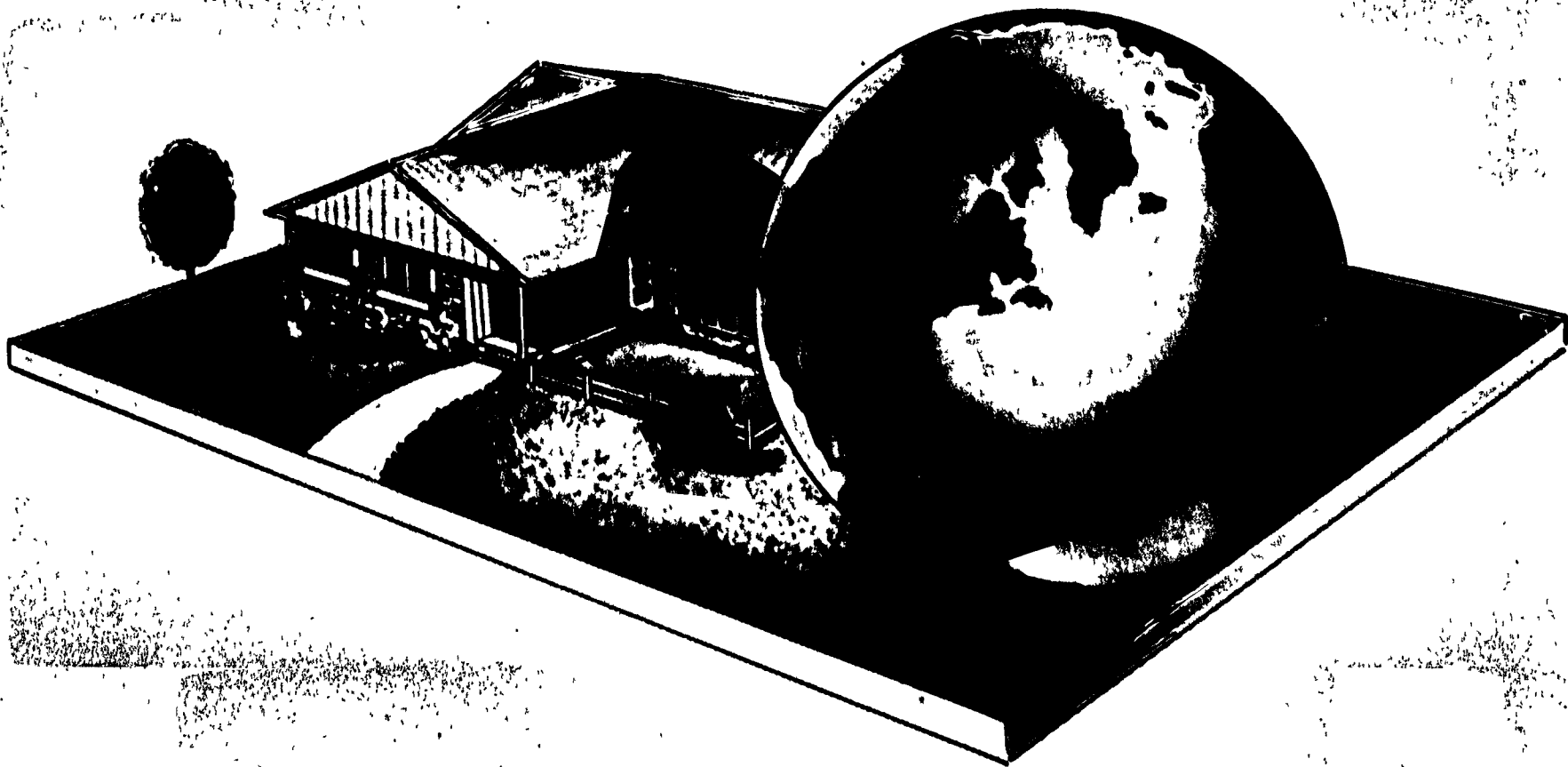




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Southern Baptist World Journal



THE

Commission

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Free Enterprise—Lam Style

By Marjorie Moore Armstrong



Family "album" shot of the Lam Chi Fung family in Kowloon, Hong Kong.



Some graduates in the Lam family: (left to right) Joseph, Alex, David, Dr. Lam, John, and Samuel. Lam sons not shown are Daniel, graduate of the University of the Philippines, and Timothy, a student in Hong Kong.

THE COMMISSION

Blending Chinese and Christian traditions, the Lam Chi Fung

family is a living testimony on the very border of Red China that the Communist theory is wrong.

BREAKFAST in the home of Lam Chi Fung was not on our schedule for the week end we spent in Hong Kong last August. We had never heard of him; but from the moment we arrived on Friday, missionaries and Chinese alike asked: "Did you hear Dr. Lam in Miami?" "Did you see Dr. Lam on his way to London?" "Aren't you glad they elected Dr. Lam a vice-president of the Baptist World Alliance?" (And it was much later before I discovered that the name they pronounced *lum* is spelled with an *a*.)

Sunday morning when the ushers went forward to take the offering at Stirling Road Baptist Church in Kowloon, my missionary companion nudged me and whispered: "The one with the dark-rimmed glasses—Lam Chi Fung. Most generous rich man I've ever known. And the busiest. Just home from London. Terribly busy, catching up."

By this time our curiosity had reached unmanageable proportions. We begged for an introduction; and, true to character, this Baptist layman urged us to come to his home for a meal.

Ringling the bell at the large iron-grille gate to the driveway early the next morning, we saw beyond the wall a four-story, white stucco apartment house of modern architectural style—rounded corner, glass brick. Flowering shrubs and trees and beautifully kept lawn surrounded it. A couple of young men came running to admit us, and others greeted us at the door as we were ushered into an enormous living-dining room, right on the ground floor.

"I'm Daniel," one said.

"And I'm David," announced the second.



forks instead of the chopsticks we had learned to expect in Chinese homes.

As the men talked business, I pondered this experience. Keenly aware that someone was missing from this intimate circle, I asked Alice how her mother was. A stroke in 1954 had left her partially paralyzed, and she was still under the care of doctor and nurses in the home. "She's better, thank you, but still bedridden."

During the next eight hours, my writer husband and I saw sights in this doorway to China that most American tourists never take the time to see: the various Lam enterprises. For Lam Chi Fung, like many another young man, left home in 1915 "to seek his fortune." He started a coal and rice importing business in Hong Kong. With good business sense, courage, and faith in God, he eventually added a bank, a hotel, and factories.

He conceived the idea of salvaging sunken ships from the bottom of the ocean around Borneo, towing them into Hong Kong harbor, and dismantling them for the copper, steel, iron, and other materials he could use. Today the Kit Woh iron and steel factory operates along with the Sze Wai

Company, importers of coal. Another factory produces flashlights of all kinds and, still another, watches and clocks.

The Lam plants offer the highest wages available in the Hong Kong area for similar work. They are all equipped with safety devices to reduce accidents to the minimum, and workers may participate in profit-sharing schemes.

Dr. Lam, as principal of Pui Ching Middle School, is proud of its high scholastic rating; but he is even more concerned that every student become a Christian. The enrolment, including kindergarten, elementary school, high school, and night school for adults, is 4,500.



This six-story classroom building for Pui Ching was dedicated in 1953. Of the \$300,000 cost, \$35,000 was given by Southern Baptists.

ish Crown Colony, the Chinese Christian businessman has built a block of simple, fireproof houses. Christians who contrive to escape to Hong Kong, always forced to leave behind them everything except what can be carried in their two hands, qualify for this village. Plans for a school and a medical clinic are developing.

Lam Chi Fung's reputation is not limited to the business or the Baptist world. Sir Alexander Grantham, governor of Hong Kong, when asked if he knew him, said, "Oh, yes, he is one of the most astute men of Hong Kong. Whenever I need to know how the people of this area feel about some policy, law, or late news, I always consult Lam Chi Fung. He gives me valued help."

Our missionary hostess, Martha (Mrs. James D.) Belote, told us of another aspect of his life. Julia's wedding was a beautiful affair with a wedding breakfast in the main dining room of the large Peninsula Hotel of Kowloon. Several hundred business associates, educators, Government leaders, and missionaries were seated for the meal. Dr. Lam asked for a microphone, introduced his pastor to his

guests, and asked him to offer a prayer of thanks for God's blessings on the bride and groom

Where He Leads

By James S. Potter

THE tall young surgeon stood in the doorway of my study. I can never forget his words. "I want to go where God can use me best. I'm not out to make money. I'm out to serve him." As I watched him leave that day I prayed again that God would give the answer—and hoped it would be our town. The answer came. Not only was it our town, it was also Indonesia! But let me begin at the beginning.

Several weeks prior to that conversation, C. Winfield Applewhite, M.D., had completed his residency in surgery and was ready to establish his practice. But where? He and his lovely wife, LaVerne, graduate of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, put that question to God in prayer. Various communities and opportunities were considered. One day their quest brought them to Statesville, North Carolina, in the Piedmont section upon which God has smiled.

Two weeks later the doctor and I had our second talk. Walking to the door with him, I said: "Doctor, I hope that our town will be your home." He replied: "I want to go where God can use me best." As I instinctively glanced at his dedicated hands, the rest of the answer came: "I'm not out to make money. I'm out to serve him."

A few weeks later the Applewhites moved to Statesville and immediately joined our church. Shortly thereafter, friendly citizens invited the doctor to consider membership in a civic club. To the invitation he graciously responded that he appreciated such an opportunity, but first he wanted to be sure that his church responsibilities were well in hand. Maybe he could join later. He hoped so. But the church had to come first.

And the church has come first in the life of this home. Mrs. Applewhite, mother of three small girls, teaches a class of young women, works in Training Union and in her missionary circle, is pianist for one of the choirs, and is Young People's leader in



The Applewhites' appointment to Indonesia has grown out of their desire to go where God can use them best. LEFT: Pastor James S. Potter, of First Baptist Church, Statesville, greets Dr. and Mrs. Applewhite, Virginia, Rebecca, and Charlotte at the door of the church. Both Dr. and Mrs. Applewhite have leading roles in the life of the church. BELOW: Family devotions are a part of their daily schedule.



Bible School

in

Taiwan



This group attended Vacation Bible school at Su Ling Tou (Forest Edge) Baptist Church in Hsin Chu, Taiwan. One hundred children were registered, ninety attended at least four days, and seventy had perfect attendance.



The children are ready to march into the church for opening assembly. The school was held in the afternoons since many of the children had to attend "make-up" classes in the mornings.



The English class studied Junior Vacation Bible school books sent from the States. The young men used their rest period to be present from two to three thirty o'clock each day.



Junior boys were taught by John Fu, a student at Taiwan University. Because of a lack of teachers and classrooms, the Bible school was limited to children nine years of age and up.



Part of the class of twenty-two Junior girls who had perfect attendance

לכבוד
בניסיון
TO THE
BAPTIST RETREAT

Israel Baptist Center Building —

On Holy Ground

By Marjorie Cole Rowden

DALAL and Ali and Reufi pushed on the big shovel with all their might, but even the strength of three ten-year-olds was not enough to penetrate very far into the sun-baked soil of Israel. We, the missionaries and workers, stood around them in prayerful silence as the first spade of dirt was turned for the building of the new Baptist Center in the beautiful Sharon Valley. That was October, 1954.

To the south on a small hill sat the ruins of the once Roman city of Antipatris. To the west, just out of sight, was the thriving city of Tel Aviv with its half million Jewish population. To the north were large groves of orange trees, just becoming golden with the season's first fruit; and on the east, running directly on the line of the Baptist property, was the Yarkon River.

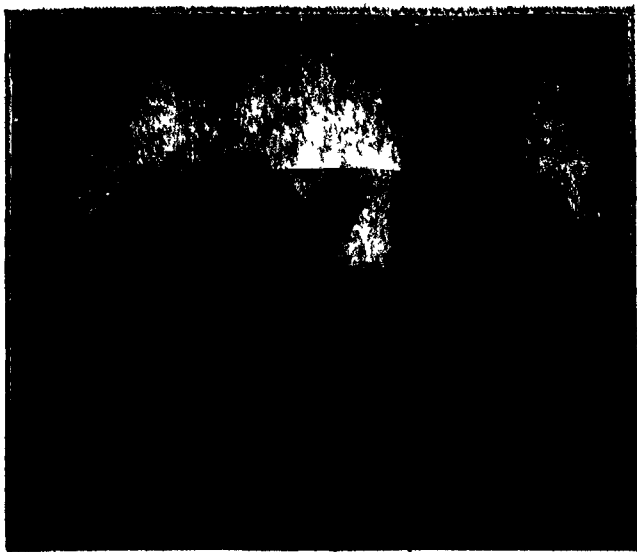
This was hard ground, but it was holy ground—holy because it had been dedicated to the task of winning souls to Jesus Christ. Once the fall rains arrived the ground would become fertile and could produce food in abundance for the needs of the

center. For years it had simply been called the Baptist Farm. Now it was to become infinitely more.

Dalal, Ali, and Reufi were representing the children of the George W. Truett Home in Nazareth

grounds would be turned into an old-time "camp meeting." Straw mattresses would be pulled out of the cupboards, plastic cups and saucers taken out of their boxes, and hymnbooks of various kinds and languages spread out on the wooden benches.

Some sixty-five or seventy persons



The four students of the new junior college located at the Baptist Center with Helen (Mrs. Lynn) Davis who voluntarily teaches an art class each week. Mrs. Davis' husband is connected with the American Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel. (See June, 1955, issue of The Commission for story on the Davises.)

representing both Jews and Arabs would come from all over Israel to join in praising their Lord and Saviour. Many would already know him, others would be earnestly seeking to find him. Some would have thrilling experiences to relate concerning the Lord's blessings in their lives, and at



Royal Ambassadors at their annual camp on the grounds of the new Baptist Center.

least a few would have sad news of increased persecutions and trials because they named the name of Christ.

There would be sacred moments of fellowship down by the banks of



Where possible, airplanes were used. Here "Lucy," the interpreter, points out sights to the visiting ministers.

Baptist Odyssey in Russia

"These are God's people, too," was the phrase which repeatedly suggested itself to four Baptist ministers who spent two weeks deep inside Russia where thousands flock to hear the Word of God.

Everywhere the visitors were greeted with the heartiest hospitality. Deputations met them with flowers in every city. Russian young people gathered

around Dr. Adams and the others, asking for autographs. The ministers were entertained lavishly in hotels and private homes. They joined Russian Baptists in the "Chautauqua salute," a gesture where each person waves his handkerchief in time with the music of the



"ALL-UNION Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists sends you and Baptist brotherhood in all the world its heartiest Christmas greetings and best wishes for the new year."

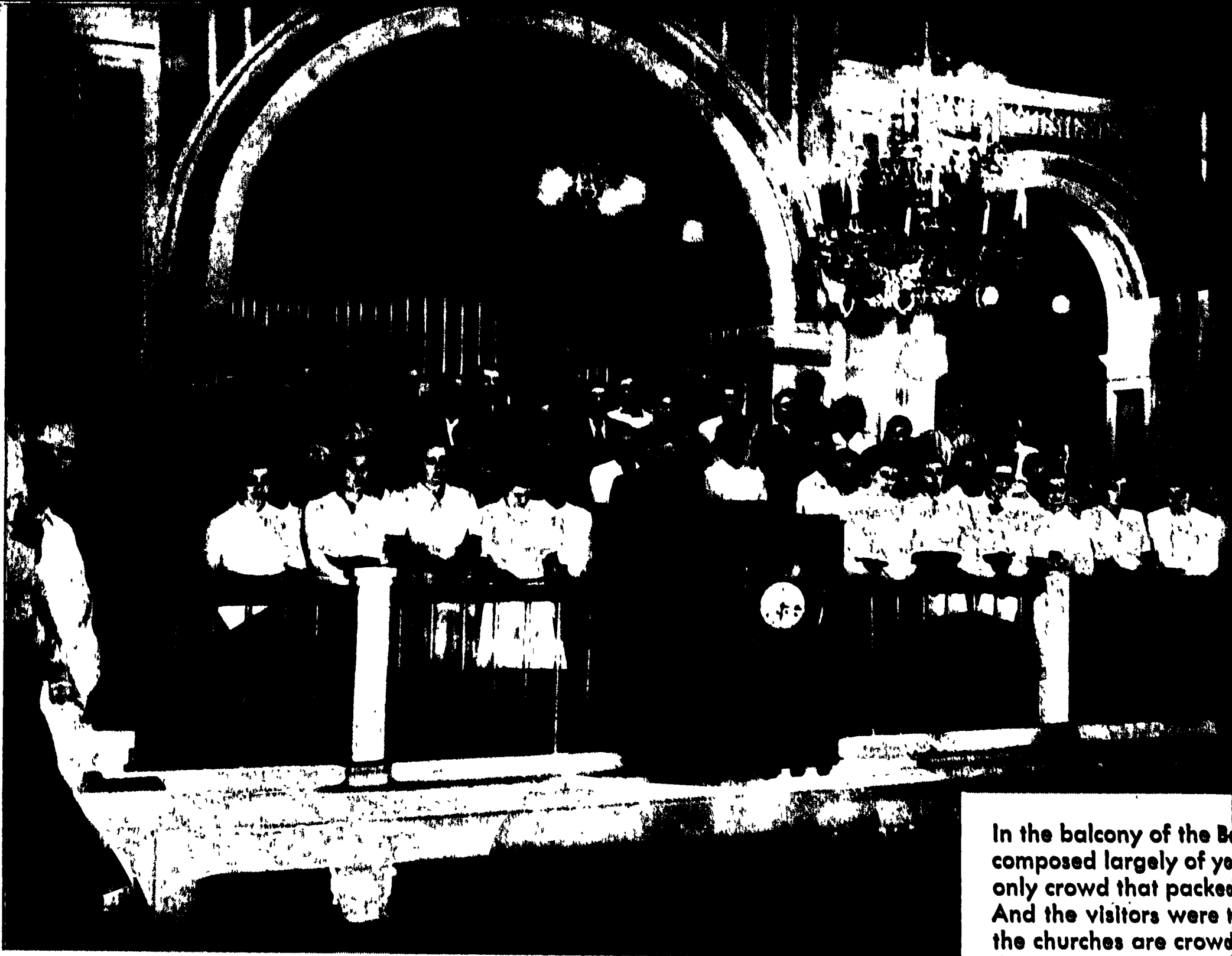
This cablegram, signed by Jacob Zhdkev, president, and Alexander Karev, general secretary of Russian Baptists, was addressed to Dr. Theodore F. Adams, president of the Baptist World Alliance, who shared it with his congregation at First Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia, on Christmas Day.

Dr. Adams and three other Baptist ministers from the United States—Dr. Arnold T. Ohrn, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance; Dr. V. Carney Hargroves, past president of the American Baptist Convention and pastor, Second Baptist Church, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Dr. Joseph H. Jackson, pastor, Olivet Baptist Church, Chicago, Illinois—spent two weeks with the Baptists of Russia last summer. The pictures on these and the following two pages were taken by an official photographer who followed the visitors. The pictures themselves give evidence that Baptist work in Russia is very much alive and that for these Baptists Christianity is a very real part of their lives.

In every church these ministers visited they found people hungry for the gospel, people whose attention did not waver through three or more hours of sermons, people who had to be asked to go home after the sermons were finished in spite of the discomforts of the hot nights and overcrowded rooms. Today there are more than 500,000 baptized believers in the 5,400 churches which make up the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists of the U.S.S.R.

closing hymn, "God Be with You Till We Meet Again." On the right "Lucy" interprets as Dr. Adams, preparing to present a Bible to the Russian pastor (this was done in each church), indicates the fellowship between Christians around the world. Holding the English Bible in





In the balcony of the B...
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And the visitors were t...
the churches are crowe...
that at every service.



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Moscow ch...
photo above...
mass of peo...
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People in every...
church pressed to...
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Christian fellowsh...
eagerness for the...
Word of God.



e B church in Moscow is the choir (behind clock),
 t ye people. On the right is a portion of the standing-room-
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 ver floor says
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