



March 8, 1956

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

**"GOING FAST!" COMMITTEE
SAYS OF CONVENTION ROOMS**

KANSAS CITY, Mo.--(BP)--"Going fast!" That's the word here on housing accommodations for the Southern Baptist Convention.

All room space in first-class hotels listed by the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce has been taken, the local Baptist arrangements committee reports.

A few rooms may still be available in hotels not listed by the Chamber of Commerce, but which the arrangements committee has checked and found suitable.

These are not downtown, but are close to public transit. Allard Garren, Calvary Baptist Church, 3921 Baltimore Ave., may be contacted about these hotels.

Good motel rooms, which are still available, are rapidly being taken off the available list by Convention-goers. These are within 40-minute driving range of Municipal Auditorium, the meeting place.

The committee assigning rooms in private homes says it's "swamped" with requests. William Bolick, Mt. Washington Baptist Church, 9621 Independence Ave., should be contacted about these.

Based on advance reservations, the local committee has prepared 15,000 registration tags for Southern Baptist Convention sessions. The Woman's Missionary Union is preparing 6000 for its annual meeting which precedes Convention meetings.

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**MEMPHIS HOSPITAL TO
TAKE MENTAL PATIENTS**

MEMPHIS--(BP)--Baptist Memorial Hospital will be the first in Memphis, and perhaps the first in this part of the South, to provide full facilities for mentally ill within its normal hospital operations.

Administrator Frank S. Groner reported a 20-bed unit will be completed in July.

"Establishment of this unit in Baptist Memorial Hospital will offer speedy help to marginal cases of mental illness," he said.

"Our program of treatment will be short-term. The average stay will be three weeks," he continued. Patients will be under care of a consulting staff of private psychiatrists.

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KOREAN KING'S DESCENDANT
TO ENTER BAPTIST COLLEGE

BELTON, Tex.--(BP)--Amelia K. Lee, grand-daughter of Korea's last king, will enter Mary Hardin-Baylor College here to study music.

Miss Lee, who already has a B. A. degree from Ewha Girls' School, Seoul, Korea, will seek a bachelor's degree in music at this Baptist college.

The 25-year-old soprano is being sponsored by R. E. Streetman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Coleman, Tex. Streetman's son, David, met her in 1955 at the Seoul Military Post Library, where she has worked for the last three years.

Her grandfather, Emperor Yi, abdicated his throne in 1910 after the Japanese annexed Korea. Her grandmother was slain in 1895 by Japanese soldiers.

Miss Lee expects to leave Korea in April. She will enrol here for the Fall, 1956 semester.

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SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY
BUYS RARE COLLECTION

FORT WORTH, Tex.--(BP)--A Baptist deacon and British government official has sold a collection of 9,000 rare books and pamphlets to Southwestern Baptist Seminary here.

The collection recently arrived at the seminary and will be shelved in the new wing of Fleming Library, now under construction.

Ernest W. Brown, who served in four British cabinets including that of Winston Churchill, was the seller. Brown has served as president of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland. He is a member of Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, London.

The collection includes material in the fields of government, economics, poetry, drama, and religion.

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VIRGINIA CALLS BEAZLEY
TO SUMMER ASSEMBLY POST

RICHMOND--(BP)--Virginia Southern Baptists have employed William O. Beazley, assistant to the president of Hardin-Simmons University, as secretary of the summer assembly effective June 1.

Beazley, who served as educational director in Baptist churches in Newport News and Staunton, Va., has been with Hardin-Simmons at Abilene, Tex., since 1950.

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NOTE TO STATE EDITORS: The department of survey, statistics, and information graciously permitted us to reproduce one of the significant charts included in their recent survey of population trends in the Southern Baptist Convention.--Baptist Press

**TEXAS EMPLOYS WORKER
FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS**

DALLAS--(BP)--The Baptist General Convention of Texas has employed a full-time worker for the state's 1,200 foreign students, W. F. Howard, director of the convention's student department, said.

The worker is Miss Eunice Parker, graduate of the Texas State College for Women, former director of the Baptist Student Union at two colleges, and former teacher at the Baptist seminary, Zurich, Switzerland.

One of Miss Parker's main duties will be to help form individual bonds of friendship between the visitors and Baptist students.

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**CHURCH MEMBERS SACRIFICE
TO AID GROWTH OF MISSION**

MONTGOMERY, Ala.--(BP)--Members of Capitol Heights Baptist Church here (membership: 1592) may have to wait five years before they construct a new wing to their educational building.

They have decided to wait that long, if necessary, in order to aid a mission church in a residential area of Montgomery.

Pastor Robert C. Edge reports the church has postponed building the new educational wing, estimated cost: \$100,000, to aid their Forest Hills Mission.

Capitol Heights Church will provide the mission \$75,000 to buy a lot and to erect its first building. It is understood that this is to be a gift to the mission, not a loan.

Comments Edge on the church's decision: "We believe we can reach more people by erecting the mission unit than we could by adding another wing to our building."

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**KANSAS CITY RECORDING
PROCEDURES ANNOUNCED**

FORT WORTH--(BP)--The Radio and Television Commission says that for \$5, you may record the proceedings of both the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference and the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City this year.

Reservations for recorder space at the Pastors' Conference and the Convention should be made by April 15, according to Clarence Duncan, Commission promotion director.

The Radio-TV Commission will provide the necessary tapes at cost, meaning that all you have to do to record the proceedings is bring the recorder.

The Commission also will record the two meetings and sell these tapes to interested persons, if you prefer to handle it this way rather than do your own recording.

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CONVENTION TOTAL GIFTS
REACHED MONTHLY RECORD

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering have sent Southern Baptist Convention total monthly receipts to a new high of \$3,579,261, Treasurer Porter Routh announced.

This is the amount state Baptist conventions forwarded to the treasurer's office during February.

The special foreign missions receipts for February provided \$2,339,471 of the record total. During January and February, the total Lottie Moon gifts received by the treasurer have been \$3,659,969.

Total gifts, which include designated offerings and the undesignated contributions through the Cooperative Program, are running over 17 per cent higher so far in 1956 than they did for the comparable two months in 1955.

The 1956 total is \$6,145,279.

The February treasurer's statement is that \$1,081,648 came in through the Cooperative Program, through which Southern Baptists support their educational and agency work as well as their mission boards.

Another \$2,497,613 came in via designations, mainly on the strength of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering donations to foreign missions.

Texas convention sent in a third of the record total--\$1,199,297 including \$952,422 designated. North Carolina followed with \$341,244 including designated offerings of \$275,226.

Other states contributing more than \$100,000 and their totals: South Carolina, \$333,277; Tennessee, \$219,849; Mississippi, \$197,802; Alabama, \$189,890; Missouri, \$180,603; Louisiana, \$170,964; Georgia, \$149,663, and Florida, \$140,132.

No monthly reports were received from state conventions in California and Oregon-Washington.

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folks & facts.....

....."Communism is a Christian heresy. It should not have been born. It could not have been born had the church remained true to her commission. Marx and Engels saw the great disparity between what so-called Christians professed and how they lived."---H. Franklin Paschall, pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.

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BAPTIST FEATURES

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WHY DON'T SOUTHERN BAPTISTS OBSERVE LENT?

By E. N. Patterson
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For Baptist Press

Why don't Southern Baptists observe Lent? This is a thought-provoking question. I am sure that many people have wondered why Southern Baptist churches do not take part in the observance of Lent; however, I can think of a number of reasons why churches have refused to follow this practice.

Southern Baptists question any practice that has been carried on through the years by the Roman Catholic Church and most of us believe this is a wise procedure. In some sections of the world, the Lenten Season is preceded by the most terrible immorality, drunkenness, and corruption in what is known as Mardi Gras.

No Christian can observe this debauchery without having a violent reaction to the sham and mockery of a false repentance. When I think of the question, Why don't Southern Baptists observe Lent? I suppose it is the same reason that has kept Southern Baptists from following other practices of the Roman Catholic Church.

Southern Baptists have never cared for the processional in the beginning of a service with someone carrying a golden cross in front of the processional. They have never cared for a creed to be read in every service.

They have never wanted ministers to wear robes in the pulpit. They do not prefer the divided chancel with two pulpits in the front, one for reading the Bible and one for preaching, with the altar in the center representing the place of the host.

Then Southern Baptists have never cared for the idea that is so obvious in connection with the observance of Lent, of a person acting like he is a Christian for 40 days and then forgetting it the rest of the year. They have always given more time to revivals and evangelism than churches that observe Lent.

Southern Baptist churches are likely to have weeks of spiritual emphasis all through the year rather than just the period preceding Easter.

The more a church leans in the direction of high church, the more it is likely to observe the Lenten Season and many of the other practices that have come from the Roman Catholic Church. The church that gives a great deal of emphasis to evangelism does not usually observe Lent.