

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

October 7, 1954

.....Vernon C. Walker, administrator of Miami Baptist Hospital, Miami, Okla., has resigned to accept a similar position at McAlester Municipal Hospital. He will be succeeded by W. C. Campbell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Perry, Okla.

.....After a summer of broadcasting baseball sponsored by Baptists instead of beer, a Louisville, Ky., radio station has dropped all beer advertising.

.....Mrs. Irene Curtis, for the past four years WMU secretary of Illinois Baptists, has resigned.

.....Baylor University recently picked Frank G. Clement, 34-year-old governor of Tennessee and Billy Graham, world-renowned evangelist, as speakers for the school's second annual Conference on American Ideals, November 5-6.

.....William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., honored Johannes Norgaard, president of the Danish Baptist Theological Seminary, Tollose, Denmark, and vice-president of the Baptist Union of Denmark, with the D.D. degree recently.

.....Miss Ernestine Kesler has been employed by Georgia WMU as assistant to Miss Sarah Stephens, Young People's secretary.

.....J. O. Willett, 87, pioneer Baptist missionary to the Indians at Sacaton, Ariz., and first president of the Baptist General Convention of Arizona, died recently.

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SOUTHERN BAPTISTS ARE GOING TO LONDON
BY: Albert McClellan

At least three prominent Southern Baptists will take major parts on the program of the 50th anniversary Congress of the Baptist World Alliance that meets in London next July 16-22. Dr. Louie D. Newton, Atlanta, Ga., will deliver a response to the various addresses of welcome; Dr. C. Oscar Johnson, St. Louis, Mo., will serve as chairman of the Golden Jubilee service; and Billy Graham, Dallas, Tex., will bring the closing address. A product of Southern Baptist mission work, Dr. Joao Soren, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, will deliver the Congress sermon. Other Southern Baptists have been selected but their subjects not yet fixed and their names not released. It is expected that others will be added later.

Possibly as many as 2,000 Southern Baptists will attend the Congress, probably the largest group from the Southern Convention ever to attend such a gathering outside the United States. A total estimated at 4,000 will attend from North America. All parts of the world will be represented, large delegations going from Africa, Asia, South America, and Australia. Australia alone will send 400, all of them traveling on a special chartered steamship.

The Congress will open Saturday afternoon, July 16 and close Friday night, July 22. There will be fifteen sessions. The morning and evening sessions will all meet in the Royal Albert Hall, with the exception of the last evening session which will meet in Harringay Arena. The afternoon conference sessions will meet in various churches and public halls of London.

Royal Albert Hall, built in 1867, is conveniently located about one mile from Buckingham Palace and two miles from Piccadilly Circus (to an American, a circus is a circle, as for example, Jefferson Circle in Washington.) The street on which it is located changes names three times in two miles. When it passes the hall it is Kensington, soon it changes to Knightsbridge Road and finally to Piccadilly. Across Kensington from the Royal Albert Hall is the famous Hyde Park, where absolute freedom of speech traditionally reigns supreme. Harringay Arena seats about 15,000 and is considered far too small for the final service featuring Billy Graham.

Most Americans going to London will be organized into parties with travel companies arranging for transportation, hotels, baggage, and sightseeing. Hotels

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in London will be widely scattered and not in keeping with American standards, but they will be clean, comfortable and almost always convenient to the London underground railway, reported to be the finest subway system in the world, far ahead of any comparable system in America in speed and accessibility. Busses are just as modern and abundant. All fares are very reasonable.

Travel parties range in size upward from very small parties of ten or twelve people. The largest party is being organized among American (Northern) Baptists. Planes have been chartered to provide special low-cost travel for more than 1,000 people. Most travelers agree that it is better to travel with a party unless they have had wide experience with customs officers, foreign currencies, and continental cultures.

For many Southern Baptist pastors going to London, the grand climax will be a journey to the Holy Land. One travel company has reported that more than one third of their passengers plan trips to Egypt and Palestine.

Whether in London or Palestine, the theme of the Congress will be an abiding thought, one that the travelers will bring back home with them to ring in the ears of their American congregations, "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Heb. 13:8). It is the one idea perhaps on which all Baptists everywhere are agreed.

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Albert McClellan, associate secretary and director of publications, Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, will represent the Baptist Press at the Congress. He will also assist the London committee in interpreting the Congress to the American secular newspaper men.

WAIT! WAIT!

MIAMI, Fla. --(BP)--Pastors and others who plan to attend the Southern Baptist Convention here next May 18-21, have been requested by James W. Parrish, chairman of the committee on hotel reservations, not to make request for hotel space until the housing registration blanks appear in their state papers.

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OKLA. CHURCH ON
BUILDING SPREE

DUNCAN, Okla.--(BP)--Have you ever been on a building spree? Well, that's just what First Baptist Church, Duncan, Okla., has been on for the past six years.

In 1948 the church built a new \$12,000 youth cabin at Falls Creek assembly, in 1949 construction was started on a new auditorium which was completed in 1950 at a cost of \$337,000, and in 1950 the church built Highland Park Baptist Church (a mission at the time) at a cost of \$17,000. A new \$30,000 parsonage was completed in 1951, and in 1953 construction was started on a new education building which is now complete, and the old building is being rebuilt. Entire cost of latest project is \$465,000. When finished it will be air-conditioned. To give you an idea of size, the setup will have 29 pianos and 3,000 chairs.

J. Thurmond George is pastor.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD NAMES
PRESS REPRESENTATIVE

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Mrs. Agnes G. Ford, Nashville, Tenn., has been named press representative of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, James L. Sullivan, executive secretary, announced recently. She will work directly with J. M. Crowe, administrative assistant to Sullivan.

A native of Tennessee, Mrs. Ford attended George Peabody College for Teachers at Belmont College, Nashville. She came to the Board in 1927 in the sales and advertising department, where she served until 1947 when she resigned. After the death of her husband in 1949, Mrs. Ford returned to the Board as sales promoter and advertising copywriter for Broadman books, and chairman of the Baptist Bulletin Service sales and promotion committee. In 1952 she became promotional secretary in the office of the Board's business manager, where publicity of the Board's work was a part of duties assigned.

Mrs. Ford, membership vice president of the Baptist Public Relations Association, is contributor of articles to various Southern Baptist denominational publications. She also compiled a small booklet, "helpful Words," and is author of Why Weepsst Thou?

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NEGRO SEMINARY HAS
RECORD ENROLMENT

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP) --American Baptist Seminary, Nashville, Tenn., to date has enrolled seventy-four students for the fall term, making the largest enrolment of new students in several years. Seven of these students are women. The students come from twenty states and five foreign countries--Bahamas, British Guiana, Costa Rica, and Jamaica.

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MINISTERIAL ENROLMENT IN
SBC COLLEGES DOUBLED

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP) --The percentage of total enrolments of ministerial students in Southern Baptist colleges and universities has more than doubled in the last seven years, it was announced by R. Orin Cornett, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission. A steady increase from 7.8 per cent in 1946-47 to 16.4 per cent in 1953-54 in the colleges has been accompanied by a growth in enrolments of ministerial students in the seminaries from 1,744 in 1946-47 to 3,710 in 1953-54.

The total of ministerial students in the colleges, seminaries, academies, and Bible schools reached an all-time high of 10,007 last year, Cornett stated.

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ENROLMENT REACHES PEAK
AT SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY

FORT WORTH, Tex.--(BP) --Enrolment at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., has reached another peak this fall with a total of 1,881 students, 104 more than last fall's enrolment.

The student body this year is made up of students from thirty-eight states, District of Columbia, and ten foreign countries.

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STRENGTHENING THE LIFE LINE

BY: Louie D. Newton

"What is this Stewardship Revival idea, and where did it come from?" asked one of our men. That question made me feel mighty good, indicating, as it did, that this alert disciple of the Lord had observed the references in our church bulletin. Getting the attention of our people in this day of multiform appeals is our first job.

"You've got it right, so far," I replied, "because it is an idea." And I nudged his curiosity as much as I could by suggesting that favorite line: "Ideas rule the world."

"It's not only an idea," I continued, "but a vital idea." The deacon knows Latin, and I didn't miss the opportunity of making a play on vitalis - life's energies, life's functions, life's actions. He was listening.

"And it is an idea which stems from spiritual concern-concern for the kingdom of God, through voluntary, joyous obedience to God's plan and method for his children in the stewardship of their lives - the stewardship of possessions, time, influence..."

"Wait a minute," he interrupted. "You mean that faithfulness as a steward of God is vital? That's what you're trying to tell me? And you believe that I need revitalizing? And that's why you call it a revival in stewardship?"

"You're catching on," I answered.

"But you haven't told me where they got this idea," he said, turning his eyes from the clock, which he had pointed to as he entered the study, declaring that he had only five minutes for whatever I wanted to say to him, and looking me straight in the eye, indicating that he was really concerned.

"Right out of the Bible," I replied. "Here, look at this attractive little folder; what does it say? "ABC's of Bible Stewardship" - Ask God, Believe Him, Commit Thy Way. Take this Bible now and turn to these passages as I call them."

He did.

"Now look at this little folder - "Bring Ye All the Tithes" and turn to these passages as I call them."

"Hold everything," he said. "You know I believe the Bible. And you've convinced me that this is a vital idea. Now what?"

Running through the plan of finding out what the Bible teaches concerning stewardship, and our purpose to follow that plan in our church, I then said,

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"The life line of Southern Baptist work is the Cooperative Program. Every dollar you give through the Cooperative Program goes immediately to work for God in every field of missions, benevolence, and Christian education in which Southern Baptists are engaged, beginning with the local, state, and Convention-wide and world-wide levels. And this Stewardship Revival can and will strengthen that life line to the glory of God and the blessing of humanity."

"I'm for it, and our people will be for it," he said, adding, "I'll gladly serve on the Stewardship Committee of our church, and I can see how it will bring a revival to our people, not only in our giving, but in every other phase of our church and denominational life. Thank you, and good-by."

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Louie D. Newton, pastor, Druid Hills Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga., is chairman of the Finance Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

AS SIMPLE AS ...
BY: Herschel H. Hobbs

Yes, it's as simple as A B C! How fortunate that our stewardship emphasis this fall is centered about such --- for it is as simple as A B C. All of God's plans, including salvation as well as stewardship, are simple. Satan, through man, seeks to complicate them to our hurt. But when we take God at his word we shall realize that the psalmist was right when he said, "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (37:4f.). Herein we find the A B C's of stewardship.

Ask! This word is suggested in "the desires of thine heart." James reminds us that we have not because we ask not (4:2). Most pastors do not ask enough of their people in regard to stewardship. Our asking is not for ourselves but for the Lord--and for the giver. Asking furthermore suggests that the individual should make his own giving program a matter of prayer. No junior partner in a business firm would make a momentous decision without first talking with his senior partner. Should the Christian do less?

Believe! "Trust also in him" ... the psalmist said. Believe in God's program of finance for his work. Believe the teachings of the Bible as to the responsibility which each of us bears with regard to stewardship. Believe in God's power to enable us to meet this obligation and opportunity. Believe that corporate giving commensurate to our ability will gird up the loins of our denomination as we face our world mission.

Commit! Yes, "commit thy way unto the Lord." This is the crowning thought. Many are those who ask and believe only to fall short of committal. Futile is our asking; dead is our faith; unless--unless our people are led to commit. Roger Babson is said to have complimented his pastor's sermon only to conclude, "But if you were a salesman of mine I would fire you!" To the astonished pastor's inquiry, Mr. Babson replied, "Because you sold us on your product, but never did ask us to sign on the dotted line."

Ask - Believe - Commit ... "and he shall bring it to pass." This is God's promise! It shall never fail! It is as simple as A B C --- if we will apply it.

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Herschell H. Hobbs is pastor of the First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.