

April 27, 1948

**"OLD RUGGED CROSS"
IS FAVORITE HYMN**

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--George Bennard's "The Old Rugged Cross" is the favorite hymn on the Southern Baptist Hit Parade.

Dr. Sam F. Lowe, director of the Baptist Hour, has announced the following results of a favorite hymn poll conducted in Baptist Training Unions of the Southern Baptist Convention territory:

1. The Old Rugged Cross, by George Bennard
2. In the Garden, by C. Austin Miles
3. Amazing Grace, by John Newton
4. What a Friend We Have in Jesus, by Joseph Scriven
5. Sweet Hour of Prayer, by W. W. Walford
6. Living for Jesus, by T. O. Chisholm
7. Heavenly Sunlight, by H. J. Zelle
8. Never Alone, anonymous
9. The Lily of the Valley, anonymous
10. Have Thine Own Way, Lord, by Adelaide Pollard
11. At the Cross, by Isaac Watts
12. Breathe on Me, by Edwin Hatch
13. Rock of Ages, by Augustus M. Toplady

The hymns were sung, one each week in order of increasing favor, on a 13-week series of broadcasts over the 65 station network of the Southern Religious Radio Conference.

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**MANY WILL "TAKE HOME"
CONVENTION SESSIONS**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Porter Routh, secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, said that a superabundance of wire recorders and other dictation recording machines pose a real problem for the coming session of the Convention, May 19-23 in Memphis.

Routh said that several pastors and denominational paper editors have written him asking for his help in getting space near the platform for their apparatus. Whereas some want transcriptions of the speeches for their own files, others plan to take the "Convention in sound" back to their home churches so that all members can sense the spirit and inspiration of the mass meeting.

"Some special arrangements will have to be made to prevent the many microphones of private recorders from hiding the speaker from the audience," Routh said. He advised that no one should bring such equipment without making sure in advance that space will be available.

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RAILROADS PARK PULLMANS
TO ACCOMMODATE SBC OVERFLOW

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--A dozen or more pullman cars will be parked on side tracks in Memphis' Union Station to help house messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention here, May 19-23.

Learning that an acute hotel room shortage threatened to cut attendance at the coming meeting from the anticipated 10,000 people, officials of the various railroads entering Memphis consulted entertainment committees and offered use of the parking space.

Six cars from Texas, four from Florida, and one from Virginia have already been definitely scheduled, a spokesman announced. Parties planning to attend the Convention and unable to reserve hotel rooms simply charter the pullman car for the full duration of the round-trip journey, it was announced. They ride the car to Memphis, use it as headquarters parked in the station during the convention, then ride it back to their homes.

Memphis churches have made arrangements to provide bathing facilities for the pullman guests.

Memphis Committee Diligent

In Nashville, Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary of the Executive Committee, reported that the Memphis entertainment committees have assigned 1020 hotel rooms and more than 3000 rooms in private homes to Convention messengers and visitors.

Only 850 hotel rooms had been promised by Memphis when their invitation to the 1948 convention was issued at St. Louis last year. Paid advertisements and news items in Memphis newspapers, coupled with announcements from pulpits in all Memphis churches, helped in the securing of the large number of rooms in private homes.

Dr. Slater A. Murphy, general chairman of the entertainment committees, said that 21 sub-committees composed of 75 people are working on arrangements for the many varied phases of Convention preparation. Memphis Baptists have subscribed \$5000 as their part in bearing Convention expenses.

CHAPLAIN MADDOX UNABLE
TO ATTEND CONVENTION

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Chaplain Paul Maddox, chief of chaplains of American occupation forces in the European theater, will be unable to return to the United States in May for an address at the Southern Baptist Convention.

Chaplain Maddox phoned Dr. Louie D. Newton, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, explaining that developments in Europe make the trip impossible.

The chaplain chief was to have addressed the Convention on his interpretation of spiritual conditions on the European continent. He also was to have delivered the commencement address at Mercer University, Georgia Baptist institution, and receive the honorary degree, Doctor of Laws.

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OBU MISSION LIBRARY
HONORS E. C. ROUTH

SHAWNEE, Okla.--(BP)--The E. C. Routh Mission Library will be dedicated at Oklahoma Baptist University here May 30.

Dr. John W. Raley, university president, said that the library will honor Dr. E. C. Routh, formerly editor of the Baptist Standard of Dallas and the Baptist Messenger of Oklahoma City, who retires May 15 as editor-in-chief of The Commission, mission journal of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Dr. Routh will speak at the dedication service.

Purpose of the library, according to Dr. Raley, is the "gathering and preserving of material on foreign missions and the making of it available to those interested in mission work. Books, letters from missionaries, and all available printed material by or about missionaries will be collected for the library, he said.

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"DO GOOD TO THEM..."

RICHMOND, Va.--(BP)--Two challenging statements were made in a special meeting at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board here as officials made plans for expansion of Christian missions in Japan.

Said Dr. M. Theron Rankin, executive secretary: "It is our ambition that the Christians of America may bring greater changes in the life of Japan through love than the armies of America brought through war."

And said a young woman appointee for mission work in Japan: "My brother was rather famous for dropping his calling cards on their cities. I am going over there to make up to them for what he had to do."

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