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Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

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### May 3, 1956

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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# ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 55

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, MAY 3, 1956

NUMBER 18



Leonard Kelly Photo

**This issue of the ARKANSAS BAPTIST is lovingly dedicated to Dr. B. H. Duncan, in appreciation, on this the ninth anniversary of his editorship.**

THE ARKANSAS BAPTIST COMMITTEE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD  
ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.



# Friends Pay Tribute To B. H. Duncan on His Ninth Anniversary with Arkansas Baptist

*This issue of the ARKANSAS BAPTIST seeks to pay tribute to Dr. B. H. Duncan in recognition of his nine years of faithful and fruitful ministry as Editor. Dr. Duncan has no idea that this dedication issue is being printed. The ARKANSAS BAPTIST publication committee of the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist Convention requested the staff of the ARKANSAS BAPTIST to print such a tribute. We express great appreciation to Mrs. Homer D. Myers and the entire staff of the ARKANSAS BAPTIST for the enthusiastic manner in which they co-operated with this effort. Their love and devotion to Dr. Duncan is another tribute to his splendid leadership and great Christian character.*

Editor Duncan has made the Arkansas Baptist an outstanding denominational paper throughout the Southern Baptist Convention territory. It is attractive in make-up, informative in content, and courageous and forward-looking from an editorial point of view.

As a denominational leader, Dr. Duncan holds the admiration and respect of the Baptists of our state. He is a member of the

church where I am pastor. His fellow church members deeply respect his judgment and seek his counsel. He has provided inspiration, helpful counsel, and encouragement to me as his pastor. As a real Christian, Dr. Duncan has made his greatest contribution to the cause of Christ. Those of us who know him are most impressed with his genuine dedication to the Lord Jesus, his love for the Word of God, his sweet Christian attitude, and his

tender compassionate heart.

It is, then, to a splendid Editor, a wise denominational leader, a trusted friend, and a dedicated Christian statesman, that this issue of the Arkansas Baptist is lovingly dedicated on this his ninth anniversary.

*Dale Cowling, Pastor  
Second Church, Little Rock  
Chairman, Publication Committee  
Arkansas Baptist State Convention*

## "Spiritual Giant"

The cause of Christ has been greatly magnified through the years by God-fearing men who have used the pen. Our Arkansas Baptist has been privileged to have a spiritual giant as its Editor, Dr. B. H. Duncan. He has manifested true spiritual wisdom in holding up the Word of God as the only Way. He has been bold in denouncing the evils of our day. The Arkansas Baptist has served us well under his editorship.

*Homer A. Bradley, Member  
Publication Committee  
Pastor, Eudora Church*

## "Thankful to God"

I am thankful to God for a man like Dr. B. H. Duncan, Editor of the Arkansas Baptist. He is a man who has for almost a decade been tirelessly working to strengthen the lives of his readers through the pages of our great denominational paper, which is attractive in appearance, content and quality.

Personally, my life has been blessed through the devotional fires, the editorials, and the current news of denominational interest as well as religious news in general. Inspiration comes to me, and my faith increases, as the Editor takes his stand on questions of morals and Christian integrity. He takes his stand on issues in our denomination and allows the other person the same privilege.

It is a privilege to have a part in honoring this great man of God — Dr. B. H. Duncan.

*Dillard S. Miller, Pastor  
First Church, Bauxite  
Member, Publication Committee*

## Greetings

Greetings:

I rejoice with Arkansas Baptists over the outstanding work of Dr. B. H. Duncan. His approach to every problem is Christian, and his purpose is to be helpful. He is true to the Book, sound in the doctrine, loyal to the denomination, and vitally interested in evangelism.

Dr. Duncan is a true friend to every worthy cause. May every desire of your heart, dear friend, be precious in the sight of the Lord.

*Sincerely,  
T. L. Holcomb  
Executive Secretary  
Southern Baptist Foundation*

## "A Joy to Pay Tribute"

There are times when it is a joy and a privilege to pay tribute to a fellow servant in the Kingdom's work. We are happy to have known Dr. Duncan personally since he has been in Arkansas and now to be a member of the Arkansas Baptist Committee, being associated with him in a leadership capacity. He is a Christian statesman, theologian, and a prolific writer, loved by all who know him. The real test of a man's character is the opinion of those closely associated with him which is expressed by every member of his staff that radiates the spirit of this good man. We congratulate Dr. Duncan on his ninth anniversary and wish him many more years of successful service with the Arkansas Baptist.

*Byron King, Pastor  
First Church, Tuckerman  
Member, Publication Com.*

## "Outstanding"

In appreciation of his devotion to the task and his personal consecration, Arkansas Baptists are fortunate to have the loyal leadership of Dr. B. H. Duncan as editor of our state paper. We have one of the outstanding papers in the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Duncan has given tirelessly of his time, talent, energy, and his very soul in seeking to make this possible.

If every Arkansas Baptist would read his state paper he would be a better informed Christian and surely a more enlightened Baptist.

As pastor of a Baptist church I deeply appreciate the faithful, devoted leadership Dr. Duncan has given to us. We pay special tribute to him on this his ninth anniversary in his present capacity. May the Lord continue to richly bless Dr. Duncan in this place of leadership among Arkansas Baptists is our prayer.

*John Holston, Pastor  
Lonoke Baptist Church  
Member, Publication Committee*

Mark Twain said he could live two months on a good compliment. Had he been editor of the Arkansas Baptist (after this issue) he would have lived for ever!

## Congratulations On Nine Fruitful Years of Service

We want to join the great host of friends in expressing our appreciation to Dr. B. H. Duncan for the outstanding years as Editor of our Arkansas Baptist. These nine years have meant much in the life of our Arkansas Baptist as a paper and also in the whole program of Arkansas Baptists.

Much has been accomplished during these nine years that Dr. Duncan has served as Editor and we feel that the Arkansas Baptist has played a great part in keeping a spirit of unity and deserves credit for many of the things accomplished.

Dr. Duncan has been recognized in places of leadership among the other Editors and articles from the Arkansas Baptist are often quoted in other State and Denominational papers.

The Arkansas Baptist is distinctive in form and is recognized as one of our leading Southern Baptist papers.

We want to especially express our appreciation for the help and support given the Orphanage during these years. Each year we have had Articles and Advertisements in the Arkansas Baptist that have helped inform our people and get the needs before them. Congratulations and best wishes.

*H. C. Seefeldt, Supt.  
Bottoms Baptist Orphanage  
Monticello, Ark.*

## ARKANSAS BAPTIST

107 BAPTIST BUILDING, LITTLE ROCK, ARK.  
Official Publication of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention

B. H. DUNCAN EDITOR  
MRS. HOMER D. MYERS ED. ASST.

Publication Committee: Dale Cowling, Little Rock, Chairman; John Holston, Lonoke; Homer Bradley, Eudora; Byron King, Tuckerman; Dillard Miller, Bauxite.

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Articles carrying the author's by-line do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of the paper.



# A Twenty-five Year Friendship

By BRUCE H. PRICE  
First Baptist Church  
Newport News, Virginia



Springs, and editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*, may not be familiar with his early life. B. H. Duncan was born in the country near Marion, Ky., and worked on the farm, doing manual labor until he was grown. At age 24, God called this young man of high ideals and good background into full-time Chris-

tian service. Literally taking his hands off the plow, he set his face to high school, college, and seminary, never looking back.

B. H. Duncan knows and loves the rural and town church. Some of his happiest and most fruitful years were spent in their service. The only city church that he served before going to Hot Springs, was the Franklin Street Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky. His ability as an administrator and preacher filled this pastorate with success. During his eight happy years at Hot Springs, he became more useful in denominational service.

Through these years, God was preparing His servant to use written messages to influence thousands of lives all over the country for good and for God. Nine years ago, in the divine plan, opportunity opened for Mr. Duncan to become editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. A talented writer, with a good mind and deep insight — previously, he had written two books of sermons, and had been a frequent contributor to the denominational press — the new editor began this labor of love.

On the occasion of his ninth anniversary in the service of the denomination as an editor, I am honored by the publication committee to be asked to make a statement about the life and work of B. H. Duncan. Throughout all eternity, I shall praise God for giving me such a friend.

## THE PASTOR B. H. DUNCAN

By JACOB L. KING, *Chr. of Deacons*  
First Church, Hot Springs

On New Years Day, January 1, 1939, a newcomer entered Arkansas when B. H. Duncan arrived in Hot Springs from Georgia to assume the pastorate of the First Baptist Church. In coming to Arkansas he became pastor of one of the oldest churches in the state, the first organized in Hot Springs, where it has served as a beacon in this resort town for one hundred twenty years since 1836.

Assuming his duties as pastor he was quick to win the hearts and confidence of the members of the church. Being pastor of a church in a health resort gives additional opportunities and responsibilities unlike most cities, for the need of a ministry to the sick and afflicted often reaches out far beyond the realm of the local constituency; but B. H. Duncan within a short time after his arrival had earned the respect of the community, and the admiration of his fellow ministers.

With training received at Southern Baptist Seminary, and with a wealth of experience in prior pastorates, he possessed the qualifications and ability to lead the church into a steady and progressive program that continued for a period of eight and one-third years, and until he resigned to accept the editorship of the *Arkansas Baptist*. In trying to evaluate his services as pastor of our church, I like to think of him in three capacities: as preacher, as pastor, and as a man.

### As a Preacher

As a preacher, he stood four-square in transmitting the Word of God. He preached Christ and Him crucified, and did not waste words in tearing down others, or criticizing the efforts of others. He relied solely on the power of the Gospel to bring people under

conviction. His sermons were always sound, philosophical, possessing a wealth of food for the soul, and presented in a smooth impressionable manner that brought those who listened under the power of the Holy Spirit. It can be truthfully said, that he is well qualified to break the bread of life in a way that is pleasing to Him, the Author of our existence, and to the benefit of mankind.

### As a Pastor

As pastor, he led the church in a continuous program of evangelism, with new additions coming into the church weekly all through the year. Having a compassionate heart for the lost, he was able to talk to the young and the old alike, presenting to them the positive approach to salvation. The little children loved to call him "Uncle Duncan," the young people enjoyed his companionship at their socials, and the adults followed his leadership, supporting his program. It was during his pastorate that the Brotherhood of our church was organized. As a strong believer in all phases of the great mission work, encouragement was given to the W. M. S., and a good wholesome atmosphere existed in all phases of the church program.

### As a Man

As a man, it could best be said that he is "A man's man!" While he did not belong to, nor participate in, organizations other than his Church, he was regarded highly by the community at large as one who could be relied upon. Various organizations, fraternal, veterans, civic, and social with which he held no affiliation, would seek the services of the church to attend in a group, for they liked the pastor and the way he preached. His

stand on moral issues was never in doubt, yet he received the respect of those who differed with him in opinion. To be a "man's man," one must first be "God's man," and have courage to stand by his convictions. B. H. Duncan possessed these qualities, and all the attributes here referred to are easily confirmed in a sermon delivered by him on February 26, 1944 from the pulpit of our church, entitled "Ill Gotten Gain," and subsequently published in the March 15, 1944 issue of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

I am happy to join with the staff and publication committee of the *Arkansas Baptist* in paying tribute to this one who has meant so much to my church, my family, myself, and most of all, to one who serves his God so magnificently!

—000—

Dear Dr. Duncan:

Sincerest congratulations upon your ninth anniversary as editor of the esteemed *Arkansas Baptist*.

Through the years I have read your editorials with interest and appreciation. The entire tone of your publication is likewise the highest. Its contribution to the life of Arkansas Baptists and of Southern Baptists is inestimable.

May the Lord continue to bless you as you continue to serve Him is the sincere prayer of your friends and co-workers in the *Baptist Messenger* office.

Cordially yours,  
Jack L. Gritz, Editor  
Oklahoma Baptist Messenger



# From Friends In Other States

## "Rare Gift of Discernment"

Much of the time I read all our Southern Baptist papers, especially their editorial pages. I am deeply indebted to Dr. B. H. Duncan for his forthright and intelligent discussion of the most important things that concern our Baptist life. His insight, evaluation and balanced perspective as he has viewed and presented the subjects, questions and issues that he has editorially discussed have marked him as one of our best editorial thinkers. The frequency with which his editorials are reprinted in other papers is a testimony to the value of his work.

Editor Duncan has the rare gift of being able to discern faults that need correcting in our denominational life without exaggerating them and without depreciation of the great values that do exist in areas where he believes mistakes have been made. The total effect of his insight and writing is constructive, stable, progressive. Southern Baptists are indebted to their editors far more than most of them realize. We owe them much for what they have kept out of the papers. They have enriched us because of the value of what they have published. Their editorials appraise and present the many things we need to consider. In the past decade we are indebted to no editor more than we are to Editor B. H. Duncan.

*Norman W. Cox, Executive Sec'y.,  
Historical Commission, S.B.C.*

Dear Dr. Duncan:

For nine years I have watched your leadership as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. In that long span of service you have done a memorable, constructive, thoroughgoing Baptist and Christian job.

To me, the thing that has marked your editorials is the vigor which you have tackled denominational problems. I have often read your writings and said to myself, "If I had Dr. Duncan's ability to turn a phrase I would consider myself very fortunate indeed."

You are a great Christian, clear writer and a loyal Baptist. God bless you in your years of service that lie ahead.

*Sincerely yours,  
Albert McClellan  
Director of Publications  
Southern Baptist Convention*

Almost every Southern Baptist paper comes to my desk and I read almost everyone of them every week. There is no paper in Southern Baptist life that I look forward to reading with more appreciation and interest than the *Arkansas Baptist*. One of the real reasons for this is because of those splendid, thought-provoking, stimulating editorials written by my good friend Dr. B. H. Duncan. Surely, he has been one of the great leaders of Southern Baptist life throughout many years. His consecrated pen has caused many of us to think more deeply on the problems as well as the privileges of our work in the Southern Baptist Zion.

I rejoice to have some small part in joining other friends in honoring this great man of God who has blessed not only the Arkansas Baptist constituency but the people called Southern Baptists everywhere.

*Chester L. Quarles  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention  
Jackson, Mississippi*

## "He was My Boss"

I first knew Dr. Duncan as my "boss." He was chairman of the *Arkansas Baptist* publication committee when I was editor of the paper. I found him considerate and helpful when I, as a young editor, hit snags in either the business or editorial end of the publication. I found him especially understanding when things went wrong. He was the sort of "boss" that a fellow could go to and get excellent counsel.

When I discovered that he had written a book of sermons, I asked him to be not only chairman of the publications committee but also a member of my staff. He sent me brief devotional items which we published as a regular and popular feature opposite the editorial page.

Then came the time I thought the grass was greener on the other side of the pasture, and left Little Rock to take up work with the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville. It was normal that the brethren would look to Dr. Duncan as my successor. So I went and he came, and the paper's popularity and usefulness soared to new heights!

Now, as I have for these past nine years, I look forward eagerly to receipt of every new issue of the *Arkansas Baptist*. Dr. Duncan is a very excellent editor, selecting up-to-date topics for news and editorial presentation. A friend of mine, here in Waco, Texas, Prof. Frank E. Burkhalter, finds so much material in his *Arkansas Baptist* copy to clip for future reference he frequently asks me for the remnants of my copy. I say remnants because I clip too, and my paper usually looks like a sieve.

Dr. Duncan has learned well what people like and need, and he's given it to us. He has been loyal to the denomination, yet has been fearless when he felt it necessary to point to dangers or to help chart new plans. He is doctrinally sound. His courage has led many times to new advances by the denomination. I am happy to sing his praises on the occasion of his ninth anniversary.

*C. E. Bryant, Director  
Public Relations  
Baylor University*

## Congratulations, Dr. Duncan!

This editor and all Kentucky Baptists would extend heartiest congratulations to Arkansas Baptists and to Dr. B. H. Duncan, editor of *Arkansas Baptist*, as he approaches his ninth anniversary with that great paper.

It is easy to speak of those for whom we have highest respect and toward whom we sense profound Christian devotion. Under such circumstances there is no groping for words; one just lets his heart talk.

I have known Dr. Duncan for years, and always there has been for him an admiration far beyond the ordinary. The Master had about Him a great host of friends whom he loved devotedly; then, there were the apostles to whom He was drawn in an unusual way. Inside the apostolic group there were three — Peter, James and John — who were especially close; but of those three, there was John the beloved. I have always regarded Dr. Duncan as being one of the Johns who walked very close to the Master and who made himself a friend to His friends.

From the first of His ministry as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist* Dr. Duncan attracted Convention-wide attention as a fearless, gentle-hearted leader and writer. Though amiable in spirit and warm in heart, he nevertheless displays always a conviction so essential in his work. When he sees and understands the truth, which he seems always to do, there's never any compromise, no matter what may be involved.

Kentucky is proud to state that Dr. Duncan was born within its borders and that he received his training at Bethel College, Russellville, Kentucky, and at Southern Seminary, Louisville. For some years he was pastor in this state. We wish for him many, many more years of service with the great paper of Arkansas Baptists.

*R. T. Skinner, Editor  
The Western Recorder  
Louisville, Kentucky*

Congratulations to Dr. B. H. Duncan upon the occasion of his ninth anniversary as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. It has been my happy privilege to be associated with Dr. Duncan through all of the years of his editorship and I have developed a keen sense of love and appreciation for this man of God. Although Dr. Duncan and I have not always agreed on every issue before Southern Baptists, I consider him one of our most profound thinkers. His contribution to the stability and right direction of the Southern Baptist Convention cannot be over estimated. The power of the pen is mightier than the sword and Dr. Duncan has guided the thinking of our people.

Always in his writings Dr. Duncan has shown the finest Christian spirit even when he was taking issue with the position of some other person. He is a man who can disagree with another person's position and yet maintain his ties of close personal friendship. It takes a genuine Christian to rise above personal and petty feelings, but this, Dr. Duncan has done supremely. Upon this occasion of Dr. Duncan's ninth anniversary may we also take the opportunity of congratulating Arkansas Baptists for their good judgment in securing such a man as this to be their editor for these many years.

*W. Barry Garrett  
Interim Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Baptist General Convention  
of Arizona*

Editor: "Helen Dear! I'm Home.  
Did the painters come today?"



(Now they have wall-to-wall carpeting).



# From The Folks at Home

## My Fellow Church Member

Dr. B. H. Duncan was selected as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist* by the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist Convention. At the time of his election, he was the pastor of First Baptist Church in Hot Springs. All the Baptist pastors in the city of Hot Springs heartedly endorsed him as the type of person who would be successful as the Editor of our Baptist paper. How well his pastor friends were able to predict the success of Dr. Duncan in this important work for our Baptist denomination has been proven by the results of his untiring efforts in making the *Arkansas Baptist* one of the best Baptist papers in our land. Many readers of the paper will long remember the splendid editorials which appear in the *Arkansas Baptist* each week. We have appreciated the "Devotion by the Editor" from time to time. His written statements give an idea of the type of man behind them.

Since he came to Little Rock as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*, he has been a member of Second Baptist Church, Little Rock. My being a member of that church has given me an opportunity to know Dr. Duncan intimately. He is not only the right man in the right place, as far as the *Arkansas Baptist* is concerned, but he is a high-type Christian gentleman who is always ready and willing to do whatever he can to advance the cause of Christ in the local church. I know him to be a faithful and loyal member of our church. His influence is felt in all phases of the work of Second Church. He is a man of God who seeks the guidance of the Holy Spirit in all of his efforts toward the building of the Kingdom of God here on earth.

A. B. Hill, Layman  
Second Baptist Church  
Little Rock

Dear Dr. Duncan:

Congratulations to you on this the ninth anniversary of your fruitful years as the editor and manager of the *Arkansas Baptist*. It has been a joy to see our paper grow into one of the best state Baptist papers in the Southern Baptist Convention.

What I feel is the best that you have given in our paper is the variety and high quality of the published material. I have personally approved of your general editorial policy and have enjoyed the high type of editorial writing you have given us.

I want also to commend your success in building up the largest subscription list of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

Then I want to express my sincere appreciation of the invaluable opportunity you have through the columns of the paper in promoting the work of the Arkansas Baptist Foundation. I very greatly appreciate this service you have rendered the Foundation department.

Again may I say congratulations, with the prayerful hope that you may have still many more years of service for the Lord in giving to Arkansas Baptists the kind of religious paper these times demand.

I want also to congratulate you on having such a fine and efficient and loyal staff of helpers, who I am sure have been a very great help to you in the big task of getting out the paper.

W. A. Jackson, Secretary  
Arkansas Baptist Foundation  
Arkansas Baptist Convention

## "Distinct Pleasure"

It has been a distinct pleasure to be associated with Editor B. H. Duncan during the past nine years. When he took over the editorship of the *Arkansas Baptist* I was endeavoring to become adjusted in my position as Superintendent of the Department of Missions. I found in Dr. Duncan a most sympathetic supporter of the cause of missions. He has had a deep interest in every phase of our State Mission work. He has been just as interested, I am sure, in every other phase of our denominational program. As editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*, I have found him to be impartial in his effort to provide space for the promotion of the departments and their work.

We all know that a Baptist state paper must be balanced in the type of material published in its columns from week to week. Editor Duncan has done a most excellent job in keeping the *Arkansas Baptist* balanced in the type of articles published, and in the promotional material printed. I am convinced that we have a great paper, and I join others in giving a salute of praise to Dr. Duncan and his very capable staff.

C. W. Caldwell, Supt.,  
Department of Missions  
Arkansas Baptist Convention

Congratulations to a distinguished Christian Gentleman on his ninth anniversary as *Arkansas Baptist* editor. Dr. Duncan, in the short time I have been honored to know him, has won a place in my heart. He is a man of keen perception, editorial skill, human understanding, and beyond all of this, he has a faith that has been an inspiration to all of us at Baptist Headquarters.

LeRoy McClard, Director  
Church Music Department  
Arkansas Baptist Convention

My friendship with Dr. B. H. Duncan has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my eight months with *Arkansas Baptists*. There is a wonderful fellowship between all the departments of our work, and with no department is this co-operation and Christian fellowship sweeter than with the *Arkansas Baptist*, and its noble editor, Dr. B. H. Duncan. The Christian virtues of humility and love, so often absent in our lives, are constantly evident in the life of this sincere follower of the Saviour. Our sincere congratulations to Dr. Duncan, on his ninth anniversary as editor of *Arkansas Baptist*.

Tom Logue  
B.S.U. Director  
Arkansas Baptist Convention



The Editor—At work  
On a hot summer day.

## Congratulations!

The entire administration of the Arkansas Baptist Hospital is happy to express its deep appreciation of Dr. B. H. Duncan, Editor, *Arkansas Baptist*.

We feel that he is an extremely stable person who has carefully analyzed situations through the past years and reported them in an unbiased manner to the people of our state.

In addition to this general duty, we believe he has been a good booster of all our Baptist institutions and agencies and in particular a good friend to the Arkansas Baptist Hospital. We have never asked his help on any occasion that he did not come through beyond our expectations.

We all here value his friendship greatly and appreciate the work that he has done.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST HOSPITAL  
J. A. Gilbreath, Administrator

Congratulations to our Editor on this his ninth anniversary as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. Glorious advancement has been made during these years for which we rejoice. The mechanical make-up of the paper has been attractive and the spiritual messages have brought untold blessings to Arkansas Baptists and many other readers of the paper. All the word of our State Convention has been ably presented and its pages have kept our people well informed concerning our advancement in every field of labor.

May the Lord spare you for many more years of usefulness.

W. Dawson King  
Arkansas Baptist Convention

It truly gives me a genuine inward joy to try to express my congratulations to you upon this ninth anniversary of your editorship of our good denominational state paper.

Your work in the development of the quality of the paper, in EVERY way, has borne its fruits in so many ways, most effectively. We are constantly hearing words of praise for our editor and the paper, in echoes from our many friends of other states who read the *Arkansas Baptist*. We rejoice in the universal, sincere appreciation of our editor and paper.

With the increase of subscribers, also, it is our fervent hope and prayer that the Lord will spare you for many years to come in this position to continue the Kingdom-building, God-honoring, soul-winning services your ministry is producing.

For you and your companion, my prayers constantly rise to the Throne of Grace.

Leo B. Golden  
State Missions Dept.  
Arkansas Baptist Convention

Congratulations! During the nine years you have served as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist* you have given Arkansas Baptists one of the best denominational papers offered in any state in the Southern Baptist Convention territory. The content, make up, feature articles, and especially the editorials, have been tops. Small wonder that more and more Arkansas Baptists are reading the state paper each passing year.

May you be spared many more years in the Master's service.

Edgar Williamson, Secretary  
State Sunday School Dept.  
Arkansas Baptist Convention



# From East, West, North, South Come Expressions of Appreciation

Dear Dr. Duncan:

It has never been my privilege to know you real well, but I am grateful to God that in His providence we had good fellowship at Birmingham. My predecessor, Dr. David M. Gardner, had spoken highly of you; and, therefore, I paid all the more attention to your words and actions. I assure you I came from that meeting impressed with you.

Every week since coming to this office your paper has come to my desk, and I read it with an abiding interest. I think you and your associates have been producing a splendid Baptist periodical.

I have received word that you are approaching your ninth anniversary as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*, and I want to be among the first to express my appreciation of your Christian character, your diligent efforts, and the product of your pen. I pray God to give you health and strength for every responsibility that shall ever be yours.

*E. S. James, Editor,  
Baptist Standard  
Dallas, Texas*

Dear Dr. Duncan:

I am delighted with the privilege of being one among many to give to you a testimony of my appreciation. Knowing the challenge and the joys of the editorship of the *Arkansas Baptist*, I could not have other than the highest gratitude for your staff and for that noble fellowship in Arkansas.

You have shown "par excellence" in the quality of the editorials and in the general tone of the publication. You have maintained balance between the current and the doctrinal, and you have guided your staff in a display of the material in a manner to gain the commendation of our Baptist people far and near. I would commend, particularly, your researchful devotional copy in which you have shown unsurpassed talents.

Naturally, now when friends decide to join in good wishes and to clasp hands across time and space, I extend my hand and contribute my prayers — that present health disturbances will be lived through with unabated strength and that your selfless life, your dauntless courage, and your influential contribution will be ever increasing through the unnumbered years. We greatly missed you at the last editor's meeting and at the Public Relations meeting at Nashville.

*Cordially and fraternally,  
Lewis A. Myers, Editor  
Baptist New Mexican*

I served with Dr. Duncan for several years on the Radio Commission and learned to know and appreciate him during those years. He has certainly done a marvelous work as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. His editorials have been outstanding. Through the years I have looked forward to reading the *Arkansas Baptist* and keeping up with the writings of its editor.

Through the years of service for our Lord we are privileged to know and serve with some of His outstanding servants. To me Dr. Duncan is one of this group who has faithfully carried the torch for Christ through his span of life. I will always count it a privilege to have known him intimately and to count him as a real friend.

*R. Alton Reed  
Relief and Annuity Board  
Dallas, Texas*

Dear Duncan:

Congratulations to you on the ninth Anniversary in the forward progress and expanding usefulness of your paper. All of us up *The Illinois Baptist* way rejoice at the achievements which have been wrought in your state by the paper and its influence on Arkansas Baptists.

The powerful influence of your editorial articles has been a sustaining factor in Arkansas growth and they have been a contributing source of strength and inspiration to the entire Southern Baptist Convention. You have praised those who needed to be praised and pointed out the weakness in our Convention when they developed. This gives strength and encouragement with a correcting stability to Southern Baptist work.

Your genial disposition and radiant smile has been a source of inspiration and real fellowship to me when the editors have been together year after year. I have enjoyed the fellowship and have always counted it a high pleasure to meet you in our annual meeting. You served with distinction as president of the Southern Baptist Press Association and helped to put the papers in their proper relationship before the Convention. For this I am thankful.

All the people in this state who know you through your writings in the *Arkansas Baptist* and I personally, as your fellow editor, and Mrs. Murrie, wish to join in this tribute of appreciation to you and to Mrs. Duncan for your eminent service in the Kingdom of God. May the repeated blessings of spiritual grace and strength give you both a personal lift to the very throne of God as you celebrate this unique experience in your expanding career of usefulness.

*Editor and Mrs. B. J. Murrie  
Illinois Baptist*

They don't come any finer than B. H. Duncan and that means there are no finer papers than the *Arkansas Baptist*. He has given his colleagues in other states the pattern for a grand paper filled with good material and most readable.

More than that, Baptists outside Arkansas take special notice when he expresses himself on denominational matters. His logic and his gift for expression either convince us at the moment or we wait to let time show the validity of his position.

He is a very special friend of mine. This fellowship developed at our first meeting and has deepened through the years.

*John J. Hurt, Jr., Editor,  
The Christian Index,  
Atlanta, Georgia*



*The Editor's Last  
Hunting Spree*

Dear Dr. Duncan:

I note with interest that you are observing your ninth anniversary as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. I am delighted to avail myself of the privilege of joining with your multitude of friends in an expression of heartiest congratulations upon the magnificent service you are rendering.

I thank the Lord for your great life and for the tremendous contribution you have made to the cause of Christianity. You are endowed with a brilliant mind and consecrated personality. Your glorious ministry and editorial career have been used mightily of the Lord.

I want to thank you for all that your friendship has meant to me through the years. I shall ever be grateful for your kindness and the fellowship with you. May you have health and strength to carry on for many more years of fruitful labors. Be assured of my best wishes and prayers.

*W. Marshall Craig  
Dallas, Texas*

On behalf of the Foreign Mission Board, it gives me great joy to express the gratitude we feel for the work of Dr. B. H. Duncan, who has served admirably as one of the outstanding editors in Southern Baptist life.

Dr. Duncan has carried in his heart all the interests of our denomination and has sounded the call of world need repeatedly in his paper. His work has been highly constructive and awareness of world need and our Christian responsibility has been increased by his strong leadership.

We will be abidingly grateful for his ministry throughout the years ahead.

*Baker James Cauthen  
Executive Secretary  
Foreign Mission Board*

"As one Arkansawyer to another I would like to take this means of congratulating Dr. Duncan upon his completion of nine years as editor of *Arkansas Baptist*. I have read his editorials with interest, always observing that he speaks his convictions in a spirit of Christian courtesy. On many issues I have been in wholesome agreement with him. On others I have entertained friendly differences. Nevertheless, I hold him in the highest esteem as a fellow craftsman and better still, as a brother beloved."

*Sincerely,  
Floyd Looney, Editor  
The California So. Baptist*

My acquaintance with Dr. B. H. Duncan dates back nine years ago when he became editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. I was deeply impressed by his keen mind and pleasing personality at the first midwinter meeting of the Southern Baptist Press Association. My appreciation of him has grown through the years.

We do not have a man in our editorial fraternity who writes more clearly and convincingly than Dr. Duncan. He is fearless but fair at all times. I read his editorials every week with interest and profit. He has given Arkansas Baptists a first-class state paper. May he continue to edit the *Arkansas Baptist* for many years. We need men of his calibre.

*Finley W. Tinnin, Editor  
The Baptist Message  
Alexandria, La.*



# 'Denominational Statesman' Acclaim of Denominational Leaders

## Prophet of God

A number of years ago when I was "ghost-writing" for a well-known leader, I was called to his office and was instructed to write a tribute to a certain preacher who was to be honored in a special edition of a paper. "I don't remember the fellow at all, but he's bound to be outstanding, so make the tribute glowing," I was told.

With these instructions, I composed a stirring tribute "to my dear friend of the years," and the piece was subsequently published over the signature of the leader. So go some tributes.

These lines which I am writing concerning Dr. B. H. Duncan are not like that by-gone piece at all; they are not ghost-written, not produced out of a sense of obligation, not dashed off as a matter of form to meet a request, not a piece of hollow mockery. They are the honest, straightforward, sincere feelings of my heart for a great man of God and are written with a sense of privilege at being permitted to express my genuine appreciation for the outstanding job he is doing as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

The reasons that I feel that Dr. Duncan has done a magnificent job are many. First, he is a most able writer — and there is no ability like that of writing to stand an editor in good stead. His paper always reflects high standards of journalistic ability, and his editorials are masterpieces.

Second, he is fair and balanced in his presentation of the news and in his discussion of editorial issues. He does not ride hobbies, nor does he show favoritism in news coverage.

Third, he is scholarly in his approach. With a rich academic background and with a wealth of personal experience, he writes in a manner that is never embarrassing to the most scholarly among us.

Fourth, he is one of that too-nearly-extinct species, the denominational statesman. He charts a straight course and does not veer from it as a result of the force of political winds. Consequently, he commands respect even from those who may differ with him.

Fifth, and far from last, he is a man of God. This stands out in every line he writes, every sermon he preaches, every personal contact. In the fullest sense of the word, he is a prophet of God — a spokesman for God to men. And he deserves to take his place among the great prophets of our faith.

In behalf of Ouachita Baptist College and from the depths of my own heart, I proudly salute Dr. B. H. Duncan on this ninth anniversary of his editorship of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

Ralph Phelps, Jr., President  
Ouachita College

For several years, I have read the *Arkansas Baptist* with genuine interest and I have come to regard the able editor, Dr. B. H. Duncan, as a good personal friend. His editorials are always thoughtful and well written, and I am sure they have had a good influence upon the thinking and work of Baptists over a wide area.

I extend cordial greetings and best wishes on this anniversary occasion.

S. H. Jones,  
Editor and Manager,  
The Baptist Courier,  
Greenville, S. C.

## Friends In Seminary

Both personally and on behalf of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary I want to express gratitude to God for the ministry of Editor B. H. Duncan. Under him the *Arkansas Baptist* has continued and enlarged its place of leadership not only in the life of the Baptists of that great state but of the entire Southern Baptist Convention. Agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention have learned to look to the *Arkansas Baptist* not only as an instrument promoting every worthy enterprise of the cause of Christ but also as the source of wise editorial counsel.

Editor Duncan has always exhibited wide sympathies combined with concentrated devotion to Jesus Christ. His views are the views of one who is balanced, informed and thoughtful. Never has he sacrificed principle for expediency or descended to rabble rousing on even the most important issue. With dignity and with Christian love he has handled controversial issues with skill and with insight. He has often pointed the way for our denomination.

He is a friend beloved, an honored minister of God, a respected denominational statesman, and to sum it all up, a Christian gentleman.

Duke K. McCall, President  
Southern Seminary,  
Louisville, Ky.

Dear Dr. Duncan:

For nine years you have faithfully and fervently served the Lord in our great Convention. It goes without writing that the *Arkansas Baptist*, of which you are editor, is one of the best edited papers in the nation. The editorials from your pen have been scriptural, striking, and scholarly.

As President of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, and in behalf of the Convention, I want you to know that your service has been, and is now greatly appreciated. In the following words of the Apostle Paul my feeling for you is best expressed, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."

May the Lord bless you and yours is my prayer.

Rel Gray, President  
Arkansas Baptist Convention

One upon a time—  
A little boy started to school.  
His name? Benjamin Duncan.



I'll need one tablet—with wide stripes.  
Two pencils—the streaked kind . . . better give me five or six erasers.

## Former Arkansan Speaks

Friend, Brother in Christ and a living Voice of God sums up my tribute to Dr. B. H. Duncan, Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. As a friend, he has many times proven himself to be that friend I needed when personal decisions had to be made. I value his counsel as such friend as one of my most cherished assets.

As a Brother in Christ, again Dr. Duncan came to my "rescue" many times as we talked about and planned our work which at that time placed us together as yoke-fellows in the promotion of the work of the Executive Board of Arkansas. Always with an outward expression of love for the Lord and his fellowman, Dr. Duncan shows forth the true spirit of a brother in Christ.

As a living voice of God, none would say that there is a man among us with more power through voice and pen than B. H. Duncan. His timely editorials always "go to the hearts" of his readers. These editorials are invariably correct in meaning of interpretation and challenge. Many of them have no doubt helped to lead us as Baptists to the place we have now come as a great people and denomination.

As personal friend, a Brother in Christ and as a living Voice of God, I salute Dr. B. H. Duncan.

Respectfully and sincerely submitted,  
Lucien E. Coleman Sr.  
Brotherhood Secretary—Kentucky

(Note: Mr. Coleman was associate secretary with Dr. Bridges for several years before going to Kentucky.)

Congratulations, Dr. Duncan

Baptists have in Editor B. H. Duncan, of the *Arkansas Baptist*, a true friend and loyal defender of the faith. It is a delight to join his many friends in expressing congratulations and best wishes on this, his ninth anniversary as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

Friends everywhere appreciate the forthright stand which this good editor has taken on important doctrinal and moral issues. They know where he stands and count on his support for every cause that he believes to be just and worthy.

The entire Home Mission family joins me in expressing the hope that this anniversary occasion may be a very happy one and that God may continue to bless the ministry of this good man.

Courts Redford  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
Home Mission Board

I count it a privilege indeed to join others in expressing sincere congratulations to Dr. B. H. Duncan upon his ninth anniversary as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. I have known Brother Duncan and have had an increasing admiration for him for about twenty years. His Christ-like spirit, his consecration, his loyalty to the fundamental teachings of God's word, and his sane editorials, have been a source of inspiration to many.

As president of the Southern Baptist Convention, I feel that I express the wish of our people in saying thank you, Dr. Duncan, for your splendid contribution to our denominational life.

May God continue to bless you and yours is my sincere prayer.

C. C. Warren, President  
Southern Baptist Convention



# Old Friends, New Friends Express Appreciation

## Classmates at Southern

When you have sat in classroom with a fellow; when you have been a guest in his home; when you have traveled all over the country with him time and again; when you have eaten with him, roomed with him and worked with him — you have had a good opportunity to look deeply into his heart.

It has been my privilege to know B. H. Duncan in all these respects. We came to know each other at Southern Seminary, back in the early '20's when both of us were would-be theologues. Our pathways crossed again and again during the years, and then nine years ago they converged as we both became editors of state Baptist papers. Since that time I have traveled with him on extended trips three or more times each year. On these occasions we have roomed together. On these occasions we have spent countless happy hours talking "shop," and discussing every conceivable subject. I have been a guest in his home, sharing his hospitality and that of his gracious wife. I have come to know him as a brother.

I have found him to be clean in thought and habit and deed; in speech, chaste, lucid and convincing; as a friend, loyal and considerate; as a man, upright and forthright; as a craftsman, one who dignifies and magnifies the editorial profession; as a Christian, humble and devout, without being sanctimonious.

For more than 30 years I have been honored to call him a friend. During the last nine years I have enjoyed the blessed privilege of coming to know him as a brother.

The **Word and Way** salutes the honored editor of the **Arkansas Baptist** on his ninth anniversary at the editorial desk and wishes for him and Mrs. Duncan the best now and always.

*H. H. McGinty, Editor  
The Word and Way  
Jefferson City, Mo.*

It is a privilege to have this opportunity to express my appreciation for Dr. Duncan.

As an individual I have found him to be very gracious and considerate. He is quick to remember the common courtesies that mean so much to others.

Dr. Duncan has made a significant contribution to Southern Baptist religious journalism. He is very generous to share his wealth of experience.

*Hoyt S. Gibson, Editor,  
Kansas Baptist Digest*

Dear Dr. Duncan:

It gives me a great deal of joy to extend my congratulations on your ninth anniversary as Editor. The **Arkansas Baptist** under your leadership has won a place of esteemed power in our denominational affairs.

I feel that the voice of the **Arkansas Baptist** has not only been heeded with increasing respect among the brethren in your own state but far beyond your borders among all of us as Southern Baptists.

You have continually revealed an alertness to our common problems and have offered wise counsel. You have also pointed out the doors opening to enlarging opportunities for Baptists and encouraged us all to enter these for spiritual advance.

Upon this anniversary I join your host of friends in thanking God for you.

*Richard N. Owen, Editor,  
Baptist and Reflector  
Nashville, Tenn.*

## "Work is Monumental"

How can we express our appreciation for the marvelous job that you have done as you come to the time of your ninth anniversary as editor of the **Arkansas Baptist**!

Your work has truly been monumental.

Recognizing that the pen is mightier than the sword, you have used it well. Your messages have been prepared in earnestness and zeal with respect for truth and revelation.

Eternity shall record the mighty accomplishments that have come to the Baptists of Arkansas during your tenure of service. Much of the glory for the great achievements belong to you as a faithful co-laborer with the others there who have been dedicated to the mighty cause of Christ in the state we love dearly.

Our prayers shall continue to be with you. May heaven's hand give special blessings to you as you continue to walk with the Christ, the King.

*James L. Sullivan  
Executive Secretary  
Baptist Sunday School Board*

Dear Dr. Duncan:

On the occasion of your Ninth Anniversary as Editor of the **Arkansas Baptist**, I extend to you my sincere congratulations. You have produced in the **Arkansas Baptist** a paper both from the standpoint of composition and content that is a credit to our denomination. This is evidenced by the generous recognition which it has been accorded throughout the Southern Baptist Convention and further evidenced by a greatly increased subscription within our own State. Your editorial contribution has been progressive, enlightening, and above all, Christian. This medium of expression has made the Baptist voice a great missionary challenge at home and abroad.

We thank God for the wonderful contribution you have made to the Kingdom cause in your present capacity and sincerely pray that God may give you to us for many more years.

With every good wish, I am,

*Sincerely,  
S. A. Whitlow, President,  
Executive Board of the  
Arkansas Baptist State Convention*

Boss used to be a great hunter—before he got kicked to pieces on page 6.



"I don't know why, but they come out here once a year and shoot at each other."

## From Fellow-Editors

We take special delight in extending greetings to Dr. B. H. Duncan in recognition of his ninth anniversary as the able and successful editor of the **Arkansas Baptist**. We had not had a chance to know Dr. Duncan very well until he became editor, but since that time we have held him in highest esteem as one of our best friends and one of our ablest editors.

Dr. Duncan is a clear and forceful writer. He is interested in the highest welfare and progress of our denomination, and he is a clear thinker on the needs and problems which we face. Also, he is sincere and honest in what he writes. He has every reason to be proud of his success and of his achievements as editor of the **Arkansas Baptist** during these nine years.

Dr. Duncan has made a rich contribution to the fellowship of Southern Baptist editors. He has served as president of the Southern Baptist Press Association and in various other capacities. He has been a constant inspiration and blessing to all of us in our annual meetings.

We pray God's richest blessings on our friend and brother editor and hope that he will have many more years of useful service in the important position which he has occupied during the past nine years.

*L. L. Carpenter, Editor  
Biblical Recorder  
Raleigh, N. C.*

Congratulations upon reaching another anniversary of service in the excellent work you have rendered as editor of a great Baptist paper. It has been my privilege to know you for about six years as a fellow editor. I have always been enriched by your fellowship and your excellent consecration and attitude toward the Lord's work. I want to take this opportunity to express my personal regards and affection for you.

I have not only been enriched by your fellowship, but reading your paper each week adds a new joy to my heart. Your editorials are always sound and to the point. The general contents and appearance of your paper is a credit to you. You have surely been a good editor and, above all, I have felt the strength of your faith in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

I continue to remember you in my prayers, and may the Lord supply every need.

*Sincerely,  
Leon Macon, Editor,  
The Alabama Baptist*

Dear Dr. Duncan:

Along the years you meet individuals about whom you say with real pride, "He is my friend."

As a former co-editor, and as a co-worker for the cause of Christ in our denomination, I wanted to take this opportunity of saluting you on your ninth anniversary as editor of the **Arkansas Baptist**.

Your editorials have been constructive, and your spirit has been heart-warming in these years you have served as editor.

May God richly bless you and keep you in the center of his love in the days ahead.

*Porter Routh,  
Executive Secretary  
Southern Baptist Convention*



## "First Knew Editor In Georgia Pastorate"

Since I first came to know B. H. Duncan during a pastorate in Georgia, through the years of his ministry at Hot Springs, Arkansas, and throughout his nine years as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*, my appreciation for him has constantly increased.

His clear thinking and sane analysis of our Baptist work have produced straight-forward criticism where indicated and warm-hearted praise where merited. His vision has repeatedly offered worthy challenge to Kingdom advance. His love of people and his devotion to duty have combined to provide a stable and reassuring leadership for those he served with his pen as well as from his pulpit.

In addition to his service to Arkansas Baptists and to Southern Baptists, his Christian friendship and his work have been a rich blessing to me personally. I gladly join a host of friends in warm good wishes to Dr. Duncan on this occasion of the ninth anniversary of his service with the *Arkansas Baptist*.

*W. G. Stracener, Editor  
Florida Baptist Witness*

Congratulations to Dr. Duncan on his ninth anniversary as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*! During these years it has taken but a glance at the other papers for many of us to declare that the *Arkansas Baptist* is among the top Baptist state papers. Dr. Duncan has had a fine spirit of co-operation with all the departments at Baptist Building. The paper has been readable and his editorials have been outstanding.

*Ralph W. Davis, Secretary  
Training Union Department  
Arkansas Baptist Convention*

I am most happy to join with the multitude of friends and the fellow workers of Dr. B. H. Duncan in expressing hearty and sincere congratulations to him on his Ninth Anniversary as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*.

As an editor, in my judgment, Dr. Duncan has no peer among Southern Baptists. The content of his editorials, together with articles which are carried in the paper, are always solid, constructive and packed with good common sense and with strong appeal for hearty and loyal cooperation on the part of all our people in the support of all our work.

Dr. Duncan is a Baptist statesman and is supremely loyal to every phase of the cooperative work of Southern Baptists. His judgment and wisdom concerning the position of Southern Baptists on all moral, spiritual, and doctrinal questions can be trusted and depended upon as a guide to all Baptists. It is most fortunate that we have him as editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. In my judgment, he is giving us one of the best papers among all the Baptist papers that are now being published.

*I. L. Yearby, Secretary  
Dept. of Evangelism  
Arkansas Baptist Convention*

Who knows the power of the printed page? Dr. Duncan is one who makes the pages of the *Arkansas Baptist* throb with the vital Baptist message. His editorials treat themes which are of real concern to us. His insight is clear. His conclusions consistently show his wisdom. His treatment of those who differ with him is kindly, fair and firm. We are grateful that such men as he sit in the editor's chair.

*Merrill D. Moore  
Director of Promotion  
Southern Baptist Convention*

# Arkansas Baptist Publication Now \$100,000 Per Year Concern

By MRS. HOMER D. MYERS

Assistant to the Editor

Good Morning Boss!

You know by now this is your day.

Things have really hummed around the *Arkansas Baptist* offices since Doctor Cowling called me on Monday morning, April 2, and asked if I could co-operate in this deal by holding your copy this week and substituting our own.

I promised on one condition: That he give me another job when I got "fiahed" for this alliance. He promised. I promised. And things became highly secretive and subtle for four weeks following. (Did you notice how two of us always stood between you and the postman?) Your letters were carefully censored lest something slip, and you have several in my desk you will appreciate a lot.



**BLOWING  
YOUR  
TOP?**

Miss Leonard Kelly of Blackville, S. C., gets credit for the front page picture. We tried every method we knew to get a picture of Mrs. Duncan, to no avail.

And since we went all out to make this your issue, the jokes this week are all on the editor. After all, one editor can only fire one assistant one time.

Our deep appreciation goes to each person who helped make up this issue; to the printers for their co-operation and for the beautiful, leather bound, hand-lettered copy for the editor's personal use; for the assistance and moral support of Lou Wilson, our own secretary, and Mrs. E. F. Stokes, our bookkeeper.

It was a lot of fun, Boss. We hope you like it.

### Progress Report

The publication committee asked me to prepare a progress report for this issue of the paper dedicated to Doctor Duncan on his ninth anniversary as Editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*. With the help of Mrs. Stokes we have compiled some interesting figures.

When Doctor Duncan became editor nine years ago this week, the circulation of the paper was 29,800. This week the printer will run off 49,200 copies. With the state paper going into nearly 20,000 more homes, our reading constituency has no doubt greatly increased.

Several things might be said about the increased circulation. One thing is our nation wide prosperity which has put more money into the average person's pocket, and much more money into our churches.

We believe that more people are reading the *Arkansas Baptist* because they like it. Doctor Duncan has organized the paper to make it more readable. For example, when he came here advertising began on page two and was scattered throughout the remainder of the paper. Now the ads are kept in the back pages except for rare emergencies when we may run an ad for one of our institutions on page seven or nine.

The Arkansas news items are run on pages

four and five, with occasional overflow news to page eight. We give state Baptist news the precedence over everything else. World wide religious news are usually confined to *Christian Horizons* on page six, with south wide Baptist news on page seven. Our feature articles are run on pages two, eight and nine. Departmental promotional materials are grouped from pages ten to fourteen. We feature a children's page and an exposition of the weekly Sunday school lesson by Pastor B. A. Miley, Springdale. And the last page belongs to Doctor Bridges for the promotion of the Cooperative Program, and the work of the executive committee of Arkansas Baptists.

### Our Helpers

The pastors and missionaries in the state are responsible for a great deal of our increased circulation, and Doctor Duncan would want them to have credit right here for their fine co-operation in securing new budget accounts, clubs, and individual subscriptions for the paper. We have no field worker except these volunteers.

The *Arkansas Baptist* is a promotional agency for all the other departments, agencies and institutions of the Arkansas Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention, and that is a delightful ministry. But Doctor Duncan has never had promotional money, to buy extra papers, or to secure the personnel to send papers to the 575 churches who do not get the paper. We do send out all the left overs each week but it will take a long time to reach all our churches with samples at the present rate. There is no way of knowing how much our circulation would have been if he had the money for promotional purposes.

### Modern Monster—Inflation

With nation wide prosperity also came the greatest influx of inflation the world has possibly known. And Editor Duncan has had to cope with that monster continually. Here is an example: In 1947 the *Arkansas Baptist* cost \$64.88 per page to produce; this year the cost per page is \$117.64, an increase of \$52.76 for each of the 16 pages, every week. In 1947 it cost slightly more than \$500 per week to print the paper and furnish the newsprint. Today our blank paper costs nearly \$500 per week. Our paper and printing has reached the cost of \$1,252, an increase of \$750 per week. (And I understand the printer gives us a special rate because we are a non-profit organization.) Nine years ago the annual expenses were \$41,000, this year they will exceed \$100,000. That is inflation. Nobody can do anything but accept it.

In 1947 our allocation from the Arkansas Baptist State Convention was \$4,000 per year. For 1955 and '56 it is \$15,000 per year. While our annual expenditures have increased \$58,777 per year, our allocation has only increased \$11,000 per year. Every paper that goes to a member of a church budget goes out for less than production cost. To balance these differences has been the editor's worry. Somebody asked why we didn't solicit more advertising. The post office department places rigid limits on advertising. And the denominational paper should not have to use any advertising except for the agencies and institutions of the denomination.

The staff members feel that Doctor Duncan has done a magnificent job in the make up and distribution of the *Arkansas Baptist*, and in coping with the problems described above.



## Field Representative For Baptist Home



VESTAL DEAN

Vestal Dean has been secured to fill the position of Field Representative by the Bottoms Baptist Orphanage, and his wife as Instructor in piano, voice and choral work.

Mr. Dean, an ordained minister with a background of experience in pastoral work as well as many years of experience in the field of farming and building, comes to us well equipped to fill this varied field. He is now available to the churches of Arkansas to bring any information, along with the needs of the home, and can be contacted for these services at the Home.

Mrs. Dean comes to us with 20 years of experience as a music teacher, and the music program is taking shape very rapidly under her supervision.

—H. C. Seefeldt

### Thirty-three Additions in Revival At First, Hot Springs

First Church, Hot Springs, held an eight day revival, April 15-22, with a total of thirty-three decisions. Sixteen of these were for baptism, three by letter, four rededications, and ten surrendered for special service. The pastor served as evangelist for the revival and Dr. Kenneth D. Stuart, Minister of Music, directed the singing.

This was one of the best attended revivals ever held at First Baptist Church. During the week preceding the revival more than 170 persons took part in evangelistic visitation and more than 350 were in attendance for four nights of Cottage Prayer Meetings in 40 homes of the membership.

Norman L. Sutton, Minister of Education, was elected by the church as director of personal work during the revival. He stated that a "Pack the Pew" Plan for promoting attendance each evening in the services of the revival was carried out. The church auditorium was divided into five sections with a captain in charge of each section and two leaders assigned to each pew. These leaders were responsible for filling their particular pew every night during the revival. Section captains were: Mr. Tom Burks, Brotherhood President; Mr. Wayne McDougal, Training Union Director; Mrs. Leo Wolfe, W. M. U. President; Mr. E. C. Ledbetter, Superintendent of the Sunday School; Mr. Jacob King, Chairman of the Deacons.

—John L. Dodge, Pastor

## Revival Reports

The young people of Riverside Church, recently had charge of revival activities for one week. Riley Munday, pastor of Calvary Church, Little Rock, and former Secretary of the B. S. U. activities for Arkansas Baptist Convention, was the visiting speaker each evening.

The young people of the church filled all the major positions in the church organizations, of which Charles Hollingshead was youth pastor; Pat Hill, church clerk; Alvin Crawford, treasurer; Bobby Davis, Sunday school supt.; Joyce Floyd, Sunday School secretary; Carey Baskin, Training Union director; Martha Crudginton, Training Union secretary; and Hicky Johnson served as chairman of ushers. Eugene Webb is the pastor.

First Church, Amity, and Pastor Richard E. Walker had the services of a team from Ouachita in a Youth Revival April 13-15. Richard McNeill, pastor of the Columbus Church, was evangelist. Homer Moore led the singing and Mary Jane Coleman was organist. There were four professions of faith, four rededications, and one surrendered to fulltime Christian service.

In regular worship services, April 22, there was one conversion and two surrendered to full-time Christian service.

W. F. Carlton, pastor of Wheatley Church, was with his brother, A. A. Carlton, in revival services recently at Calvary Church, Lenoir City, Tennessee, where Mr. Carlton is pastor. The meeting resulted in 12 additions by baptism.

Dr. I. L. Yearby, secretary of the Evangelism Department, was with First Church, Rogers, in a ten-day revival meeting, April 11-22. The meeting resulted in 22 additions to the church. Frank Adams, evangelistic singer, was in charge of the music. E. M. Skinner is pastor.

This meeting was in co-operation with the churches in Benton County Association.

C. W. Caldwell, superintendent of the Missions Department, participated in the Oklahoma City Simultaneous Revival Crusade. He was the evangelist in the meeting at South Memorial Church where P. G. Woodruff is pastor. There were 31 additions, 24 by baptism and 7 by letter.

First Church, Paris, had the services of Evangelist Clift Brannon of Longview, Texas in a revival meeting April 15-22. Ray Burchette student at Baylor University led the singing.

There were 63 additions to the church — with 53 uniting with the church by baptism and 10 by letter.

Dale McCoy is the pastor.

State Missionary Jesse Reed was the evangelist in a revival meeting at Johnson Church recently. John Mitchell of Fayetteville was in charge of the music. There were 4 additions by baptism, 1 by letter and 4 other professions of faith.

Oakley C. Long is the pastor.

Clyde White, pastor of First Church, Lockesburg, was the evangelist in a ten day revival meeting at Rosedale church, Little Rock, recently. Malcome Brasher, music director, was in charge of the music. There were 34 additions to the church, 17 by baptism, and 17 by letter.

J. C. Myers is the pastor.

Pastor Ray Y. Langley reports a youth led revival at First Church, Parkin, March 28-April 3 which resulted in 32 additions by baptism and 4 by letter. A youth team from Ouachita College had charge of the services. They were John Floyd, John Wikman, Nancy Burchfield, Betsy Chennault, and Margie Witherington.

The Parkin church called John Wikman as youth director.

Pastor Elva Adams and Temple Church, Fort Smith, had the services of Marvin Gaskins, pastor of First Baptist Church, Heavener, Oklahoma, as the evangelist in a revival meeting recently which resulted in three additions by baptism, five by letter, and three other professions of faith.

Evangelist Homer Martinez was the evangelist in a revival meeting April 15-22 at Central Church, Hot Springs. C. J. Holliman Jr., minister of music and education, was in charge of the music. Pastor Milford L. Baker reports 16 additions to the church as a result of the meeting.

Dr. D. Wade Armstrong, pastor of Second Church, El Dorado, concluded a revival meeting at First Church, Fayetteville, April 15. Bill Morton of Miami, Florida, was in charge of the music. There were 20 additions by baptism and 15 by letter. Pastor Andrew M. Hall reports 14 more additions the following Sunday.

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### Paul Meers Elected Director of Anti-Gambling Crusade

Paul Meers, Dardanelle business man, has been elected director of the crusade to outlaw race track gambling and pari-mutuel betting in Arkansas.

The Arkansas Citizens Christian Council, through its Advisory Committee, selected Mr. Meers to lead this concerted drive against race track gambling. The Chairman of the Executive Committee, Tom Digby, presided at the meeting.

In the Executive Meeting, a delegation from the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, asked that the issue be divided on the ballot this fall. The request was that there be one proposed Amendment to outlaw Dog Racing, and another to outlaw Horse Racing. The delegation felt that the people of Arkansas would then vote against Dog Racing, but would approve Horse Racing. The delegation stated that unless the ACCC agreed to divide the issue on the ballot, they would proceed to propose an amendment on the ballot, to specifically legalize Horse Racing in Garland County.

The ACCC answered that they were committed to the task of outlawing race track gambling in all of its forms, regardless.

The head office for the campaign is being established in the Baptist Building in Little Rock. The Chairman of the Finance Committee, W. C. Blewster, of Magnolia, reported that the \$25,000 needed for the campaign would be raised in full. Dowell Anders, attorney of Little Rock, reported for the Legal Committee, and the proposed petition was adopted. A one-week Blitz Campaign, May 20-28th will be used to secure signers of the petitions. County and precinct organizations is now being set up by Mr. Meers. The cooperation of all church people is urged for the entire campaign.

Ponder W. Gilliland,  
Publicity



## News From Ouachita

Captain Willis B. Graham, member of the regular Army, recently donated \$440 to Ouachita College, it was announced today by Miss Frances Crawford, registrar.

Miss Crawford accepted the donation in behalf of the college. She asked Capt. Graham why he was giving so much money to Ouachita, and his reply was "Ouachita has been mighty good to me."

Capt. Graham graduated from O. B. C. in 1950. As a student he majored in chemistry and mathematics. He was a member of the SAS, men's social club.

The money which donated was the tithe from income received in the sale of property in Louisiana. Previously he donated \$1200 to the college.

Graham recently returned from Japan and is spending part of a 70 day leave visiting his mother, Mrs. W. A. Sanders, in Little Rock.

His next post will be Fort Benning, Ga.

Ouachita College Library has announced the addition of a military library containing over two hundred books, army, navy, and air force magazines, and many general armed forces pamphlets and booklets.

Some of the books are furnished by the government and some are from O. B. C. ROTC Professor of Military Science and Tactics Major Clare Armstrong's private library.

The library is set up for ROTC students for research and study but is open to all students who wish to use it.

In the collection of books on just about everything from the popular best seller, "God is My Co-Pilot," to "Malenkov, Stalin's Successor."

Kenneth Burling Jr., junior ministerial student at Ouachita College, will be ordained at Friendship Church, Rt. 1, Conway, May 6 at 2 p. m. Dr. Dale Cowling pastor of the Second Church, Little Rock, will deliver the ordination sermon.

All ordained ministers in the Conway area are invited to form the presbytery.

Burling was called as pastor of the Friendship Church in December, 1955. He began as a half time pastor but soon the church became a full time charge. During the time Burling has been there the old church building has been razed and a new one built.

## Gerald W. Trussell On Preaching Mission to Jamaica

Gerald W. Trussell, pastor of First Church, Warren, spent two weeks in March on a Preaching Mission to Jamaica. There were eighteen preachers in the group from several states. Trussell was the only man from Arkansas. He held a revival in the Baptist Church at Brownstown, Jamaica. There were 87 professions of faith in this revival. There were 906 professions of faith from the church where these men served.

Members of First Church paid the expenses of their pastor for this mission trip.

Mr. Trussell is available to churches and civic groups to show his slides and tell of his trip to Jamaica.

## Angel Martinez Leads First, Warren, In Revival

Angel Martinez was the preacher and G. P. Comer was the singer in a revival at First Church, Warren, April 1-8. The church broke all existing records in Sunday School attendance and Training Union; 783 people attended Sunday School and 312 were present in Training Union. There were 44 additions to the church. Gerald W. Trussell is pastor.

## Arkansans Visit the Carolinas

Missionary and Mrs. A. L. Leake of the Washington-Madison Association have recently been engaged in Schools of Mission in the Carolinas. Both Mr. and Mrs. Leake spoke to two churches each evening for two weeks. There were over 200 young people who responded to the call for special service, some for mission fields at home and abroad, others accepting the call to the ministry.

Mr. and Mrs. Leake are approved workers under the Home Mission Board.

## Youth Week at Amboy, NLR

The Intermediate and Young People of Amboy Church, North Little Rock, took care of all the regular church duties during their annual Youth Week, April 22-28. Barbara Turner served as president, Jimmie and Betty Collums were the directors. Norman Thomas preached at the Training Union hour and James Carrol, a student of Ouachita, preached at both worship services Sunday. The Youth Choir provided special music at both services. Arnold Teel is the pastor.

## Minister Ordained

James Bryant was ordained to the gospel ministry by First Church, Hampton, recently.

Pastor Lawson Hatfield of First Church, Fordyce, served as moderator of the ordaining council; Grady Blann served as clerk. Pastor Bob Norvell of First Church, Tinsman offered the opening prayer. Pastor D. W. Stark of the Hampton Church conducted the examination. Pastor H. M. McManus, First Church, Thornton, delivered the sermon. G. G. Bray presented the Bible. Pastor T. L. Harris of First Church, Camden, offered the ordination prayer.

## Halls Entertain Alumni

Dr. and Mrs. Andrew M. Hall of Fayetteville entertained 30 members of the Ouachita Alumni in Northwest Arkansas on Saturday, April 21.

The group comprises District I of the Former Students' Association.

Alsay Holland (Class of 1939) prepared a chicken barbecue dinner assisted by Mrs. Hall. The guests came from bordering cities of Van Buren to Bentonville with many cities represented in the area.

## Southern Seminary Sets Date For Kansas City Alumni Dinner

The Alumni Luncheon for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at the 1956 Convention in Kansas City has already been scheduled, according to Dr. Cort R. Flint, Seminary administrative assistant.

The Seminary's annual luncheon during the Southern Baptist Convention meeting will be held at 1:00 p. m. on Wednesday, May 30, at the Hotel Muehlebach in Kansas City. Convention dates for 1956 are May 30 through June 2.

More than 1,100 alumni and friends attended the 1955 Southern Seminary alumni luncheon at the Convention in Miami.

## Bethany, NLR, in Revival

Dr. Orville Yeager led Bethany Church, North Little Rock, in a revival campaign from April 8 to 15 which resulted in 31 additions to the church, 20 for baptism. David White, Bauxite, led the music services. Pastor L. G. Miller commended Dr. Yeager as an outstanding evangelist. He said Doctor Yeager spent 12 years as an evangelist in the New England states and in the east.

## S. M. Cooper Becomes Associational Missionary

S. M. Cooper, pastor of the Second Church, Arkadelphia, has accepted the place as Associational Missionary of the Rocky-Bayou Association and will move on the field soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have been at the Second Church nearly eight years, and under their leadership the church has made great progress. There have been 171 baptisms and 586 by letter during this time. A building program has included remodeling and enlarging the auditorium, and the building of two new Educational Buildings. The estimated contract price on all of these would have been approximately \$91,000. Mr. Cooper led his men to donate their work and all of this was done for approximately \$34,000.

The Cooperative Program gifts have increased from year to year. The present gifts are about four times as much now as they were when Mr. Cooper came to this church.

Charles D. Conner

Associational Missionary

## Baptist Board Buys Properties

The Baptist Sunday School Board recently completed purchase of properties totalling approximately 61,000 feet adjacent to its present Administration Building.

Dr. James L. Sullivan, executive secretary-treasurer said the land eventually will be used for expansion of facilities to meet the Board's increasing needs which are occasioned by the growth of the Southern Baptist Convention and its directives to the Board. Definite plans for the Board's expansion and use of the new property will not be made until some time in the future.

One of the tracts purchased, a 143½x101-foot corner lot will be developed immediately into a parking lot for Board employees. This is the only tract to come into the Board's immediate possession. The others will not be available for several years — at the termination of the present leases.

Dr. Sullivan said negotiations for the purchases have been underway for some months, and an appropriation for the purpose was authorized by the Board last year.

## European Conference For Students Planned

A European Baptist student conference will meet July 24-Aug. 1 at Ruschlikon, Switzerland, site of the European Baptist Seminary.

Bob Denny, associate secretary for youth at the Baptist World Alliance, says that up to 20 Baptist students from the United States may attend. They will have to go on a "pay-their-own-way" basis.

Purpose of this conference is for mutual inspiration and fellowship among Baptist students from many countries. Joel Sorenson, of Stockholm, Sweden, and a BWA youth leader, will be conference chairman.

Interested American students should contact Denny at once at the Alliance office, 1628 Sixteenth St. N. W.

## Assistant Professor At Southern Seminary

Ralph Elliott, of Swansonville, Va., has been elected assistant professor of Old Testament at the Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Elliott is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn., and expects to receive the Doctor of Theology degree from Southern Seminary in May. He has been instructor at the seminary for the past three years.



## Construction Started On Baptist Student Center At Arkansas State Teachers College



Miss Helen Canaday, Dean of Women at Arkansas State Teachers College, Conway, lifted the first spadeful of dirt at the ground-

breaking ceremony for the new Baptist Student Center in Conway on Wednesday afternoon, April 18. Dr. B. L. Bridges brought

the message at the ceremony which was presided over by James Smalley, Baptist Student Director at Conway. Also, taking part in

the ceremony were: J. H. Street, L. B. Jackman, Miss Hazel Clements, and Dr. Joe West.

The only sad note at the ceremony was the recent news that Miss Canaday is resigning and going to Louisiana State University. It has largely been through her efforts that a Baptist Student program has been carried out at the college for several years before a B. S. U. director was secured. Miss Canaday is a native of Malvern and the daughter of Mrs. H. N. Canaday. She attended Ouachita Baptist College for three years and is a graduate of Texas State College for Women, Denton. She has done graduate work at Louisiana State University, Columbia, and Pennsylvania State University.

With gratitude in our hearts for all that she has done in our Baptist Student work, we wish her God's richest blessings in her new place of service. The securing of a director and the construction of a Baptist Student Center were two goals toward which she has worked through the years. Her faith, and that of others, has been rewarded with these recent accomplishments.

*Tom Logue, Director  
B.S.U. Department*

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### POWER OF GOSPEL SEEN IN RESULTS OF PERSECUTION

A Spanish policeman says that there is now one Protestant in Spain, there soon will be five or six, according to information received by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. This authoritative report says, "That pretty well expresses the spirit of Spanish Christians."

A prison guard, who carried baskets of food prepared by the Woman's Missionary Union of two churches to a Baptist woman jailed for reading the Bible to five women in her home (which police called holding an unauthorized meeting), wants to attend services in an evangelical church.

"The basket spoke of love and the conduct of the prisoner spoke

of peace," says the report. "The power of the gospel is stronger than words."

The prisoner, mother of four children, has just been released after 30 days of complete isolation.

One of the Baptist churches of Spain has received word that permission will not be granted for the holding of services in the recently completed chapel. The members are forced to meet in private homes where they are in constant danger of fines, or imprisonment, for unauthorized meetings.

The report says that two men from another evangelical church are now in jail — one for having given out a few tracts; the other, not a Christian, for having received a tract and saying that he believes he will become an evangelical.

### LOTTIE MOON OFFERING TOPS FOUR AND ONE-HALF MILLION

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds reaching Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board headquarters today (April 12) has brought the 1955 total to \$4,502,054.26. This is \$544,233.26 more than the grand total of the 1954 Offering.

Books on the 1955 Offering will not be closed until May 1.

Miss Edith Chaney, Southern Baptist missionary to Nigeria, has returned to the States on emergency sick leave and may be addressed at Box 236, Chouteau, Okla. Miss Chaney is a native of Calamine, Ark.

Dr. and Mrs. W. Carl Hunker, Southern Baptist missionaries to Formosa, are scheduled to return soon to the States for furlough and may be addressed at 781 Greydene Avenue, Canon City, Colo. They make their permanent American home in Texarkana, Ark.

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## Royal Ambassador Congress This Week!

We are looking for a large number of Royal Ambassadors and their Counselors at the Third Annual State Royal Ambassador Congress which meets this week at the First Baptist Church, Little Rock. Registration will begin at the church at two o'clock, Friday afternoon, May 4. Registration will be followed by a rehearsal for the Recognition service that night.

There will be two major sessions of the Congress, one on Friday night, and the closing session on Saturday morning. Chief speakers for the two sessions are: Dr. Rogers Smith, Associate Secretary for Promotion, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia, on Friday night; and Mr. Donald Orr, Missionary to Columbia, on Saturday morning. Other personalities on the program will be Mr. Bob Banks, Royal Ambassador Secretary of Oklahoma, who will have charge of the Recognition Service; and a group of several Nationals from college campuses in Arkansas.

The tentative program for the Congress is given below:

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

2:00 Registration Begins..... Church Vestibule  
4:00 Rehearsal for Recognition Service..... Church Auditorium

### FRIDAY NIGHT

7:00 Call to Order..... Rex Cantrell  
Hymn, "The King's Business"..... George Starke  
Allegiance  
7:10 Scripture and Prayer  
7:15 Welcome..... Nolan P. Howington  
7:20 Announcements — Appointing of Nominating Committee  
7:25 Ambassadors from Other Countries..... Presenting Nationals  
7:45 Song Service..... George Starke  
7:55 Recognition Service..... Bob Banks  
8:25 Song  
8:30 Special Music  
8:35 Message..... Rogers Smith  
9:10 Last Minute Announcements — Goodnight !!

### SATURDAY MORNING

9:00 Call to Order — Commission and Declaration..... Rex Cantrell  
9:10 Scripture and Prayer  
9:15 Announcements  
9:20 Ambassadors from Afar..... Nationals  
9:50 Christ's Ambassadors in Our State..... Headquarters Staff  
10:05 Song  
10:10 Camp Talk..... Nelson Tull, C. H. Seaton, and others  
10:30 Business Session — Election of Officers  
10:40 Relax and Sing  
10:50 "Ye Shall Be Witness unto Me"  
"In Jerusalem"..... Nelson Tull  
"In All Judaea"..... C. W. Caldwell and Jesse Reed  
"In Samaria"..... E. A. Ingram  
11:25 Special Music  
11:30 "To the Uttermost Parts of the World"..... Donald Orr

### FINE RESPONSE AT REGIONAL BROTHERHOOD-ROYAL AMBASSADOR CLINICS!

The Brotherhood Department is this year sponsoring Brotherhood-Royal Ambassador officers' Clinics within reach of every church in Arkansas. Two of these Clinics have already been held; one at Hamburg, for Southeast Arkansas; and one at Paragould for Northeast Arkansas. Both were well attended, each meeting having about 300 in attendance.

Nine other such meetings are scheduled as follows:

May 17, First Baptist Church, Springdale, for Benton County and Washington-Madison Associations.

June 5, First Baptist Church, Forrest City, for Arkansas Valley, Tri-County, Woodruff, and Trinity Associations.

June 7, First Baptist Church, Hope, for Hope, Red River, and Little River Associations.

June 14, West Batesville Baptist Church, Batesville, for Little Red River, Independence, Rocky Bayou, and Big Creek Associations, and Jackson County in Black River Association.

September 3, Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, for Pulaski County, White County, Caroline, Faulkner County, and Conway-Perry Associations.

September 4, First Baptist Church, Clarksville, for Clear Creek and Dardanelle-Russellville Associations.

September 6, Central Baptist Church, Hot Springs, for Central, Caddo River, and Buckville Associations.

September 7, First Baptist Church, Harrison, for Boone County, Carroll County, Newton County, White River, and Stone-Van Buren-Searcy Associations.

A meeting for the Fort Smith area is in the making.

Mark your calendar!

Nelson Tull, Secretary

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

## Compiles, Distributes, and Interprets STATISTICS

At the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1918, the Convention statistician, Lansing Burrows, recommended that the service of gathering and compiling Convention statistics be transferred to the Sunday School Board. On motion by I. J. Van Ness, the statistician's recommendation was referred to the committee on the Report of the Sunday School Board. In a later session the Sunday School Board was authorized by the Convention to accept this assignment.—*A digest from the Annual of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1918.*

The Survey, Statistics, and Information Department serves in three general areas of work:

1. Gathering and compiling vital statistics. Complete statistical information from 30,377 Southern Baptist churches is compiled and tabulated on modern IBM calculating machines.

2. Distributing general and specific information. The information compiled is distributed to our Baptist constituency through the Department's three publications: *The Southern Baptist Handbook* (annual), *The Quarterly Review* (periodical), and the *Survey Bulletin* (weekly newsletter). In addition, special requests for specific information in all areas of religious life are received and answered regularly. Further special information is projected in letters, in articles published in various periodicals, and from many platforms.

3. Conducting special research and surveys. Throughout the year, special surveys are made in many areas of church life. A sample is a recent study on "Population Shifts in the United States, 1950-1955, and their Effect Upon the Southern Baptist Convention." Accurate and reliable statistics enable a denomination to determine with scientific precision the direction in which spiritual currents are moving. They answer such questions as: Where are we headed? How fast are we growing? Wherein have we failed?

Thus the Sunday School Board serves the denomination through the medium of statistics. As church leaders know more about their denomination, they are better equipped to apply correctives and to stimulate activity in promoting the kingdom of God.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD  
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James L. Sullivan, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

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On Sunday, May 13, you again will have an opportunity to assist these hospitals in carrying on their charity patient work by contributing to the annual Mother's Day Hospital Charity Fund. You can designate on your special envelope in which of our two hospitals you want your gift spent.

Give . . . generously . . . through the Mother's Day Hospital Charity Fund offering in your church Sunday, May 13.

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# The Conversion of Saul

By BURTON A. MILEY

## Sunday School Lesson

May 6, 1956

Acts 9:1-6, 10-19a

Saul was a citizen of Tarsus (Acts 21:39). His father was a Jew who had obtained Roman citizenship. This made Saul a Roman citizen by birth, a fact of which he was justly proud (Acts 22:28). His family was moderately well-to-do. Tarsus had a university. However, the education would have been of Hellenistic origin and his strict Jewish parents had him go to Jerusalem for further study in the School of the Rabbis. He was schooled according to the strict manner of the law by Gamaliel (Acts 22:3). It is possible that Saul met Stephen through the synagogue of the ones from Cilicia and Asia, described in Acts 6:9. Definitely he stood in the shadows during Stephen's execution by rock throwing. He never cleared the scene from his mind. His character as a Jew and Roman citizen peculiarly fitted him to become the great missionary mediator between Israel and the Roman Empire.

Saul was not a half-way man. He went all out to accomplish his purpose. "Breathing out threatenings and slaughter" means actually exhaling the hatred and the murder that was in his heart toward the disciples of the Lord. He breathed out what he had inhaled. He did his work so well in Jerusalem that not another influential Christian remained with the exception of the apostles. He had killed or driven out through threats every one except the apostles. The courage they possessed must have wilted the aggressor. New territory had to be entered if his persecutions continued. He received authority from the high priest to go to Damascus. There Christian men and women were in danger of arrests. He would bring them bound into Jerusalem for trial. The fact that women were involved shows the extent and intensity of Saul's persecutions.

### HIS CONVERSION

Damascus was about 130 miles from Jerusalem. Saul with his companions were about to complete the journey when there was interference (vs. 3). High noon would naturally be a bright time on the Damascus road. The sun would be bright and the sands would reflect the light. There appeared a greater light than the natural light and was interpreted as being from heaven. Saul fell to earth and heard a voice calling his name. He answered in a submission from which he never withdrew. This submission was his conversion. He had been introduced to the followers of Jesus through his persecuting efforts, but now he met the Lord face to face. "It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks" means a man gets into more trouble when he goes against God. The man of submission became one with fu-

ture obedience. If one can't make it by the help of a loving God how can he make it kicking against him.

The conversion of Saul has some outward elements that no other conversion has had. The inward part of the conversion is the same that every man experiences. Not everyone has the spectacular vision of brightness and the spoken words to his soul as Paul had them. However, every man who comes to Jesus has the inward change in his soul that Saul experienced. The longest step which Saul ever took was the step from questing death to accepting life. He was in the midst of death as a sinner, pursuing those that were in the midst of life. He made this step from death to life by a conversion of his soul. He entered the ranks of the twice-born men. The line of division became definite within his life. He could say unto the people of the future, "Look at me, before and after." Saul's religion of his fathers which devotedly held him with zeal to protect it, suddenly gave way to the religion of Christ. The sight and sound of Christ has been the conversion of many would be destroyers.

### ANANIAS' PART

Saul's experience on the Damascus Road left him blinded. He did not enter Damascus the proud, haughty, triumphant avenger. He entered it a poor, blind man led by the hand of another. The Lord had told him that it would be revealed in Damascus what he was to do. For three days Saul neither ate nor drank. God never leaves a man in unredeemable straits. A devout man, by name Ananias, who would have been target for Saul's persecuting efforts, received a vision from the Lord to go into the street called Strait to the house of Judas and there find Saul. Ananias became acquainted for the first time with the fact that Saul was in Damascus. The blare of trumpets did not announce his presence. The Lord announced it. Ananias feared, but the Lord spoke of Saul as a chosen vessel. Ananias was to help that vessel in service relationship. Saul had been praying previous to Ananias' coming and was prepared for it. Ananias entered and was the first man to call Saul "brother." Surely, the fraternal spirit kindled warm within Saul's heart as another Christian who stood in light called him in darkness the word "brother." Ananias recited what the Lord had revealed unto him and

Saul received his sight. He was ready to continue his acts of obedience. He arose and was baptized. Question of how he could be baptized in the house should not be a knotty problem. The River Abana flowed through the town. A number of houses of Damascus had pools within them. Ananias was God's instrument to complete instruction to Saul. It is indeed encouraging to know that God uses human instrumentality in such a way. Ananias is not mentioned again by Luke, but his contribution to the Christian causes stands worthy because of his ushering out Saul.

### SAUL'S IMMEDIATE FUTURE

Galatians is another source along with Acts to find the complete action of Saul. He seemingly used the synagogues to give his witness concerning Christ whom he had met and to whom he vowed obedience. The persecutor became the persecuted. Saul went away into Arabia. Two things were accomplished while in Arabia. First, he became inwardly sure of the responsibilities of great miraculous conversion he experienced. It was time to mature by meditation the great change within his soul and bind his energies into one bundle with the Lord. The second event accomplished was the quieting down of his reputation as persecutor so that he would be useful as a propagandist. At the time that he went to Jerusalem his reputation was still sufficient to create a stir and good Barnabas had to stand surety for him.

### PRACTICAL LESSONS

Conversion clearly marks an inward change. All outward elements are not the same in every conversion. Possibly no man will ever have a conversion which came in the same way that Saul's unusual

one came. However, every man will have the same inward results which Saul had. A changed disposition toward God whereby rebellion ceases to the will of Jesus are registered. One should look for the inward changes instead of the outward conformities in conversion.

Hope should never die that any man can be saved. Saul would have had a hard time being placed upon the prospect list of a church group. His actions would be against the possibility of his coming to the Lord. Yet Saul was converted. Men should never be given up. The classification of men should never fall in the one marked hopeless. If Saul was saved, cannot the worst sinner that you know be saved?

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(BY AIR)

LEAVE MIAMI JULY 2

RETURN MIAMI AUGUST 3



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## The Bible and The Denominational Paper

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy and admonished him to give heed to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. I fear that we in this generation are not doing enough of the right kind of reading. We are passionately busy looking at pictures, but we are not reading solid literature as much as we should do. We can get out of the habit of reading and then it becomes difficult to address ourselves to the privilege and still more difficult to grasp the thought of the writer as we read it. In my personal experience there have been periods of time when I had little time for reading and when the campaign was over it was not too easy for me to concentrate and find the depth of thought that the writer was presenting.

Above all things we should read the Bible. If we have to cull everything else let us stay with the Bible. The Bible will have new thoughts for you in every chapter and every time you read that chapter. The more you read the Bible the more you will want to read it, and the more you read it the more you will be absorbed in its marvelous presentation of facts. The more you read it the more you will meditate on what it has said and the more you meditate the more its blessed truths will become a part of you until you will be gloriously overwhelmed in its multitudinous promises and in its serious warnings and in all of its profound revelations. Read your Bible.

Next to the Bible I would say read your denominational paper. It will do much for you. It will comment upon the Bible. It will explain many things about your relationship to the Lord and about your duties. It will help you to understand what the Bible has been saying to you. Moreover, it will acquaint you with the present day religious work and the program of your church. It will tell you what your brethren in the Lord are doing and how your own life and efforts are needed in the movement. It is fitting that in this issue devoted to the congratulations for our editor that we should emphasize the importance of your reading one of the best religious periodicals that is in print today.

Of course, you will want to read other things, but be careful what it is. I like to read the *Saturday Evening Post* and other periodicals that do not play up the liquor evils. There are other good magazines but I would examine them before I committed myself to their study. Give heed to reading but be sure it is such intellectual food as to build a good strong mind. This will do it just as much as good food will build a strong body. In your physical life you can eat food that will not nourish and build a strong body. In your intellectual life you can take in such mental food as to eventually make your mind feeble. Don't do it. — B. L. B.

### Trinity in El Dorado

A thing that is worthy of mention is the fact that the Trinity Church in El Dorado increased its Cooperative Program gifts by 50 per cent for 1956. G. W. Aycock is the treasurer and regularly he sends us a check for 15 per cent of their receipts. Trinity

In order to publish, week by week, a good denominational paper, the editor must know the needs of the people, and know the Bible message on cardinal doctrines. He must have the ability to select reading material that will promote the entire program of Baptists. But, that is not all; he must know how to say no, when a manuscript or news item is not for the betterment of the readers.

Our beloved friend and editor of the *Arkansas Baptist*, Dr. B. H. Duncan, has all the qualities of a good editor, plus the above named qualifications. He is a tireless worker, a good editorial writer, and is always on the alert for news and articles that will advance the causes of Christ.

Therefore, our *Arkansas Baptist* is one of the best denominational papers in the Southern Baptist Convention. The contents of the paper are not only of the highest caliber, the "make-up" has that extra touch which makes it distinctive. The front page of our paper is always attractive and invites a "turn-See."

These and many other reasons have made the subscription list of the *Arkansas Baptist* continue to grow through the nine years that Dr. Duncan has been the editor.

We congratulate a loyal worker, a good friend, an excellent editor and an outstanding Christian, on this his ninth anniversary as our editor. We thank God for the work he has done and is now doing for Arkansas Baptists and kingdom causes around the world.

*Ralph Douglas, Asso. Secretary*

### Children Don't Forget

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — (BSSB) — When the father of a four-year-old girl asked her if she would like a glass of milk with her dinner, she shocked her parents by answering, "No, I'll take a glass of the beer that made Milwaukee famous."

This disturbing familiarity with alcoholic beverages by young children is the direct result of television advertising, declares C. Aubrey Hearn. The widely-read expert on alcohol problems asks, "Is TV Making Beer Drinkers of Our Children?" in a searching article in April *Home Life*, Christian family magazine, published by the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Last year beer sales in grocery stores topped soft drink sales by five to one, Hearn writes, and brewers boast that beer now is served in two thirds of the homes in America. Beer's increased popularity is largely due to an all-out promotion campaign through television, the *Home Life* article points out.

Not only do children remember the beer commercials which they see on television, as a recent test showed, but even they have noticed that many of the best programs have beer sponsors. One nine-year-old boy wrote to his Congressman about this problem. He asked if there were not a "lot of good things to advertise that are good for people." — B. L. B.

church is moving forward under the leadership of Pastor W. J. Smith. —B.L.B.

## Annual Preachers School

Our preachers will have the opportunity of participating in the first annual preachers school to be conducted the week of May 21 through May 25, at Ouachita College. We trust that many of our preachers will make it a point to attend this school. Instructors will include Dr. Dale Moody of the Louisville Seminary, and Dr. Jesse Northcutt of the South Western Seminary. Lessons on the Holy Spirit, expository preaching, and other subjects will be emphasized. Dr. McClain of Ouachita College will teach the book of Romans.

Brethren, this is not simply a conference. We attend conferences and hear sermons and think we are inspired and then by the time we get into action we have lost a lot of that inspiration. But if you attend this preachers school you will have something to take home with you.

There will be a registration fee of \$1, the room will be free, your breakfast will be 35 cents, your lunch 50 cents and your supper 50 cents. It will not be expensive. Make your plans to attend. — B. L. B.

### Pastor Haley and Fort Smith North Side

The North Side Church in Fort Smith has obtained the services of Orville Haley who was at Lowell, Arkansas. Under Haley's leadership they have revised the budget and have put the Cooperative Program on the percentage basis which should mean approximately 40 per cent more for missions than the church has been giving. This is a noteworthy move. It is easier and better for all concerned for a church to do it on the percentage basis. — B. L. B.

The brewing industry, in their fight against alcohol advertising limitations, claims that such limitations would affect the economy of our nation, since they consume every year more than 4 billion pounds of farm products. True, they do, but they use only about 4 billion of the 317 billion pounds of selected crops, and when other agricultural products are added (not used in brewing) the brewer's percentage is infinitesimal.

And, tax-wise, the brewing industry claims that it paid \$980 million in taxes annually. True, last year they paid \$980 million of a total of more than \$66 billion — or about 1 per cent of the total. Obviously, the brewers are not the economic giants they claim to be. — B. L. B.

The Department of Agriculture has said in its annual report on tobacco consumption that final figures show Americans smoked 386 billion cigarettes in 1955. This was more than double the 1935-39 average of 157 billion, and is an average of 3,386 cigarettes for each person over fifteen years of age. Americans consumed almost 6 billion cigars, 77 million pounds of smoking tobacco, 78 million pounds of chewing tobacco, and 39 million pounds of snuff. — B. L. B.