

May 3, 1956

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

BAPTISTS IN MISSOURI
TRACE ORIGIN TO 1806

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.--(BP)--Baptist work in Missouri, host state to the 1956 Southern Baptist Convention, dates back to 1806.

In that year, the first Baptist church west of the Mississippi River was organized, the Old Bethel Church near Cape Girardeau, Mo.

This church was the oldest non-Catholic church in the Louisiana Purchase.

Today, there are 1711 Southern Baptist-affiliated churches in Missouri having 406,000 members. There are 102 missions of churches. Sunday schools number 1761 and Baptist Training Unions, 1254. There are 1401 organizations of the Woman's Missionary Union, and 740 men's Brotherhoods.

Missouri Baptist General Association, the state convention co-operating with the Southern Baptist Convention, supports three colleges: William Jewell College, at Liberty; Southwest Baptist College, at Bolivar, and Hannibal La-Grange College, at Hannibal. The last two are junior colleges.

The state association as such does not support Central Baptist Seminary at Kansas City, Kans., but some individuals and churches designate offerings for that seminary.

Ten of the churches in the state have dual affiliations with the Southern and American Baptist Conventions. These are located at St. Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, and Columbia.

The state association, whose offices are in Jefferson City, is engaging in a new missions and advance program to organize new churches and missions. There also is a drive on to raise \$3 million for capital needs at the three Baptist colleges.

The Word and Way is the weekly publication of Baptists in the state. It has a circulation of 49,000.

The state association also has one hospital, in St. Louis. Plans are under way for a second hospital in Kansas City.

Home of Baptist offices in Jefferson City is Baptist Building at 213 Adams St.

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CLERGY RATES OPEN

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Clergy rates will be available for the trip to and from the Southern Baptist Convention session at Kansas City, Mo. Dates of sale are May 23-June 1.

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**SPECIAL HONORS FOR
RETIRING EDUCATOR**

FORT WORTH, Tex.--(BP)--J. M. Price, retiring in July as director of school of religious education at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here, will be honored May 10.

The school of religious education will observe a graduation exercise in Price's honor. Chester Swor, well-known evangelistic and inspirational speaker from Clinton, Miss., will speak.

Price has been in his present position since August, 1915, thus ending 41 years of continuous service to the seminary.

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**OFFER SOVIET BAPTISTS
NEW TELEVISION FILMS**

FORT WORTH, Tex.--(BP)--The new series of 13 films based on the parables of Jesus, issued by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in April, will be offered for showing to Baptists in Russia.

Paul Stevens, director of the Baptist agency located here, said that the offer is in answer to an offer made recently by Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin to exchange films of educational interest on an international basis.

Films designed for Russian distribution are in the process of being sub-titled in that language.

The film series, named "This Is the Answer," was released to television stations in the United States April 8. They are available in color and black and white.

About 50 stations have indicated they will present some of the films.

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TOUR BAPTIST CENTERS

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--100 Baptist men from all parts of Kentucky will tour state Baptist institutions May 8-11 under auspices of the Baptist Brotherhood. They will make the trip in three chartered busses. This is the second year for such a tour.

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**GEORGETOWN THESPIANS
TO PERFORM IN ENGLAND**

GEORGETOWN, Ky.--(BP)--The "Maskrafters," a drama group at Georgetown College here, will tour England for six weeks in July and August, 1958, according to H. Leo Eddleman, president of the Baptist college.

The small company of 12 will present two dramas--an American comedy for theater performances and an original religious drama for church appearances.

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CAROLINA SCHOOL AND
HOSPITAL CONSIDERED

GREENVILLE, N. C.--(BP)--Eastern North Carolina Baptists have been asked to consider operating a school and hospital in that section of the Tarheel state.

A 31-member committee headed by Douglas M. Branch, pastor of First Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, will study the possibilities of establishing a hospital and four-year college.

Pineland College-Edwards Military Institute, located at Salemburg, N. C., has been offered to the group for consideration. The group also has been asked to consider assuming operation of an existing hospital in New Bern, N. C.

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PASTOR MOVES, TOO

WAKE FOREST, N. C.--(BP)--Wake Forest College, Baptist college here, moves soon to a new campus at Winston-Salem, N. C. The move will also include J. Glenn Blackburn, pastor of Wake Forest Baptist Church. He's resigned the Wake Forest church here to become pastor of the church in the college community at Winston-Salem on July 1.

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folks & facts.....

.....F. Hodge O'Neal, dean of the Walter F. George law school at Mercer University, Macon, Ga., resigned to become professor of law at Vanderbilt University's law school in Nashville, Tenn.

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.....Northern and Southern Presbyterians will be having their annual meetings at almost the same time as the Southern Baptist Convention. The general assembly of Presbyterians, U. S. A. (Northern) is at Philadelphia May 24-30. The general assembly of Presbyterians, U. S. (Southern) is at Montreat, N. C., May 31-June 6.

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.....Speaker for the general commencement exercises May 11 at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., is James L. Sullivan, executive secretary, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

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.....Furman University's \$1,200,000 library, now under construction, has been named the James Buchanan Duke Library in honor of the man who founded the Duke Endowment. Furman has been one of the major beneficiaries from this endowment.

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