, Elkin

1 9 6 6 STATE WIDE PASTOR'S CLINICS

Schedule

The following cities will host the workshops:

Ahoskie	April 4
Wilmington	April 5
Fayetteville	April 6
Laurinburg	April 7
Raleigh	April 8
Winston-Salem	April 19
Charlotte	April 20
Asheville	April 21

GENERAL CONVENTION ROSTER

J. W. White	President
C. R. Edwards	First Vice President
A. D. Moseley	Second Vice President
C. A. Hart	Third Vice President
J. J. Johnson	Fourth Vice President
O. L. Hairston	Recording Secretary
J. H. Ferguson	Assistant Recording Secretary
J. C. Harris	Statistician
W. B. Lewis	Historian
J. Ray Butler	Chairman of General Board

THE NEWS AND OBSERVER SAID:

"Nearly half of the budget of the General Baptist State Convention for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1965, was donated to Shaw University to help the school through its financial crisis.

Executive Secretary Dr. O. L. Sherrill reported to the Annual meeting of the Convention that \$48,366 went to Shaw last year, or 44 per cent of the total expenditures."

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE — GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF N. C., INC. OCTOBER, 1965

Foreign Missions	\$ 704.91
Shaw University	771.86
The Central Orphanage of N. C.	559.78

STATE MISSIONS:

Designated—Unified	\$2,627.54
Baptist State Convention	250.00

OTHER RECEIPTS:

United Baptist Educational Fellowship	\$ 306.00
--	-----------

GRAND TOTAL: \$5,220.09

OVERCOMING PREJUDICE

by Rev. Jack Crum

(Continued from Previous Issue)

When one is converted one sees only individuals to love and never categories of group of men to hate. Men must be converted from prejudice against racial groups to acceptance of all individuals.

Jesus went to individuals. He went to the tax collectors as well as to the Pharisees. He went to the Gentile soldier as well as to the Jewish fisherman. He went to women as well as to men. He let the children come as well as the adults. He visited the villages of the Samaritans as well as of the Galileans.

The basic remedy for prejudice is conversion to the gospel of love for all individuals.

B. THE WORK OF THE MINISTER IS TO CONVERT

The basic work of the minister, therefore, is to obey his call to convert men.

The minister should not work primarily as a psychologist, or an educator, or a historian, or a sociologist, or an exonomist, or a politician, or a rationalist. He should support the men who do work in all these fields. He should understand their work and use it. His basic contribution, however, should be to convert men to Jesus Christ and his love for every individual human being.

The Reverend Lester Griffith, Edenton Street Methodist Church's missionary in North Africa, came home in March of 1959 and begged the Methodist ministers in Raleigh to obey this call. "There seems to be very few people in the church who are willing to stand for what they know is right," he said. "We are more interested in buildings and projects than in righteousness. We might think we are saving things, but we are building on quicksand . . . I think we are called to raise our voices directly against racial discrimination. You men are in a strategic position." But we did little in Raleigh.

Albert Camus, the French philosopher voiced the call from a very different quarter. "What the world expects of Christians," he said, "is that they should speak out." But we speak little.

Dr. W. R. Grigg pointed out our weakness in his humorous way at the annual assembly of the North Carolina Council of Churches in 1960. He said that in the church we have too much "dog

leadership." He reminded us how the dog was always ahead of the wagon when the team went out except at the crossroads. At the crossroads the dog always waited behind to see which way the wagon would go. Dr. Grigg said we have too much "dog leadership" in the church particularly when it comes to dealing with racial prejudice. We wait to see which way the wagon heads.

When Peter obeyed the vision which the Lord had given him on the housetop he did two specific things which converted men from prejudice to love. First, he went to the group against whom he had held prejudice. He made contact with the Gentiles. He witnessed to them, he baptized them, and (if we can believe Galatians) he ate with them. In other words, he substituted love for prejudice. Peter loved those whom his own group was prejudiced against.

This is the first thing we must continually do if we would convert men from prejudice. We must make contact ourselves with those of the race other than our own. We must also help our people to have such creative contacts.

Last year I was privileged to be a counselor of a young people's study tour in the United Nations. On our return trip our bus load of white youth stopped and had supper with the Methodist Youth Fellowship of Zoar Methodist Church in Philadelphia. This contact with these Negro young people turned out to be the highlight of the tour for many of our youth. On the evaluation sheet one of our young people wrote:

The thing that impressed me most was the visit to Zoar Methodist Church because it made me realize that the only difference between us and the members of that church is the color of our skins . . . I want to do all that I can to bring about better relations between our races.

Peter's prejudice was overcome because he obeyed the Lord and made contact with the Gentiles. Racial prejudice in our day can only be overcome by making contacts with people of the race other than your own.

If you are a Negro it is your responsibility to see that contacts with Christian white people are provided in your church. If you are a white person it is your responsibility to see that contacts with Christian Negroes are provided in your church. It is thus that Christian love begins. You cannot love by long distance.

Second, Peter witnessed to his own people about

his experience. He told the story of his contact and then he said, "Who was I that I could withstand God?" (Acts 11:17) In other words, he believed preaching could convert prejudice: I believe it too. This is the second thing we must do. There will always be opposition. The circumcision party opposed Peter and Paul. Prejudice parties will oppose true preaching today.

Ralph McGill spelled out the fear of many in 1960 when he said:

"What the young minister knows is that his career can be damaged, retarded, or destroyed if he proceeds . . . The veteran members of the clergy are, with the usual exceptions, largely conservative. The can . . . do him great harm."

At a hearing held late one night at a Methodist Annual Conference a few years ago about a resolution proposed by Harmon Smith asking for our Methodist Colleges to examine their admission policies in regard to race one District Superintendent fumed. Some of the younger men said they were called to preach the gospel rather than build colleges. As the superintendent stalked out of the meeting he breathed one last threat. "We are going to make your appointment now!", he said.

I also remember how one Superintendent called upon me just after I had been moved to a different church. He advised me not to preach about race relations. "Of course", he said, "under our system preach what you want to. Raise hell with a jack if you want to!" He advised me that no Superintendent would have me in his District if I had preached on race.

The trouble is that we let those members of the circumcision party scare us. Paul reports that Peter feared the circumcision part. (Gal. 2:12) He feared them and temporarily drew back but his courage returned so that he even visited the Gentiles in Rome. Do not let the fearful make you afraid to preach boldly for conversions from sin to salvation. This is the whole reason for our being!

CONCLUSION

Ralph McGill in his book, *THE SOUTH AND THE SOUTHERNER*, says something that all ministers should hear. Looking back over the past few years he emphasized, "In all America none was so lucky as the Southerner who was a part of this social revolution."

Too often we ministers have succeeded in reducing the daring and revolutionary gospel of

Jesus Christ into a series of dull and petty compromises. We have preached, but never thought to convert the prejudiced. We have loved, but only those who were approved by our own group. We have witnessed but only to those parts of the gospel which did not call for real conversion.

A year ago I visited with the local leaders of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Williamston. We discussed the demands they had made to the Mayor and the results obtained by the demonstrations. We talked about other steps that might be taken. Then, just as I was about to leave, the Reverend Fred Lagarde asked me pointedly, "Whose side are you on?"

It was a question that stirred me then and has haunted me since. I tried to answer that I meant to be on Christ's side; and the room full of Negro leaders responded, "That is right!"

But I have continued to wonder, "Has my own prejudice been fully converted?" "Am I really the converting agent Christ wants me to be?" "How can I love more realistically?" "In what way can I be a more effective witness against prejudice?" "Am I on Christ's side?"

These are the questions that bother me when I consider how much prejudice there is to overcome in North Carolina! What about you? Whose side are **You** on?

NORTH CAROLINA LOSES A PASTOR

The *Baptist Informer* learned as it went to press that another one of our energetic young ministers is leaving the state.

Reverend Louis Wade, pastor of historic First Baptist Church, Oxford, will preach his farewell sermon to that congregation on Sunday, December 26, 1965.

Reverend Wade has been called to a church in White Plains, New York. We hate to see him go. Over the period of his pastorate in Oxford, he has done a commendable job.

A HINT TO THE WISE IS SUFFICIENT — Let us make the pastorate among Baptist Churches in North Carolina so enticing until it will be impossible for churches outside of the state to lure away our most promising young ministers.

Among The Sisters

\$1,361.05 RAISED FOR THE CAUSE



Mrs. Filmore is Speaker at Baptist Woman's Service

First Calvary Baptist Church observed its annual Women's Day recently. The speaker was Mrs. Annie L. Filmore, of Durham, state Bible teacher and field worker for the General Baptist State Convention.

She is a member of the executive board of the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention and chairman of the Missions Unit of the Women's Auxiliary of the Progressive National Baptist Convention.



Platform guests and associates seated from left to right are Mrs. Mabel Threadgill, Mrs. Naomi Dixon, Mrs. T. H. Redfern, Mrs. Cornelia Maston, Mrs. Prudence Johnson, Mrs. W. M. Wyatt, and Mrs. Theodore Walker.