

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

September 16, 1954

.....California Baptist College was authorized by the California Veterans Administration to accept applications from veterans who desire training under the GI Bill of Rights.

.....Claude H. Rhea, Tallahassee, Fla., B. Gray Allison, New Orleans, and Stanley J. Watson, Warner, Okla., are new faculty additions at New Orleans Seminary.

.....Mrs. Frank Hill, Kentucky WMU state mission study chairman was killed in an automobile accident as she was returning from the WMU Conference at Ridgecrest, N. C.

.....Arnold A. Durbin, Fort Worth, Tex., has been named special field representative in the Audio-Visual Aids department of the Texas Baptist book stores.

.....James V. Browning, Dallas, Tex., is the new resident manager of the Oklahoma Baptist Orphans' Home, Oklahoma City, Okla.

.....More than 10,000 copies of the Broadman Press publication, Very Truly Yours, by Chester Swor, have been sold since release date August 15.

.....Dedication services were held at Temple Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich., recently, dedicating the \$2,000,000 church and Sunday school buildings, one of the largest facilities for any church in America.

.....Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will hold its regular annual business meeting in September instead of December as heretofore.

.....Sam L. Raborn, a famous old time evangelistic singer, died recently in Waco, Tex., at the age of 81.

.....Three Negro doctors have been granted temporary staff privileges by Arkansas Baptist Hospital, if found qualified by the staff's credentials committee and approved by the staff and board of trustees they will be given permanent membership.

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1954 SBC ANNUAL
OFF THE PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The new 1954 Southern Baptist Convention Annual edited by Joe W. Burton, secretary of the Convention, is now off the press and has been mailed to all active pastors and denominational agents.

Official Convention procedure states that "The Convention Annual containing reports and actions of the Convention and other pertinent material shall be published as soon as possible after the meeting of the Convention and shall be made available without charge to all active pastors and denominational agents." Others desiring a copy can obtain one for \$2.50 per copy by writing Porter Routh, 127 9th Avenue North, Nashville, Tenn.

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BWA REGISTRATION FORMS
AVAILABLE IN NASHVILLE

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Registration forms for the Golden Jubilee Baptist World Alliance to be held in London, England, July 16-22, 1955 can now be obtained by writing to the office of Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn.

Applications for registration must include the name and address of the minister as forms will be sent to him and must have his approval, according to regulations outlined by the Baptist World Alliance. If several individuals are going from one church, the minister can write for applications, but must include the names and addresses of all members who intend to go.

The application blanks, when approved by the minister, must be sent to the Baptist World Alliance office in Washington, D. C., before February 1, 1955.

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N. C. BAPTIST CHURCH STARTS
INDEPENDENT STUDENT PROGRAM

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. -(BP)--Chapel Hill Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, N. C., has voted to set up a student education program independent of the North Carolina state Baptist Student Union. Action was taken as an outgrowth of the dismissal of three state BSU officials by the North Carolina Baptist Convention in the early spring.

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Nashville, Tennessee
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Baptist Press

SOUTH CAROLINIAN TO HEAD
BAPTIST TEACHERS GROUP

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Robert W. Jackson, Furman University, Greenville, S.C., was elected president of the College Association of Baptist Teachers of Religion. He was elected at the 27th annual meeting at Ridgecrest, N. C.

Other officers elected to serve with him are: Robert L. Dobson, Wayland College, Plainview, Tex., vice-president; and E. C. Masden, Bethel College, Hopkinsville, Ky., secretary-treasurer.

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MINN. BAPTISTS REQUEST
RETURN TO LOCAL ORDINATION

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.--(BP)--A recommendation that the Minnesota Baptist Convention return to local church ordination of ministers was made at the group's 95th annual meeting here recently.

The convention's committee on ordination proposed that the council or "presbyterial" type of ordination be dropped in favor of the local church system.

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CHRISTIAN HERALD PREDICTS SOUTHERN
BAPTISTS LARGEST DENOMINATION BY 1959

WASHINGTON, D. C.--(BP)--The September issue of the Christian Herald magazine in its annual analysis of church membership statistics, predicts that by 1959 the Southern Baptist Convention will be the largest denomination in the United States. The magazine stated that American church membership will leap over the 100-million mark in 1956. This is based upon the premise of continued annual growth of the average rate of the last five years.

A projection of the average annual percentage gain of The Methodist Church, now the largest denomination, during the last five years (1.15 per cent) and of the Southern Baptist Convention (4.2 per cent) indicates that if both bodies continue to grow at this rate, that Southern Baptists will overtake The Methodist Church in 1959. The projection suggests a 1959 Southern Baptist membership of 10,091,056 and a Methodist Church membership of 9,801,411.

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BAPTIST CHURCH ORGANIZES
TOURING DRAMA GROUP

CHAPEL HILL, N. C.--(BP)--Chapel Hill Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, N. C., has organized "The Pulpit Players" a religious drama group to present plays in Chapel Hill and on tours.

Samuel T. Habel, pastor of the church, said he believes this is the first such religious drama group to be organized in the East. Similar groups, he said, have been successful on the West coast.

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RUSSIAN BAPTIST HEAD
TOURING NORWAY

OSLO--(BP)--Alexander V. Karev, Moscow, general secretary of the All-Soviet Council of Evangelical Christians (Baptist), is now touring Norway.

Speaking in Oslo, Karev said that church leaders "can speak and work in perfect freedom" in the Soviet Union and that all Baptist churches there are "crowded with people at every service." He also said that there are 3,000,000 Baptists in 5,400 congregations spread all over Russia. (There are actually 512,000 members. The others are those under the influence of the churches, but not actually members. It is very difficult to become a member of a Russian Baptist church. Requirements are very high.)

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