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November 20, 1967

**Doctor Pleas For Women
 To Perform Acts of Mercy**

WASHINGTON (BP)--"The hands of human mercy are not unlike the hands of God," a world renowned anesthetist and humanitarian, Dr. Robert A. Hingson of Cleveland, Ohio, told the North American Baptist Women's Union here.

Hingson's dramatic statement was spoken before a backdrop of a replica of Michaelangelo's painting of the Hand of God in the moment before it touched the limp and lifeless hand of man at creation.

The 1200 delegates to the continental women's meeting heard the famous doctor's plea to join him in the fight against disease and pain and the needless deaths of thousands of children in developing nations.

"I am told there are more than 35,000 women's organizations represented in this meeting... and we need everyone of you," Dr. Hingson urged telling them that "it is not God's plan for little babies to die."

"Your friends and neighbors in this great North America are one family," he said. "Because of our love for Jesus we can and must show his love," Dr. Hingson pleaded with the women.

"I tell the people I serve that God loves them more than they will ever know. I am counting on you to show that love through acts of mercy," he continued.

With special emphasis on North America, Dr. Hingson described the work he and a team of medical personnel did in Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua to inoculate thousands of persons against infectious disease.

In Nicaragua this past summer a predicted polio epidemic hit the country. Funds were not available earlier for preventive action, he explained. Using the jet inoculator which he invented, the team was able to inoculate up to 24,000 persons an hour against the dread disease.

Dr. Hingson demonstrated the jet inoculator, dubbed the "Peace Gun," as he spoke. The special instrument used for rapid injections does not require a needle.

Dr. Hingson, a Baptist layman, is chairman of the department of anesthesia, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. He is a native of Alabama.

He is best known for his foundation "Operation: Brother's Brother," which has provided mass inoculations against infectious and contagious disease in all parts of the world.

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**Church May Abdicate Work
 To Others, Chafin Warns**

11/20/67

WASHINGTON (BP)--Non-Christian groups may be taking over the work of the church, Southern Seminary Professor Kenneth Chafin suggested to the delegates of the North American Baptist Women's Union meeting here.

Chafin cited an example of a government VISTA worker who came into a community in the South and after a survey gave a local pastor a list of persons in the area who were hungry.

The pastor commented later that "it is a sad day when a government worker knows more about the poor in the community than the minister who preaches the love of God."

The Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., described Baptists as often being guilty of "long distance compassion."

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We look at slides of poverty in Africa, Hong Kong and Manila and feel great compassion, he explained, adding, "but then you can't smell poverty on a slide... and you can in your own community."

"Baptists have been naive about the structures of society that crush people," Chafin claimed. He suggested that the women do something to correct this by exposing themselves to the hurt and pain in their own community.

"Drive home from church a different way, go down a new street, break up some old patterns of living...look and listen for need," he advised.

We do not serve two Christs, Chafin pointed out. "The same Christ who knocks at your heart wants to take your hand and lead you into a world of misery...." he urged.

"We are not whole until we help others," the evangelism professor concluded.

The North American Baptist Women's Union, a division of the women's department of the Baptist World Alliance, meets every five years. Over 1200 persons from 14 different Baptist groups registered for the three-day meeting. The delegates were from Mexico, Jamaica, Canada and many parts of the United States.

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Canadian Named President
Of Baptist Women's Group

11/20/67

WASHINGTON (BP)--North American Baptist Women in assembly here elected a Canadian, Mrs. I. Judson Levy of Nova Scotia, to head their Continental Union for the next five years.

She is the wife of the dean of the chapel of Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

The new president is the second Canadian to serve in this position. Mrs. Edgar Bates of Ontario, was the union's first president, serving from 1951-57.

Mrs. Levy succeeds Miss Alma Hunt of Birmingham, Ala., executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. Miss Hunt had been acting president since the death of Mrs. William McMurry who was elected to the post five years ago.

Named as vice president is Mrs. Mary O. Ross, Detroit, Mich., president of the Woman's Convention, Auxiliary to the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

A pastor's wife from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Mrs. Maurice Wessman, was elected secretary. Mrs. Wessman is a member of the Baptist General Conference.

A Washington, D. C. homemaker aligned with both the American and Southern Baptist Conventions, Mrs. L. S. Casazza, was named treasurer.

The organization also named five members-at-large to its Executive Committee which conducts the union's business in yearly meetings. They are:

Miss Edwina Robinson, a Southern Baptist from Jackson, Miss.; Mrs. Walter Grosser, American Baptist from La Grange, Ill.; Mrs. Delmar L. Wesseler, Lorraine, Kansas, affiliated with the North American Baptist General Conference; Mrs. Frank Wigginton, American Baptist from Philippi, W. Va., and Mrs. L. S. Gaillard, Sr., Birmingham, Ala., a member of the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc.

In business session, outgoing Treasurer Mrs. Frank Wigginton reported that \$66,389 had passed through the treasury in the past year. Funds for the continental unions of the Baptist World Alliance women's department come from contributions through the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer.

The North American Baptist Women's Union is a division of the women's department of the Baptist World Alliance. The group of 14 Baptist conventions, unions and associations meets every five years.

According to its constitution, the purpose of the union is "to promote fellowship, deeper sympathy, and fuller understanding among Baptist women; to exchange information; and to promote and participate in the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer."

Over 1200 women registered for the three-day meeting here Nov. 16-18, coming from Mexico and Jamaica as well as from all across Canada and the United States.

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Famed Negro Theologian
Speaks To Baptist Women

WASHINGTON (BP)--Negro Theologian Howard Thurman was the featured speaker at the meeting of the North American Baptist Women's Union here.

Thurman, dean emeritus of Marsh Chapel at Boston University, spoke three times during the conference, opening main sessions with a devotional meditation on the nature of commitment and service to God.

"The growing encounter with the living God is the greatest possible human event," the quiet-spoken minister and writer said in his opening message.

"The things you prefer will live in your soul and spirit, and you will grow into their likeness," he told women from all across the North American Continent.

Thurman described the essence of commitment as "yielding the nerve center of consent" to God. Commitment means to make all the manifold expressions of one's personality "a lung through which God breathes," he explained.

The famed Negro lecturer, described by Life magazine as one of the 12 greatest preachers of this century, urged the women to admit the living God to the "core" of their lives, giving God "initiative at the nerve center of consent."

Thurman warned against the kind of ministry to persons which is not done out of love, but is done simply from a sense of decency or in aesthetic response to the ugliness of life. "Commitment to service means to love," he said.

"Love means that I must identify with the person who is dirty," he continued.

In addition to his association with Boston University, Thurman also has been minister or professor of theology at Morehouse College, Spelman College, Howard University, University of Iowa, University of Ibadan (Nigeria), and Earlham College. He is presently visiting lecturer on theology at Presbyterian Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

There were over 1200 women from 14 different Baptist groups registered for the three-day meeting. Delegates came from Mexico, Canada, Jamaica and many parts of the United States.

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Baylor Invokes Rigid
Rules Against Hazing

11/20/67

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Baylor University's administration has set rigid regulations for Baylor's social and service clubs in an attempt to curb physical hazing.

Following a review of recent Student Court decisions on nine clubs tried for violation of the school's physical hazing rule, Baylor President Abner V. McCall issued a ruling imposing stricter penalties on one club, promising to review the cases of two others, and tightening regulations on all.

Baylor Chamber of Commerce, a service club, was restricted from accepting members for a year and each member who attended an October rally was put on personal probation for the balance of the 1967-68 school year. It was during this initiation that sophomore pledge John Clifton of Crosby, Tex., died.

In addition, the Chamber of Commerce will no longer have supervision and selection of yell leaders. This responsibility will be taken over by Student Congress.

In the statement McCall reprimanded the Chamber of Commerce for "betrayal of a greater trust than that reposed in other clubs." Physical hazing has always been against university policy.

Chamber of Commerce had pleaded guilty to the court and was sentenced to a restriction of pledge activities for two years. The court suspended the sentence.

The administration also promised to review the cases of Tryon Coterie, (Try C) a social club which pleaded "not guilty" to physical hazing, but was found "guilty" by Student Court, and Esquire, a social club which pleaded "not guilty" and was found not guilty by the court.

As a result of the guilty verdict Try-C was sentenced to one-year probation and restriction of pledge activities.

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Alpha Kappa Psi pleaded "not guilty," was found "guilty" and sentenced to two-year probation with pledge activities restricted. The case against Nu Alpha Tau Epsilon was dropped by the court for lack of prosecuting evidence.

The other four clubs involved plead guilty to physical hazing and received suspended sentences from the court.

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Senator Urges Women's
Involvement In Government

11/20/67

WASHINGTON (BP)--Senator Jennings Randolph (D., W. Va.) urged several hundred Baptist women here to become more involved in civic, church and government affairs.

Speaking to the Fourth Continental Assembly of the North American Baptist Women's Union, he said the involvement needed is "not just hit and miss or haphazard workers and so-called nice people," but women who are "stimulating, informed, competent and self-disciplined, Christian-centered citizens."

The West Virginia senator spoke at the opening session of a three-day meeting of 1,000 women from 14 Baptist groups in North America. This "Baptist-style ecumenical meeting" registered women from Canada, Mexico, Jamaica and many parts of the United States.

Sen. Randolph, a Seventh Day Baptist (a division of the Baptist movement that worships on Saturday) said there is a unity under the Baptist umbrella that does not lead to uniformity. "Our differences do not weaken the Baptist movement, but strengthen it," he declared.

The senator strongly criticized the amount of coverage given in many daily papers to the "hippie" movement. He challenged the Baptist women to action against so much publicity for what he described as the "minus" group in our society.

He suggested that the women participate in public affairs by getting the news media to focus on "The Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the thousands of fine young people on our college campuses" instead of the Hippies.

There are four million more women of voting age than men, he pointed out, and yet the percentage of women voting is 15 per cent less than that of men, he said, urging the use of influence at the ballot box.

Another speaker, C. Emanuel Carlson of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs here, said that Washington, D. C. is probably the most important capital city in the world.

Here in Washington the forces of the nation and the world encounter one another in working out the problems of human destiny, Carlson said.

This is the fourth time that Baptist women from the North American continent have assembled. The group met for the first time in Columbus, Ohio, in 1953. Since then, an assembly has been held every four or five years. In 1957 it met in Toronto and in 1962 in St. Louis, Mo.

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FINAL ROUNDUP

Baptist Women Have
'Ecumenical' Meeting

11/20/67

WASHINGTON (BP)--More than 1,200 women from 14 different Baptist conventions, conferences and associations in North America met here for what was described as a "Baptist-style ecumenical meeting."

It was the fourth continental assembly of the North American Baptist Women's Union, a division of the women's department of the Baptist World Alliance.

For three days the delegates from Mexico, Jamaica, Canada and the United States considered the conference theme, "Encounter...Response."

Miss Alma Hunt, acting president from Birmingham, Ala., presided over the program planned to bring the participants to an "encounter" with the problems of the world.

In the final session, Mrs. Edgar Bates of Toronto, told the women that each member of their fellowship--involving a total of 14 million women in Baptist churches in North America--"must be involved deeply, personally, if we are to be effective instruments in the service of the world."

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Mrs. Bates is president of the women's department of the Baptist World Alliance.

Such involvement, Mrs. Bates said, calls for securing and disseminating knowledge of "conditions and problems both of the people next door and of your human family around the globe." And in such knowledge, women must become involved through giving, through prayer, and "finally by surrender of self."

"Have you ever considered," she asked, "what it would be like to go completely Christian: to be like the first Christians? They shared all they had--food, clothes, shelter, money--that none might want. The message of the risen Christ was all they lived for."

"It frightens me when I think of what it would mean to do just that. Yet I grieve as I realize how far short I fall. This is the 'conscience gap' of which some writers speak--the gap between my striving and my failure to achieve."

In another feature of the assembly's final session, the women elected a Canadian, Mrs. I. Judson Levy of Wolfville, Nova Scotia, to serve as their president the next five years. She is the wife of the dean of chapel of Acadia University.

Mrs. Mary O. Ross of Detroit, Mich., was named vice president. She is president of the Women's Convention, Auxiliary to the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Mrs. Maurice A. Wessman of Sioux Falls, S.C., was named secretary, and Mrs. L. S. Casazza of Washington, D. C. was named treasurer.

A medical doctor, Dr. Robert A. Hingson of Cleveland, called on the women to help in vast immunization projects to protect peoples of the middle Americas against endemic diseases.

He demonstrated a jet inoculator he invented, capable of vaccinating 1,200 persons an hour, and reported it had saved thousands of lives in Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Honduras. Invitations for similar projects are in hand from the health ministries of Panama, Salvador, and Ecuador.

Kenneth Chafin, a professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, told the women he feared "non-Christians may be taking over the work of the church."

He observed that "Baptist women are often guilty of long distance compassion. They have compassion for poverty in Nigeria, Hong Kong, and Manila. They look at slides a missionary shows and feel great sympathy. You can't smell poverty on a slide, but you can in your own community."

Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, urged the women to develop a concern for all the world's peoples.

There are actually two worlds, the Baptist leader said. "There is a world of trouble, with a lot of hollering about Christ but not much following. And there is a world with the people of God everywhere--scattered thinly in many places but they are everywhere."

In his look at the second world, he said he senses "a growing awareness that the church is the people of God, a growing understanding of the meaning of religious liberty, and a growing interest in evangelistic cooperation."

Miss Alma Hunt, acting president of the continental Union told the more than 1,000 women that "we must get our hands into the dirt to meet the needs of the day."

She urged that Baptists must work in defense of freedom, must work with an evangelistic zeal, and must seek restoration of the missionary zeal of the 18th century when the modern missionary movement began.

"We need to find more women to bridge the gap that separates Christians and non-Christians and also that gap that so often separates the ...honest differences between Baptists," she said.

Howard Thurman, a Negro theologian from San Francisco, former dean of Marsh Chapel at Boston University, declared that "an encounter with the living God is the greatest event of life."

The things that you prefer will leave their essence in your life. You will grow into their likeness, the soft-spoken speaker and writer said. And then he added, "the name of the one you serve will be written on your brow."

Sen. Jennings Randolph, (D., W. Va.), introduced the involvement theme at the conference's opening session. He paid tribute to the role of women in bringing America to its present standard of greatness through their guidance in the home.

He urged them to become more involved in civic, church and government affairs--and reminded them that there are four million more women of voting age than men in the United States.

"The involvement we need," the senator said, "is not just hit-and-miss workers and so-called nice people, but women who are stimulating, informed, competent and self-disciplined Christ-centered citizens." Their involvement might tremendously offset the "activities of the Hippies, the riotous demonstrations, and crime in the streets," he said.

Music for the three day meeting was directed by Mrs. John W. Williams of Kansas City, Mo., wife of a Kansas City pastor and a vice president of the Baptist World Alliance.

The meeting of women from many differing Baptist groups was a new experience for many who have previously attended sessions only within their own conventions, conferences, or associations.

Sen. Randolph, a member of the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, noted the inter-Baptist nature of the continental assembly and observed: "There is a unity under the Baptist umbrella that does not lead to uniformity. Our differences do not weaken the Baptist movement, but strengthen it."

The union is a division of the women's department of the Baptist World Alliance and holds meetings every five years.

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Louisiana Baptists Deny Federal Aid To Hospitals

11/20/67

LaFAYETTE, La. (BP)--Although calling on Congress to provide scholarships to all college students, the Louisiana Baptist Convention took other actions which forbid their hospitals from taking federal aid in any form and opposed direct aid to parochial schools.

The convention approved a recommendation from its Executive Board which sets a new policy with regard to federal aid to the three hospitals owned by the conventions.

The report said severing ties with the hospitals would be preferable to accepting any form of federal aid which might allow the government to exert undue control over the hospitals.

Although it denied federal aid to the hospitals in any form, it did allow the hospitals to participate in Medicare and Medi-aid programs.

A question of interpretation was raised, since the convention last year in Alexandria, La., adopted a hospital policy which allowed federal loans to the hospitals, but not grants. The question involves whether loans involve a subsidy and therefore come under the category of "federal aid."

In another action, the convention spoke out against direct aid to private schools that teach religion, especially parochial schools.

In a somewhat contradictory action, however, the convention called on the U.S. Congress to enact laws which would provide scholarships to all college students, including students who attend church-related institutions.

A strong stand was taken by the convention in support of the U.S. involvement in Vietnam. Although such resolutions normally pass through the convention's resolutions committee, the rules were suspended for the Vietnam resolution which was adopted overwhelmingly when it was presented.

In other action, the convention voted to participate in an evangelistic crusade in Korea in 1970, and adopted a record \$3½ million budget for 1968, an increase of nearly \$250,000.

Perry Sanders, pastor of the First Baptist Church of LaFayette, was elected president of the convention.

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CUTLINES

11/20/67

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BAYLOR'S ONLY NEGRO PROFESSOR: Taking integration calmly, the only Negro professor at Baylor University (Baptist) in Waco, Tex., shrugs and says it's no different there than at a Negro school. "People are people," comments Mrs. (Dr.) Vivienne Malone Mayes, who teaches mathematics at Baylor. There are about 37 Negroes among Baylor's 6,500 students. (BP) Photo

To accompany feature mailed 11/15/67

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