

Nashville, Tennessee

August 2, 1952

CHAPLAIN HAS RECORD
SERVICES IN KOREA

WASHINGTON, D.C. --(BP)-- During the month of June, 1,298 religious services were held by chaplains on duty in Korea, according to information from the Department of the Navy, with one chaplain, Lt. Robert H. Willets, leading eighty-six of them.

Lt. Willets is a Southern Baptist and is one of the twenty-six navy chaplains assigned to the area serving the First Marine Division.

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EXPECT 500 AT RIO MEET
FROM NORTH AMERICA

NASHVILLE, Tenn. --(BP)-- An estimated 500 people from North America are expected to attend the Fourth Baptist Youth World Conference in Rio, July 15-22, 1953, according to Robert S. Denny, chairman of the Youth Committee of the Baptist World Alliance. Thirty-five or forty young people are expected from Canada.

Added to the 500 more expected from South American countries, another 500 from the Rio vicinity and the many representing European and Asiatic Baptists, the delegates should number close to 1700 at the meeting next summer.

"The real promotion for the conference will be in assuring the presence of at least one young Baptist from every nation in the world where there are Baptist people," Denny said. This will be done by groups financially sponsoring such representatives. Many will be unable to attend without this provision, although their national Baptist groups can help them partially, he pointed out.

The Alliance Youth Committee started the drive early with \$500 left over from a similar fund at the Third World Meeting of Baptist Youth at Stockholm and to this has been added about \$1500 contributed by Baptist students at the 1952 Ridgecrest Student Week. Other groups and individuals are contributing and are invited to contribute to the fund, Denny said. Provisions must be made soon so that the representatives can be named and prepare for the trip, Denny explained.

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MORE CHURCHES IN NORTHWEST

DENVER, Colo. --(BP)-- Newest Southern Baptist church in the Colorado-Wyoming area is the First Southern Baptist Church of Cody, Wyoming, organized July 20. The temporary pastor is Nilon L. Hagan, summer worker with the Home Mission Board.

Another new church was scheduled to have been organized in Pueblo, Colorado, August 3, according to reports from D. A. Watson, supervisor of missions.

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BAPTIST NAVY CHAPLAIN
GETS HARVARD DEGREE

WASHINGTON, D.C. --(BP)-- Chaplain Charles S. Pigott, Southern Baptist chaplain with the U. S. Navy, was awarded the degree of Master of Science Theology by Harvard University in June. Lieutenant Pigott has been studying under a Navy program of sending selected chaplains for postgraduate study in specialized fields.

Chaplain Pigott lists his home as Tylertown, Mississippi, and is a 1942 graduate of Mississippi College. He is now on duty at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California.

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EDITOR PREDICTS TWO BILLION
GOING INTO CHURCH BUILDINGS

CARBONDALE, Ill. --(BP)-- It's not a prophetic, but a statistical prediction that led B. J. Murrie, editor of The Illinois Baptist, to write an editorial in which he estimates that within the next twenty-five years Southern Baptists "will raise the value of their churches \$2,705,977,315."

Such prediction was based on the rate of 18 per cent increase in property value in 1951 of Southern Baptist churches.

"The value of Baptist church property increased from 1923 through 1951 more than half a billion dollars," the editor writes. "During that time we had the greatest depression in the United States and one world war. It is not fantastic to suggest that Baptist churches could put a half billion dollars into new buildings (an amount Murrie had previously suggested) in the next twenty-five years when they have already done more than that in the past twenty-five. In fact the increase as suggested above will run over two and a half billions."

Murrie's figures show that in six out of the last ten years, Baptists have built more new church buildings than they have organized churches, but organization is stepping up. In 1951 the figures show 402 new church buildings but 501 new churches organized.

"If the 1951 rate continues there will be a great increase in the number of churches without buildings... There is nothing fantastic about putting a half billion dollars into church buildings in twenty-five years; in fact, it would be nearer right to say five billion...to keep pace with the growing number of churches and the population."

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