

01-14-56

127 Ninth Avenue, North—Nashville, Tennessee

FIRE STRIKES CHURCH
IN SOUTHERN ALABAMA

MOBILE, Ala.--(BP)--Fire caused damages estimated at \$16,000 at Spanish Fort Baptist Church, eight miles east of here, recently.

The church and its education buildings burned after flames evidently spread from a gas heater that had been lighted for Sunday morning worship services at the church.

Members of the church who had already arrived for services were able to save some of the furnishings from the church auditorium. Lack of water at the church site hampered firemen who fought the blaze.

It was the second fire in the church's history. Its church building was consumed in a fire 20 years ago.

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GEORGIA HOME FOR AGED

WAYCROSS, Ga.--(BP)--Georgia Baptists hope to begin construction of the first cottages at their Home for the Aged here within a few months. The home will be located on property which used to house a prison camp about 1½ miles from the city.

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CONNIFF ALABAMA ASSOCIATE

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--(BP)--Dennis E. Conniff, Jr., joined the Sunday school department of the Alabama Baptist Convention recently as an associate secretary. For the past two years, Conniff, a layman, served as a field worker with the Columbia Baptist Association in Dothan, Ala.

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ROUTH BANK DIRECTOR

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee and treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention, has been elected a director of First American National Bank, one of Nashville's largest banks.

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NEW CHILDREN'S COTTAGES

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.--(BP)--Two new \$100,000 cottages have been opened at Oklahoma Baptist Orphans Home, Oklahoma City, bringing the Home's capacity to 215 children. Funds for the two cottages were provided by two Oklahoma families. The Home now has 10 cottages and property valued at \$1½ million, including an 800-acre farm.

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MISSION COUNCIL ELECTS
L. O. GRIFFITH PRESIDENT

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The Missionary Education Council of the Southern Baptist Convention has elected L. O. Griffith, Atlanta, director of promotion for the Home Mission Board, president for 1956.

Griffith, formerly vice-president, succeeds Mrs. William McMurry, Birmingham, secretary of the department of missionary fundamentals, Woman's Missionary Union.

Fon Scofield, Richmond, Va., in charge of visual education for the Foreign Mission Board, becomes vice-president. Miss Elizabeth Menshew, also of Richmond and the Foreign Mission Board, has been re-elected secretary.

The council, a voluntary co-operative organization of Southern Baptist agencies for promoting missionary education, chose Birmingham as site for its 1957 session. It will meet there Jan. 3-5.

Council action is not binding on any agency of the Convention. Its actions are suggestions or recommended courses of actions for the agencies to follow in missionary education work.

The council suggested that the Foreign Mission Board adopt the theme "World Evangelism: Overseas" and the Home Mission Board the theme "World Evangelism: At Home" for 1959.

Another suggestion was that specialists who work with intermediates, juniors, and primary-age children prepare guidebooks which can be used by those who write mission study course books for these different age groups.

Agencies represented at the recent Nashville meeting were the Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, Baptist Sunday School Board, Woman's Missionary Union, and Executive Committee.

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HANDS TO THE (GOLD-PLATED) PLOW

DALLAS, Tex.--(BP)--Pastor R. C. Campbell and Chairman of Deacons D. W. Wilson turned their hands to the plow--and a gold-plated plow at that--to break ground for a \$300,000, three-story education building at Calvary Baptist Church here recently.

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folks & facts.....

.....Southern Baptists in Oklahoma have a goal of winning 30,000 persons to Christ during 1956. Their evangelistic campaign will open with a meeting in Duncan, Okla., Jan. 23-25.

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....."We must have more preachers. This is the greatest need of The Methodist Church," Harry Denman, executive secretary of the Methodist General Board of Evangelism, declared at the board's annual meeting at St. Simon's, Ga., recently.

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