

NEWS RELEASE  
Southern Baptist Convention  
San Francisco--June 20-24

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Southern Baptists are coming en masse to San Francisco next week to attend the 94th session of the Southern Baptist Convention. Meetings will begin June 20 and continue through June 24 in the Civic Auditorium.

Over 25,000 visitors are expected to throng the Bay City for the Convention. Business is the raison-etre of the meeting--but most of the messengers will use the trip to the West as an excuse for a vacation in the Golden State.

Preceding the main convention, Southern Baptist ministers will conduct their annual Pastors Conference June 18-19 at the First Baptist Church of San Francisco. Theme of the meeting will be "For Such a Time as This." The Baptist leaders will discuss their denomination's relationship with other denominations, with domestic issues, social and world problems.

Dr. F. Townley Lord, president of the Baptist World Alliance, a fellowship of 18 million Baptists in the world, will be the principal speaker. At this conference Senator Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma and Dr. Duke McCall, executive secretary of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, also appear on the program.

And while the men are conferring the fairer sex will hold its

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annual Woman's Missionary Union meeting in the San Francisco Civic Auditorium. They also convene June 18-19.

Four thousand delegates from 24 states, Alaska, Hawaii, China, Japan, Africa and South America are expected to attend the meeting. San Francisco's Chinese Consul General, Chang Tse-Shong, is scheduled to speak to the women's group.

Regular sessions of the convention will be held Wednesday through Sunday. Dr. Robert G. Lee, president of the convention, will preside over the business sessions. Earl Warren, governor of California, will give the welcoming address on Wednesday morning.

For inspiration, the convention will offer such speakers as Charles Wellborn, Baptist Hour preacher; Dr. Lord; and Billy Graham, nationally known evangelist.

Youth Night, which this year will be Saturday, June 23, is regularly set aside by the convention to emphasize its student work. The rally will feature Howard Butt, Jr., successful young business executive from Texas. Butt, who preaches as a layman, has spoken to youth rallies from Honolulu to the Eastern seaboard. Roy Rogers and his wife, Dale Evens, are the special guests for the evening.

Music will fill the air at Youth Night. A 500-voice chorus will present several selections; Wayland College's famous International Choir Team will sing; and San Francisco's famed Salvation Army Citadel Band will give a concert in the plaza across from the Civic prior to the rally.

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A special service is planned for Sunday afternoon to stress the place of the Christian home in our society. Dr. Lee will be the principal speaker of the afternoon; the program is being arranged by Dr. Joe W. Burton, editor of the Department of Home Curriculum, Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee.

An United Baptist Evangelistic Rally Sunday evening will conclude the Southern Baptists stay in the Bay area. Dr. W. A. Criswell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, will highlight the night's program. Dr. Criswell is pastor of the largest Baptist Church (white) in the world. Dr. B. B. McKinney, secretary, Department of Church Music, Southern Baptist Convention, will direct a 1000-voice choir.

The public is invited to attend any and all of the sessions and rallies of the convention.

And so another Southern Baptist Convention will go down into the pages of history. With the business over, the messengers will begin their pleasure vacation in the Golden West.