

November 1, 1959

Age Doesn't Bother  
80-Year-Old 'Aunt Sue'

MIAMI, Fla.--(BP)--Don't talk about the growing problem of what to do with old folks if you're around "Aunt Sue." She figures she's more of an answer than a problem herself.

And her pastor, Forrest H. (Woody) Watkins, at Coral Baptist Church, concurs.

What else could he do when Mrs. Susie Hill, an 80-year-old Miami widow, holds down all these jobs in the church--office assistant, secretary to the church treasurer, Sunday school teacher, visitor and secretary for the extension department, stewardship chairman for her circle in the Woman's Missionary Union, group captain in the Training Union, and general secretary for the vacation Bible school.

"I just go to church and work. It keeps me young. I may look my age, but I don't act it," she said emphatically.

With the mounting interest in problems of the aged highlighted by the fact that the Miami Public Library held a workshop for church leaders on the situation, "Aunt Sue" suggests that too often churches overlook a lot of talent and experience because they feel a person is too old.

It's partly the fault of the elderly themselves, in her opinion. "The people that talk about being lonesome, with nothing to do, should get busy in the church. It would help them."

Mrs. Hill fitted naturally into all the jobs she has taken over at Coral Baptist. Until she came here from New York in 1948, she had been private secretary to some top industrialists, director of her own school for secretarial studies, and operator of a grocery store.

When her husband died in 1953, she plunged into the church work without giving up such other activities as tutoring a needy neighbor child or whipping up tempting meals for friends she loves to entertain.

"Aunt Sue" says the reason she can do it is that "I have peace of mind." She adds that she tries to live by the fourth chapter of Philippians, but "when I pray for something, I don't just sit there and wait for it, I get up and help look for it."

At any rate, she's certainly no problem to the church now, and "I ought to be good for another 20 years," she said. "Put that in your story so nobody will come looking for my job!"

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Alabama's Financial  
Secretary To Retire

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--(BP)--Davis C. Cooper, Jr., financial secretary for the Alabama Baptist state executive board, has announced his retirement effective Jan. 1.

With the Baptist organization for more than 31 years, Cooper has held many major statewide positions. He served as secretary for Sunday school, Training Union student work, and Brotherhood departments, and was director of the department of education and training in Alabama.

In 1944, Cooper was elected financial secretary for Alabama Baptists. It was one of the first such positions in the Southern Baptist Convention.

A graduate of Baptist-operated Howard College in Birmingham, he also attended Vanderbilt University, Louisiana State University, and Columbia University. He was a student at Southwestern Baptist Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., before entering vocational religious work as an educational director.

Born near Anniston, Ala., Cooper is the son of the late Davis C. Cooper, Sr., prominent Baptist layman who contributed much to the life of the denomination in the state.

Cooper is married to the former Claire Hill, of Minden, La. Following retirement, they plan to reside at their home in Montgomery. They will travel and devote their lives to denominational work.

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Pacific Coast Leaders  
Set Top 1960 Goals

PORTLAND, Ore.--(BP)--Associational leaders in the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington set three major goals here which will spark the convention's advance during 1960.

Convention Executive Secretary R. E. Milam of Portland said the goals include:

(1) An enrolment gain of about 25 per cent in Sunday schools of affiliated churches. The gain would be 6,060 additional members. The suggested slogan is "One More for Every Four."

(2) Establishment of 10 branch Sunday schools, 10 institutional services, 45 new missions, and 35 new churches. These are in line with the Southern Baptist Convention's movement to create 30,000 new churches and missions by 1964.

(3) Baptism of 3200 new converts during the year.

This, the second annual statewide associational leadership conference of Oregon-Washington Southern Baptists, convened at Camp Menucha here.

Moderators, missionaries and heads of the associational Sunday school, Training Union, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood and church music organizations were present from 17 of the 19 associations of churches to consider plans for full participation in the 1960 Baptist Jubilee Advance--the year of emphasis on "Teaching and Training."

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Folks & facts.....

.....When the Illinois Baptist State Association meets in Rockford next year, it will be the first time a session has been conducted in northern Illinois in the association's 52-year history. Farthest point north for a previous association together was Springfield, the state capital, located in central Illinois.

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.....The first proposal for religious liberty and the separation of church and state made to the Continental Congress of America was made by a Baptist preacher, Issac Backus. He declared that by the same reasoning processes that the Congress declared independence from England, religious liberty should be granted in the Colonies. Backus was joined by other Baptists in the proposal for religious liberty, and the result was the enactment of the Bill of Rights, declaring freedom of religion.

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Missouri Acts On Race,  
College, Persecution

KNASAS CITY, Mo.--(BP)--An 8 per cent increase in Cooperative Program goal over last year, preliminary plans for a new Baptist college in St. Louis, a firm stand on Christian race relations, and aid to persecuted Baptists in Spain were among the major actions taken by Missouri Baptist Convention in its annual session here.

The convention noted the \$320,000 increase in receipts through the Cooperative Program during the year just closed, and increased its goal for the Cooperative Program to \$2,800,000 for 1960. This is an increase of \$200,000 over the 1959 goal.

35 per cent of total Cooperative Program receipts will go for Southern Baptist Convention causes and 65 per cent for causes in Missouri with no preferred deductions.

Plans for a Baptist college in Greater St. Louis, presented after two years of study by a special committee, called for a campaign by St. Louis Baptist Association to raise a minimum of \$1½ million in metropolitan St. Louis within a 3-year pledge period.

The campaign would be limited to individuals, foundations and business concerns. Further developments of the plan, including choice of a site, would wait upon completion of this campaign.

In its unanimous adoption of a report on Christian life, the convention took its strongest stand to date on the issue of Christian race relations. The report urged all Missouri Baptists to hold "distinctively Christian attitudes" in race relations and to "insist on respect for our colored neighbors in Missouri and actively support their rights as fellow Americans, and in many cases, fellow Christians".

The report declared that "racial segregation cannot be maintained in a truly Christian society. Public facilities, community institutions, and places in which their nature and function are desirous to serve all the people, cannot be regarded as private institutions from which a group may be excluded because of color. That is a denial of basic human rights in a democracy; it is a rejection of Christian ethics."

Urging that a solution of the problem depended on "white people learning to separate their private lives from their public institutions," the report challenged "local churches to use their position of influence in the community to form and direct community sentiment for extending to our Negro citizens height and social respect of which they are entitled as free Americans to have."

The report also called for "more active leadership from our church groups in the field of endeavor which has been largely dominated by secular leadership."

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Dramatic action took place under a large sign reading, "If the United States becomes 51 per cent Catholic, will Baptist churches be closed here as they are today in Spain?" Earl Harding of Jefferson City, convention executive secretary, presented \$3000 to Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State to provide legal counsel for the imprisoned pastor of a closed church in Spain.

The resolution, adopted in this connection, proposed "that we send a special word of comfort to our brother pastor in Spain who was recently seized by the federal court for holding religious services, after the chapel he pastored had been closed without explanation--and that we take a renewed interest in, as well as a fervent stand for, the cause of religious liberty and our heritage of American freedoms through enlarged local support of POAU, in addition to the financial undergirding which our state convention provides."

The new convention officers are, president, James T. Shirley, pastor, First Baptist Church, St. Johns; vice-president, Paul Weber, Jr., pastor Hamlin Memorial Baptist Church, Springfield; recording secretary, Wayne Rosecrans, pastor, First Baptist Church, California, and treasurer, Russell Wren, insurance executive, Jefferson City.

The 1960 session of the convention will be held in St. Louis, Oct. 25-27.

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#### Bryan Given Full-Time Status In Editorship

BALTIMORE--(BP)--Editor Gainer E. Bryan, Jr., of the Maryland Baptist here, has been relieved of additional duties as state director of the Forward Program of Church Finance of Southern Baptists.

He will devote full-time to editing the paper and to handling public relations for the Maryland Baptist Union Association, which publishes the paper.

The change of responsibilities came at a meeting of the mission board of the union association here. The board created a new department of Brotherhood and stewardship, into which church finance work will be placed.

The new department head is Allen J. Beck, who has been with the union association treasurer's office, and has also already been promoting Brotherhood work.

The state mission board voted to send Editor Bryan to the Baptist World Alliance Congress in June, 1960, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It also approved a tour of Latin-American mission fields for the editor.

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#### Maryland Proposes It Be 'Convention'

BALTIMORE--(BP)--A special constitutional committee will propose here that the name of the Maryland Baptist Union Association be changed to Baptist State Convention of Maryland.

The committee will present its report at the annual association meeting. If the report is received, it must be held over a year before final action can be taken.

The annual association also will hear its state mission board recommend a 1960 budget of \$425,000 for Maryland Baptists. This is an increase of \$25,000 over the 1959 goal.

Of this sum, \$400,000 will be distributable funds under the Cooperative Program, with 40 per cent going for Southern Baptist Convention objectives and 60 per cent for Maryland state objectives.

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A proposal to the change the name of the union association was defeated two years ago. The present committee believes a change will bring the Baptist organization's name more into keeping with the term used by other state groups co-operating with the Southern Baptist Convention.

A few states retain the name "association" for their state body, but most use the word "convention."

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#### Single Alignment Sought In Missouri

KANSAS CITY, Mo.--(BP)--The Missouri Baptist Convention here followed the recommendation of its executive board, reaffirming its historical position on the question of churches doubly aligned with the American Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention.

The adopted resolution also requested "that doubly aligned churches in Missouri give serious and prayerful consideration to single alignment during the coming year."

The resolution explained this request in a series of historical statements pointing out:

(1) that the (Missouri) convention was organized in 1834 and became an affiliate of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1846;

(2) that a plan of double alignment of Baptist churches in Missouri was tried for several years and was discontinued in 1919 as a convention approved policy when "the Missouri Baptist General Association aligned itself singly and soeley with the Southern Baptist Convention."

(3) that about 1700 of the 1853 churches in the convention in 1919 were "singly and solely aligned with the Southern Baptist Convention."

(4) That in 1919 there were 16 Baptist Churches in Missouri fully aligned with the American Baptist Convention and 146 churches dividing their offerings between the Northern (now American) and Southern Conventions, and that the total number is now 18;

(5) that in 1956 the American Baptist board of education and publications recommended that Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Kans., align itself definitely and positively with the American Baptist Convention, and that the seminary adopt this recommendation including dismissal of all Southern Baptist members of the board, giving evidence sufficient that the American Baptist Convention desires single alignment;

(6) in May, 1959, the American Baptist churches along with doubly aligned churches in Missouri, numbering about 17, organized the Missouri Convention of American Baptists.

Convention discussion of, and action on, the resolutions was overwhelmingly favorable, with only three or four opposing votes.

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#### Leukemia Fells Son Of Baptist Secretary

BALTIMORE--(BP)--Wayne Hartfield, 12-year-old son of a Maryland Baptist Donomina-tional worker, died here Oct. 30 of leukemia.

His father, Jimmie J. Hartfield, is Training Union Secretary for the Maryland Baptist Union Association.

Wayne's case was diagnosed as leukemia while the family was away on vacation in August. He enroled briefly in school, but suffered a relapse, and entered the hos-pital again.

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Baltimore Minister,  
Baptist Officer, Dead

BALTIMORE--(BP)--Boyce H. Moody, pastor of Lee St. Memorial Baptist Church here and a member of the commission on Southern Baptist Hospitals, died here Oct. 28.

Moody and his wife had been involved in an automobile accident on their way to church Sunday, Oct. 18. Mrs. Moody received several injuries and was hospitalized for over a week.

Although Pastor Moody had no noticeable injuries, he was admitted to the hospital because of a history of heart trouble. The following morning, he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and was placed on the critical list.

He had been pastor of the Baltimore church for 11 years. Prior to that, he served churches in Hampton, Va., Hattiesburg, Miss., and Altavista, Va.

At the time of his death, Moody was a member of the Maryland Baptist state mission board in addition to serving on the hospital commission for the Southern Baptist Convention.

While a pastor in Mississippi, he was a trustee of Mississippi Woman's College and a member of the state Baptist executive board. He is survived by his wife, Hazel T. Moody, and two daughters.

Funeral services were conducted at Lee St. Memorial Church, with Roy D. Gresham, executive secretary, Maryland Baptist Union Association, officiating.

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Please the following paragraph to the story on page 2, "Missouri Acts On Race, College, Persecution."

The convention also adopted two recommendations, calling for the establishment of the Missouri Christian life committee and a Missouri public affairs committee.

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# BAPTIST FEATURES

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## "STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH"

Curious at the huge manual his fellow airline passenger was studying, James Peck of the Home Mission Board's Chaplains Commission, finally asked its meaning.

"This book contains the pedigrees and statistics on America's racing stock," the man replied. "I am a buyer, and I just paid \$20,000 for this horse, \$50,000 for this one."

Shocked at the figures, Peck said, "You paid \$50,000 for a horse, and I can't get \$7,700 for an airplane for my business."

"What business you in?"

"The biggest business in the world," Peck replied. "I'm a Baptist preacher."

Silence reigned for a long minute, then the horse buyer whispered, "Buddy, let me buy you one of these horses, and you'll have your airplane inside a year." (BP)