

September 10, 1961

**Connecticut Gets First
Southern Baptist Group**

HARTFORD, Conn. (BP)--The first Connecticut church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention was organized here with 51 charter members following 23 months of existence as a mission.

The announcement was made by Elmer Sizemore of New York City, area missionary of the Baptist Convention of Maryland and the denomination's Home Mission Board. He works in the Northeastern area of the United States.

Sizemore also reported the organization of Ridgecrest Baptist Church at Newburgh, N. Y. The Ridgecrest church reported 81 charter members. Robert E. Hildreth is pastor.

The Hartford chapel, now meeting in a YMCA, was led for more than a year by laymen, chaplains and university professors. Charles Pollock, present pastor, started work with the mission in January.

Since Southern Baptist work started in the Northeastern states in 1957, there have been 12 churches and 21 missions organized to form the Northeastern Baptist Association.

-30-

**Back Seat Member May
Be Under Discipline**

(9-10-61)

NOVI SAD, Yugoslavia (BP)--Among Baptist churches in this country, when a member sits on the back seat, it may be because of discipline.

Some Yugoslav Baptist churches deny the Lord's Supper to an erring member for a specified time or in minor cases require him to sit on the back seat at services.

This evoked some criticism at the first theological week held here by national Baptist leaders.

Franjo Klem tackled the controversial subject of local church discipline when he addressed the conference in these words:

"The Bible recognizes church discipline only to help save the weaker brother and exclusion from membership as a last resort in serious cases. There is no punitive discipline and no middle way in penalties."

In Yugoslavia as in some other European countries, there is less emphasis on the authority of every local Baptist church, regardless of how small it may be, than there is in the United States.

Klem, of Rijeka, visited Southern Baptist Convention churches in the U. S. a few years ago.

-30-

NOTE TO EDITORS:

(9-10-61)

In Baptist Press Folks and Facts, 9-3-61, it was erroneously stated Robert S. Alley of Richmond, Va., graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary. Instead his degree is coming from Princeton University.

Baptist Press, Nashville.

-30-

To State Paper Editors:

A copy, in reproduction proof form, of the hotel list for San Francisco is coming your way in the mails. It will also furnish readers information about reserving space. The following story may accompany your publication of this reservation information if you desire. It is submitted early with the knowledge you will probably want to run it between now and Dec. 1.

Baptist Press, Nashville.

-30-

San Francisco Housing
Instructions Outlined

(9-10-61)

By the Baptist Press

This week's edition of your Baptist state paper carries a list of hotels and motels in San Francisco where reservations are available for those attending the 1962 Southern Baptist Convention.

No applications should be submitted before Dec. 1. All requests should be accompanied by a deposit check for \$10 per room, made out to S. B. C. Housing Bureau.

Supervisors of Convention housing arrangements say the \$10 deposit will assure you of a room and will be applied against your full hotel or motel bill when paying for your stay.

Reservations will be confirmed if your application is received at the Housing Bureau in the Convention city by May 21. The Convention is June 5-8, with the usual preliminary meetings of other groups.

-30-

Arizona Seeks To Add
'Southern' To Title

(9-10-61)

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP)--The executive board of Baptist General Convention of Arizona voted here to recommend a change in the name of that convention to include the word, "Southern."

The new name, to be voted on probably at the annual convention session this fall, would be "Arizona Southern Baptist Convention."

Editor James R. Staples of the Baptist Beacon, convention weekly paper published here, indicated Arizona Southern Baptists are happy with the designation, "Southern."

Staples has editorially supported continued use of the title, Southern Baptist Convention, while pastors in some states outside the South as well as in it have suggested a change in the name of the nationwide convention.

He said the addition of "Southern" would make the group more easily identified in Arizona, where there are other nationwide groups of Baptists.

If adopted, Arizona would be the third state convention to refer to "Southern Baptists" in its title. California and Kansas do so already.

The Arizona executive board also voted to merge the directors of its foundation with the executive board. Foundation members would comprise a foundation committee of the board.

Glen E. Crotts, president of the convention and pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Tucson, was asked to accept the post of foundation secretary. Crotts did not immediately indicate his decision on the call.

-30-

BAPTIST FEATURES

PRODUCED BY BAPTIST PRESS
NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
127 NINTH AVE., N., NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE AL 4-1631
W. C. Fields, *Director*
Theo Sommerkamp, *Assistant Director*

September 10, 1961

EDITORS: This is the fourth in the series of articles on SBC agencies.

New Look Apparent
In Foreign Missions

By the Baptist Press

There is a new look about Southern Baptist foreign missions.

With its eye on the constantly-changing world situation, the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has adapted its work in 50 countries to suit the times and conditions.

Among the new developments are these:

1. English-language churches in many foreign cities. One in Tokyo, for instance, rated a column in Time Magazine. (In Germany, an English-language church joined with a German Baptist church to sponsor mission work in Spanish.)

A couple formerly in Richmond, Va., where the board has its offices, has been appointed to develop English-speaking churches in Germany.

There also are English-language churches in Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela.

The need for these churches arose (1) from the large number of American military personnel stationed abroad and (2) from the fact that American industries are sending United States citizens to serve their business interests around the world.

2. Growth of indigenous, or self-maintained, work. The Southern Baptist missionary from America, in whatever country he may be, works toward a self-maintained and self-supported program by the Baptists who were born and reared in that country.

The degree of self-sufficiency varies greatly from country to country. In Brazil, Baptists have a large publishing house in Rio de Janeiro. Baptists in Taiwan sent a missionary of their own to Thailand.

In Japan, Hong Kong and Indonesia, Baptists also have their own printing program.

In still other countries, self-support may be some time a-coming.

3. The call on Baptist denominational leaders in the United States for professional help abroad.

Merrill D. Moore and Robert J. Hastings from the stewardship office of the Convention's Executive Committee in Nashville (now its Stewardship Commission) have visited Asian and South American countries to lead conferences on tithing, church budgeting and stewardship planning.

Similar visits by other specialists from Baptist agencies in the United States have been made from time to time.

In more than one place, missionaries were later to declare, "These visits were one of the greatest things that could have happened to us."

The comparatively new Forward Program of Church Finance, already a success in United States churches, is being adapted to meet the needs and conditions of Baptist churches in other countries.

4. The release to independent state Baptist convention status of the former territory of Hawaii, now the 50th state. This is being completed swiftly, after 20 years of its being a foreign mission field.

-more-

5. Periodic visits from laymen--who are not commissioned as permanent appointees of the board--to bolster certain phases of the work. An Oklahoma City doctor spent three months in Nigeria in a medical program.

Laymen at their own expense have visited Baptist mission work in Mexico in a project jointly sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board and the Brotherhood Commission of the Convention.

6. The winning of respect among local people and leaders. Christ-centered humanitarian projects have been going on from the beginning of Southern Baptist foreign missions over 100 years ago.

Schools and hospitals have been quick to follow the advent of missionaries. When the roster of countries is presented in the board's annual report to the Southern Baptist Convention, this is clearly evident in country after country, area after area.

In the Africa, Europe and Near East area, for example, the Baptist Hospital at Gaza, between Israel and Egypt, distinguished itself for medical care of the wounded in a war there.

In Nigeria, one of the strongest mission points of all, plans are under way for a college to follow up the already-acclaimed high schools. Five prominent officials in the new independent government received education in them.

7. The mission force is growing--now more than 1500 with the goal of 2000 by 1964. Southern Baptist support of the mission program is growing too through the Cooperative Program although Executive Secretary Baker J. Cauthen of Richmond cites many still unmet calls for service.

"Each year the recommendations which have been placed before the Foreign Mission Board by official action of the missions actually exceed funds available by \$3 million," he told the St. Louis Convention earlier this year.

The Foreign Mission Board, although its basic support comes from the Cooperative Program, also receives sizeable sums through the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

The Cooperative Program will furnish \$7-1/4 million to the board for operations this year, more than half of the total operating funds for all the agencies. In addition, it will supply \$800,000 for capital expansion in foreign missions.

Thus foreign missions receives over \$8 million from a total budget of \$18-1/2 million.

The last Lottie Moon Christmas Offering brought in \$8.2 million.

8. New countries are opening to service--Pakistan, Vietnam, Guam, and Okinawa in the Orient; Portugal in Europe, and Liberia, Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia in Africa.

The work of the Foreign Mission Board overseas is divided into three areas--Africa, Europe and the Near East together; Latin-America, and the Orient. Each area has a secretary to supervise the work. The secretary periodically goes to the area of responsibility for residence of several months.

Cauthen is a former missionary to China.

-30-

Cutlines to Photo:

(9-10-61)

Elmer S. West, Richmond, secretary for missionary personnel, addresses newly-appointed foreign missionaries. (BP) Photo.

-30-