

November 8, 1961

### Hurt Named Chairman Of Education Council

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Edward Hurt Jr., director of the Royal Ambassador program for the Southern Baptist Convention Brotherhood Commission, was named chairman of the Missionary Education Council at a three-day meeting of the organization here.

Hurt succeeded Miss Helen Falls, professor at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, who guided the advisory group on missionary education for two years.

Two staff members of Woman's Missionary Union here also received assignments. Miss Ethalee Hamric, editor of Royal Service, is the new vice-chairman, and Miss Laurella Owens, editor of The Window, is secretary.

The council, composed of 43 representatives from 14 Southern Baptist agencies, meets annually to offer suggestions to Home and Foreign Mission Boards for preparing books in the graded mission study series.

Most of the council's attention was concentrated these sessions on 10 books being prepared for study in 1963. But it also was concerned with 30 others to come out in 1964-66. The books are in five age levels--Adult, Young People, Intermediate, Junior and Primary.

The foreign missions series is taught each November as a prelude to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and week of prayer. The home missions series is studied in February, just prior to the Annie Armstrong Offering and week of prayer.

The council was formed in 1946 in an effort to improve the level of missionary education materials and to find ways to use them more profitably. The graded series is even older.

Back in 1925, a group in Virginia decided they wanted a book on missions to study as part of their preparation for a prayer period. Baptists in other states liked the idea and also began turning out books.

The Conventionwide graded series of mission study books followed. Last year 300,000 books on home missions and 265,000 on foreign missions were sold.

While considering topics for study in 1966, the council suggested the Home Mission Board provide books on Panama, San Blas Islands and possibly Cuba. The Foreign Mission Board will prepare books on new mission fields in Asia the same year. Areas under consideration include Okinawa, Guam, East and West Pakistan, Vietnam, Sumatra, India and Iraq.

The council will meet in 1962 at Atlanta. The time is Oct. 31 through Nov. 2.

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Missionary, Mother  
Honored In Georgia

(11-8-61)

COLUMBUS, Ga. (BP)--A retired foreign missionary and a preacher's widow who is the mother of four preachers received special citations from the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Alonzo Scott Patterson of Norcross, Ga., former missionary to Nigeria, was honored both for his work with the Southern Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board and for organizing churches in the Atlanta area since his retirement.

The second citation went to Mrs. Sarah Rebecca Burrell of Preston, Ga., widow of T. A. Burrell and mother of these preachers: A. Judson Burrell of Columbus, Ga.; James T. Burrell of Bainbridge, Ga.; T. C. Burrell of Preston, Ga., and Asbury Burrell of Birmingham, Ala.

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J. Ed Sandridge II  
Killed In Collision

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. (BP)--Funeral services were conducted here Nov. 6 for James Edward Sandridge II, Virginia Baptist leader who was killed in an automobile accident three days earlier.

Sandridge, 40, was assistant executive secretary of the Baptist General Association of Virginia.

He was killed when his Volkswagen was involved in a three-car crash on rain-slickened U. S. Highway 33 on the outskirts of Elkton, Va. He had been in Elkton for a school of missions.

A native of Charlottesville, Sandridge lived in Richmond where the state Baptist offices are located. He is survived by his wife, Norma, and by two sons, James Edward III and Stephen Lloyd.

Sandridge graduated from the University of Virginia here and from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. He returned to Virginia as pastor of rural churches near Charlottesville and later as pastor of churches in Norfolk and Roanoke, Va.

After serving as Training Union secretary for Virginia Baptists, he was elected in 1957 as assistant to the executive secretary.

He was also a member of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission.

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Children's Home Enters  
New Illinois Budget

(11-8-61)

EFFINGHAM, Ill. (BP)--The Illinois Baptist State Association, in 1961 session here, adopted a next year's budget of \$738,999. For the first time, the budget includes the Illinois Baptist Children's Home at Carmi.

The operating budget of the state association is \$595,840.

The association elected C. R. Walker, pastor, First Baptist Church, Marion, Ill., president. The directors of the state association reported they have called H. C. Croslin, (district) associational missionary in Alton, Ill., to be the state association's new secretary of stewardship and promotion.

Croslin was expected to assume these duties Dec. 1.

In a speech to the state association, an official of a church-state separation group attacked a national TV newscaster for his position on federal aid to education.

James M. Windham of Chicago assailed Chet Huntley of NBC-TV, claiming Huntley branded as "bigots" all who opposed federal aid to parochial schools. Windham, a Baptist minister, heads the Chicago office of Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State (POAU).

The church-state group has opposed religious groups when they try to secure public tax funds for their institutions, nationally or locally.

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# BAPTIST FEATURES

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W. C. Fields, *Director*

Theo Sommerkamp, *Assistant Director*

November 8, 1961

Editors: This is the twelfth in the Series on SBC agencies.

Publishing, Educating  
Main Board Activity

By Reuben Herring  
For Baptist Press

"Please send me the Sunday School Board without obligation," a Southern Baptist wrote to James L. Sullivan, executive secretary-treasurer of this largest servant of the Convention.

Even if Sullivan had been able to comply with this unusual request, the writer would have discovered he could not accept the board without assuming a tremendous obligation. Southern Baptists have asked the board to aid them in reaching people, teaching the Bible, winning the lost, and developing full-grown Christians.

Just 70 years ago, when the board was established by Southern Baptist Convention action, it would have been almost possible to fill this request. At that time the Sunday School Board was a desk in the corner of the office of Baptist and Reflector, Tennessee Baptist paper, and a secretary, James Marion Frost.

With no budget and no money, Frost borrowed \$5000 from his wife and went to work for Southern Baptists.

Today the board employs about 1500 persons, owns more than 700,000 square feet of floor space, publishes more than 100 million pieces of literature annually, and shows net sales of more than \$26 million a year.

Much of the confusion about the work of the Sunday School Board grows out of the fact that the name of the organization is misleading. Actually, Sunday school work is only one part of the board's vast service to Baptists. It is an agency of education and publication.

One of the four major responsibilities of the board is the publication of literature, books, and supplies. Deciding just what the board should publish is not always easy.

For example, a manuscript was received which its author declared was "the greatest thing written since the New Testament." He claimed that the board had a responsibility to God and the people to publish it without question.

Operation of the assemblies at Ridgecrest, N. C., and Glorieta, N. M., is a second responsibility of the Board. A third task is the operation of 47 Baptist Book Stores throughout the Convention.

The fourth basic job of the board is education and service programs. These include Sunday school, Training Union and Baptist student work, the church music ministry, and programs of family life, church-related vocational guidance, church administration, general tract distribution, church architecture consultation, church library work, church recreation, research and statistical analysis, library research, and special ministries.

Under its program of cooperative work with state Baptist boards, the Sunday School Board provides financial assistance to the states for the promotion of Sunday school, Training Union, church music, Student Union, and church architecture work.

The board also gives to the Southern Baptist Convention for operation expenses one-third as much as is given each year to the state boards.

In 1960 the board shared \$769,773 with the states and \$259,749 with the Convention. It is expected that total gifts to the states this year for cooperative work will total more than \$800,000.

And where does all the money come from? The simple answer is that it comes from the board's own business operations. Fifty cents of every dollar received by the board come from merchandise sales.

Church literature sales account for 44 cents, and assemblies and other operations bring in the remaining six cents.

The board receives no Cooperative Program funds. To do so would mean that churches would pay once for board services through Cooperative Program gifts and a second time when they purchased commodities.

What actually happens is that churches pay for only a part of the board's many services as they purchase commodities. Because the board is not operated to make a profit, earnings are channeled back to the churches to aid them in better Bible teaching and Christian training.

This procedure of returning earnings to the churches means that instead of paying twice for board services, churches actually get a double return on their investment. There is no plan like it among other major denominations.

Who runs the Sunday School Board? It is controlled by Southern Baptists through a 54-member board elected by the Convention for three-year terms. This controlling board determines major objectives and policies, adopts an annual budget through which it controls operations, and elects administrative and executive personnel.

What is the Sunday School Board? It is one member of a mighty team. Working with other agencies of the Convention and with churches, it helps to reach and teach people, and to provide channels of opportunity through which they may serve and grow as they magnify Christ.

Baptist Press cutline (with S S Board feature)

November 8, 1961

**INFORMATION, PLEASE--**These attractive girls are putting together packets of information on the work of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. The packets are sent to persons writing in for information about the board, and are given to the 2600 visitors who tour the board's buildings in Nashville each year. These girls conduct the tours also. (BP) Photo.

Baptist Press Photo Outline

November 8, 1961

**DIRECTOR:** Clifton A. Baker of Oklahoma City will direct the music for the 1962 Southern Baptist Convention at San Francisco. (BP) Photo.

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