

'Without Reform, Southern Baptists Will Be Irrelevant'

By GARRY BLANCHARD
Observer Staff Writer

Chapel Hill — The Southern Baptist church faces a bleak future of factional infighting and growing irrelevancy unless its adherents reformulate their message and redirect their energies.

This is the view of Dr. Samuel Hill, 35, head of the religion department at the University of North Carolina and an ordained Baptist minister.

"At present the most educated guess would be that during the next two decades the Southern Baptists will be moving in a reactionary direction theologically, becoming more doctrinaire in temper," the Virginia native asserted, writing in the current issue of the protestant weekly, The Christian Century.

"But, what will happen once the new breed of laymen and pastors enters many key leadership positions defies prediction," he continued.

"The outlook and tone may change under the influence of progressive leadership; on the other hand, the liberal spirits, unable to remain and retain their integrity, may eventually affiliate with another denomination."

The basis of Hill's contention is that Southern Baptists, 10 million members strong, are tied in so closely with "old South" culture "that the new South's arrival threatens the equilibrium of the institution" and the relevance of its ministry.

"The question now before the Southern Baptist states will be whether to continue to be a house of prayer for themselves,

MHS Basketball Schedule Given

Jan. 11 Clyde—Here
Jan. 15—Laurel—There
* Jan. 18—Clyde—There
Jan. 22 Spring Creek—Here
* Jan. 25—Tryon—There
Jan. 30—Cane River—There
Feb. 1—East Yancey—There
Feb. 5—Laurel—Here
Feb. 8—Mars Hill—Here
Feb. 12—Hot Springs—Here
* Feb. 15—Tryon—Here
* These games will start at 7:00. All other games will begin at 7:30.

A man with a profession gets paid for his reputation as well as the work he performs.

er classes and to those persons who are unalterably oriented to the (Old South) cultural traditions.

Yet, "some form of modified democracy, akin to that by which our nation operates, is infinitely preferable to rule by lowest common denominator."

At present, Hill says, "The whole denomination is potentially at the mercy of men who are at best naive and untrained, at worst arrogant and demagogic. Traditional Baptist polity is not worth maintaining if this is the best it can do."

He adds, "The church must be reformed, not by a handful of self-styled leaders, but by all in a house of prayer for themselves,

William Crawford Passes Friday; Rites Sunday

William Robert Crawford, 95 of Rt. 3, Mars Hill, died Friday morning, Jan. 4, 1963 in an Asheville nursing home after a long illness.

Services were held at 3 p. m., Sunday in Upper Laurel Baptist Church.

The Rev. Lloyd Ponder, the Rev. Ralph Bryan and the Rev. Lyda Ray officiated. Burial was in English Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Ben Blankenship, Frank English, Ebb Jenkins, Fred Edmonds and Lyda and Kenneth Wyatt.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Bertha Sprinkle of Byrds town, Ill. and Miss Eria Crawford of Mars Hill; three sons, Walter of Candler, Lester of Arlington, Va., and the Rev. Lonnie Crawford of Weaverville; thirty-two grandchildren, 9 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Holcombe Funeral Home was in charge.

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NEWS from the Services

Great Lakes, Ill. (FHTNC) — Thomas W. Capps, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Capps of Rt. 1, Mars Hill, completed two weeks of recruit training, Dec. 29, at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

The active duty training for Naval Reserve personnel consists of seamanship, physical conditioning, first aid, swimming and survival, gunnery, fire-fighting, safety and watch-standing.

Upon completion the two-week training period, naval reservists return to their home units, ready for recall in the event of a national emergency. The training also prepares him for his future active duty commitments in the navy.

Beeville, Tex. (FHTNC) — James R. Odom, Jr., aviation machinist's mate airman USN, husband of the former Miss Patsy A. Roberts of Walnut, N. C. is serving with Training Squadron 24 at the Chase Field Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Beeville, Tex.

He reported for duty in November. Before entering the Navy in February 1960, Odom attended Oakdale High School at Oakdale, La.

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* Basketball Results * * In County High * * Schools *

AT MARSHALL
(Girls Game)
Spring Creek (35) — Moore 5, Gates 9, Smith 8, Reese, F. Moore 16, Duckett, Meadows.
Marshall (55) — Bishop 2, Frisby 27, Baldwin 9, Ramsey 7, Adams G. Goforth, Wells 3, Smith 9, P. Goforth, Tipton 5, Henderson, Worley 2, Plemmons, Clark, Franklin, Edwards, Rice.
Halftime: Marshall 30-22.

(Boys Game)
Spring Creek (24) — Holt 4, Caldwell 2, Reese, 6, Ferguson 1, Gentry 6, Payne, Askw 2, Willett 1, Price 2.
Marshall (31) — E. Payne 21, Gladden 4, Henderson, Worley 2, Wilds 1, H. Payne, Nix 13, Allen 11, Ward 1, C. Candler 6, West 2, Fox 2, Tweed 2, R. Candler 4.
Halftime: Marshall 31-14.

AT MARSHALL
(Girls Game)
Rosman (29) — McKinney 6, Whitmire, S. Stanton 13, B. Stanton, Cleveland 9, A. Owen, F. Owen, Brewer 1.
Marshall (37) — Frisby 18, Goforth 3, Baldwin 6, Ramsey 5, Tipton 5, Henderson, Worley 2.
Halftime: Rosman 13-12.

(Boys Game)
Rosman (51) — R. Chapman 8, Hogsd, T. Owen, W. Owen 7, Hall 4, C. Chapman 3, C. Owen 19, McCall 19.
Marshall (59) — Payne 14, Nix 23, Worley 4, Allen 10, Candler 8.
Halftime: Marshall 26-23.

AT HOT SPRINGS
(Girls Game)
Clyde (42) — Serrill 10, East 12, Brooks 7, Yost 13, Walker 1, Lindsey, Tucker, Clark, Shy 10.
Hot Springs (27) — Huff 5, Ramsey 4, Lamb 10, Davis 1, S. Serrill, Payne 1, Allen, W. Serrill, Payne, Walker, Rathbone 10.
Halftime: Hot Springs 18-10.

(Boys Game)
Clyde (42) — Serrill 10, East 12, Brooks 7, Yost 13, Walker 1, Lindsey, Tucker, Clark, Shy 10.
Hot Springs (27) — Huff 5, Ramsey 4, Lamb 10, Davis 1, S. Serrill, Payne 1, Allen, W. Serrill, Payne, Walker, Rathbone 10.
Halftime: Hot Springs 18-10.

AT TRYON
(Girls Game)
Mars Hill (28) — Edwards 14, Hensley 2, Ramsey 9, Peck 10, Slagle 2, Ellen 3, Ledford 1, Duck, R. Slagle.
Tryon (29) — Walker 17, Williams 2, Edney 3, Pittman 2, Wilson 5, Hilton, B. Walker, Williams.
Halftime: Mars Hill 17-15.

(Boys Game)
Mars Hill (44) — Clous 9, Dickerson 16, Buckner 11, Carter 6, Hembree 2, Brown, Swann, Anderson, Farkas, Allen.
Tryon (68) — Bradley 24, Metcalf 11, Fisher 4, Hancock 11, Hill 1, Bradshaw 10, Stevenson, Brock, Kempton 2.
Halftime: Tryon 31-21.

AT HOT SPRINGS
(Girls Game)
Marshall (49) — Frisby 16, Ramsey 8, Baldwin 9, Wells 1, Adams 8, Gahagan 2, Goforth 6.
Hot Springs (23) — Huff 5, Sans 5.
Ramsey 7, Rathbone 5, Brown 1.
Halftime: Marshall 23-10.

(Boys Game)
Marshall (41) — Payne 13, Allen 1, Worley 6, Nix 18, Candler 3.
Hot Springs (34) — Gregory 16, Tolley 1, Moore 5, Shelton 2, Sharpe 2, Smith 8.
Halftime: Marshall 20-14.

AT SPRING CREEK
(Girls Game)
Crabtree-Ironduff (28) — D. Crawford 8, Jones 5, J. Ferguson 11, Woods 4, Milner, King.
Spring Creek (25) — S. Moore 9, Gates 2, Smith 10, Reese, Allen, F. Moore 6, Duckett 1, Meadows.
Halftime: Spring Creek 16-11.

(Boys Game)
Crabtree-Ironduff (64) — Woods, J. Haynes 4, Crawford 12, Ray, Duckett 12, Nesbitt 22, Hannah, Glance 12, Haynes, Smith 2, Haddkins, Reeves, Ferguson.
Spring Creek (53) — Holt 12, Reese 10, Gentry 10, Askw 7, Strickland 4.
Halftime: Crabtree-Ironduff 25-19.

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American Red Cross Observing 100th Year

Buncombe-Madison Chapter Will Join In World-Wide Observance

During 1963 the Asheville Area Red Cross Chapter, which includes Madison County, will join in the world-wide movement to mark the centenary of its formation in Geneva, 1863.

The chapter will observe the centenary by sponsoring a series of programs, including a "100th Year" parade, a "100th Year" dinner, and a "100th Year" concert.

The latest of these was the role in moving machine and food supplies to Cuba in exchange for prisoners of the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion attempt in 1961.

The American society also has participated in repatriation of thousands of refugees returned to their homes in Algeria after several years of wartime exile, has aided Iran and Turkish earthquake victims and thousands of families made homeless by floods in India, Pakistan and other areas.

Singing
The regular 2nd Sunday afternoon Gospel Singing will be held at the Hopewell Baptist Church next Sunday, Jan. 13, beginning at 2 p. m. All singers and the public are invited to attend. We are expecting some good singers. Come and enjoy it with us.

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