

# BAPTIST FEATURES

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Not Just Ordinary Aches  
And Pains, These Hurts

By Theo Sommerkamp

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Ouch! That's the reaction a person has when he tries to unsnarl the Hurts who are serving in places of leadership in Southern Baptist life.

Confusion abounds. First, there are father, son, and grandson who all carry the name John Jeter Hurt. To clarify it some, they append the Sr., Jr., and III after the surname. They live in Georgia.

All three are writers, with material currently in print.

Then, there's John Swint Hurt, Jr., of Baton Rouge, La., who is constantly asked if he's any relationship to the triumvirate of John Jeter Hurts. He isn't, although he's met them.

To muddy the waters further, the only one not to acquire the name Hurt by birth is in editorial work. Mrs. Fern Hurt of Oklahoma City occasionally attends editors' conferences at which one of the John Jeter Hurts is present.

To tie it in knots, the other Hurt also has an Oklahoma background. He's Edward (Eddie) Hurt, Jr., now associate secretary for Royal Ambassador work with the Baptist Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, Tenn. For years, he coached championship track teams at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee. (Shawnee is the birthplace of Mrs. Fern Hurt, although she was Fern Oaks before marriage.)

The John J. Hurt clan of three, the John S. Hurt of Louisiana, the Eddie Hurt of Oklahoma and Tennessee, and the Hurt family into which Fern Oaks married--none of these is related to the other, at least not that any of them knows about.

John Jeter Hurt, Jr., of Atlanta, is layman editor of the award-winning Christian Index, weekly paper for Georgia Baptists. It has a circulation of 107,500.

His father, an active but retired 86, recently published a book and still submits articles to Baptist periodicals. John J. Hurt, Sr., is president emeritus of Union University (Southern Baptist) at Jackson, Tenn.

Grandson, John J. Hurt, III, has the printer's ink thick in his blood too. A recent graduate of Baptist-related Mercer University in Macon, Ga., he has a post-graduate scholarship. He's spending this summer writing for the Atlanta Journal.

John Swint Hurt, Jr., is--appropriately enough for the name he bears--in a hospital. There, however, he makes other people forget their hurt. He's chaplain of Baton Rouge (La.) General Hospital, operated by Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Mrs. Fern (Oaks) Hurt is an editorial assistant on the Baptist Messenger in Oklahoma City. It's the weekly paper for Baptists of the O-K state just as the Christian Index is for Georgia Baptists.

Eddie Hurt of Memphis voices the feelings of all of them (they have a strong respect for each other even though not related) when he says: "I cannot claim kinship to any of the other 'Hurts' mentioned, although I would be happy to do so."

It gives the Southern Baptist Convention strength of leadership. But some of the editors of Baptist periodicals, who face the confusion of names week after week, jokingly say that the Hurts give them their share of aches and pains.

June 11, 1960

Two Southwestern Grads  
Appointed Missionaries

ROCHESTER, N. Y.--(BP)--Two graduates of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., have been appointed missionaries by the American Baptist Home Mission Societies.

A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University also will serve as a home missionary under the American Baptist Home Mission Societies.

Charles Kennedy Hartman was commissioned at the American Baptist Convention to serve in town and country work in Illinois. Hartman, from Centralia, Ill., received the bachelor of arts degree from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee.

His post-graduate degree in divinity was secured at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (American Convention), Philadelphia, Pa.

William Earl Lansford of Charlestown, Ind., and Miss Ondina Maria Maristany, Havana, Cuba, were commissioned to service at the annual session of the American Baptist Convention here.

Lansford received the bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University (Southern Baptist), Waco, Tex., and the master of religious education and bachelor of divinity degrees at Fort Worth.

His field will be Weirton Christian Center, Weirton, W. Va.

Miss Maristany will serve in Cuba. A graduate of University of Havana, she secured her master of religious education degree at Southwestern Seminary.

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Layman President  
Of American Baptists

(6-11-60)

ROCHESTER, N. Y.--(BP)--A layman, a pastor, and a Negro pastor's wife were elected officers of the American Baptist Convention here.

C. Stanton Gallup, president of Gallup Lumber Co., Plainfield, Conn., was elected to succeed Herbert J. Gezork, of Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, Mass., as president of the Convention.

First vice-president is Roger Fredrikson of Sioux Falls, S. D. He is pastor of First Baptist Church there.

For the first time in American Baptist Convention history, a Negro was elected to a top-level post in the Convention, according to Associated Press. Mrs. Ruth McKinney of Cleveland was named second vice-president. She is the wife of Wade H. McKinney, pastor of Antioch Baptist Church, one of the largest Negro churches in the nation.

Gallup has been active in denominational affairs as president of Connecticut Baptist Men, president of the National Council of American Baptist Men, and (two years) as president of the Connecticut Baptist Convention.

Also active in civic affairs, Gallup has served as governor of district 789 of Rotary International. He has taken an active part in Boy Scout work and has traveled around the world visiting mission fields.

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American Baptists Urge  
Full Civic Participation

ROCHESTER, N. Y.--(BP)--Current political, economic and social problems in the United States were treated by resolutions at the American Baptist Convention here.

Re-emphasizing the historic position of religious liberty and separation of church and state, American Baptists approved overwhelmingly strong statements on Christian citizenship and national elections. The Convention urged its people to "engage in mature debate and lively public discussion of important issues" and to participate actively in elections.

The American Baptists reaffirmed their faith in the right of individuals to aspire to all public offices, regardless of race, creed, color, or sex. The Convention further said that "a man's religious belief influences his views of public affairs," and it insisted that it is the right and duty of citizens to determine how various candidates stand on all issues of American life.

In its resolution of separation of church and state the Convention expressed faith in the principle of public school education and recorded opposition to the use of public funds for sectarian schools purposes, especially in the form of bus transportation, textbooks, teachers' salaries, and building programs.

An amendment was approved by the Convention that stated "without necessarily giving a blanket endorsement of all the practices and policies, we commend the officers and staff of the organizations known as Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs for their efforts toward the maintenance of the separation of church and state and for their vigilance in ferreting out infringements."

In other resolutions, the American Convention condemned Communism as "contrary to Christian conscience and democratic principles of free government"; urged racial integration in churches, Baptist institutions, public places, schools, country clubs, sororities, fraternities, service clubs, and organizations of property owners; and asked for more legislation to protect all races against discrimination in housing and in governmental contracts.

A resolution asking for the abolition of capital punishment was delayed a year pending the results of a study on the subject authorized last year.

The Convention asked for the cessation of nuclear testing but with adequate controls, and urged the government to find ways and means for the reduction and control of biological, conventional, radiological, and nuclear armaments.

American Baptists expressed concern for the suffering people of the world by passing resolutions for improved immigration laws, legislation for the benefit of migrant workers, for active Christian participation in helping to provide for the millions of homeless refugees throughout the world, and for economic and technical assistance to under-developed nations.

The Convention reaffirmed its 1959 action on privileged communications by saying, "It is a principle with us that anyone of our number who receives confidential information in the course of responding to a request for spiritual counseling is not morally obligated to disclose it without consent of the other party."

A resolution on the "population explosion" called for studies on the possibilities of migration to sparsely settled regions, more efficient methods of food production, and techniques of family limitation and birth control.

The Convention approved efforts to reduce the emphasis on sex and violence in films and television, and commended channels of mass communication for giving "more widespread and objective interpretation of religious news than ever before."

Gambling in all its forms was opposed. Efforts to legalize gambling for charitable and church purposes was especially denounced. A stepped-up educational program on the evil effects of beverage alcohol and narcotics was called for in homes, churches, and schools.

Another resolution urged the United States to submit international disputes to the International Court of Justice and asked repeal of the limitation of the president by the self-judging amendment. It supported the United Nations, rather than war, "as an instrument for settlement of international differences."

Elects Nathan Porter  
For Student Emphasis

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here will step up its work with college students with the election of an associate in the department of missionary personnel.

Nathan Johnson Porter, Tulsa, Okla., was elected associate to Glendon McCullough, Atlanta, secretary of the department. He will begin work July 1.

"We have wanted a closer contact with college students through the campus Baptist Student Unions, and we feel that because of Porter's interest in missions and his interest in young people he will be able to make a real contribution in this area," said McCullough.

"Porter will work with the college students, whether their interest be in student summer mission service, the tentmaker program, or permanent appointment," he added.

Presently Porter is pastor of Lakeview Baptist Church in Tulsa, which is comprised mainly of young families. Born of missionary parents in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Porter grew up in South America and speaks both Spanish and Portuguese.

Educated in Brazil past high school level, he received a bachelor's degree from Baylor University at Waco, Tex., and a bachelor of divinity degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Porter served as mission pastor of First Baptist Church, Mount Vernon, Ky., before going to his present pastorate, and worked with Royal Ambassadors for three summers in three states: Georgia, Florida, and Texas.

Porter married the former Frances Booth and they have two daughters.

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Cooperative Receipts  
Up Only 2.14 Per Cent

(6-11-60)

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Cooperative Program receipts at the Southern Baptist Convention office here reached \$1,377,038 during May, bringing the total for five months to \$7,190,184.

Treasurer Porter Routh, Nashville, said designations to Convention agencies amounted to another \$1,292,430. Total receipts through both means of giving were \$2,669,968 for May.

Cooperative Program receipts are running only 2.14 per cent ahead of the same period for 1959, Routh reported. On the other hand, designations are running 9.23 per cent ahead of the January-May span a year ago.

For the year to date \$9,864,241 has come in by designations. The combined total of Cooperative Program gifts and designations has reached \$17,054,426.

The heavy May designations continued to reflect support of the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions carried on in the Convention's 31,500 churches every spring. Disbursements to the Home Mission Board for May included \$1,148,046 in designations--in which category special missionary offerings fall.

So far in 1960, the Foreign Mission Board has received a total of \$11,310,360 through designations and through the Cooperative Program. The Home Mission Board has received a combined total of \$2,945,003 nearly half of it coming in May alone.

Cooperative Program gifts at churches support both state and Southern Baptist agencies. The totals reported here do not include funds retained at state Baptist offices nor funds given for local church programs.

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