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1,181 Decisions Reported
In Dayton Encounter Crusade

DAYTON, Ohio (BP)--The Dayton "Encounter" Crusade, largest evangelistic effort ever held by Southern Baptists in Ohio, closed its central meeting at a local stadium with a total of 1,181 public decisions reported, including 522 conversions. 616

Total attendance at the week-long central crusade at Dayton's Welcome Stadium exceeded 52,000, said crusade officials. Crowds ranged from 6,000 to 10,000 each night.

Following the central crusade at Welcome Stadium, the evangelistic effort shifted into the second phase with services in 79 Southern Baptist churches in the Dayton area.

W. A. Criswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, preached an evangelistic message each night of the central crusade at Welcome Stadium. Lee Roy Till, minister of music for the Dallas church, directed the music for the crusade.

The services began each evening with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner. Before Criswell's sermon each night, outstanding personalities from the entertainment and sports worlds gave their testimonies, telling what being a Christian has meant to them.

Appearing were Ethel Waters, Negro soloist and actress; Adrian Smith of the Cincinnati Royals professional basketball team; Bill Glass, all-pro end for the Cleveland Browns; Tom Lester, television actor who plays in the show "Green Acres," and two soloists from the First Baptist Church of Dallas, Mrs. Martha Branham and Ann Criswell, daughter of the preacher.

A group of four teenagers known as The Lively Ones from Dallas entertained in restaurants and shopping centers, and also gave their testimonies during the central crusade. Another group of about 80 young people called the Sherwood Singers from Sherwood Baptist Church, Odessa, Tex., also sang in the shopping centers.

While the thousands were attending the crusade meetings, an army of hundreds was witnessing in the Dayton area, said Ralph Neighbor, associate in the evangelism division for the Baptist General Convention of Texas and crusade coordinator.

Each day, 600 Baptists in shifts of 200 were visiting, distributing literature, conducting recreation periods at city playgrounds, filling speaking engagements at civic clubs, or singing in a factory or shopping center.

The services were broadcast over radio and television, and telephone numbers were broadcast periodically for those who were listening to call the crusade counselors. Six telephone lines were kept open.

Crusade officials reported that the calls ranged from requests for prayer, to joyful professions of faith. One person called long distance to shout, "I've been saved! I've been saved!" She had been watching on television.

Two Baptist Student Union workers from Texas spent two weeks in Dayton trying to cultivate a personal relationship to local hippies and "the far out ones." The teenage combo, the Lively Ones, also attempted to reach the hippies with the message of Christianity.

In another unique approach, Mrs. Marge Caldwell of Midland, Tex., who operates a charm school there, conducted a week's charm school for all Dayton girls who would be interested. She also went to a girls' detention home to give charm instructions.

The crusade, in preparation for more than a year, is the second such evangelistic effort assisted by Texas Baptists who developed the program, and the first such crusade ever held in the frontier areas of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Leading up to the actual crusade was a series of associational and area rallies and a survey taken by the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board, in which more than 100,000 unchurched people were found in the area.

Crusade Coordinator Neighbor estimated the cost of the crusade to be about \$30,000 less than the \$200,000 budget for the meeting.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas is providing about \$100,000 in the crusade, and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board is providing \$25,000.

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Ken McAnear Named
Ridgecrest Manager

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RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)--Kenneth McAnear, office supervisor of the Training Union Department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, was named manager of Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly at the semi-annual meeting of the Sunday School Board.

McAnear, a native Texan, will succeed Willard K. Weeks, who will retire Oct. 31. Weeks has been manager of the North Carolina assembly since 1950.

McAnear will begin a period of orientation Aug. 15, and assume full management on Nov. 1.

McAnear was born in Jacksboro, Tex., but spent his childhood in Mexia, Tex. He is a graduate of Texas Technological College, Lubbock. While in school he served as visual aids worker in the Lubbock, Fort Worth and Dallas Baptist Book Stores.

An ordained minister, McAnear has served as pastor of churches in Lubbock and Morton, Tex., and Niles, Mich.

McAnear first joined the Sunday School Board in 1959 as a salesman for Broadman Books. In 1962 he became office supervisor of the Training Union department.

McAnear is married to the former Ann Luella Groves of Brady, Tex.

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Chastain Promoted
By Baptist Board

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RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)--Wayne H. Chastain was promoted to director of the office of management services of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention by the board at its semi-annual meeting at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly.

Chastain succeeds Ben R. Murphy, who has resigned to accept a position with Genesco in Nashville.

Chastain, a native of Jacksonville, Fla., is a graduate of Stetson University, DeLand, Fla., and attended Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Chastain first joined the Sunday School Board in 1958 as director of Camp Ridgecrest for Boys. In 1964 he moved to Nashville, where he became work simplification coordinator on the organization and methods staff. He was made a management consultant in 1965 and became assistant to the director of office of management services in May of 1966.

The office of management services offers board-wide financial and administrative assistance. It provides counsel to all levels of management, including internal auditing, fiscal counsel and legal, budgetary, insurance and investment advice.

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NOTE TO STATE BAPTIST PAPER EDITORS: Photos of McAnear and Chastain being mailed to each Baptist state paper.

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Board Adopts Guideline
For Curriculum Materials

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RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)--An educational objective which will give guidance in development of curriculum materials by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention was adopted at the semi-annual meeting of the board here.

The statement of educational objective as approved by the board follows:

"To help persons become aware of God as revealed in Jesus Christ, respond to him in a personal commitment of faith, strive to follow Christ in the full meaning of discipleship, related effectively to Christ's church and its mission in the world, live in conscious recognition of the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit, and grow toward Christian maturity."

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Louisiana Leader
Joins Baptist Board

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NASHVILLE (BP)--Jimmy P. Crowe, Training Union secretary of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, will join the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in late August.

Crowe, a native of New Orleans, will serve as consultant in the general Training Union administration unit of the board.

Crowe was educated in Louisiana, receiving a bachelor of arts from Louisiana College in Pineville in 1949 and was graduated from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1952.

He has been pastor in churches at Gilbert and Pineville, La., and missions in South Louisiana. He was associate secretary of the Training Union department of the Louisiana Convention in 1954 and has been secretary since 1956.

Crowe is president of Training Union Secretaries of the Southern Baptist Convention, as he was in 1959. He was vice president of the Southern Baptist Religious Education Association in 1965.

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Sunday School Board
Okays Grading Plan

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RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)--Approval of a new grading plan and curriculum products to implement the plan, both to be effective Oct. 1, 1970, was given by the elected members of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention in semi-annual meeting at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly.

The adult division of the grading plan was authorized to provide for three age groups within the adult division.

These are: young adults (age 18 or high school graduation) through 29; adult, 30 through 59 (or retired), and senior adults, from age 60 (retirement) up.

Previous action by the SBC Sunday School Board, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission provided for three other basic groups; the pre-school division, children division and youth division.

Literature planned will provide a correlated series for all age groups similar to the Life and Work Curriculum now being prepared for young people and adults. Uniform lessons will be offered for the youth and adult divisions.

New products approved in the plan included some which have no counterparts now: a monthly leisure magazine for adults; a Sunday School teacher and member quarterly for college students; a Sunday School depth study quarterly for adults in the correlated series; and two new periodicals prepared in the board's church administration department --a quarterly publication for deacons and a quarterly professional journal for church staff members and denominational leaders.

Further details on the new products will be worked out by the education division of the board and announced when they are complete. Only an outline listing of periodicals was announced at this meeting of the Sunday School Board.

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Wichita Evangelism Effort
Results in 627 Conversions

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WICHITA, Kan. (BP)--The 11-day James Robison Greater Wichita Campaign resulted in 627 professions of faith, with a total attendance of more than 45,000, Baptist leaders reported here.

A total of 1,041 decisions were reported in the evangelistic effort, which the executive secretary of the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists called "the greatest evangelistic effort in the history of Wichita Southern Baptists.

"This was a tremendous thing that happened to us, and I think you will be hearing more of this young man," said N. J. Westmoreland, executive secretary of the Kansas convention. James Robison is a 23-year old evangelist from Texas. He spoke each evening during the 11-day crusade.

Seven of the services were held in the field house of Wichita State University because of rainy weather. Four services were held in the adjacent football stadium.

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Date and Writers Announced
For New Baptist Commentary

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RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)--The date of publication and writers for a multi-volume Bible commentary were announced here to members of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board meeting in semi-annual session.

Clifton J. Allen, editorial secretary of the board and general editor of The Broadman Bible Commentary, said Oct. 1, 1969, is the expected publication date of the first two of twelve volumes--one Old Testament and one New Testament.

Other volumes are scheduled for publication over the next four years. Seven volumes on Old Testament and five on New Testament books are planned.

Allen announced the writers who have been enlisted for the first two volumes. G. Henton Davies, principal of Regent's Park College, Oxford, England, and Roy L. Honeycutt, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, will do the work on Genesis and Exodus.

Frank Stagg, professor of New Testament interpretation, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Henry E. Turlington, pastor of University Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, N.C., will do the work on Matthew and Mark.

Other writers with assignments include: J. W. MacGorman, professor of New Testament, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Malcolm O. Tolbert, associate professor of New Testament, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; John I. Durham, associate professor of Old Testament interpretation, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Also, William H. Morton, professor of archaeology, Midwestern Seminary; William E. Hull, associate professor of New Testament interpretation, Southern Seminary; and Charles A. Trentham, pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn.

"It is expected that within a few months other distinguished scholars, including some from Europe, will be engaged for all major writing assignments for the commentary," Allen said.

Four consulting editors will provide counsel and assistance, particularly in the areas of biblical scholarship and technical research. These editors are John I. Durham, Roy L. Honeycutt, J. W. MacGorman and Frank Stagg.

The Broadman Bible Commentary, to be published by Broadman Press, will be directed toward a combined audience of ministers and serious lay students of the Bible. It will appeal primarily to persons with concern to know the deeper meaning of the biblical revelation, Allen explained.

The commentary will be marked by a strong emphasis on the redemptive message of the scriptures and the relevance of biblical teaching for the issues and problems of the present world.

"This commentary will studiously avoid theological 'camps,'" Allen emphasized, "but it will be completely committed to the unique and inspired nature of the biblical revelation, to a Christ-centered faith, to the reality of personal redemption, and to the demand for an authentic expression of faith in terms of a Christ-controlled life."

The style of the commentary will be a balanced combination of exegesis and exposition, Allen continued. While maintaining the posture of interpretation, it will seek to "breathe the spirit of life-centeredness." It will seek to reflect the position that the word of God is for the life of man.

"We think of this commentary in terms of mission--to help persons know the truth of the biblical revelation that they may believe in the word of God with certainty and declare its message to the world," Allen said.

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Cutlines

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Baptist Press Photo

UNUSED PLANE TICKET THAT SAVED A LIFE: Margaret Kelley and her father, Page Kelley, look at a ticket for the ill-fated Piedmont Airlines Flight No. 22 which crashed near Hendersonville, N.C., recently. Margaret, who had attended Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, was planning to take the flight, but changed her mind and caught an earlier plane on a reduced-fare card instead. Kelley, professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, feared his daughter was one of the 82 persons killed in the crash, but found her alive after he paged her at the airport in Washington, D. C. where they were to meet. (BP) Photo by J. Rolfe Castleman, Frederick News-Post, Frederick, Md.

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