

February 27, 1950

CHICAGO BAPTISTS READY TO EXTEND
SOUTHERN BAPTISTS HEARTY WELCOME

CHICAGO, Ill.—(BP)—Northern Baptists and others in Chicago are organizing to give Southern Baptists a sincere fraternal welcome. Their plans include full support of the Friday evening evangelistic rally to be held in the Coliseum, according to Dr. Weldon M. Wilson, pastor, North Shore Baptist Church. The metropolitan area is being organized to secure the largest crowd possible, including a mammoth choir of 1000 voices.

"The largest meeting of Chicago Baptist ministers held in recent years was at the North Shore Church, February 7, when we planned for our part in this service," he said.

Don Norman, executive-secretary of the Chicago Bible Society, also a Baptist, said, "The coming of Southern Baptists to Chicago for their annual convention has given Chicago Baptists a certain esprit de corps that we have not had before. We welcome you wholeheartedly."

Mack McCray, Jr., director of religious education for the Chicago Baptist Association, supported this sentiment. He said, "Chicago Baptists welcome you. Use us when you can. We are ready to help in as many ways as possible."

Chicago convention officials are also enthusiastic about the Convention. Mr. Kenneth D. Watson, manager of the Coliseum where the convention is to be held, said, "The Southern Baptist Convention is definitely a big convention. We welcome it." Mr. Frank Power, one of the managers of the Chicago convention bureau, said, "Hotel reservations are now standing at about 8000. They are coming in at the rate of 25 each day. Southern Baptists have one of the largest conventions in the United States. We will maintain a complete information bureau for the convention, staffed with our own people who will be able to answer questions on transportation, locations, parking, entertainment, museums, etc. We welcome the Baptists."

Chicago newspapers will staff the convention. The four metropolitan dailies have promised to have men present for all three days of the convention. Dr. John Evans, church editor, Chicago Tribune said, "We cannot give you many column inches, but what we do will be honestly done by men of our own staff. You can count on us."

NINE CITIES CONTEND
FOR EASTERN SEMINARY

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--(BP)--The sub-committee of the Southern Baptist Convention charged with recommending a site for the new theological seminary to be established in the southeast met here last week to consider invitations from nine cities. No decision was reached, but members of the committee will meet in Nashville this week to continue its investigation and to prepare its report to the full committee.

Cities considered by the sub-committee are Greenville, S. C.; Spartanburg, S. C.; Charlotte, N. C., Asheville, N. C.; Martinsville, Va.; Columbus, Ga.; Atlanta, Ga.; and Columbia, S. C. Washington, D. C., and Baltimore, Md., have asked jointly that the seminary be built between them.

The sub-committee has agreed that minimum requirements for the city in which the ministerial school is built must guarantee at least 150 acres for a site and \$1,000,000 for buildings. The sub-committee's recommendation will be presented to the Convention meeting in Chicago in May.

Members of the committee present were Claude Bowen, Greensboro, N. C., chairman; Louie D. Newton, Atlanta, Ga.; Vernon Richardson, Baltimore, Md.; Douglas Hudgins, Jackson, Miss.; and A. E. Tibbs, Greenville, S. C.