

October 2, 1950

127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

F. TOWNLEY LORD TO HELP
IN 1951 EASTERN CRUSADE

LONDON, England--(BP)--Dr. F. Townley Lord, president of the Baptist World Alliance and editor of the British Baptist Times, will preach in the Southern Baptist Simultaneous Revival Campaign next spring, March 25-April 8. He will assist Southside Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala., Dr. John H. Buchanan, pastor, the first week and First Church, West Palm Beach, Fla., R. Kelley White, pastor, the second week.

The invitation was conveyed by Dr. Buchanan and Dr. White during a trip to Europe late in the summer.

In announcing his acceptance, Dr. Lord said that as president of the Baptist World Alliance he felt he should do all he could to lend influence to the great concerted evangelistic effort of Southern Baptists.

The Eastern Simultaneous Crusade is being directed by C. E. Matthews, superintendent of evangelism for Southern Baptists. The Crusade will embrace twelve states east of the Mississippi River with 18,523 churches and 4,403,607 Baptists. A similar campaign was conducted last year in the states west of the river.

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TWO STATES COMPLETE
ASSOCIATIONAL REPORTS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Southern Baptist churches in two states have already filed complete annual reports, according to Porter Routh, secretary of survey and statistics. They are New Mexico and Maryland.

NEW MEXICO - 14 associations - all complete

	1950	1949	Gain	% Gain
Baptisms	3,478	2,910	568	19.5
Sunday School	37,610	34,994	2,616	7.5

MARYLAND - 6 associations - all complete

	1950	1949	Gain	% Gain
Baptisms	1,456	1,170	286	24.0
Sunday School	26,838	24,027	2,811	12.0

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GEORGIA BAPTISTS WILL VOTE TO RAISE
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM 10 PER CENT

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--The Georgia Baptist Convention, meeting next month, November 14-16, will give emphasis to the 1951 Simultaneous Evangelistic Crusade and a 10 per cent increase in the budget for undesignated Cooperative Program funds, according to John J. Hurt, Jr., editor, Christian Index.

The Executive Committee will recommend to the Convention a budget of \$1,276,000 for undesignated Cooperative Program funds, an increase of \$109,300. It also will recommend continuation of the 50-50 division between state and Southwide causes after deduction of promotional and administrative costs.

The Convention will receive from its Executive Committee a recommendation that the Georgia Baptist Hospital be permitted to borrow money in order that construction of the 300-bed addition may be resumed. The loan would be against pledges already received but not due.

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BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD
PLANS VISUAL AID PRODUCTION

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The Sunday School Board is making good progress in establishing and implementing the instructions from the Convention to act as central agency for the production, promotion, and distribution of visual aids for the various boards, agencies, and institutions of the Convention, according to Dr. Jerome O. Williams, secretary for the Division of Education and Promotion. The work is under direction of Mr. Earl Waldrup.

"The Convention appointed an advisory committee of five members for aiding the Sunday School Board in securing the widest possible cooperation of the agencies, boards, and institutions of the Convention and to be of any other possible help," Williams said. "This committee has been informed of each step of progress in this field and its members most heartily endorse the program in its present stage of development."

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PRESIDENT BAR ASSOCIATION
ALUMNUS OF BAPTIST SCHOOL

LEBANON, Tenn.--(BP)--Cody Fowler, Tampa, Fla., new president of the American Bar Association, is an alumnus of Cumberland University, a Tennessee Baptist Institution. He was elected at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association in Washington, D. C., September 21.

Cumberland University alumni fill many places of leadership in public affairs among which are the following: the Chief Justices of Tennessee and Arkansas, Associate Justices of the Supreme Courts of New Mexico and Florida; a Judge on the Court of Civil Appeals of Texas; the Senior Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals in Cincinnati; U.S. District Judges in California, New Mexico, Texas, Kentucky, and Tennessee; and thirteen members of the present Congress.

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LOUISIANA TO STEP UP
SOUTHWIDE BUDGET FUNDS

ALEXANDRIA, La.--(BP)--Louisiana Baptists will probably increase their budget 10 per cent at the annual convention here November 14-16. The convention will also likely vote to raise the Southwide participation in state Cooperative Program funds from 40 to 42.5 per cent, in line with a plan to step up participation until a 50-50 basis is reached. Dr. J. D. Grey, New Orleans, is president of the convention.

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PRESIDENT COMMENDS SPIRITUAL
FERVOR OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS

DALLAS, Tex.--(BP)--President Harry S. Truman has commended the evangelistic efforts of Southern Baptists. In a recent telegram to Dr. C. E. Matthews, superintendent of evangelism, he said, "I note with pleasure the effort Southern Baptists along with other religious groups are making to bring about a spiritual awakening in our nation. I wish the blessings of God upon all of these movements in this critical period of spiritual need in all nations."

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SOUTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS
FREE FROM DIVISIVE ISSUES

GREENVILLE, S. C.--(BP)--The 113th annual session of The State Convention of the Baptist Denomination in South Carolina will be held in Citadel Square Church, Charleston, November 14-16, according to Dr. S. H. Jones, editor, Baptist Courier. Dean A. E. Tibbs of Furman University will preside.

"South Carolina Baptists are not confronted with special problems and divisive issues, and they are not strong on special appeals," Jones said. "Instead, they will be giving major emphasis to the Advance Cooperative Program, as State Secretary Charles F. Sims likes to call it. The recently announced expansion plans of Furman University will spotlight attention on Christian education, and the 1951 Simultaneous Evangelistic Crusade will be given attention.

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DAILY NEWSPAPER
CALLS TO PRAYER

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The Nashville Banner, an evening daily newspaper, for several weeks has carried daily pieces on prayer, pleading with the readers to give themselves to prayer. Following is one of the editorials:

"Godless Communism wins by default when it - or anything else - succeeds in crowding God out of a people's mind and heart. It won such a preliminary victory, on behalf of Soviet Russia, when it succeeded in forbidding prayer in the delivery room where the United Nations organization was born. The explanation candidly admitted at the time was a reproach upon this nation and all others having a claim to faith as a God-fearing people; for the explanation was that we didn't want to "offend" Russia by offering prayer to a God in whom the militant atheists did not believe.

Prayer, consecrated and fervent, is an imperative and constant need.

Devote at least a MOMENT to it, every day at noon. Pray for delivery from a threat which overshadows the world; for wisdom and strength to meet this challenge and overcome it. Pray for peace."

As companion pieces, the paper has solicited prayers from various pastors for printing on the front page of the paper.

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MISSOURI BAPTISTS CHANGE
PLACE OF ANNUAL MEETING

ST. LOUIS, Mo.--(BP)--Because of limited hotel facilities it has been necessary to change the meeting place of the 1950 session of the Missouri Baptist General Association from Hannibal to the Third Baptist Church, St. Louis. The date will remain unchanged, October 24-26. The announcement was made by H. H. McGinty, editor, Word and Way.

"The Executive Board will recommend to the messengers of this, the 116th session, the largest Cooperative Program goal in the history of Missouri Baptists," McGinty said. "The board has agreed on a \$900,000 objective, an increase of \$100,000 over this year's aim. After fixed expenses have been deducted, this amount will be divided equally between state and Southwide causes, if the recommendation is adopted."

The special project for this year has been the raising of funds to construct the building for the Bible chair and student center adjacent to the campus of Missouri University at Columbia.

Preliminary reports indicate that the total number of baptisms this year will exceed last year's all-time high, a total of 16,895.

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NEW SOUTHERN CHURCH
IN SOUTHSIDE CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Ill.--(BP)--A new Southern Baptist church has been organized here with eleven charter members. It is the second Southern Baptist church to be organized in the city of Chicago proper and the tenth Southern Baptist church to be organized in the metropolitan area of Chicago.

A. G. Rednour, missionary for the Chicago area, was moderator of the meeting at which the new church was organized.

Within a radius of thirty blocks of the new church live 40,000 people with only one other Baptist church in that area. This work was initiated by the Harvey Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Earl Finney.

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127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Duke K. McCall (Nashville, Tenn.) and Dr. W. A. Criswell (Dallas, Texas) are on a special mission to various existing and prospective Southern Baptist mission fields of the world. Following is one of Dr. McCall's reports from Abeokuta, Nigeria:

UNFORGETTABLE IMPRESSIONS

By

Duke K. McCall
Executive Secretary
Southern Baptist Convention
Executive Committee

The missionaries prayed for hot weather in Nigeria. They were afraid no member of our party of six would ever believe any story about the hardships of work in Africa. It was cool. In fact some of us got cold.

We might have needed hot weather to make us sympathetic with mission workers except for two things. One was the contrast in appearance and spirits of the missionaries just come from and those just ready for furlough. The parched hair told of the long months of unendurable heat which we missed. The yellow skin proclaimed daily pills to ward off malaria. Weariness, just plain unadulterated weariness was in evidence in action and thought.

On the other hand was the bounce and enthusiasm of the missionaries just back from the States for another three years of service. I looked at some missionaries who were headed home and thought, "You will never come back to this white man's graveyard." Beside them, however, were their comrades who had just returned from furlough eager to be about the Master's work.

I shall never forget the consecration of the missionaries nor their love for the work to which God has called them.

The primitive culture of the people startled me. I do not mean the one-room mud houses nor the brightly colored robes. I expected that. I do not mean the sights, sounds, and smells. These were what I anticipated only multiplied tenfold. I do not mean the unbelievable number of people crowded into the small jungle clearings or the treeless valleys. It was the primitive thought patterns which appalled me.

In my first speech I bragged proudly about my twin sons only to learn that twins are a disgrace in Nigeria. Usually, or at least too often, the mother kills the one born second. She then prays for another child who will be possessed of the evil spirit which afflicted her. This third child, always named Idown, is expected to be an evil rascal. The resulting treatment of him usually makes him one.

In the "interior bush" we ran into the power of juju. Through superstition it has a fantastic hold on the people. A little poison administered to those who get out of line takes care of skeptics. Baptist doctors often have victims of juju poisoning brought to them for treatment.

Against the background of this primitive culture I shall never forget the thirst of Africans for education. Baptists had to pay their first pupils to come to school. Now 25,000 pupils pay to go to Baptist schools, but still there is not room for thousands of others who would like to attend.

Last night I delivered the commencement address at the first degree-granting graduation ever held in Nigeria. Eight young men received the Bachelor of Theology degree for work done in the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary. Actually the diplomas were awarded under the authority of the Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

My biggest thrill came when a great African choir sang Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" at the opening of the Baptist Centennial Convention. The singing raised goose bumps on my arms and sent tingles down my spine. It was wonderful! Musical ability is the one thing which marks the kinship of the Africans with the American Negro.

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When the choir finished the singing of Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords, the congregation of 3,000 began to sing in Yoruba, "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does his successive journeys run." I wanted to shout like an old-time Methodist. I was witnessing the evidence that the Light of the World has come to the "Dark Continent" of Africa.

I shall never forget Nigeria: her lost millions, her heroic missionaries, her generous Christian people.