



News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

---FEATURES

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460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Telephone (615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

May 6, 1970

Medic Shortage Crippling
Foreign Board Operations

by Susan S. Cahen

RICHMOND (BP)--"Things at the hospital are going along quite well. However, the past week has been, without a doubt, the hardest since Harlan Willis left for furlough. Al operated two nights until 4 a.m., and then a third night until 5:30 a.m., and each morning following he went right on for regular clinic."

This excerpt from a letter written by Mrs. Alton R. Hood touches some of the routine of her physician husband who is on the staff of the Baptist Hospital in Bangkla, Thailand.

In her letter to R. Keith Parks, secretary for Southeast Asia for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Mrs. Hood continued:

"Obviously he got some rest later in the day but is still not caught up. Loss of sleep was only part of what made it so hard. Without the prayers and support of those at home we could not do it; but with the knowledge of his presence in our lives, and the confidence we have in Southern Baptists, we find strength for each day."

Earlier, Dr. Hood had commented: "We are fine but have been busier than one-armed paper hangers with Saint Vitus's Dance." Dr. Hood is one of many medical missionaries battling a critical personnel shortage around the world.

Especially needed are medical professionals to go into areas where dysentery, malnutrition, typhoid fever, leprosy and tuberculosis are still major causes of death; where a long physician may work among 50,000 or more people; where infant mortality is five to 10 times greater than in the United States.

Southern Baptists have already assisted national Baptist bodies overseas in establishing 21 hospitals and 83 clinics and dispensaries. In January of 1970, 166 medical missionaries were under assignment at those overseas institutions.

During a Medical Mission Conference at the Richmond home of the Foreign Mission Board, Executive Secretary Baker J. Cauthen said, "Southern Baptists have never had occasion to be apologetic about medical work wherever they've gone."

Dr. David C. Dorr, missionary physician in Yemen, said: "The physical need is so great that for one to talk of love and not show love is a hollow expression. Therefore it is essential that one go with his hands, that one go with his abilities, and help them in their basic need, and then after they have been shown love, they can be talked to about the love of God."

The chief barrier to the expansion of Southern Baptist medical ministries overseas is the shortage of personnel, according to Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, medical consultant for the Foreign Mission Board.

Currently there are less than 50 active missionary physicians and about the same number of active missionary nurses.

The personnel crisis is acute in some of the Baptist medical facilities. In Nigeria, for example, three of the five Baptist hospitals are in trouble. The hospital in Kontagora has no missionary physician on its staff, and the hospitals in Shaki and Joinkrama are operating as dispensaries for lack of trained professionals.

In Indonesia, construction will soon begin on a new hospital, but so far only two missionaries, a doctor and a nurse, have been assigned to maintain the facilities. A hospital in the Philippines is running on a very limited scale because the staff is down to just one missionary physician and one missionary nurse plus their Filipino counterparts.

Each of the two Baptist hospitals and nursing schools in Ajloun, Jordan, and Asuncion, Paraguay, has just one career missionary nurse. Fortunately, nationals who have been trained in nursing at these schools have helped to alleviate the crisis, Dr. Fowler said.

The effects of medical missions extend beyond obvious benefits to patients. In some areas Southern Baptist work has been allowed to begin because of what a medical ministry could offer the people, he added.

A missionary physician in Yemen said that as a result of the work of a mission hospital he had been approached by a government official asking that Southern Baptists begin work in other areas, such as education.

In Indonesia, another missionary physician related, "A government official commented that our hospital in Kediri is considered the number one hospital in Indonesia."

The program statement of the Foreign Mission Board as adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1966 says the objective of hospital and medical care in foreign lands is to provide medical assistance to people in foreign countries as an expression of Christian love and as a means of witness in order that they may be brought to God through Jesus Christ.

In an attempt to reach this goal the board encourages qualified persons to serve in various categories. The primary category is career missionary, but persons may be employed as missionary associates for a period of three to five years, depending upon the country to which they are assigned.

Also, there are Missionary Journeymen, college graduates under 27 years of age who are employed to work with career missionaries for two years; special project nurses, who take special assignments overseas for two years; and special project doctors, who go on for one year.

The medical receptorship program allows medical or dental students in their third year or fourth year of training to work in Baptist health units overseas for a summer.

Under the board's medical/dental volunteer service physicians and dentists go overseas at their own expense for several weeks, often during vacation time, to relieve the work load of medical missionaries.



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NATIONAL OFFICE
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Telephone (615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041
DALLAS Billy Keith, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996
NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lynn M. Davis, Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203, Telephone (615) 254-1631
RICHMOND Jesse C. Fletcher, Acting Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (703) 353-0151
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

May 6, 1970

125th Anniversary Celebration To Highlight Denver Convention

DENVER (BP) -- When the Southern Baptist Convention convenes here June 1-4, more than 12,000 Baptists are expected to celebrate the convention's 125th anniversary and conduct the business of the nation's largest Protestant denomination.

Major business items on the agenda include election of a new convention president, consideration of a record \$29.1 million operating budget, possible adoption of recommendations concerning the SBC's national program of student work, consideration of a recommendation which would sever ties between the SBC and two hospitals, and recommended approval of convention themes, objectives, and emphases for the period, 1973-79.

If editorials and letters to the editor in Baptist state papers throughout the nation are any indication, however, some of the hottest issues which might come up at the convention are not on the official agenda.

Editorials in nearly a half-dozen Baptist state papers before the convention have predicted the possibility of some messengers to the convention seeking to reprimand the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission in Nashville for inviting controversial speakers to a seminar on morality in Atlanta recently; or to chide the SBC Sunday School Board for publishing an article in its Broadman Bible Commentary by a British scholar, or for issuing sex education materials for church studies for teenagers.

The convention will begin on Monday evening, June 1, at Denver's Convention Center with W. A. Criswell's presidential message, and with a multi-media presentation, "Milepost 125," celebrating the anniversary of the founding of the convention in Augusta, Ga., May 8-12, 1845.

Major business recommendations from the denominational's Executive Committee will come up on Tuesday morning, June 2.

The Executive Committee will recommend a procedure for severing ties with two Baptist hospitals, one each in New Orleans and Jacksonville, Fla., operated by the Southern Baptist Hospitals, Inc., an agency of the SBC. Major reason cited for severing ties with the hospitals was a financial matter, freeing the hospitals from seeking convention approval for every expansion program. The hospitals would continue under local boards as Baptist-oriented Christian institutions.

The Executive Committee, after a two-year study by a special committee, will also recommend that the national program of Baptist student work remain the responsibility of the SBC Sunday School Board, but with structure and relationship changes including a new division, commission on campus ministries, or other entity with unique relationship to coordinate the national student work program.

A record 1971 operating budget of \$29.1 million will also be recommended. It would be an increase of almost \$2 million or 7.3 per cent over the 1970 budget. Biggest portion of the increase would go to six SBC-owned seminaries.

The Executive Committee will also recommend themes, objectives and emphases for the convention during the years 1973-79, and that the convention change its procedure in future years to begin the annual convention on Tuesday morning rather than Tuesday evening.

The convention will elect a new president to succeed Criswell, pastor of the 15,000 member First Baptist Church of Dallas, who has served two one-year terms fulfilling constitutional limitations.

Several Baptist state papers have speculated on possible nominees for the convention presidency. Papers in North Carolina and Ohio have mentioned by name three possible nominees: Carl Bates, pastor of First Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C.; Owen Cooper, Baptist layman and industrialist from Yazoo City, Miss.; and Gerald Martin, pastor of Poplar Avenue

Baptist Church, Memphis. The papers pointed out others may be nominated, and that there is no way to know for certain who will be nominated until the election is actually held.

In a departure from its regular format, the convention this year will feature only four major speeches, and an increased amount of time for miscellaneous business.

Major speakers include Evangelist Billy Graham, who brings the closing session address at noon, Thursday, June 4; Sir Cyril Black of London, a member of the British Parliament and president of the British Baptist Union; the annual convention sermon by Grady C. Cothen, president of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; and Criswell's presidential address.

Although these items are on the agenda for the convention, a half-dozen Baptist state papers have speculated that several other issues may come from the floor during miscellaneous business periods.

Letters to the editor in at least four Baptist state papers have urged the convention in Denver to "abolish," "disband," "dismiss" or cut budget support of the Christian Life Commission because it invited three controversial speakers to its seminar in Atlanta, March 16-18.

The speakers were Anson Mount, public affairs director of Playboy magazine who was debated by Bill Pinson, Baptist seminary professor from Fort Worth; Joseph Fletcher, sometimes called the "father of situation ethics," who was debated by Henlee Barnette, Baptist seminary professor from Louisville; and Negro legislator Julian Bond from Atlanta.

The president of the Southern Baptist Convention, W. A. Criswell of Dallas, said in an interview published by the Baptist Standard of Texas, that he did not believe the convention would consider dissolving the commission. "I think that is something the denomination would not even think about," Criswell said.

Criswell added he would not hesitate to appeal for unity within the denomination if it is necessary, but observed that he felt the business sessions would have a "decided emphasis on the conservative doctrines of the faith."

At least four Baptist state papers have predicted opposition at the Denver convention to the Broadman Bible Commentary, published by the SBC Sunday School Board, because of an article in the commentary written by British Baptist G. Henton Davies on the book of Genesis. Davies was criticized for implying that God did not really ask Abraham to offer his son, Isaac, as a sacrifice, but that this was a psychological reaction on the part of Abraham.

In three different issues of the Baptist New Mexican, Editor C. Eugene Whitlow urged the Sunday School Board to recall the commentary because, he argued, Davies' article was contrary to the convention's statement of faith. In reply to a letter-to-the-editor, Whitlow predicted the matter "will become a major matter for our convention to deal with in Denver in June."

Several editors have issued pleas for unity at the convention, and former Convention President Herschel H. Hobbs of Oklahoma City, in a widely-published article, wrote that "no greater tragedy could befall us (the convention) than to spend our time and spiritual energy chewing on each other" at the convention. He urged instead emphasis on celebrating "125 years as a people of God."

Each of the 21 agencies of the convention will present written reports to the convention, which will be received all at one time within a ten-minute segment. In the past, each agency has had separate reports.

Before the convention actually starts, at least four Baptist meetings will be held in Denver in connection with the convention.

The meetings include the SBC Pastors' Conference, Sunday evening through Monday afternoon, May 31-June 1, at the Convention Center Arena; the SBC Woman's Missionary Union Convention, Sunday afternoon through Monday afternoon, at the Convention Center Theater; and the SBC Religious Education Association, Sunday afternoon through Monday afternoon, at the Brown Palace Hotel.

A special "Affirming the Bible Conference," called by the editor of the Missouri Baptist state paper, has been scheduled Saturday afternoon and evening, May 30, at the First Southern Baptist Church in Denver.

The Southern Baptist Church Music Conference will meet after the convention, Friday and Saturday, June 5-6, at the First American Baptist Church of Denver.

Lottie Moon Foreign Missions
Offering Exceeds \$15 Million

RICHMOND (BP)--A grand total of \$15,297,558 received from the 1969 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions as of May 1 has exceeded by \$138,351 the record contributions at the same time one year ago, according to Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board here.

Offering funds are used entirely for work on the overseas mission fields, Cauthen said.

Last October, the board appropriated \$10.3 million of Lottie Moon funds for operating costs of overseas ministries, including salary support for 275 missionaries and costs of getting missionaries to their fields.

The additional sum of \$4,494,000 was appropriated by the board in April for church buildings, missionary residences, schools, equipment and other capital requirements.

The remainder of the 1969 Lottie Moon receipts is to be allocated for capital needs during the board's meeting in June, Cauthen pointed out.

"We are profoundly grateful to members of the Woman's Missionary Union and to all others who have shared in providing this offering for foreign missions," Cauthen said. "This money is urgently needed!"

He continued, "A memo came to me today saying that budgetary requests from the mission fields amount to \$7,716,000 more than our total resources can provide. We are therefore grateful to all who give and pray that our needs will be supplied."

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Hughes Named As Consultant
For Sunday School Board

5/6/70

NASHVILLE (BP)--Milton Hughes of Los Angeles has been named consultant in campus evangelism for the student department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board,

Hughes comes to the board July 1 from dual positions as Baptist student director at the University of Southern California and the University of California at Los Angeles.

Hughes has served as pastor of Meridian Baptist Church, El Cajon, Calif., and Covington Baptist Church, Westport, Ky.

While serving as student director at U.C.L.A. and U.S.C., he developed a packet of materials for personal witnessing plus letters for Christian growth titled "The Master Plan." These materials were printed by the student department, California Baptist Convention. They have been widely used throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, according to Charles Roselle, secretary of the board's student department.

Hughes also served the board's student department as a contract consultant in evangelism during 1969. He has assisted various groups in campus witnessing clinics, pastors' conferences and resort ministries.

He is at present one of the writers for the new witnessing material being produced by the board's church training department in cooperation with the Division of Evangelism of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"Hughes will lead the effort of the student department of the Sunday School Board in campus evangelism and will be available in this field to all kinds of denominational meetings as well as those specifically planned by student workers," Roselle said. "The student department is cooperating with the Division of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board in expanding efforts in campus evangelism."

For five years Hughes has served as a member of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. He and his students have been involved in tutoring projects in the Watts area of Los Angeles.

He holds a bachelor of arts degree in speech from Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky. Hughes also earned a bachelor of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

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HISTORICAL COMMISSION
127 NINTH AVE. N.
NASHVILLE, TENN. 37203

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May 7, 1970

Convention Messengers Can Discover Springtime in Rockies

by George Gaskins
General Chairman, SBC Committee on Arrangements

DENVER (BP)--Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention here June 1-4 can discover that "Springtime in the Rockies" is much more than a lilting melody.

It is a season and a reason to close the door on indoor winter routine and step up into that high, wide and wonderful world at the top of the nation.

In early June, what some have called "the snow place of the nation" is magically transformed into a showplace of some of nature's greatest works of art.

As if on signal, the snow dissolves under the warmth of the Colorado sun, and the water rushes down the mountainsides in tumbling, trout-filled brooks. This is the time of year that the mountainsides suddenly burst into a massive floral bouquet.

The campers and vacationers including many who will be attending the Southern Baptist Convention here, will have the opportunity to see some of the magnificent scenic beauty in the nation.

More than 1,100 peaks tower about the 10,000 foot altitude in Colorado. In June, many of Colorado's 53 peaks about 14,000 foot altitude are still snowcapped.

There is much to see and do in this 104,000 square-mile, air-conditioned amphitheatre.

Among the many attractions are ghost towns, mining camps, rodeos, stage plays, operas, melodramas, frontier, folk, Indian, music and art festivals.

Within the state, almost every conceivable kind of recreational activity is available. Colorado has two national parks, four major national monuments, eleven national forests, and 18,500 miles of waterways.

Within Denver, sometimes called "Queen City of the West," visitors can see the Elitch Gardens and Lakeside Amusement Parks, and take free tours through the Denver Museum of Natural History, the Denver Botanic Gardens, the Denver Art Museum, the gold-domed Capitol Building, the Governor's Mansion, the State Historical Museum, and the United States Mint.

Immediately to the west of Denver are the spectacular Theatre of the Red Rocks, Buffalo Bill's Grave, Colorado Railroad Museum, and historical Central City, the old gold mining town.

Nearby, the Pikes Peak area surrounding Colorado Springs is easily accessible via modern Interstate 25. Attractions in the area include the Garden of the Gods, Cave of the Winds, Seven Falls, Royal Gorge with a new aerial tram, Cripple Creek, Florissant Petrified Forest, and the Indian spa of Manitou Springs.

Also in the Colorado Springs area is the United States Air Force Academy with its modern chapel, the Manitou Cliff Dwellings, Will Rogers Shrine, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, North Pole, Ghost Town, and May Tropical Museum.

About 65 miles northwest of Denver is Rocky Mountain National Park, which encompasses 405 square miles of scenic grandeur along the Continental Divide. The Never Summer Range has more than 100 peaks about 11,000 feet. Trail Ridge Road, the nation's highest continuous highway, bridges the vacation villages of Estes Park and Grand Lake.

Mesa Verde National Park, in southwestern Colorado, contains the well-preserved ruins and artifacts of an ancient Indian civilization dating back more than a thousand years. Near Mesa Verde is the Durango-to-Silverton narrow gauge railroad and the Million Dollar Highway which cuts a scenic swath through the San Juan Mountains.

Other popular attractions in Colorado, the "Centennial State," include Colorado National Monument west of Grand Junction, an 18-acre amphitheatre carved in deep-red sandstone. Here visitors will find exquisite statuary of massive ramparts, sheer-walled canyons, and delicately sculptured spires and minarets.

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Dinosaur National Monument in northwest Colorado is a land with grotesque rock formations, water-carved canyons, and the world's biggest bone pile of fossilized remains of giant prehistoric creatures.

The Black Canyon of Gunnison National Monument near Montrose, Colo., is a sombre granite gorge which plunges to a depth of 2,800 feet, narrows to 1,300 feet wide at the top, and is only 40 feet wide at the narrowest point of the river bed. Nearby is Blue Mesa Lake, Colorado's newest and largest water recreation area.

Great Sand Dunes National Monument near Alamosa, Colo., is 57 square miles of restless silver sand. Nearby are the legendary Sangre de Christo (blood of Christ) Mountains.

Central Colorado, with Aspen, Glenwood Springs, Eagle and Vail Village, Colo., has been appropriately dubbed "the Crown Jewel of the Rockies." This famed mining region has become an internationally-known cultural center and year-round vacation spot. Here also is the unusual ghost town of Marble, a gleaming "alabaster city" from which came the marble for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Colorado is a do-it yourself vacationland. The visitor may be as active as he likes-- fishing, camping, hiking, jeeping, boating or rockhounding--or he can enjoy total relaxation with little more effort than tripping a camera shutter to capture the magnificent scenic beauty.. No trip to Colorado is complete without a camera and plenty of color film.

Colorado offers nearly 9,000 miles of unposted trout streams, 2,000 cold-water lakes, and 62 warm-water reservoirs for a variety of angling.

Colorado has been described by some sportsmen as "a hunter's paradise." Nearly 100,000 deer, 15,000 elk, and 600 black bear are hauled home as trophies during the big-game season each year, which generally opens in mid-October.

Complete information for vacationers, including maps and a 52-page color vacation guide, is available from the Colorado Department of Travel and Development, 602 State Capitol Annex, Denver, Colo., 80203.

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Trailer, Campground Info
On Denver Made Available

DENVER (BP)--Information for Southern Baptist Convention Messengers who take their trailers or tent campers to the convention here June 1-4 has been made available from the Colorado Visitor's Bureau, according to George Gaskins, general arrangements chairman for the convention.

There are six trailer parking and campground facilities in the Denver area, according to the Visitor's Bureau. Almost all provide electrical hook-up service, running water, toilets, showers, and in some cases, picnic grounds or swimming pools.

The six facilities are listed as: Cherry Creek Reservoir State Recreation Area, 3 miles southeast of Denver on State Highway 83; Chief Hosa Campground and Trailer Park at Golden, Colo., 19 miles west of Denver on Highway 40; East Tincup Village Camper and Trailer Park, 17921 West Colfax Ave., in Golden, Colo., seven miles west of Denver, on Highway 40; Eldorado Springs, Trailer Park, at Eldorado Springs, Colo., 30 miles northwest of Denver via Highways 93 and 398; Elmandale Trailer Park and Campground near Littleton, Colo., in the mountains 30 miles southwest of Denver; and Shady Meadow Mobile Home Park, 2075 Potomac Street in Aurora, Colo., three miles east of Denver off Highway 40.

Detailed information on campsites in Denver and throughout Colorado is available at the Colorado Visitor's Bureau, 225 West Colfax Ave., Denver, Colo., 80202.

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Convention in Denver
To Elect 36th President

NASHVILLE (BP)--When the Southern Baptist Convention meets in Denver, June 1-4, to celebrate its 125th anniversary, it will elect the 36th president since the denomination was organized in 1845.

A study of the denomination's history by the staff of the SBC Executive Committee here has disclosed that the 35 men who have been president of the convention during the past 125 years have represented 13 different states, and have served terms ranging from one to 15 years.

Of the 35 presidents from 13 states, six have been Texans, five came from Georgia, and five were Tennesseans.

Louisiana, Kentucky, and South Carolina claim three convention presidents each, although one man, James P. Boyce, president from 1872 to 1880, moved from South Carolina to Kentucky during his term of office, enabling both states to claim him as a president.

Two presidents each have come from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Virginia, and Maryland; and one each has come from North Carolina, Missouri and Alabama.

P. H. Mell of Georgia served as convention president for a longer period of time than any other person--a total of 15 years in two different terms, from 1862-1871, and from 1879 to 1887.

The longest continuous term of office was held by Jonathan Haralson of Alabama, who was president for 10 years, from 1888 to 1899.

Ironically, one president, F. F. Brown of Tennessee, never presided over the convention. He was seriously ill when the convention met in 1933, and the messengers, fearing he would die within the year, elected the vice president of the convention, M. E. Dodd of Louisiana as president. Brown recovered, however, and actually outlived Dodd.

During the 1940's it became traditional for a convention president to serve only two one-year terms. In 1951, however, the convention broke tradition and re-elected R. G. Lee of Memphis, Tenn., for a third term when the convention was in the midst of a doctrinal controversy.

In 1951 the convention adopted a resolution advocating a two-year limitation for the president, and in 1952 approved a constitution change setting that limitation.

During the decade of the 1960's, six men served as president of the convention. Three were from Tennessee, and served a total of six years: Ramsey Pollard of Memphis, 1960-61; Wayne Dehoney, then of Jackson, Tenn., (now Louisville), 1965-66; and Franklin Paschall of Nashville, 1967-68.

Two Texans, and one Oklahoman also have been president since 1960. They are Herschel H. Hobbs of Oklahoma City, 1962-63; K. Owen White, then of Houston (now of Tucson, Ariz.), 1964; and W. A. Criswell of Dallas, 1969-70.



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