

September 1, 1949

127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

"UNTO ONE OF THE LEAST OF THESE"

The long hand of Christian love has reached all the way from Saint Louis, Missouri to South America to bring mercy and healing to thirteen-year-old Rudy, a slender, deeply-tanned, Spanish-speaking boy of Barranquilla, Columbia.

Rudy -- or Rodolfo Gutierrez, if you want his whole name -- is in Saint Louis for a very rare heart operation, the kind that will bring health to his thin body. Rudy was born a blue baby.

The operation is to be paid for by the Baptist churches of Saint Louis and is to be performed early in September in Barnes Hospital by the eminent heart surgeon, Dr. Thomas H. Burford. Rudy made the long trip accompanied by Mrs. H. W. Schweinsburg, a Southern Baptist missionary to Columbia. His parents, members of one of the Baptist churches of Barranquilla, remained at home.

Rudy is very consecrated, Mrs. Schweinsburg says, and knows about as much about the Bible as any Intermediate boy in this country, except, of course, his knowledge is all in Spanish. He also plays the violin.

One of his friends who came to see him just as he was leaving for the states asked Rudy, "What if the operation is not successful? What if you do not come back?" the boy answered, "That will be all right. I am in God's hands."

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STUDENTS LAUNCH MISSION PROJECTS

There will be at least 15 European mission projects launched on 13 Southern Baptist college campuses this autumn as a result of a summer mission tour by 20 young people, according to Dr. William Hall Preston, associate secretary of the Student Union Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

One group will raise money to buy 50 complete clothing outfits for 25 young men coming from destitute countries to study in the new Baptist seminary at Zurich, Switzerland. Another campus will send money for a washing machine to be placed in the Baptist orphanage at Rome, Italy. Others will supply T-shirts and short trousers for the boys of the orphanage.

Other projects include two cows for the orphanage, typewriters for the seminary, a piano for the missionary training school in Rome and scholarships for young ministerial students.

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The United Nations World lists the religious population of the various groups as follows: Roman Catholic, 339 million; Eastern Greek Orthodox, 128 million; Protestant and Evangelicals, 136 million; Mohammedans, 221 million; Confucianists, 300 million; Buddhists, 150 million; Hindus, 230 million; Taoists, 50 million; Shintoists, 25 million; and Jews, 12 million.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has authorized \$100,000 for the construction of the first Baptist hospital to be located in South America. The hospital will be located at Asuncion in Paraguay. Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, medical missionary, will be in charge.

The New York Police Department reports that more than 80 percent of the serious juvenile delinquents have no religious affiliation for either the offender or his parents.

At the meeting of the World Baptist Youth Congress in Stockholm, there were 1350 registered from 23 countries. There were no representatives from Russian dominated countries. Three Spanish Baptists were denied exit permits to attend the Congress. Joel Sorenson, newly elected youth secretary of the Alliance will take office on January 1, 1950. For the first year, his headquarters will be in Stockholm.

A special committee of the United Nations has approved a plan to open and close each annual session with a minute of silent prayer.

The registration for the Falls Creek Baptist Assembly, Oklahoma, reached 15,739, a new record set for this annual 10-day youth encampment.

Rabbi Maimon, minister of religion for Israel, has asserted that the government "will not exercise compulsion over the religious observance of its citizens." There had been some fear that Israel would become a theocratic state.

The Senate has confirmed Col. Roy Hartford Parker, Southern Baptist, as Army Chief of Chaplains. He will be promoted to the rank of major general.

According to a recent survey, there were 34.8 births per thousand Catholic population in 1947, compared with 27.3 births per 1,000 for the entire U. S.

Southern Baptist Convention mission receipts for July reached \$576,619.79, a new high for July. Mission receipts for the year to that date were \$3,730,700.80, compared with \$3,402,977.58 for 1948. Total receipts are running nearly a million dollars above last year.

The new governor of Texas, Allan Shivers, is a Baptist from Port Arthur.

The pulpit used by Dr. Samuel Bullein Johnson, first president of the Southern Baptist Convention, nearly 100 years ago has been restored by the First Baptist Church of Edgefield, S. C. The pulpit has been used for the past 50 years by a Negro Methodist Church.

Dr. Edwin Preston has resigned as president of the famous Cumberland University, Tennessee Baptist school. One of Dr. Preston's accomplishments during his term was to secure accreditation for the university's well-known law school.

It is reported that the Inca Indians in Columbia have asked government officials to forbid the sale of alcoholic liquors in their territory to "prevent quarrels and improve living conditions."
