

November 16, 1948

WOMAN CONVERTED AT ARIZONA CONVENTION

CHANDLER, Ariz.--(BP)--Southern Baptists in Arizona -- 63 churches with a membership of 10,198 -- have adopted a \$157,000 budget for 1949 and voted to open Grand Canyon Baptist College at Prescott next fall.

The annual convention of the denomination heard reports that the churches baptized more than 1000 persons during the past year. Rev. Frank W. Sutton, pastor of the Eastside Baptist Church of Phoenix, was elected president.

It was voted to incorporate Grand Canyon College immediately, to employ a dean as soon as possible to set up a curriculum and secure a faculty, and to ask the churches to complete the raising of \$100,000 for the college by the end of the year. The city of Prescott has offered temporary quarters for the opening of the school.

A high hour of the Convention came when Dr. Alfred Carpenter of the Home Mission Board dropped usual formality of a Convention session to make an invitation at the close of his address. One woman visitor was converted and scores of others rededicated their lives.

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THEY TRAVELED ON SUNDAY -- BUT THEY TOOK GOD WITH THEM

ABILENE, Tex.--(BP)--Otis Jerden has been driving a bus for 11 years, and in that time he has seen a little of everything from fights to romances happen aboard his buses.

But he has just added another sort of experience -- a church service.

It happened while he was driving a group of 28 Hardin Simmons University students home from the annual meeting of the Texas Baptist Student Union at Waco. Glancing back over his shoulder he saw his passengers in prayer.

The students conducted complete worship services on the bus at the regular Sunday evening preaching hour.

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TEXAS BAPTISTS SET \$10,000,000 BUDGET;
EVANGELISM GOAL OF 100,000 SOULS

HOUSTON, Tex.--(BP)--Texas Baptists, meeting here in their centennial session, enthusiastically adopted a 1949 budget of \$10,000,000, of which \$6,000,000 will go to schools and hospitals, \$1,100,000 to state causes, and \$2,900,000 to Southern Baptist Convention causes.

The huge financial goal was set with the understanding no institution will stage a campaign for funds outside the overall correlated effort.

Dr. Wallace Bassett, pastor of the Cliff Temple Baptist Church of Dallas, was reelected president.

A survey committee, making its report, recommended that major emphasis in 1949 be placed on evangelism with a goal of 100,000 souls to be won. They suggested for attaining their goal: a revival in every church in the state, assistance of city pastors in the central campaign as well as simultaneous campaigns throughout the state, and special evangelistic efforts among minority groups in the state.

Immediate efforts will be made to increase circulation of the Baptist Standard, state paper, to 250,000, with 300,000 viewed as an ultimate goal.

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BETTER WRITERS ARE NEEDED FOR
IMPROVED BAPTIST JOURNALISM

MUSKOGEE, Okla.--(BP)--Too much concern with the quality of the paper -- and not enough with the quality of the writing -- has been a major handicap to the Baptist press in recent years, Rev. Albert McClellan told the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma in its annual session here.

Rev. McClellan is editor of the Baptist Messenger.

He recommended, to meet the need in Oklahoma, an enlarged staff to assist him in editing the Messenger and strengthening of publicity outlets to the state's daily and weekly papers.

Five one-day church news-writing clinics are being scheduled for next April to better acquaint Oklahoma Baptists with publicity techniques, McClellan announced. They will be held in Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Woodward, Hobart, and Atoka. Visual aids and church library conferences will be held simultaneously with the news-writing clinics, he said.

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NEW MEXICO BUDGET
INCREASED 50 PER CENT

CLOVIS, N. M.--(BP)--The General Convention of New Mexico Baptists, holding their annual meeting here, adopted a 1949 budget of \$286,420, an increase of \$96,000 over the 1948 program. Thirty per cent of the new budget is to go to the Cooperative Program of Southern Baptists.

Fifteen hundred messengers and visitors were in attendance. They elected Rev. S. M. Morgan, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Artesia, president.

In pre-convention sessions, the Brotherhood voted to sponsor trips to Alaska next summer for efficiency winners in the state's Royal Ambassador chapters, and the W.M.U. approved purchase of 15 bicycles to be sent to Baptist pastors in Europe.

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VIRGINIA GOES 50-50

NORFOLK, Va.--(BP)--Virginia Baptists, in their annual state association meeting, voted 50-50 division of their Cooperative Program dollar in 1949. Fifty per cent of receipts in the state office will go to state causes and 50 per cent to Southern Baptist Convention causes.

The vote is in accord with, and a year ahead of, a Southern Baptist campaign using the slogan "Fifty-Fifty by 1950."

The Association did not set a dollar-and-cents goal for 1949 receipts, but instead simply set up the percentage tables for distribution of all money received. State Secretary James R. Bryant said an effort will be made to exceed the 1948 goal of \$2,000,000.

Dr. H. W. Tiffany, pastor of the Park Place Baptist Church, Norfolk, was elected moderator.

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MARYLAND GOES 50-50

BALTIMORE, Md.--(BP)--Total receipts of \$147,889 for the year were reported by the State Mission Board of Maryland Baptists at the annual meeting of the Maryland Baptist Union Association. Of this amount, \$107,904 was for the Cooperative Program.

Churches reported a total membership of 28,585, an increase of 1,218 over the previous year.

A goal of \$125,000 for the Cooperative Program was adopted for 1949, with gifts divided 50 per cent to state causes and 50 per cent to Southern Baptist Convention causes. Rev. E. E. Garland of Crisfield was elected president.

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