

**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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February 20, 1968

Thousands Request Crusade  
Prayer Pact Information

By Catherine Allen

BIRMINGHAM (BP)--The scratch of a pen and a lick of a stamp are bringing thousands of Western Hemisphere Baptists closer to prayer partnership.

Officials of Pact, the prayer partner project coordinated by Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), in connection with the Crusade of the Americas, say that mailbags going out are heavier than the ones coming in at the moment.

To date, they have filled requests for more than 521,700 copies of a leaflet containing a Pact application blank. Of these, some 475,000 have been in English, 42,700 in Spanish, and 4,000 in Portuguese. Mailing the requests is taking full time of one employee and part time of several shipping clerks at WMU offices in Birmingham, Alabama.

Pact applicants who forget to include their Zip Codes are causing the WMU employees to spend hours pouring over directories, because the Zip Code must be on every piece of mail sent from the WMU offices here.

The oversize application cards require six cent stamps under new postal rates. A budget-breaking number of cards are limping in with postage due, WMU officials said.

Many letters ask for blanks by the hundreds--a copy for each member of a congregation or class. Other requests are from individuals, from entire churches, and from families. Nearly a thousand blanks went to persons who became interested in Pact at the meeting of the North American Baptist Women's Union last November.

Most churches have requested a church partner as well as encouraging members to seek individual partners.

Pact has been in business barely a month, but already some 1,200 applications have been returned. Many of them say, "Send more blanks for my friends."

A random sampling of completed blanks revealed an 80-year-old woman applicant, numerous retired men, and dozens of young couples. Names of well-known Southern Baptist leaders are mingled with strange-sounding names from faraway places.

In answer to the question of how many members are in a family seeking a family partner, one person wrote, "four--after the baby comes in April."

A man wrote of his family: "If you have an especially large family to match, we might be suitable. We have three married daughters."

Several English-speaking persons were accidentally sent blanks printed in Spanish, but the language barrier did not bother them. With a note, "Hope this is the right information," they have made an educated stab and completed the blanks correctly.

Pact headquarters will not begin assigning partners for several more weeks, awaiting mail deliveries from distant countries and conventions, and allowing for a larger percentage of the applications to be returned. All partners will be assigned by January 1, 1969, in time for prayer during the year of the Crusade.

"There's no way to tell how many Pact partners will be praying for the Crusade when it gets underway this time next year," said Miss Alma Hunt, WMU executive secretary.

"The figures today indicate perhaps a half million people will be involved in Pact," she said.

"We're beginning to see visions of Pact applications lined up down the hall and out the front door," she quipped. "But even better is the vision of thousands of Christians lined up from Canada to Argentina praying for the success of the Crusade."

Hawaii Police Chief Urges  
Baptist Support of Police

HONOLULU, Hawaii (BP)--The chief of police for Honolulu, Dan S. C. Liu, urged top Southern Baptist leaders here to help build respect for police and law enforcement agencies in a time when many in the nation show the police disrespect.

Chief Liu, an internationally-known law enforcement expert who is also president of the Hawaii Baptist Convention, delivered the major address at a joint session of the editors of Baptist state papers and executive secretaries of Baptist state conventions.

Chief Liu told the editors and executive secretaries that the police carry out a duty that in some respects is God-given because they work for the good of society in maintaining law and order.

Following the banquet when Chief Liu spoke, the editors and executive secretaries split into separate sessions for their annual meetings.

The Baptist Press Association elected Jack Gritz, editor of the Baptist Messenger in Oklahoma City, as president and Gene Puckett, editor of the Maryland Baptist in Lutherville, Md., as vice president. Don McGregor, associate editor of the Baptist Standard in Dallas, Tex., was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

The Executive Secretaries Association elected Robert Lee, executive secretary of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, as president, and Robert Hughes, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, as vice president. Glen E. Braswell, executive secretary of the Colorado Baptist General Convention, was re-elected secretary-treasurer of the executive secretaries' group.

Both groups are scheduled to meet next year in Raleigh, N. C.

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British Minister Joins  
Sunday School Board

2/20/68

NASHVILLE (BP)--A. Stuart Arnold, the first person to begin an all-age Sunday School in England, has begun his duties as a consultant in the Sunday School department of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Born in England, Arnold came to the board from Guildford Baptist Church, Guildford, England, where he served as pastor since 1962. Under Arnold's leadership this was the first British Baptist church to introduce an all-age Sunday School and a fully coordinated financial plan.

During Arnold's ministry at Guildford, the membership increased by 30 per cent. Before he left Guildford, the church was packed to capacity with seats in the hall. During the last three months there were 50 persons converted at Guildford.

Arnold said he believes this increase in converts was due to the influence of all-age Sunday School. Among these conversions are included drug addicts, gamblers and youth who had strayed from home. He said about 80 per cent of these had never had any church connections.

Nashville is not a strange place to the Arnolds. They had visited Nashville four times before their move. Arnold says he has met Nashville Baptists all over the world from 1958-1965 when he was a member of the Baptist World Alliance.

Before coming to Nashville Arnold was co-chariman of the Baptist World Alliance Bible Study and Membership Training Commission, with Clifton J. Allen, editorial secretary of the board.

Arnold's first trip to America was in 1958 to study the Southern Baptist all-age Sunday School system. He said it is customary in Britain for young people to discontinue Sunday School attendance at age 11-12, but he feels that there is a great need for Bible education in Sunday Schools for all ages.

Other than serving as pastor of Guildford, Arnold was previously pastor of Waterbeach Baptist Church, Cambridge; Hucknall Baptist Church, Nottinghamshire; and Rushden Baptist Church, Northamptonshire.

While in Guildford he was chaplain for the Women's Royal Army Corps since 1963 and chaplain to Baptist students at the University of Surrey for two years.

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Arnold was responsible for the Baptist Missionary Society summer youth schools. This activity is sponsored by British Baptists.

He was also in charge of organizations and presentation of national youth rallies, conferences and stewardship appeals.

Writer for four years of missionary study programs for the Bible Missionary Society, Arnold has written a number of articles on young people and education for British and European publications and contributed to "The Sunday School Builder" on pioneer work in 1966.

Arnold received degrees from Leeds University, England.

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BP PHOTO being mailed to Baptist state papers.

Southern Seminary Library  
Adds Preacher's Books

2/20/68

LOUISVILLE (BP)--The daughter of the late world famous preacher, A. C. Dixon, and the grandson of the first president of Vassar College, J. R. Raymond, have presented 102 volumes from the libraries of their famous relatives to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Richardson of Black Mountain, N. C., recently made the presentation through Southern Seminary theology professor James Leo Garrett.

Dixon attended Southern Seminary in 1875-1876. During his ministry he held such famous pulpits as Moody Church in Chicago, Spurgeon's Tabernacle in London, and the University Baptist Church in Baltimore.

Included in the gift is a six-volume biblical commentary published in 1796. The books cover such topics as Protestant world missions, Christian Science, Roman Catholicism, Spiritualism and various miscellaneous topics.

Each volume has been marked in memory of its former owner and added to the James P. Boyce Centennial Library. Southern's library inventory has reached 274,194 items.

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Texas Baptists Open  
Ninth Medical Facility

2/20/68

AMARILLO, Tex. (BP)--High Plains Hospital, the first major general medical facility in the 400-acre Amarillo Medical Center, has become Texas Baptists' newest institution.

The president of the American Medical Association, Milford Rouse of Dallas, was a principal figure in dedication ceremonies here.

The untra-modern five-story hospital, constructed at a cost of \$6.35 million, officially opened its doors for patient care on Feb. 20. A shortage of registered nurses caused hospital officials to open without a functioning obstetrical department or emergency room.

Emmett Johnson, administrator, said the hospital opened with 68 medical and surgical beds. The hospital has been designed for 241 beds, with expansion up to 440 beds.

A series of pre-dedication activities and a meeting of Texas Baptists' 15-member Human Welfare Commission drew dignitaries from over the state to Amarillo.

Administrator Johnson received the hospital's first check from the Baptist General Convention of Texas Cooperative Program.

Johnson, who has served as associate administrator of the Baptist Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla., is a native Texan.

The opening of the hospital brings with it a new approach in pastoral care and theological training for ministers in the Amarillo and Texas Panhandle, Johnson said.

The director of the new hospital's department of pastoral care is Robert H. Lloyd, formerly at the Institute of Religion in the Texas Medical Center in Houston. An accredited training program of clinical pastoral education will begin at the Amarillo hospital in Sept.

R. Earl O'Keefe is chairman of the board of trustees of the new hospital and was one of the prime movers behind the institution's establishment.

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**BUREAU**BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD Lynn M. Davis Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,  
Telephone (615) 254-1631FOR RELEASE TUESDAY MORNING, 2-20-68**SBC Membership Tops  
11 Million In 1967**

NASHVILLE (BP)--Church membership in the Southern Baptist Convention passed the 11 million mark during 1967 for the first time in history, reaching a total of 11,142,726. It was an increase of 193,233 over the previous year's membership.

A year-end statistical summary from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's research and statistics department also disclosed an increase in new converts. The number of baptisms of new converts rose to 378,937, the highest number since 1962. This was an increase of 17,978 over the 1966 total.

The statistics were based on reports from 34,147 churches affiliated with the nation's largest Protestant denomination. The number of churches was up 198 from the number reported last year.

Decreases were reported in enrollments of Sunday School, Men's Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union organizations, but Training Union and music organization enrollments were up.

Sunday School enrollment dropped by 24,482 to a total of 7,579,203.

Brotherhood, a men's and boy's mission education organization, enrollment for 1967 was 457,770, a decrease of 5,783. Preliminary reports, however, indicate a modest increase for the Royal Ambassador organization for boys, although final figures are not yet available.

Enrollment for the Woman's Missionary Union, a missions education organization for women, girls and children, was 1,444,428, a decrease of 15,400.

Training Union enrollment showed an increase of over 8,000, reaching 2,560,384. Last year, Training Union enrollment dropped 58,114 to a total of 2,552,073. Accounting for this year's increase was the inclusion for the first time of two phases of the churches' training ministry---new church member orientation, 25,242; and leadership training, 20,977. Training Union is the Sunday evening study program of Baptist churches.

Music ministry enrollment continued upward, exceeding for the first time the one million mark. The 1967 music ministry enrollment was an increase of 74,126, bringing the total to 1,019,130.

Southern Baptist giving continued to rise during 1967, the statistical report indicated. Total receipts for all causes amounted to 711,775,365, up nearly 42 million.

Contributions for missions topped \$120,454,869, an increase of over \$5 million for 1967.

Property value of churches climbed to \$3,495,020,717. The nearly \$3½ billion figure is up \$200 million from the value of church property in 1966.

The churches reported a total of 161,691,630 spent on new construction. The total includes 155,209,065 spent on construction for the local churches, and \$6,482,565 on local church missions.

Enrollment in Vacation Bible Schools, the weekday Bible ministry of Baptist churches, recorded a total of 3,439,325 in 30,601 schools. This was an increase of 50,411 over last year's enrollment.

Kindergartens were operated during 1967 by 1,786 Southern Baptist churches, an increase of 320 churches.

Churches were classified according to location and population in the statistical summary. The totals in each classification were as follows:

Open country, 14,588; village, 4,702; town, 3,781; city (population 2,500-9,999) 3,502; downtown, city (population 10,499-49,999), 571; downtown, city (population 50,000 or more), 287; neighborhood, city (population 10,499-49,999), 1,932; neighborhood, city (population 50,000 or more), 1,539; suburban, city (population 10,499-49,999), 1,726; suburban, city (population 50,000 or more), 1,501.

The convention statistics reflect only those figures reported by churches with no adjustments made for incomplete reports, said Martin Bradley, secretary of the research and statistics department of the SBC Sunday School Board. Bradley said the reports were carefully edited and requests were made to churches for verification and correction of questionable items.

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## Summary of 1967 Southern Baptist Convention Statistics

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>Numerical change</u>
Associations	1,187	1,188	-1
Churches	34,147	33,949	198
Baptisms	378,937	360,959	17,978
Additions by Letter	541,391	546,031	-4,640
Total Membership	11,142,726	10,949,493	193,233
Sunday School Enrollment	7,579,203	7,603,685	-24,482
Vacation Bible School Enrollment	3,439,325	3,388,924	50,411
Training Union Enrollment	2,560,384*	2,552,073	8,311
Brotherhood Enrollment	457,770	463,553	-5,783
Woman's Missionary Union Enrollment	1,444,428**	1,459,828**	-15,400
Music Ministry Enrollment	1,019,130	945,004	74,126
Total Receipts	\$ 711,775,365	\$ 669,779,972	\$ 41,995,393
Mission Expenditures	\$ 120,454,869	\$ 115,197,437	\$ 5,257,432
Per Capita Total Receipts	\$ 63.88	\$ 61.17	\$ 2.71
Per Capita Mission Expenditures	\$ 10.81	\$ 10.52	\$ .29
Church Property Value	\$3,495,020,717	\$3,273,868,971	\$221,151,746
New Construction, Local Church	\$ 155,209,065	\$ 163,722,546	\$ -8,513,481
New Construction, Local Church Mission	\$ 6,482,565	\$ 5,063,534	\$ 1,419,031

\*Includes, for the first time, two new phases of the churches' training ministry: new church member orientation, 25,242; and leader training, 20,977.

\*\*Includes college and hospital YWA's in addition to statistics for churches.

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Survey Discloses "Positive"  
Responses to Race Relations

NASHVILLE (BP)--A nation-wide survey of Southern Baptist churches to determine response to Race Relations Sunday in February has resulted in "overwhelmingly positive reaction," an official of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission said here.

With a total of 108 replies to the brief questionnaire asking for an evaluation of Race Relations Sunday, 97 of the churches replied that the special emphasis was observed in some way at their church.

Only 11 of those replying indicated that they did not observe the emphasis, and only three of these were critical of the SBC Christian Life Commission for promoting the observance.

It was the first time in the three years that Race Relations Sunday has been on the denominational calendar that a questionnaire was included with the materials sent each church, asking for an evaluation of the observance, said Floyd A. Craig, director of public relations for the SBC Christian Life Commission.

Craig, who conducted the survey, said he was "greatly encouraged" by the response, adding that usually the commission gets mostly negative responses because "the people who are doing something are too busy doing it to write."

He added that many more questionnaires were expected to be returned, and observed that the brief evaluation sheet obviously was not intended to give a total, complete picture of Southern Baptist reactions to Race Relations Sunday.

"There is a danger," he added, "of generalizing on the basis of the incomplete information we have, but on the basis of the information sent us, the response has been overwhelmingly positive." He conceded it was not a depth measurement, statistically.

Although there were only three critical responses, Craig said the negative responses received were extremely strong.

One pastor in Hollywood, Calif., said he resented "missionary money being spent in this non-Christian, political propaganda program."

Another pastor in West Columbia, S. C., said he regreted that Cooperative Program funds are used "to support the editing, writing, printing, mailing such propaganda."

A minister in Baton Rouge, La., wrote that he had forwarded the material on Race Relations Sunday to Stokely Carmichael, saying "I certainly don't need your help in creating problems in our church."

Most of the 97 churches that indicated they observed Race Relations Sunday did so with a special sermon on race relations by the pastor, the survey revealed.

Fourteen churches said that they had Negro guests to help lead the services, or exchanged pulpits with a Negro church. Six of these indicated they held joint worship services with one or more Negro churches.

At the First Southern Baptist Church in Pasadena, Calif., the members voted to accept the entire membership of a Negro mission as members of the church, and approved 12 candidates for baptism. Six Negroes were baptized into the church's fellowship that night while about 30 Negroes in attendance looked on.

Immanuel Baptist Church in Greensboro, N. C., exchanged pulpits with a Negro church, and the pastor described the atmosphere at Immanuel as "electric" with the presence of the Holy Spirit. Five rededicated their lives during the service, he said.

The First Baptist Church of Big Spring, Tex., held a joint Sunday evening worship service with four other churches---two Latin American churches, one Negro and one predominately Anglo church. The speaker was a Negro minister. Earlier that same day, the pastor of First Baptist Church in Big Spring had preached on race relations.

At Main Street Baptist Church in Inverness, Fla., three people left before the service was over, but one man, with tears in his eyes, told the pastor he appreciated his courage, and stated he was convinced "that no one should be excluded from the church because of race or any other reason, so long as they were born again Christians."

Similar response came at Foothills Baptist Church, Los Altos, Calif., where one church member told the pastor, "It is a great day when a sermon like that can be preached in a Southern Baptist Church." Another expressed shame for doing so little in the area of race relations.

A pastor in Kentucky wrote that the people in his church tolerated, but did not appreciate such emphases. "While we have no Negroes in our neighborhood," he added, "we have an abundance of prejudice."

Two pastors in Alabama asked for Southern Baptists to pray for them and with them about the problem of prejudice in their churches. "We seek your earnest prayers," wrote one. "We are trying to lead our people into accepting the truth of God's word."

Another Alabama pastor said that the people in his church "see their prejudice dilemma and want to overcome it, but there is a long way to go. Pray for us."

Still another pastor in a Southern state who asked that he not be identified said his church badly needed a Race Relations Sunday emphasis, but although the church has many good people, there are not nearly enough "for us to have Race Relations Sunday this year and me stay here."

He said that six pastors in his community spoke last year at a Negro church, and as a result one was fired as the minister. "All of us received unbelievable reactions," he added. "Some of our people still will not speak to us and we lost about 30 church people."

In Memphis, Tenn., more than 1,000 turned out at the Second Baptist Church to hear a Nigerian Baptist educator preach against racial prejudice. The speaker was Joseph Adebite, principal of the Baptist Academy in Lagos, Nigeria and visiting professor at Georgetown College (Baptist), Georgetown, Ky.

Adebite declared that because God made man in his own image, all men are therefore brothers. He added that the problem of prejudice is a world-wide disease not limited just to the United States.

"The fact that some people turn others away because of race is just an evidence they aren't Christians and aren't preaching the love of Jesus Christ," he stated.

"The will of Christ is to love your fellow man without regard to race, color, language or culture," he said. "If we do not obey Christ, we are hypocrites and liars."

**BAPTIST PRESS PHOTO**

**EDITORS ELECT GRITZ:** Jack Gritz, (center), editor of the Baptist Messenger in Oklahoma, is the newly elected president of the Baptist Press Association. Gritz was elected at the meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, planned by outgoing president James F. Cole (left), editor of the Baptist Message in Louisiana. Re-elected secretary of the organization was Don McGregor, associate editor of the Baptist Standard in Texas. (BP) Photo



## Baptist Pavilion

Hemisfair To Reflect  
Man's Search For God

By Al Morgan

SAN ANTONIO, Tex. (BP)--Summer visitors to this legendary city of Texas' independence will not only find a world's fair in progress with all its gaiety, but will see western man's search for God from the Aztecs to the cultures of the United States.

The search is included in the Baptist pavilion which is jointly sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas in cooperation with the Home Mission Board and Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention as well as the San Antonio Baptist Association.

The pavilion is the only one of its kind in Hemisfair '68 which has been called the new World's Fair. A unique and distinctive international exposition, Hemisfair '68 will tell the tremendous story of the development and future of the Americas.

Located in downtown San Antonio on a 92-acre site adjacent to the central business district, the Hemisfair is expected to attract more than 7.2 million visitors during its six months of operation, April 6 through Oct. 6, 1968.

Southern Baptists are going all out this year to make their pavilion a top attraction to persons of all cultural backgrounds, as well as to tell the story of Baptists around the world.

Baptists have set aside the opening day of Hemisfair, April 6, to dedicate their facilities. Services will be held at 2 p.m. with addresses by leading government and civic leaders as well as representatives of the sponsoring agencies.

A special Baptist Day also is planned for June 1 to coincide with the annual Southern Baptist Convention in Houston the following week (June 4-7).

Church choirs from across the United States and as far away as Honolulu will present concerts at the pavilion. An estimated 200 churches will send choirs during the six-month period.

The audio-visual presentation of the Baptist pavilion is a 10-minute film written and presented from the point of view of an archeologist who lives at a point in time perhaps a half million years in the future.

By exploring the remains and artifacts of the Americas, he tries to reconstruct what man's civilization might have been like. He is primarily concerned with man's spiritual life, what he believed, how he worshipped, what he considered to be ultimate values.

The archeologist's vantage point is so far in the future that he considers the events of the Hemisfair as a mere winking of history's eye. From his distant view it would seem to him that the Mayans, the Aztecs, the modern Mexicans, and the cultures of the United States were companion civilizations in a common era.

As the film relates man's search for God, the sounds and music of his worship is woven into the presentation-sounds and music ranging from primitive chants to choral anthems to gospel hymns.

Step by step the narrator puts together the puzzle of man's search for God in the Americas, from it he begins to come to some conclusions.

From the great and sweeping events and anguish and struggles and searches that went on through the ages in the hemisphere, something very beautiful arose, a seed of truth, the film relates. Man found direction in the person of Jesus Christ and in the Word as revealed in the Bible.

The film will be shown continuously each day utilizing a specially created shadow-box of three movie screens. Bill Stokes Associates of Dallas are producers of the film.

A second unique feature of the exhibit is the World Room to be composed of action photographs of Baptists at work in all countries. Over-size life photographs in a circular room will reveal how Baptists are ministering throughout the world.

A third room will feature "Great Moments In Baptist History," a series of paintings by Edwin M. Hearne Jr., of Dallas. Six of the eight paintings will be on display.

Another series of 12 paintings by Hearne depicting dramatic moments in Texas Baptist and Baylor University's history will also be on display.

The exhibit is located in a 101-year-old house originally built as a temporary home for Sarah Eagar as a wedding present. The home, complete with 18-inch thick walls, remained as Mrs. Eagar's residence. She was reportedly the first Anglo girl born in San Antonio. The home will continue as a permanent historical site following the close of Hemisfair.