

November 1, 1961

GLOBE-TROTTING With GINNY

Swiss Associate Bear
With Thanksgiving Day

By Virginia Harris Hendricks

BERNE, Switzerland (BP)--Thanksgiving on the part of medieval men gave birth to many fine things in Europe: castles, cathedrals, passion plays and even cities. Berne is one example.

According to legend, the Duke of Zahringen, while hunting one day, was attacked by a monstrous black bear. After a fierce battle, the Duke killed the bear. He was so grateful to heaven for his miraculous escape, he built a city on this very site in 1191. He called the city Berne, a variation of the German word for bear.

Historians smile at the bear story because they know a tribal city existed there before 1191. But the Berne population accept the bear whole-heartedly. They bombard tourists with all types of bear souvenirs.

Berne's famous clock tower where each hour is acted out by unique figures has looked down upon many battles between religious groups seeking to dictate the people's way of worship.

One of the colorful 16th Century fountains dotting the main street reveals a 16th Century citizen's perceptive jest at the expense of his leaders. Among the beheaded victims of the goddess of Justice lay the heads of the emperor, the sultan, the pope and even the mayor of Berne!

It is appropriate for American Christians to be especially thankful for the religious freedom we practice in our country. Rather than establish cities, our actions should be to protect and defend this freedom.

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(no picture attached)

200 Attend Mountain
Youth Conference

WILLIAMSBURG, Ky. (BP)--More than 200 mountain youth gathered here recently to explore careers, church-related vocations, colleges, missions and life outside the mountains.

They were attending the first Mountain Youth Conference, sponsored by Kentucky Baptists and the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The conference is to become an annual affair, according to J. Edward Cunningham of Lexington, director of the conference and of mountain missions and missionary training for Kentucky Baptists.

In recent years the Southern Appalachian area has lost more than 1-1/2 million of its population to other sections of the nation.

"In this conference we sought to give the mountain youth a look at his position sociologically and get him to see a vision of his Christian opportunities while he is in the mountain or when he leaves," said Wendell Belew of Atlanta, Ga.

Belew, secretary of the associational missions department of the mission board, said most of the young people seemed to accept the fact they would be leaving the mountains.

He was concerned that 70 per cent of the public school teachers in the mountains are non-Christian. He felt these students lived, for the most part, in a vacuum of religious influence.

The conference was held at Cumberland College (Baptist). Kentucky Gov. Bert Combs, a graduate of the school, addressed the group. He urged the mountain youth to stay in the mountains for their life's work.

Other speakers and conference leaders were: A. B. Colvin of Middletown, Ky., superintendent of the department of missions and evangelism for Kentucky Baptists; Joe Mobley of London, Ky., active in extension work for the University of Kentucky; J. Chester Durham of Middletown, state secretary of Baptist Student Union work, and P. F. Ayer of Berea, Ky., president of the Council of Southern Mountains.

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Aids From 'Questionable
Sources' Not Favored

(11-1-61)

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. (BP)--The 1961 Missouri Baptist Convention here reaffirmed its opposition to Baptists getting financial aid from "questionable sources," including federal grants.

The policy applies to institutions owned by the convention or affiliated with it.

The convention did not single out by name Missouri Baptist Hospital in St. Louis, which receives some support from the convention. The St. Louis hospital has accepted a federal grant and money from a foundation operated by the makers of Budweiser Beer. It also receives income from the United Fund.

A convention observer said the policy could be interpreted as applying to the St. Louis hospital as well as all other Baptist colleges, hospitals and homes.

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