

July 29, 1954

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

RIDGECREST CAMP
ENDS 1st SESSION

RIDGECREST, N. C.--(BP)--Camp Ridgecrest for Boys ended the first five-week session of the 1954 season here recently with a camp-wide picnic attended by some 600 parents and campers.

Recognition for outstanding achievement was given to two campers from the junior and senior divisions and to winners of various recreational tournaments held during the season.

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TEXAS BAPTISTS START
RURAL CHURCH MINISTRY

DALLAS, Tex.--(BP)--Carl A. Clark, Baptist associational missionary from El Dorado, Ark., was employed recently by Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., and the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, to begin a new phase of rural church work. In the new position Clark will spend half his time teaching on the seminary faculty in the department of pastoral ministry and the rest of his time will be spent working in rural areas with student pastors.

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BWA-GOERS MAY RECEIVE
COLD RECEPTION IN LONDON

LONDON, England--(BP)--Just about one year from now Baptists will be attending the Baptist World Congress that meets here next summer. It is to be sincerely hoped that the reception will be warmer than it would have been on a recent July weekend. It turned up "perishing" cold and brought out furs and topcoats. Housewives built winter fires and put heavy sweaters on the school children. Central London had its coldest night in fourteen years with temperature down to 47 degrees. Cold winds from the arctic circle were responsible.

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BROTHERHOOD, MISSION GROUPS
END MEETING AT GLORIETA

GLORIETA, N. Mex.--(BP)--More than 500 people registered for the simultaneous Foreign Mission and Brotherhood Conferences which ended here recently. Baptists came from fifteen of the twenty-three states comprising the Southern Baptist Convention. Texas led with 161 present. New Mexico with 59 was second and Oklahoma third with 54. Sixty-three foreign missionaries attended from sixteen countries.

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A SUGGESTION FOR THE NEXT PASTORS' CONFERENCE
BY: James Herrick Hall

I would like to use this means to offer a suggestion to Ramsey Pollard concerning the next Pastors' Conference of the Southern Baptist Convention. Pollard, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., has been giving dynamic leadership to our Pastors' Conference. The suggestion herein given is not a backward look of criticism but is a forward look toward expanding the function of one of our most valuable assemblies.

I would like to see the program of the Pastors' Conference include two conference periods of at least two hours each. The conferences would be problem centered at the level of the local pastor and could be concerned with a wide range of the problems with which our pastors are faced. If the conference is held in a church where there are adequate Sunday school rooms which could be used for conference meetings, there might be forty to fifty separate conferences, provided, of course, that there are forty to fifty problems with which local pastors need help. If the program committee could follow this suggestion, there could be forty conference leaders, forty observers, forty resource people, and forty conference recorders. This would put 160 of our able people into worthy activity. This plan is widely and effectively used in education leadership meetings. Such meetings result in great motivation and inspiration. They afford an opportunity for individuals in large assemblies to satisfy their specific needs. The basis of individual participation is greatly expanded.

It is further suggested that a survey directed to a sample of the pastoral constituency could identify the problems of greatest concern as well as a wide range of leadership personnel to direct the group meetings. Such a survey could be conducted by graduate students in Religious Education at our seminaries under the direction of their research staffs.

The writer believes that these suggestions are in harmony with the character and purposes of the Pastors' Conference and hopes that they will receive thorough evaluation by the program committee of the Pastors' Conference.

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James Herrick Hall is editor of Good Tidings, Washington, D. C.

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.....Louise Foreman Blount, formerly dean of women at Mary-Hardin Baylor College in Texas, has accepted the position of director of women's activities at Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

.....George W. Cummins, general missionary in San Diego and Imperial Counties, Calif., has been elected superintendent of Western Missions of the Home Mission Board.

.....Relief and Annuity Board assets have reached a total of \$32,334,135, compared with \$28,409,231 of the same period last year, it was reported at the quarterly meeting of the executive committee of the Board. Income amounted to \$3,342,330, an increase of \$305,525, over last year.

.....Miss Anna Margaret King, Wesson, Miss., won first place in the Southern Baptist young people's speaking tournament held annually at Ridgecrest.

.....All previous attendance records were broken at Ridgecrest when 3,434 people registered for the Second Training Union Conference.