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Special Southern Baptist Convention
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Kansas City, Missouri--An estimated 20,000 persons attended one or more sessions of the 1956 Southern Baptist Convention which concluded its meeting here June 2. Official registered attendance was 12,242.

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Kansas City, Missouri--The Southern Baptist Convention voted here to survey the work carried on by its many boards, institutions, and commissions. The Convention president, two vice-presidents, and senior secretary are members of a committee to name a group of more than 20 persons to direct the survey. A report on the survey will be made to the 1957 meeting of the Convention in Chicago. The Convention set aside \$25,000 for the survey during the year.

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Kansas City, Missouri--The recommended name change of the Baptist Sunday School Board, which published the largest part of Southern Baptist materials, has been referred to a committee of the Convention for another year's study. The Baptist Sunday School Board asked to be renamed the Board of Education and Publication of the Southern Baptist Convention because of its many operations in addition to that of the Sunday schools.

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Kansas City, Missouri--The autonomy of the individual Southern Baptist Convention church was reaffirmed by the Convention at its 1956 meeting. The Convention restated a position it had taken on church autonomy at its 1928 meeting, under which local churches have the right of their own self-determination.

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Louisville, Kentucky--Louisville Baptists have begun planning for the 1959 meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Convention chose Louisville, site of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, principally because 1959 is the 100th anniversary of the seminary. The seminary is the oldest of five operated by the Convention.

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Waco, Texas--Mrs. R. L. Mathis, of Waco, has been elected president of the Woman's Missionary Union, woman's auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention. She succeeds Mrs. George R. Martin, of Norfolk, Virginia, who did not seek re-election after serving 10 years. The election took place in Kansas City at the annual WMU convention. The WMU sponsors the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions in the Convention.

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Charlotte, North Carolina--Dr. C. C. Warren, pastor of Charlotte First Baptist Church, has been elected to his second term as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. He was elected at Kansas City during the Convention's 1956 meeting, in line with an unwritten tradition that Convention presidents serve two one-year terms. Dr. Conrad Willard, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Kansas City, was elected first vice-president and Deb Lee Stennis, a rural church pastor in Mississippi, was elected second vice-president.

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Kansas City, Missouri--Five Russian Baptists were visitors and took part on several parts of the program of the 1956 Southern Baptist Convention here. They are headed by Jakov Zihidkov, president of the All Union Council of Evangelical Christian Baptists and a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance. They will continue their visit with United States Baptists until June 19, when they return to Russia.

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Washington--The Baptist World Alliance executive committee chose Rio de Janeiro for the 1960 Congress of the Alliance. Several cities had bid for the Congress, which held its 1955 meeting in London. The Alliance Congress convenes once every five years.

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