

May 13, 1951

ROY ROGERS TO TESTIFY
ON YOUTH NIGHT PROGRAM

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Roy Rogers and his wife, Dale Evans Rogers, have accepted an invitation from G. Kearnie Keegan, secretary of Department of Student Work, Baptist Sunday School Board, to bring their Christian testimony in word and song on the youth night program of the Southern Baptist Convention, Saturday, in San Francisco, June 23. Mrs. Rogers, Dale Evans to the millions who listen to their weekly radio program, is a native of Texas. Her parents live in Italy, Texas, and are members of the First Baptist Church, E. J. Kearney, pastor.

Both Roy and Dale are members of the Fountain Avenue Baptist Church in Hollywood. Roy was won to Christ three years ago and baptized by the popular pastor-evangelist, Jack McArthur.

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CHURCH AND SCHOOL LEADERS
CONFER ON USE OF WEEK NIGHTS

LAKE WALES, Fla.--(BP)--Church and school leaders in Lake Wales, Florida, have settled a long standing problem over the use of week-night time, according to Andrew M. Hall, pastor of the First Baptist Church.

It came about recently when the school band director called an extra practice which led to the breaking up of a church banquet that had been planned for several weeks. Immediately the ministerial association of the city called for a conference with city school officials. "After considerable discussion (some heated)," Hall said, "the schools agreed upon a 'free night of no student activities,' and it was promptly labelled Church Night. The press gave ample publicity. The president of the ministerial association requested civic organizations to voluntarily co-operate with the plan. The night was Thursday. The churches fell in line. All in all, it can be considered a success. A few breaches of contract occurred, but the plan was new.

"It seems now that our original request of Wednesday instead of Thursday night will be granted next year. At least our children are available to us one free night a week. We need these young people, and more than that--they need the church."

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ANOTHER BAPTIST CHURCH
ORGANIZED IN CHICAGO AREA

CHICAGO, Ill.--(BP)--A Southern Baptist church was organized in Elmhurst, a suburb of Chicago, in April, with eleven charter members, the third Southern Baptist church to be organized in the Chicago area within the past seven months and the eleventh new church to be organized in Illinois since October 1, 1950.

The new church in Elmhurst chose the name "Calvary Baptist Church" and called Cyril D. Garrett as pastor. Garrett, a young Southern Baptist preacher from Florida, is a member of the faculty of Wheaton College.

The story of the new church in Elmhurst began with a letter received last fall by Noel M. Taylor, state secretary for Illinois Baptists, from a lady in Laurens, South Carolina, asking him to try to get her sister living in Elmhurst in touch with a Southern Baptist church. Taylor wrote A. G. Rednour, pioneer missionary in the Chicago area, who immediately contacted the Elmhurst woman. Under Rednour's leadership a small group of Southern Baptists held home fellowship meetings and rented the Odd-Fellows Hall for regular services.

At this point Rednour made arrangements for Garrett to preach for the group each Sunday. In six months the new church was established. The organization was unusual in that none of the charter members came from a church in Illinois. They were from Georgia, Florida, Virginia, and North Carolina.

Other Southern Baptists may have relatives in Chicago. If you want to see them enlisted in a Southern Baptist church, write Noel M. Taylor, 218 West Main Street, Carbondale, Illinois.

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STOP IN NEW ORLEANS
AND SEE THE SEMINARY

NEW ORLEANS, La.--(BP)--"You all stop now and see us! We'll show you Southern hospitality...." Highway 90 runs east to west, right past the new campus of the New Orleans Seminary. Dr. Roland Q. Leavell, president of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, wants all Baptists going south for their vacations to stop in New Orleans and look things over. He says, "some of the friends of the Seminary on the campus will be glad to explain the buildings now occupied and the places where new buildings will be constructed."

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OSTRICH PLUMES

(R. E. Milam, Executive Secretary-Treasurer,
Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington)

I have heard Southern Baptists referred to as an ostrich with his head, "buried in the sand," by people who do not know either ostriches or Southern Baptists.

However, all observers agree that the Southern Baptist ostrich has beautiful plumes: associations, 976; churches, 27,778; baptisms, 376,085; members, 7,079,889; total gifts, \$197,242,014; total church property, \$645,271,741; and young ministers in training, 6,500. Even more gorgeous to Southern Baptists themselves are the plumes of fellowship, freedom, unity, spiritual fervor, and faithfulness to the Word of God.

The lamented thing, according to these observers, is "that the ostrich, with all its plumage, uses its long legs to keep distance and buries its head in the sand." Some have observed that the Southern Baptist ostrich has two legs--East and West, divided all the way up to the body with various associational toes and state convention joints. This they say is a sure sign "that the Southern Baptist ostrich will eventually split in two."

This writer believes that this analogy is faulty due to a lack of knowledge of the ostrich. "The ostrich does not bury its head in the sand but wisely puts its ear to the ground," according to a Florida ostrich farm owner. "Only ostriches that have lost their ability to hear danger signals stand still and become a prey losing their plumes and having their bodies divided."

This writer desperately hopes that the Southern Baptist ostrich will keep its ear to the ground. Surely, no one has reason to be more interested in the plumes than the ostrich himself!