

TEXAS CHURCH CONDUCTS
PLOUGH CONSECRATION SERVICE

ABERNATHY, Tex. --(BP)-- God honors the tithes! Picking up an idea out of The Baptist Program, one that had been contributed by Louie D. Newton, Atlanta, Ga., the pastor of the First Baptist Church here, C. A. Kennedy, conducted a dedication service last spring centering around the plough. Following in Kennedy's own words is the story as requested from him:

"On May 11, 1952, I preached on 'The Consecration of the Plough.' It was designed to get our farmers to consecrate actual land to the Lord's tithe. I had large planters' boxes and attached ploughs on either side of the church pulpit. Signed cards of the 'Consecration of the Plough' were placed in these, with actual acres shown as dedicated to the Lord for this year's crop. We did this before a seed was planted.

"Through the year we have seen miraculous things here. While nine states, including Texas, have been designated disaster areas by the Federal government, because of this terrible drought, this area, immediately surrounding Abernathy, has what old timers tell me is the best crop of 39 years!

"It has been amazing and miraculous, and the people are much moved about it. We have concluded that God, being on test, has delighted to richly prove before this community that he still honors his promises to the tither."

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PAPER DECLARES NEED
FOR HAWAIIAN COLLEGE

HONOLULU, T. H. --(BP)-- Hawaiian Baptists need a junior college, according to a recent editorial in The Hawaii Baptist. The editorial said:

"Increasingly, the need for a junior college has been felt in the islands. Out of the 3,500 students who want to attend the local university only about 1,400 can be admitted. Many young people go to the mainland every year who would be of great help in their churches here and could more readily adjust to college life if they could attend at least a year or two in the islands.

"The matter was discussed at the recent Hawaiian Mission meeting and a suggestion was made that a committee be appointed to investigate the possibilities and recommend to the Foreign Mission Board and Hawaii Baptist Convention any solution to this problem of need.

"Dr. Baker James Cauthen conferred with the committee and suggested that an investigation be made as to required staff, running expenses, grant or charter to operate and future needs. Present assets, in a successful Bible department and library, recognized and accredited by Hardin Simmons University, were studied.

"If the Convention wants to launch a program of higher education in the islands, now is the time to get the vision and make long range plans."

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COMMITTEE CALLS FOR
MORAL CITIZENSHIP

127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

WASHINGTON, D.C. --(BP)-- Baptists must exercise intelligent and moral citizenship in the coming election. This was the pronouncement of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in its fall session meeting here. The committee also "deplored outbreaks of religious persecution in countries ruled by political and ecclesiastical totalitarianism, and commended the State Department for appealing to the Italian government to lift the ban on religious minorities."

A special committee was appointed to appraise a research project on behalf of the Committee by C. E. Bryant of Baylor University. The research was a survey of expenditure of public tax money for religious institutions. The committee will make its report sometime this winter.

Officers re-elected were E. B. Willingham, Washington, D.C., president; Walter Pope Binns, Missouri, vice president; Hugh A. Brimm, Kentucky, secretary and E. H. DeGrott, Jr., Washington, D.C., treasurer. Dr. J. H. Dawson, Washington, D.C., is executive director of the Baptist Public Affairs office.

Because the membership of the Joint Committee is so largely constituted of convention officers and executives, the absence of several, due to illness and emergency engagements, was keenly felt. Those unable to attend were: J. D. Grey, president of the Southern Baptist Convention; Secretaries J. B. Lawrence of the Home Mission Board, W. R. Alexander of the Relief and Annuity Board, M. Theron Rankin of the Foreign Mission Board; Harold Ingraham, business manager of the Baptist Sunday School Board; and H. W. Tribble, president of Wake Forest College. W. H. Dinkins of Selma, Alabama, very helpfully represented the National Convention, Incorporated. The American Convention registered a good attendance. The Swedish Baptists of the United States joined heartily in the proceedings.

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DEPT. OF ARCHITECTURE
ADDS NEW WORKER

NASHVILLE, Tenn. --(BP)-- The Department of Church Architecture for the Baptist Sunday School Board is adding an associate secretary to serve as field advisor and consultant to churches concerning building programs. He is Rowland E. Crowder, who comes to Nashville from Springhill, La., where he has served as pastor since 1951. In his new work he will also help with the preparation of general church-building literature. Announcement of his coming was made by W. A. Harrell, secretary of the department.

Crowder is a native of Dallas County, Arkansas, and a graduate of Ouachita College and Southwestern Seminary. He is now engaged in graduate study at Southwestern, leading to a doctor's degree in religious education.

Mrs. Crowder is a native of Texas. They have two children, Marjorie Lee, six, and Joy Lynn, two. The Crowders will live in Nashville.

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