

August 4, 1960

**What If They Don't  
Speak Any Spanish?**

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--Regardless of snow, heat, car trouble, or any other possible problem during the two-week September tour of Mexico, the 62-member team of Southern Baptist men isn't worried.

The men, who represent 16 states, are confident this will be the most self-sufficient venture the Convention's Brotherhood Commission has ever sponsored. The Southern Baptist agency periodically sponsors tours to mission points to quicken the mission interest of laymen.

Though it is highly improbable any of these problems may arise, the long list of professions represented show at least one member of the team who is qualified to meet the emergency.

Suppose there is transportation difficulty. Who could remedy that better than automobile men Walter J. Wilkins of Norfolk, Va., and Paul R. Phelps of Lenoir City, Tenn.?

A blowout? Bosh, no trouble at all. The team has W. C. Lindsey of Williamston, S. C., a tire dealer, and Gerald W. Overton of Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., Memphis.

Food problems should vanish with dairymen A. D. Reed of Haughton, La., and C. K. Rockefeller of Norfolk, and bakery owner H. H. Baker of Clovis, N. M., on the trip.

Shelter problems could be met by such real estate specialists as Harold L. Anderson of Heber Springs, Ark.; Robert Vogt of Rogers, Ark., and Landrum Blout of Pompano Beach, Fla.

Actually there are enough professional men along to build living quarters with lumberman Hubert Line of Munfordville, Ky., supplying the materials.

There are W. B. Easley of Mobile, Ala., and Floyd W. Harris of Annandale, Va., both plumbing and heating men; and such construction men as Richard P. Randall of Rockville, Md.; J. N. Blose of Yale, Okla.; M. A. Tipton of Maryville, Tenn.; H. A. Tuten, Sr., of Savannah, Ga., J. D. Pickett of Columbia, Miss., and O. L. Sutton of Clewiston, Fla.

Awning manufacturer Rupert D. Creighton of Tampa, Fla., could supply some of the trimmings and furniture dealer Charles Onstead of Littlefield, Tex., the furniture.

If legal problems arise, lawyer Homer E. Dean, Jr., of Alice, Tex., can be consulted. Others have experience in banking, accounting, merchandising, selling, electronics, advertising, and engineering.

Even the United States Marines will be represented by William E. Gardner of Annandale.

A couple of preachers, L. E. Coleman, Sr., of Memphis, tour director and his son, L. E. Coleman, Jr., of Tompkinsville, Ky., will be along to take care of the team's spiritual needs.

With such a wide variety of professions in attendance, the men could expect service from practically the cradle to the grave--particularly since W. J. Lotz, a Roanoke Va., mortician, signed for the trip.

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Car-Turck Collide;  
Minister Victim

(8-4-60)

RUSTON, La.--(BP)--A prominent Louisiana Baptist minister was killed near here in the collision of a pickup truck and an automobile at the intersection of two rural roads.

Rel Gray, 49, pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Ruston, died in Ruston Hospital shortly after the crash.

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A native of Warren, Ark., Gray had been pastor of Temple Church about four years.

Prior to coming to Ruston, he was associated with several Baptist churches in Arkansas.

A graduate of Ouachita College (Baptist) and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he was president of the Arkansas Baptist executive board for two years. He had also served as president of the state Training Union for two years in Arkansas.

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Ambassador Camps Have  
One Move For 6 Boys

(8-4-60)

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--Few pastors would lose sleep nights if one out of every six persons in their congregations would come down the aisle during the year making a public decision for Christ.

That's what happened during the last full year at Royal Ambassador camps now operating throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, a survey by the Convention's Brotherhood Commission here reveals.

Royal Ambassador leaders from 23 of 26 states reported their camps were attended by 30,513 boys in which 5,423 made decisions. That's more than 17 per cent.

The totals showed 1,691 Royal Ambassadors accepted Christ, 2,280 rededicated their lives, 729 volunteered for full-time Christian service, and 723 made decisions concerning church-related vocations.

The totals could have been even higher if more camping facilities had been available, Royal Ambassador leaders indicated.

The leaders reported that at state camps alone there were 85 weeks of camping in which 61 were filled to capacity. The men said they had applications for another 41 camping weeks if facilities had been available.

Currently, there are 18 state camps and 27 district camps in operation, and 244 associations of churches that are participating in camping programs.

Among the aims at the camps is to increase the missionary education of Royal Ambassadors, emphasizing dedication of life, evangelism, and community living.

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Carolina Minutes Close  
Last 'Large' File Gap

(8-4-60)

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Microphotographing of minutes of all Baptist associations of churches in North Carolina this fall will close the last "large gap" in associational minute files of the Southern Baptist Historical Commission here.

On file here already are nearly two million pages of associational minutes from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

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Wesberry To Lead  
Air Force Groups

ATLANTA--(BP)--James P. Wesberry, pastor of Morningside Baptist Church here, will take part in the 11th annual series of oversea religious missions for the United States Air Force.

He will conduct five conferences at bases in the Orient between Oct. 2 and Nov. 3, according to the office of the chief of chaplains of the Air Force, Washington.

He will be at Johnson Air Base, Oct. 2-6; Wakkanai Air Station, Oct. 9-13; and Misawa Air Base, Oct. 16-20. All are in Japan.

Wesberry will conduct services at Naha Air Base, Okinawa, Oct. 23-27; and Clark Air Base, Philippines, Oct. 30-Nov. 3.

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St. Louis Church Calls  
R. G. Capra, Nashville

(8-4-60)

ST. LOUIS--(BP)--The Ballwin Baptist Church in suburban St. Louis, Mo., has called Robert G. Capra of Nashville, Tenn., as pastor, effective about Sept. 1. Capra has accepted the call.

For the past 14 months, Capra has been assistant director of Cooperative Program promotion with the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Although a native of Detroit, Capra grew up in St. Louis and was in private business before entering the ministry. He came to Nashville in June, 1959, from pastorate of Fee Fee Baptist Church of St. Louis.

Previous pastorates were in two other St. Louis churches, at Kansas City, and at Tipton, Mo.

Ballwin church has a resident membership of 335 and an annual budget of about \$38,000. Robert E. Smith, who was serving as its pastor, resigned to prepare for missionary appointment to Brazil.

"Capra has rendered splendid service in the office of stewardship promotion. We regret to lose him from our organization," commented Merrill D. Moore, Nashville, secretary of Stewardship promotion with the Executive Committee and executive secretary-elect of the new S B C Stewardship Commission.

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Isaacs To Alaska  
With Home Board

(8-4-60)

PINEVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--John R. Isaacs, head of the rural church department of Clear Creek Baptist School here for the past five years, has accepted a position in the pioneer missions department of the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board.

He will be located in Fairbanks, Alaska, devoting much of his time to training local workers.

A native of Wilkes County, N. C., he graduated from Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He was formerly pastor of Neon Baptist Church in Letcher County, Ky., and later superintendent of missions of Pine Mountain Association there. At present he is pastor of the Fonde (Ky.) Baptist Church.

Mrs. Isaacs, the former Lillian Kirtland of Geraldine, Ala., is a graduate of Mercer University, Macon, Ga., and Carver School of Missions and Social Work at Louisville. She taught Bible in the public schools of Danville, Va., before her marriage.

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