

November 15, 1959

Historic Church May  
Have To Move Out

(11-15-59)

BALTIMORE--(BP)--It may have been the last time for Maryland Baptists to meet in the historic Eutaw Place Baptist Church.

The building, erected in 1871 in what was then the elite section of Baltimore, has been included in the roster of Baltimore's 13 most historic buildings.

The church, having had only six pastors, has been a favorite meeting place of the Maryland Baptist Union Association and others. The 1959 association meeting was in its auditorium.

Because the city has changed, and the area surrounding the church is now considered a "blighted area," Eutaw Place Church may move in the near future to a point several miles north of the present location.

The architect for the building was Thomas U. Walther, who designed the dome and wings of the Nation's Capitol in Washington.

Eutaw Place Church has shared in building the Southern Baptist Convention. Miss Annie Armstrong, in whose memory the annual Convention offering for home missions is named, joined Eutaw Place as a young girl. Later she was one of the founders of Woman's Missionary Union, a Convention auxiliary.

The first WMU office was in Baltimore. Miss Armstrong, first recording secretary of WMU, and her two immediate successors in office, attended Eutaw Place Church.

W. Clyde Atkins is pastor of the church today. He has served more than twice as long as any of his predecessors. Atkins became assistant pastor in 1930 and pastor in 1936.

The first pastor was Richard Fuller, who was president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1859 and 1861. Fuller also was president of the Maryland Union Association in 1850.

The membership of the church is about 675.

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McGlothlen Tennessee  
Convention President

(11-15-59)

GATLINBURG, Tenn.--(BP)--Gaye L. McGlothlen, pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville, has been elected president of Tennessee Baptist Convention.

McGlothlen has headed the special convention survey committee which reported this year here.

The convention continued to bestow honors upon its committee chairmen by electing S. E. Wilkes, pastor, Union Ave. Baptist Church, Memphis, first vice-president. Wilkes headed the committee which drafted the 1959 convention agenda.

Officers of the convention serve one-year terms.

A budget of \$3-1/2 million will carry the convention through 1960, the highest budget ever adopted by messengers. An unspecified sum will be deducted for administrative and promotional expenses, after which funds will be shared three ways--44 per cent for Southern Baptist Convention, 49 per cent for Tennessee work, and 7 per cent for capital needs of Tennessee Baptist schools.

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An all-time high in Cooperative Program giving during 1959 has been reported. Gifts totalled \$3,221,337. The administrative and promotional deduction for 1959 has been \$309,932.

The next convention session will be Nov. 15-17, 1960, in Nashville.

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463-457 Vote Saves  
Tennessee Academy

(11-15-59)

GATLINBURG, Tenn.--(BP)--One of the closest votes in Tennessee Baptist Convention history saved the life of Harrison-Chilhowee Academy at nearby Seymour, Tenn., for at least another year.

By a vote of 463 to 457 the convention here rejected a recommendation of its special survey committee to close the school and sell the property.

The ballot came on a substitute motion offered by a member of the school's faculty. There were actually two ballots. After a 464 to 440 vote to keep the academy open, a recount was demanded, which resulted in an even tighter margin.

The convention voted, however, to freeze \$130,000 in capital improvement funds already in the hands of Harrison-Chilhowee. These funds can't be spent until a committee of the convention has been appointed to study the school's operation.

The convention also voted to reimburse the Sevier County Board of Education \$16,000 it has contributed for education of public school pupils this school year at Harrison-Chilhowee. Almost half the academy's students are public school pupils.

The county board of education is withdrawing completely in 1962--a decision reached before the survey committee report. Both actions are to avoid any church-state involvement.

Public school pupils may continue to attend the academy but Tennessee Baptists will not accept funds from county school taxes to educate them.

The credentials committee reported that there were 123 more messengers registered from churches than the churches--some large, some small--are permitted to send under the constitution of the convention. The committee said they came from 22 associations but did not name them.

The committee "deplored" this and urged convention action to remedy the matter.

The balance of the special survey committee report went through, except for one minor amendment concerning composition of a committee.

The directors of Tennessee Baptist Press, Inc., which were responsible for publication of the convention's weekly newspaper, Baptist and Reflector, lost their separate identity. The paper henceforth will be under executive board direction.

However, convention leaders assured "complete editorial freedom" for the Baptist and Reflector.

Harrison-Chilhowee is the only academy of Tennessee Baptists. The convention operates three senior colleges--Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn.; Belmont College in Nashville, and Union University in Jackson.

The convention approved a study of Memphis as possible site of a branch of Union University.

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C. B. Deane President  
In North Carolina

(11-15-59)

GREENSBORO, N. C.--(BP)--The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina elected a former Congressman as its president, and pushed through two amendments to the report of its survey committee at a session here.

Former Congressman C. B. Deane, of Rockingham, who has served as recording secretary for 27 years, became president in a closely-contested race with M. O. Owens, Jr., Lenoir, N. C., minister.

A margin of 32 votes out of 1112 cast separated them in a runoff.

Deane was Congressman from 1946-56, losing his seat after he refused to sign the "Southern Manifesto" on civil rights.

The survey committee's recommendation to cut the size of the convention's general board and to realign representation on it was buried in a vote of 17 to 1. About 2000 messengers participated.

The convention will retain instead its present board composition of 85 members, and follow the same procedure for representation.

By a much closer vote, messengers decided that the office of evangelism should be a division of its own rather than one of seven departments in a division of church programs. The survey committee recommended the procedure which was rejected by a vote of 520 to 494.

The 1960 budget will be \$4.1 million, compared with the convention's current \$3.6 million budget. One-third of the budget will support work carried on through the Southern Baptist Convention.

If the budget goal is oversubscribed, all funds above the goal will be divided 60 per cent for state Baptists and 40 per cent for Southern Baptist Convention.

The convention, from present trends, will go over its 1959 goal.

It will meet next year in Asheville and in Greensboro again in 1961.

The 1959 session of the Baptist state convention was the first such convention to meet in Greensboro's new \$4 million auditorium.

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Oklahoma Opposing  
Outside Allegiances

(11-15-59)

TULSA, Okla.--(BP)--Oklahoma Baptists announced their opposition here to electing any government official "whose first allegiance is to any other power."

No reference was made to a candidate or the "other power." Observers said it referred to the 1960 United States Presidential race and the possible conflict of church-state interests in the nomination of candidates.

The Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma adopted its largest Cooperative Program budget--\$2,380,000. After providing for preferred items of \$445,092, the funds will be equally shared by the state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

The preferred items include an allocation of \$75,000 to Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, for faculty salary increases. College officials said they face loss of faculty unless increases can be given.

During the year, W. Leonard Stigler, Tulsa minister, left the state to enter Baptist work in Ohio, leaving the post of convention president vacant. The first vice-president, J. Frank Davis, pastor of Sheridan Road Baptist Church here, presided. The convention elected him president for the coming year.

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The 1960 session will meet in Oklahoma City, Nov. 15-17. M. E. Ramay, for over 30 years pastor of First Baptist Church, Edmond, Okla., will deliver the convention sermon.

The convention adopted, with some opposition, a plan of jointly-sponsored state missions work proposed by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. It is similar to the co-operative missions work between the Home Mission Board and other states.

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South Carolina Renews  
Battle On Fraternities

(11-15-59)

By Tom McMahan

COLUMBIA, S. C.--(BP)--In a three-day session here, South Carolina Baptists renewed an old battle over social fraternities at Baptist-supported Furman University in Greenville, S. C.

The body also voted a change in its name, honored a veteran Baptist junior college president by electing him convention president, took several stands regarding moral and civil affairs, and made the first move toward erecting a new state headquarters building in Columbia.

The 1959 session of South Carolina Baptists ended in a youth night program attended by 3500 persons. Charles Wellborn, Waco, Tex., minister, preached. After his challenge to young people to put God's will first, 102 of them responded in decisions for salvation or for commitment to Christian service.

Through a constitutional change, the state Baptist group put aside the cumbersome title "State Convention of the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina," exchanging it for the easier-to-say "South Carolina Baptist Convention."

M. C. Donnan, 67, president of North Greenville Junior College at Tigerville, S. C., since 1934, was elected president of the convention. Another junior college head, J. E. Rouse, of Anderson College, Anderson, S. C., was named a vice-president.

The convention authorized the purchase of a \$65,000 lot containing nearly two acres on which to build a new state headquarters building, which will also house the Baptist Book Store. Actual construction may be deferred several years.

This lot is located in Columbia, near new superhighways. It's about a block from the governor's mansion, and a mile from the present Baptist building.

A record \$3,250,000 goal was adopted for Cooperative Program gifts. The convention moved back toward its previous 50-50 sharing of the \$1,400,000 operations segment of the budget by adopting a formula of giving 45 per cent to Southern Baptist Convention causes. The proportion had been cut to 40 per cent last year.

Storm clouds were raised for next year's convention after an inconclusive debate over fraternities at Furman University.

The convention instructed the university's trustees to bring a full report in 1960 specifying when they intend to abolish fraternities.

Abolition of the social clubs was requested by the convention four years ago. No report was made last year and none was intended this year.

A hasty report was forced during a miscellaneous business session. The trustees detailed restrictions which have been placed on fraternities and said fraternity men are average in church attendance and above average in scholarship and deportment.

Dotson Nelson, Jr., Greenville, chairman of the trustees, said the board thought it would be unwise to abolish fraternities "at one fell swoop," and urged the convention to rally behind Furman as "a bright hope of the foreign missionary enterprise."

But there were statements from messengers condemning dancing and saying fraternities have no place on a Christian campus.

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At one point a hefty majority voted down a motion leaving the matter in the hands of the trustees. But there was no strong leadership for a real head-on clash with the trustees, so the convention welcomed a motion to postpone the matter.

The trustees generally seemed to fear that an outright ban of fraternities would outrage the conscience of many students, cut off major contributors, and set a doubtful precedent of direct convention intervention in the realm of policy making.

Sunday blue laws, which have been under strong attack of theater owners, came in for a special notice and a committee will attend any legislative hearing on this issue next year.

A convention resolution expressed opposition to the trend of holding more and more National Guard drills on Sundays.

Retiring president John L. Slaughter of Spartanburg, S. C., told the convention that Baptists have no business trying to settle their differences in civil court. In the background of his remarks was a Spartanburg case in which an injunction barred a pastor from his pulpit.

The convention overruled its committee on time and place by voting to meet in Charleston next year instead of returning to Columbia. Two factors were behind the decision: (1) "Low-country" Baptists hope to meet the conditions for consideration of their request for a Baptist college in this section by next fall and want to present the matter to the convention at home base; (2) "Up-country Baptists" opposed any change in present procedure in holding sessions at centrally-located Columbia every two years and in rotating alternate years between the Piedmont section and the coast.

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Mississippi Boards  
To Convene Together

(11-15-59)

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--Members and trustees of all Mississippi Baptist Convention boards and institutions will probably gather for a joint one-day session next year.

The convention at its session here approved a recommendation of its executive board calling for such a get-together annually. The purpose: to have a joint understanding of common objectives and problems, and to see each other's problems.

The executive committee of the convention board will set up the mass meeting.

Messengers adopted a strong temperance report. They denounced the state's tax on black market liquor. Although sale of liquor is illegal in Mississippi, the state has a law taxing illegal sales.

State Baptists both voiced their opposition to the "hypocritical" tax legislation, and their opposition to any effort to make liquor sales legal.

Executive Secretary Chester L. Quarles was honored at the Tuesday night session of the convention. As a surprise to Quarles, the regular program for the evening was put aside and a service of tribute to him replaced it. This was Quarles' 10th convention session as executive secretary.

M. F. Rayburn, Meridian layman, was re-elected convention president. Jackson, as customary, as chosen site for the next convention--Nov. 15-17, 1960.

The convention adopted a \$2-1/2 million Cooperative Program budget for 1960, including \$850,000 as the share for the Southern Baptist Convention. The budget total is up \$225,000 over the current year.

It also voted that a sum of \$250,000 per year be allocated for capital expenditures by the denomination's colleges for the period Nov. 1, 1960 to Oct. 31, 1964.

It authorized Baptist Hospital in Jackson to borrow up to \$1/2 million from private lending agencies for immediate construction of two floors on the present hospital building. That will add 50 patient rooms.

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Mississippi Baptist Convention will go afield in January, February and March to raise \$100,000 to get Gulfshore Assembly in shape for use next year. That's going to be added to nearly \$100,000 of convention board reserve funds that have been re-invested already for that purpose.

The convention authorized Mississippi College, Clinton, to borrow a million dollars through the Housing and Home Finance Agency of the government for a 300-student dormitory. It also authorized William Carey College, Hattiesburg, to borrow \$250,000 for construction.

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Alabama Baptists Hit  
Catholic Objectives

(11-15-59)

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--(BP)--The Alabama Baptist State Convention here lashed out at the Roman Catholics, spurned government grants to churches, and condemned Sunday military drills.

B. Locke Davis of Anniston was re-elected president of the convention.

A report presented by the state Christian life commission, headed by G. W. Riddle of Alabama City, gave this statement on the Catholic issue:

"It remains undeniable that history reveals that the Roman Catholic Church has political objectives which, of themselves, inject serious problems about separation of church and state. These problem areas not to be ignored include the Roman Catholic Church's desire to establish itself as the state church whenever and wherever it can be done.

"Since their clear goal is to be the only completely recognized and state-supported church in the United States, while all others are to be looked upon either as sects or not even tolerated at all, it is pertinent to face up to portents involved in their achieving political supremacy in the United States. It is our thought that any Roman Catholic serving as President, as a matter of course, would be subject to varied types of strong pressures to give favoritism to the Roman Catholic Church regardless of his personal desire and public commitment.

"Our opinion is whenever a religious denomination has designs upon the constitution as it has been interpreted down through the years, and whenever that denomination threatens the freedom of the individual citizen in such matters as marriage, reading, health measures, to name but a few, and whenever that religious denomination seeks temporal and political power over the country and its citizens, thus moving away from pure religion and undefiled, and whenever that denomination exerts pressure upon both state and federal governments to alter our long-established public school program so as to provide tax monies for parochial schools, then we feel that the total conception of life offers an unresolved danger traditional religious liberty and presents a theological risk for the Presidency."

A resolution was passed by the convention on the church and state issue. The text of the resolution read:

"Baptists believe that every form of union of church and state is wrong and should be rejected and therefore we do now go on record as being opposed to the use of public tax money other than bona fide loans for any and all Baptist institutions and agencies. It shall be the policy of this convention not to make allocations of funds to any church or institution or agency which violates this principle by receiving grants from the federal government or any other political division."

The resolution was presented by L. E. Barton, former executive secretary of Alabama Baptist State Convention.

The Christian life report also hit the visit of President Eisenhower to Pope John 23rd. "A more disturbing visit from the viewpoint of religious equality and freedom is that of the announced intention of the President of the United States to personally call upon Pope John 23rd while on a global mission seeking means to world peace. While our sympathies are for world peace, we cannot see this worthy goal furthered by favoritism to a church group seeking political power." On the matter of Sunday military drills, the following statement was made:

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"...the services of some churches, the preaching of God's Word, and the ability to apply the teachings relative to the Lord's Day observance are being hindered by required drills of members of some units of the Alabama National Guard, reserve units of the military, and other military groups on Sundays....

"Requiring men to be present for drills on Sunday is in direct opposition to the teaching of the Bible, the practices of Baptists, and the traditions on which this country was founded.

"Therefore, be it resolved that the Christian life commission of the Alabama Baptist State Convention be requested to investigate and report at the next annual meeting of this convention."

The convention messengers voted to meet next year with the Dauphin Way Baptist Church in Mobile, Nov. 15-17.

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Virginia Disapproves  
Ike's Visit To Vatican

(11-15-59)

RICHMOND, Va.--(BP)--Messengers to the Baptist General Association of Virginia's annual session here declared opposition to President Eisenhower's visiting Pope John 23 at the Vatican.

Only one messenger dissented.

The association, after its most lengthy debate of the session, accepted a report of its religious liberty committee urging Baptist churches and individuals to "militantly dissociate themselves from the Bible-teaching program in the public schools of this commonwealth."

A substitute motion to delete this portion of the report lost.

The general association, which has no authority over affiliated churches, has for several years urged what the committee recommends. Still, in many cases, the committee reported, churches and individuals have ignored the suggestion and proceeded with school programs.

Messengers voted to continue a special committee on pastor-church relations. In its report to the 1959 session, this committee re-emphasized "the importance of each district association appointing a pastor-church relations committee," letting the pastors and churches of the area know the committee is available to help them.

Such a committee would assist churches seeking pastors, and pastors seeking churches. This portion of the report was accepted.

However, messengers remanded for further study this section of the pastor-church committee report:

"We recommend that all pastors and associate pastors, ministers of education, and ministers of music be requested to co-operate with the office of the (Virginia) executive secretary in filling out information forms to be filed within the Baptist building for churches seeking biographical data."

This would have, in effect, made the state Baptist office a reference agency for placement of pastors.

Messengers did authorize the general association office to print in tract form "suggestions as to procedure for securing a pastor and suggestions as to the severing of pastor-church relationships with dignity and fairness to all parties concerned."

These tracts will be available to churches and church workers.

It was reported that progress has been made toward a new Baptist state office building in Richmond. Such progress although slow, was termed "steady and gratifying."

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Negotiations are under way for a "choice" piece of property and services of an architect have been secured. Construction is due to start next year.

Albert E. Simms, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Newport News, was elected president. The association will meet in Bristol, Va., next Nov. 15-17, and in Arlington in 1961.

The 1959 president--Jesse M. Johnson, Richmond layman--could not attend the session due to illness. Theodore F. Adams, pastor of Richmond's First Baptist Church, read an address Johnson had prepared. The address stated that America is built on the home, school, and church. All three, he added, are in "critical phases" today.

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Ohio Determines Its  
1964 Achievements

(11-15-59)

TOLEDO, O.--(BP)--Ohio Southern Baptists will celebrate two special anniversaries in 1964--the 150th year of organized Baptist work in North America and the 10th anniversary of their state convention.

To celebrate this double event properly, the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio here adopted a set of goals for 1964. Among the objectives are 33,186 baptisms during the coming five years and an increase of membership of co-operating churches to 63,195.

Total memberships of 191 churches in the Ohio region now approximates 30,000. The convention is on the verge of securing representation on major Southern Baptist Convention boards because of its growth.

The state Baptist paper, now issued twice monthly, has a goal of publishing weekly by 1964, and increasing its circulation from around 6000 at present to 10,000. The editor plans to write a history of the first decade of work.

The convention approved further division of the work in religious education next year. George W. Fletcher, who has been handling Sunday school, Training Union, music, and church building consultant fields, will be relieved of Training Union and music.

This will form a separate department. By 1964, Ohio convention wants to have a separate Baptist student department secretary. Baptist student work is now handled by R. G. Puckett in addition to his duties as editor of the Ohio Baptist Messenger.

The approved 1960 budget provides for three additional workers in the state missionary program. The 1960 Cooperative Program budget is \$210,000 with 21 per cent going for Southern Baptist Convention causes. The 1964 goal is \$400,000 for the year's budget in the Cooperative Program with 30 per cent going to the SBC. There are intermediate steps leading to 1964.

The convention re-elected Joe M. Waltz, pastor, Pittsburgh (Pa.) Baptist Church, as president. The Ohio convention has affiliated churches also in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and western New York state.

It voted to meet next year on Nov. 15-17 in Cincinnati.

Convention leaders said Ohio will surpass its \$170,000 Cooperative Program goal for 1959 following present trends. During the first nine months, receipts totalled \$128,000.

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Louisiana Hospital  
Leasing Under Study

NEW ORLEANS--(BP)--The executive board of Louisiana Baptist Convention will study for the next year whether the convention should renew its lease of Homer (La.) Memorial Hospital.

The hospital was built with public funds and leased to Louisiana Baptists at a nominal yearly sum.

The issue came before the convention at its 1959 session in New Orleans. The feeling of Texas Baptists not to lease any hospital built with public tax funds prompted some messengers to oppose a renewal of the lease when it comes up soon.

The question, instead, was placed in the hands of the executive board. A thorough study of religious bodies--even non-Baptist--operating hospitals, and of tax funds used by them, is expected.

Louisiana Baptist Convention operates four hospitals, including the one at Homer in northwest Louisiana.

The convention's first vice-president, H. C. Abbott of Shreveport, filled the presidency when Paul E. Roberts of Lake Charles, La., accepted pastorate of a church in Little Rock, Ark. Abbott, a layman, was re-elected here to a regular term as president for the coming year.

The convention also approved a \$2.8 million budget goal for 1960, an increase of \$300,000 over the present year. The Southern Baptist Convention's share is 31.4 per cent.

The 1960 session of the convention will be held in Pineville, site of the convention's four-year college.

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CORRECTIONS

On page 1 of today's releases, regarding Eutaw Place Church, name of architect is Thomas U. Walter, not Walther as typed.

On page 6, concerning Alabama convention, in 6th paragraph, line 9 should read "conception of life offers an unresolved danger to traditional religious liberty and presents" inserting "to."

# BAPTIST FEATURES

PRODUCED BY BAPTIST PRESS  
NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

127 NINTH AVE., N., NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE AL 4-1631

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November 15, 1959

Southern Baptists Said  
Concerned On Emphasis

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--Southern Baptists are becoming concerned over the emphasis they are putting on quantity instead of quality of members, Wilfred L. Jarvis, an Australian Baptist minister touring this country, reported here.

Southern Baptists have begun to see the danger of accepting people into the church who do not realize the importance of a genuine acceptance of Christ, he said.

Jarvis has been touring Southern Baptist Convention states since August, conducting evangelistic teaching missions in churches and seminaries. He also is visiting convention agencies, including the Brotherhood Commission, Sunday School Board, and Foreign Mission Board. He has visited this country four times since 1950.

"Many Southern Baptists also are telling me they feel it's getting too easy for a person to become a member of their church," said Jarvis, pastor emeritus of Central Baptist Church, Sydney, and a former vice president of the Baptist World Alliance. "That's one of the reasons we have so many seemingly sincere Christian people who never share Christ with anyone else."

"What we Baptists need most is a trained church membership. We need to teach prospective members that being a Baptist is something more than just belonging to a Baptist church.

"It is a tragic thing that many Southern Baptist congregations are building sanctuaries that will hold less than half of their membership. They aren't making arrangements for those groups I know as the 'never comes, stay aways, and too tireds'."

Jarvis said he tries to practice in his church what he preaches. "We give our members instructions on what baptism really means before we permit them to be baptized. And we are building our churches large enough to seat every member."

To provide more trained workers, Jarvis has instituted a Christian worker's training college in his church. The two-year course of study with optional examinations includes lectures three nights a week by outstanding Baptist men who are specialists in fields in which the workers need help.

Jarvis said he appreciates his contacts with Southern Baptists, particularly the team of Brotherhood men who visited his country two years ago. He said they made a very deep impression on Australian men, especially the pastors.

Jarvis said he really got to know Southern Baptists during World War II when many American servicemen visited in his church.

"In almost every city I travel now, I meet people who were in my church during the war. We always tried to provide for them. On one Sunday night each month we had an Allied Service gospel meeting with 60 to 100 servicemen in the choir and others giving their testimonies. Later that night we had fellowship for them.

"Our Sunday night services are always the best attended because that is when the evangelistic message is given," he stated.

Jarvis said one of his most memorable experiences in more than 40 years as a pastor was with an American serviceman who accepted Christ in his church during World War II.

A few years later when Jarvis was speaking in Indiana, the young man's mother attended the service. Later, she told him what his church had meant to her son.

The boy, who was not a Christian, enlisted in the Army and was sent to Australia. While in Jarvis' church he made a profession of faith. After that experience his letters were full of his new-found joy, his mother said.

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