

September 11, 1959

Mission Literature
Themes Recommended

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Themes for home and foreign mission study course books through 1964 have been recommended by the Missionary Education Council of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In its meeting here, the Council gave its endorsement to annual themes proposed by the SBC Foreign Mission Board as follows: 1960, Spanish America; 1961, Europe; 1962, East Asia; 1963, Near East, and 1964, Brazil.

Themes suggested by the SBC Home Mission Board and endorsed by the Council included 1960, Our Mission in Town and Country; 1961, Our Baptist Heritage in Missions; 1962, New Churches for Our Times; 1963, The Church's Ministry to Persons of Special Need, and 1964, tentatively, The Inner City.

Writers are preparing manuscripts for 1961 books already. Many of the manuscripts were reviewed by Council members and suggestions given the authors. 1960 books are in process of publication.

The Council further considered prospective writers for books for future years.

Each foreign and home mission theme for a particular year will be followed through with a graded series of mission study books--a book each for adults, young people, intermediates, juniors, and primaries.

The Missionary Education Council is a voluntary group of denominational workers from many Convention agencies who meet each year to review proposed books, articles, films, and other missionary education material produced.

While its recommendations are not binding on any agencies, its suggestions are considered carefully by agencies in publishing their missionary literature. One of the council's chief purposes, according to its members, is to strive for improvement in missionary material published.

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Prayer Asked During
Khrushchev's Visit

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The president of the Southern Baptist Convention called on 9 million members of the Convention's co-operating churches to pray for "God's leadership and power" during conferences between President Eisenhower and Russian Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

The Russian premier and the United States president will visit each other's nations.

The statement of the SBC president, Ramsey Pollard of Knoxville, Tenn., read:

"These are destiny-determining days. Soon President Eisenhower and Premier Khrushchev will discuss matters which will vitally affect the course of history for many generations. May I urge Southern Baptists to pray earnestly for God's leadership and power to be felt during these conferences. Prayer changes things and people."

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Folks & facts.....

.....Oklahoma Baptist Hospital, Muskogee, Okla., celebrates its 50th anniversary Sept. 17. The hospital, now having 88 beds, was opened by a group of Muskogee Baptists as a 20-bed hospital in 1909. It is in an expansion program to increase its patient capacity.

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McDonald To Publish
Temperance Letter

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.--(BP)--The Christian Civic Foundation of Arkansas has completed organization of local chapters in 43 of the state's 75 counties, William E. Brown, executive director of the foundation, reported here.

Brown said that he expected to organize chapters in the remainder of the counties by Oct. 1.

The Foundation will begin publication of a monthly newsletter to be edited by its corresponding secretary, Erwin L. McDonald, Little Rock, editor of Arkansas Baptist. The publication will be mailed regularly to the members of the county chapters, to the members of the board of directors of the state organization, and to pastors in the state.

A committee has been named to locate a suitable headquarters building, with a view to its purchase.

The Foundation expects to be ready to begin teaching classes on the evils of alcohol and narcotics by the beginning of the second semester of the current school year, Brown reported.

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2 Baptist Editors
At Bolivar Observance

BOLIVAR, Mo.--(BP)--First Baptist Church of Bolivar celebrated the end of its first century of existence with a homecoming and a historical drama.

Editors H. H. McGinty of Word and Way, Missouri state paper, and S. H. Jones, Baptist Courier, South Carolina weekly, had parts on the program.

Among missionaries who have gone out in recent years who are former members of the church are Russell Locke and wife, Nigeria; Howard Olive and wife, Philippines; and Harlan Spurgeon and wife, Formosa. Miss Marie Conyers will sail soon for Hong Kong, where she will put her library training to missionary uses.

Seven persons met to organize the "United Baptist Church of Jesus Christ of Bolivar" Sept. 3, 1859, now First Baptist Church.

A month later they began to raise funds for a meeting house. By December the membership has doubled.

Ernest White is pastor of the church. Present membership is 868.

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