

June 30, 1960

70 Flags On Parade
At World Congress

By W. C. Fields

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil--(BP)--The flags of 70 national delegations were paraded before a record crowd in the Maracanazinho Ginasio in the opening session of the 10th Congress of the Baptist World Alliance here.

Baptists from every quarter of the world laid aside any political differences among them to find unity in the Congress theme "Jesus Christ is Lord."

Theodore F. Adams, of Richmond, Va., concluding a five-year term as president of the alliance, declared in his address to the body, that the 23 million Baptists are becoming "a genuine world fellowship." He called for "increasing devotion to evangelism and missions."

The unity of Baptists was projected early in the first session when Lam Chi Fung of Hong Kong said, "Competition, war, and racial strife between tribes and nations should in this day rather give way to competition in love and selfless interest in spreading the gospel of the Prince of Peace. Only in this way can we ever truly experience peace among men of different cultural heritages and seeming racial differences."

The Congress opened with approximately 25,000 jammed into the huge auditorium. Several thousand others who were unable to get seats inside listened through outside loudspeakers.

During the colorful roll call of nations, one person from each of the 70 nations represented marched to the platform behind the country's flag. Each representative repeated in his own language the Congress scripture themes, "That every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

The governor of Brazil's host province, identifying himself as a Roman Catholic in a country where that religion is dominant, was present to extend his personal greetings. He reminded his audience that Brazil was dedicated to religious freedom. He said he was much impressed with "the largest crowd I ever saw in this building."

The Congress of the Baptist World Alliance meets each five years. The last gathering was in London in 1955.

Registration at the close of the first day of the 1960 Congress was 11,595 which was an all-time record.

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Associate Promoted
By Children's Home

(6-30-60)

TROY, Ala.--(BP)--Hobson Shirey has been elected superintendent of Alabama Baptist Children's Home here, effective Nov. 1.

Shirey, assistant superintendent for the past five years, succeeds E. E. Cox, who is retiring this fall. The election took place at the June meeting of the board of trustees of the children's home.

Born in Marshall County, Ala., the superintendent-elect is the son of a pioneer Baptist preacher, and the third of 12 children. He is a graduate of Furman University (Baptist) in South Carolina and has his Master of Arts degree from the University of Alabama.

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Shirey has taught in the public schools in Fort Payne and Talladega, Ala., and was principal of DeKalb County High School and Winterboro High School.

For three and one-half years, Shirey was state Brotherhood secretary with the Alabama Baptist state executive board, and also served as manager of Shocco Springs (Ala.) Baptist Assembly.

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Funeral Services Held
For Judge Wallace

(6-30-60)

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.--(BP)--Funeral services were held here for U. S. District Judge W. R. Wallace, 74, prominent Baptist layman killed in a head-on auto collision June 25 on the Oklahoma Turnpike.

Services were in Trinity Baptist Church, where Judge Wallace was a member. Robert S. Scales, pastor, preached the sermon. He was assisted by T. B. Lackey, Oklahoma City, executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, and by Augie Henry, executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma.

Judge Wallace was president of the board of directors of the foundation. He also was a trustee of Oklahoma Baptist University, and since 1937, Judge Wallace had provided \$50 each year for an annual cash award presented to the outstanding history student at the university.

A native of Troy, in Bell County, Tex., the judge was noted for his leniency with first offenders and his heavy sentences assessed those violating the law a second or third time.

Approximately 1,000 persons, including practically every judge, lawyer, and prosecutor in town, crowded the Trinity auditorium to pay final respects to the judge.

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Alabamans Change
Convention Time

(6-30-60)

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--(BP)--The 1960 Alabama Baptist State Convention meeting, originally scheduled for Mobile Nov. 15-17, has been changed to Birmingham on the same dates.

A. Hamilton Reid, executive secretary of the convention's executive board, said the change was due to lack of hotel space in Mobile at the time originally scheduled.

Day sessions of the meeting will be held at the First Baptist Church in Birmingham, and evening sessions at Hunter St. Baptist Church.

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