

July 29, 1961

**Crusade Puts Religion
Back In Headlines**

FORT SMITH, Ark. (BP)--"It wrote religion back into the headlines," said C. E. Autrey of Dallas, of the northwest Arkansas crusade he led in Fort Smith.

The crusade attracted front-page news coverage, constant television and radi attention and overflow crowds in spite of torrential rains.

More than 200 were added to Fort Smith's Baptist churches as a result of the crusade, and 1100 made decisions for Christ at the services.

The crusade was a going topic of daily conversation in Fort Smith businesses. It "deepened the spiritual life of the community more than any other method I've seen," said Autrey.

Electronic marvels spurred the crusade when Billy Graham preached for six minutes via telephone hook-up from Minneapolis, and W. A. Criswell used the same method to deliver a five-minute message from Dallas' huge First Baptist Church.

"I am convinced this is one of the most critical hours in history," Graham told the crowd.

Aiming for 10,000 on the last night, when churches of all denominations in and around Fort Smith participated in the service, the crusade moved from Grizzly to the larger Harper Stadium--10,000 came.

What does Autrey think of this type of crusade for future use among Baptists?

"Our larger associations could have one every four years and increase our baptisms by eight to 10 per cent. They would be wonderful for getting us over the summer slump--they would deepen the spiritual life of church members," he said.

He takes a firm stand that a large crusade like this is not as good for reaching numbers of lost as the more concentrated, simultaneous crusade.

"But it calls back to God the people we already have in our churches," he said.

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**3 Iron Curtain Baptist
Leaders Report On Work**

(7-29-61)

OXFORD, England (BP)--Two Baptist ministers from Russia and a Baptist woman from Poland attended a meeting of European members of the Baptist World Alliance executive committee here.

They were Pastor Arthur Mitskevitch of famed Moscow Baptist Church; Iliia Orlov, another of the 10 pastors of this church and Mrs. Ruth Kowalczyk of Poland.

Mrs. Kowalczyk brought news of the new \$120,000 Baptist church and headquarters building in Warsaw, the capital of Poland. It will be dedicated Sept. 9.

Baptists in several lands helped to finance this project. Members of the Warsaw church each gave more than a month's salary as well as contributing many hours of manual labor.

Orlov works three days a week as a dental surgeon in a Moscow hospital in addition to "full time" pastoral duties. He studied theology from 1956-1958 at Bristol Baptist College in that English city.

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The two Russian delegates had hoped to come in time for an earlier conference here of European Baptist theological teachers. Soviet authorities declined their visa applications for that period on grounds Baptists have no seminary in Russia.

The hope was expressed permission might be secured to establish a seminary in Russia. Two Baptist students from Russia are due to enrol in Bethel Seminary in Stockholm, Sweden this fall.

Among business matters claiming the attention of the committee was announcement of the transfer of responsibility in aiding Austrian churches from a German Baptist group in the United States to Baptists of Germany.

Another was planning a workshop in religious radio and television to be held in Ruschlikon, Switzerland next summer. A third matter was the presentation of the new European Baptist Press Service, due to become fully operative in September, directed by John A. Moore, Ruschlikon, a Southern Baptist missionary.

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Waco's Lindsey Joins
South Carolina Staff

(7-29-61)

COLUMBIA, S. C. (BP)--Harold E. Lindsey of Waco, Tex., will become director of evangelism for South Carolina Baptist Convention here Sept. 1.

He will succeed James A. Howard who retired Jan. 1 after serving 20 years.

Lindsey has been a pastor of First Baptist Church of Waco nine years. He is a native of Greenville, S. C., and an alumnus of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

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Folks and Facts.....

(7-29-61)

.....Illinois Baptist State Association, meeting at Carbondale, has voted to recommend a Cooperative Program goal of \$700,000 for the 1962 budget. It would be divided 65 per cent for Illinois work and 35 for Southern Baptist Convention objectives. The goal and the division would be the same as for 1961. (BP)

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