

January 28, 1954

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

CHILD CARE EXECUTIVES
MEET IN LONE STAR STATE

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.--(BP)--The Sixth annual meeting of the Child Care Executives of Southern Baptists will get under way January 28, at the Mexican Baptist Orphans Home, San Antonio, Tex. Representatives from twenty-seven children's homes over the Convention will attend the meeting.

Officers of the group are W. C. Reed, Thomasville, N.C., president; Wade B. East, Carmi, Ill., secretary-treasurer; regional vice-presidents, Sam E. Bradley, Middletown, Ky., Central; John Murdock, Greenwood, S.C., Eastern; Silas Bishop, Jacksonville, Fla., Southeastern; and Harold C. Seefeldt, Monticello, Ark., Northwestern.

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NINETEEN PREACHERS ON
PANAMA PREACHING MISSION

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.--(BP)--Nineteen Southern Baptist pastors left recently for an Evangelistic Crusade in the Panama Canal Zone and the Republic of Panama.

The first four days of the Crusade will be spent in making an inspection of Southern Baptist Missions in Mexico and Guatamala.

The group, under the direction of Guy Bellamy, secretary of Negro Work, Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and R. G. Van Royen, superintendent of Missions of the Republic of Panama and the Canal Zone, will return to the states February 10.

Those participating in the Crusade are, Courts Redford, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.; W. E. Grindstaff, Oklahoma City, Okla.; William P. Davis, Flora Baptist Church, Flora, Miss.; C. A. Alexander, First Baptist Church, Booneville, Miss.; J. H. Avery, First Baptist Church, Panama City, Fla.; Millard Berquist, First Baptist Church, Tampa, Fla.; Hugh Bumpass, Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Ross E. Dillon, Houston, Tex.; Carl Duck, Morton Baptist Church, Morton, Miss.; Earl B. Edington, First Baptist Church, St. Petersburg, Fla.; G. C. Hodge, First Baptist Church, Biloxi, Miss.; Samuel E. Maddox, First Baptist Church, Dothan, Ala.; Lewis Maples, First Baptist Church, Miami, Okla.; J. T. Roberts, First Baptist Church, Anadarko, Okla.; Harold Sanders, First Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Fla.; J. R. White, Main Street Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla.; and E. D. Estes, Biloxi, Miss.

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BAPTIST BRIEFS

B. L. BRIDGES IMPROVED

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.--(BP)--B. L. Bridges, executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, listed on the critical list at the Arkansas Baptist Hospital a few days ago is much improved.

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NEW PROFESSOR AT
WAYLAND COLLEGE

PLAINVIEW, Tex.--(BP)--Miss Janet Louise Norberg, Sioux Falls, S. D., will assume her duties as assistant professor of Christian recreation and speech at Wayland College, February 1. She succeeds Mrs. Agnes Durant Pylant, who resigned to accept the position as secretary of the Christian Recreation Service, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

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ARKANSAS PASTOR GOES
TO MISSISSIPPI

PINE BLUFF, Ark.--(BP)--Lloyd A. Sparkman, pastor, South Side Baptist Church, Pine Bluff, Ark., and past president of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, resigned recently to accept the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Kosciusko, Miss.

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INDIAN STUDENTS GIVE
TO MISSION OFFERING

LAWRENCE, Kans.--(BP)--Indian students at Lawrence, Kans., under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Victor M. Kaneubbe, missionaries, gave \$28.42 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. They set a goal of \$20.00.

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BAPTIST FEATURES

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BAPTIST RESEARCH
BY: Samuel W. Scantlan

Some one has asked, "What is research?"

Dr. Charles F. Kettering once defined it: "To find out what we are going to do when we can no longer keep on doing what we are now doing."

We often resent outside criticism of ourselves, our churches or our denomination. We don't want anyone trying to tell us of our short comings, or maybe we should severely criticize ourselves.

Every pastor should do some research concerning his own ministry. Denominational workers should closely scrutinize their work. Why doesn't the program we have succeed? Does it need research? Are we always willing to do things just like old Brother Wonder did them? Does our preaching program need improvement?

Should the pastor enter the pulpit from another door? Would it be better to rearrange the music program? Is the baptismal service the best it could be? Any changes needed? Does the person who enters our churches have the feeling, "I've seen and heard this before?"

An outstanding preacher almost ruins his messages by having acquired a bad habit of hitching his trousers every few minutes. He needs some outside criticism. But he wouldn't like that, so he should have a dose of self-criticism.

Baptists must keep on with more and better research. But, even so, we are much like the farmer when asked to buy some books on "Better Farming," replied, "I'm not farming now as well as I know how." So most of us preachers and most of our churches are not doing as well as we could.

Yet, I would say that all of us should criticize ourselves sharply and diligently search out anew the reasons for many of our short comings.

If a church can't keep a preacher she needs some inside research--and if a preacher is always without a church, he should also do some very serious research into his own life and methods.

Baptists everywhere must do some research into their ways of doing things. If there is a better way we must find it.

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Samuel W. Scantlan is superintendent of rural and city missions of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.