



July 5, 1956

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

1956 CONVENTION ONE  
OF BEST; EDITORS SAY

NASHVILLE--(BP)--After they have reported the news events of a Southern Baptist Convention, editors of Baptist state papers like to give their impression of the Convention in editorials.

What was the recent 1956 Convention at Kansas City, Mo., like? Although the editors' comments vary at some points, they are generally together at these points:

First, it was one of the best sessions Southern Baptists have had. One or two editors said it was the "greatest ever." To others, it was the best in recent years. The remainder conceded it was among the best.

Second, the Convention showed a spirit of harmony. It was determined to stay on the main matters of business and not be side-tracked. Editors pointed to what they felt were attempts to disrupt the Convention and said these efforts failed.

Third, the 1956 session showed up some strengths and weaknesses of Baptist democracy as practiced in a four-day annual Convention session. The weight of matters to be decided upon by the Convention's more than 12,000 messengers in such a short time posed a problem to some editors that, they said, requires consideration for future Convention procedure.

Fourth, Southern Baptists kept their eyes on world missions and the major means of carrying the Gospel to the world. Their emphasis on "preaching, teaching, and healing"--the "major elements" of the Christian program -- was singled out by one editor.

Fifth, Kansas City's hotel and auditorium accommodations drew praise. Many editors expressed dissatisfaction in 1955 over auditorium facilities in Miami, Fla., where the auditorium -- a converted seaplane hangar -- is seven miles from downtown hotels. The Kansas City auditorium was only a few blocks from all main hotels. Editors felt generally the Convention won't wait 33 years before again choosing Kansas City as meeting place. (The last previous session in Kansas City was in 1923.)

Sixth, the program -- or "order of business" -- was good. A number of editors spoke of the selection of speakers for the Convention and commended the committee on order of business, whose task it was to arrange the agenda.

**LOUISVILLE AMBASSADORS  
HAVE NEW BLUE UNIFORMS**

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--Royal Ambassadors in Long Run Baptist Association, which covers the Louisville area, are sporting new uniforms.

A skipper blue uniform trimmed in gold has been approved by the executive board of the local association for the 130 boys in R. A. groups. It has already gone on sale.

George S. Bingham, associational director of promotion, designed the costume. The idea originated in the Long Run Association counselors' round table.

The outfit consists of matching overseas cap, shirt, and long pants, all of cotton twill, set off by a white tie and white belt.

Emblazoned on the cap is the Royal Ambassador shield. The words, "Royal Ambassadors," appear over the left shirt pocket, and the initials, "RA," on the tie.

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**HISTORICAL GROUPS  
PLAN 1956 MEETINGS**

RIDGECREST, N. C.--(BP)--The Southern Baptist Historical Commission and its auxiliary, the Southern Baptist Historical Society, will hold their annual meetings here Aug. 23-29.

Norman W. Cox, Nashville, executive secretary of the commission, reports that W. W. Barnes, professor emeritus of Baptist history at Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., will give lectures and conduct five conferences during the week.

William R. Estep, Jr., associate professor of church history at Southwestern Seminary, and four graduate students there will lead a panel discussion on the topic "Baptists and the Ecumenical Movement."

The Historical Commission, an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention, will hold its annual election of officers. The Society also will elect officers.

About 200 Baptists from various states in the Convention comprise membership of the Society. They meet together for fellowship and discussion of Southern Baptist history.

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MISS WINGO ELECTED

WADSWORTH, O.--(BP)--Miss Beulah Wingo, a graduate of George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, and Carver School of Missions and Social Work, Louisville, is new executive secretary of the Ohio Woman's Missionary Union. A former youth secretary of the Kentucky state WMU, she will have her office here.

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ORE.-WASH. PRESIDENT  
MOVING TO CALIFORNIA

LONGVIEW, Wash.--(BP)--The president of the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington, James E. Frost, of Longview, has accepted a call to become training union director for the California convention.

Frost, pastor of First Baptist Church here, will assume the post Aug. 1 in Fresno, Calif., where offices of the California convention are located.

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