



THEO. SOMMERKAMP, editorial assistant

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

05-09-57

Michigan Baptists To
Form State Convention

DETROIT--(BP)--Southern Baptists in Michigan are planning to form a state Baptist convention in October or November, according to Fred Hubbs, superintendent of missions for Motor Cities Baptist Association here.

Hubbs reported that "It seems certain there will be more than 50 churches when the state convention is organized." Time for organizing the new convention is set for either Oct. 28-30 or Nov. 4-6.

The convention would be the 25th in the United States proper to co-operate with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Most of the churches in Michigan co-operating with Southern Baptists are located in the metropolitan Detroit area, which has a population of four million. The Arkansas Baptist Convention has been sponsoring work in Michigan.

None of the churches is a former member of another Baptist group, but all have resulted from Southern Baptist people who moved from other states into Michigan and started new churches. Many of these people work for automobile manufacturers in the area.

Hubbs said that Michigan Baptists recently held their third regional fellowship meeting preparatory to forming a new state convention. Under a procedure recommended by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, churches in a new area should hold at least three regional fellowships before forming state conventions.

One of the immediate mission projects before Michigan Southern Baptists is their plan to establish over 40 new missions in one day on July 14.

Representatives of several Southern Baptist Convention agencies attended the recent third fellowship meeting to give information on the SBC.

-30-

Convention To Meet On
Central Daylight Time

CHICAGO--(BP)--All sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention here will meet on Central Daylight Saving Time, which is being observed in Chicago, Convention messengers have been advised.

-30-

Hudgins Nominated To
 Presidency of S.B.C.

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--The Baptist Record, weekly newspaper for Mississippi Baptists, has nominated W. Douglas Hudgins, pastor of Jackson's First Baptist Church, to be next president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

A new president will be elected when the Convention holds its 1957 session in Chicago May 28-31. C. C. Warren, pastor of First Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C., has served two one-year terms as president and is not eligible for re-election.

The Baptist Record's published nomination does not officially make Hudgins a candidate. He would have to be nominated by a messenger on the floor of the Convention during its regular period for electing officers at Chicago.

"It seems to be the time for Mississippi to join the ranks of states furnishing presidents," the Baptist Record declared. It cites Hudgins' roles in denominational positions of leadership and adds "he would bring to the SBC president's office added distinction and prestige."

-30-

Southern Baptists Hold
 First N. Y. Services

NEW YORK--(BP)--The first regularly-scheduled preaching services ever conducted by a group of Southern Baptists in New York City were held May 5.

Ray Roberts, executive secretary of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, preached at the first service. Worship services are being held in a rented chapel of the Y.M.C.A. in downtown Manhattan.

Plans were made to organize a Sunday school. Fellowship prayer services have been held in homes of Southern Baptists since February.

A church in Niagara Falls, N.Y., has co-operated with the Ohio state convention since June, 1955, when it was organized from a mission. The mission had been started earlier by Baptists in Alabama.

A few churches in Pennsylvania and West Virginia also are co-operating with Ohio Baptists.

-30-

BP folks & facts

.....Mrs. Edwin McNeely, professor of piano, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, died April 16 following a long illness. Mrs. McNeely, wife of Edwin McNeely, professor of ministry of music at the seminary, had been teaching at Southwestern since 1920.

-30-

Clergy Permits Valid
For Convention Trip

CHICAGO--(BP)--All clergy permits will be valid for train transportation to the Southern Baptist Convention here, railroad passenger agents have reported.

The suggested period for using them in buying railroad tickets is May 23-June 1.

Normally a lengthy train trip may require more than one permit, since each permit is restricted to a geographical area of the country. This requirement is however waived at Convention time to allow one permit -- whatever is held by the Convention-goer -- to be valid for the trip to the Convention.

-30-

Whiteside Leaves Post
As Hospital Leader

COLUMBIA, S. C.--(BP)--W. M. Whiteside, superintendent of the South Carolina Baptist Hospital here has retired. His assistant, W. A. Boyce, has become acting superintendent.

In a recent statement about Whiteside, the hospital trustees used these words: "The story of the (South Carolina) Baptist Hospital is really the story of Dr. W. M. Whiteside. South Carolina Baptists have never produced a more dedicated man than Dr. Whiteside."

-30-

Religious TV Series
Given Special Award

FORT WORTH--(BP)--"This Is The Answer," religious television series, has received a citation for "outstanding" film production in the 21st American Exhibition of Educational Radio and TV Programs.

Produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, the series of films was one of four award winners in the special interests category. The series features Christ's parables in modern-day settings.

-30-

BP folks & facts

.....Mrs. Annie Laura Hale, 70-year-old housewife and mother of 14 children, has been named as the 1957 Texas Baptist Mother of the year. A member of the First Baptist Church at Goldthwaite, Tex., and a Sunday school teacher for the past 56 years, Mrs. Hale has been an energetic church worker for more than a half century.

-30-

Conrad Hilton Capacity
Reached For Convention

CHICAGO--(BP)--More than 2000 rooms in the Conrad Hilton Hotel here have been reserved by people planning to attend the Southern Baptist Convention, Noel M. Taylor, chairman of the general committee on Convention arrangements, reported.

The Conrad Hilton, largest hotel in the world and Convention headquarters, cannot accept any further reservations for the Southern Baptist Convention because it is completely filled.

Several other hotels in Chicago are filled and are unable to reserve more space for the Convention. Taylor pointed out, however, that a number of hotels still are accepting reservations.

The following hotels are accepting reservations for Conventioneers, their rates for single rooms varying from \$3.15 to \$14.50 a day.

Bismarck Hotel, 171 W. Randolph St.; Congress Hotel, 500 S. Michigan Ave.;
La Salle Hotel, 10 N. La Salle St.; Morrison Hotel, 79 W. Madison St.; St. Clair
Hotel, Ohio and Michigan Aves.; Y M C A Hotel, 826 S. Wabash Ave.; Hamilton Hotel;
20 S. Dearborn St., and Harrison Hotel, 65 E. Harrison St.