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February 2, 1960

Tokyo, Japan---The executive committee of Japan Baptist Convention has voted to invite Evangelist Billy Graham, currently on a "Safari for Souls" in Africa, to conduct a crusade in Japan.

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Santiago, Chile---H. Cecil McConnell has been elected president of Baptist Theological Seminary of Chile. R. Cecil Moore was elected editor of the Chilean Baptist paper. The vacancies resulted from death of Honorio Espinoza last year.

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Washington---The Baptist World Alliance reported that Josef Nordenhaug, presently head of European Baptist Seminary in Ruschlikon, Zurich, Switzerland, will be nominated as next general secretary of the Alliance. He would, if elected at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June by the 10th Baptist World Congress, succeed retiring Arnold T. Ohrn.

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Memphis, Tennessee---Dr. Robert G. Lee, only three-term president of the Southern Baptist Convention in recent times, has retired effective in April as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church here. Succeeding him as pastor of Bellevue, second largest church in the convention, will be Ramsey Pollard of Knoxville, Tennessee, the current president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Lee is noted for his sermon entitled "Pay Day Some Day" which he preached over 600 times.

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Elyria, Ohio---The 1200th Southern Baptist church in the eight "Great Lakes states" has been organized in this city adjoining the city of Cleveland. There were 48 charter members. It was the second church organized in the area in the new 1960 decade. The first one, in a Chicago suburb, was constituted at 12:05 a.m. January 1 and appropriately chose the name New Decade Baptist Church. Southern Baptists have churches in all eight states from New York City on the east to Minneapolis, Minnesota, on the west.

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Nashville---Dr. J. E. (Jerry) Lambdin, 70, the "Mr. Training Union" of Southern Baptists, died of a stroke here January 24, only 24 days after retiring as secretary of Training Union work in the Southern Baptist Convention. He was honored by a special Training Union Convention, attended by 7000, in Atlanta, Georgia, during the Christmas season.

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Nashville---Cooperative Program receipts to support work of the Southern Baptist Convention reached a record \$17,101,216 during 1959. Of this amount \$7,465,912 went to foreign missions and \$5,330,000 was shared by six Southern Baptist seminaries. The Cooperative Program is the financial plan of Southern Baptists for supporting missionary, educational, and benevolent work both within state Baptist organizations and through the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Atlanta, Georgia---C. C. Warren, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention now heading the convention's movement to establish 30,000 new missions and churches, has attended his first meeting since suffering a heart attack last year. He spoke briefly to state superintendents of Baptist missions attending a conference here.

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Dallas, Texas---The First Baptist Church of Dallas, largest in the Southern Baptist Convention with over 11,000 members, has a budget for 1960 of \$900,000. W. A. Criswell is pastor.

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Washington---Continued agitation in the 86th Congress of the United States for formal U. S. diplomatic relations with the Vatican is evidenced in a memorial from the legislature of the state of Rhode Island. The memorial described the Vatican as "the central information agency of the world." Interestingly enough, Rhode Island was the birthplace of religious freedom in Colonial America.