

Assemblies of God Council Ordains 19 Into Ministry

By HAMILTON WRIGHT
Reporter-News Staff Writer

The 46th annual convention of the North Texas District Council of Assemblies of God became history with the concluding service Thursday night when 19 men and women were ordained into the ministry.

Final business of the Council Thursday was a Women's Missionary Council session and a business windup period. The forenoon featured a devotional, a sermon by a layman, and a business session at which remnant affairs were expedited into the record.

Johnnie Barnes, Electra Assembly of God (AG) pastor, was elected Christ's Ambassador President as successor to James S. Morrison, Waxahachie, who becomes an evangelist and resides at Arlington.

In the afternoon the Women's Missionary Council re-elected all officers. They are Mrs. W. F. Mercer, Fort Worth, president; Mrs. P. A. Lewis, Waxahachie, vice-president; and Mrs. E. B. Crump, Waxahachie, secretary-treasurer.

The WMC was extended welcome by David Watson, Stamford. President Mercer had each of the 18 sectional officers to introduce themselves. Mrs. Lewis gave a vocal solo titled "Power with Him."

Missionary Work

Mrs. Mercer noted that the WMC has 2,500 members in 339 councils. She introduced three young lady missionaries who serve in Liberia, Africa. They are Margie Nickell and Betty Savage, both of Wichita Falls, and Katie Jean Jones, Whitehouse, Tex. Miss Nickell addressed the group briefly, relating experiences as an African missionary. Another missionary, Mrs. Mollie Baird, 35 years in missionary service, related AG progress in work in the Philippines. American Indian mission work was reviewed by Mrs. L. E. Davis, Albuquerque, N. M. She said Indian students mission schools would go forth this summer to reach many of their tribes for Christ.

Mrs. Mercer delivered a rousing message on the "Sheltering Wings of God."

J. C. Sullivan, head of a \$1,000,000 Fort Worth company, told how he had drifted from the loving care and prayers of his mother in Hamlin, where he was born, to become a drunkard, a bandit, an inmate of the penitentiary; and how, in despair, he "found the Lord," was converted and baptized by the Holy Spirit.

Fresh out of prison with no money, he concocted the plot to kidnap an Amarillo banker for a sizeable ransom. In Amarillo he washed dishes in a cafe. "The dishes rattled the voice of God against me, and I finally went to a church, much to the astonishment of my wife. There I was converted. But everything was dark — no money for groceries, no job, the stigma of the pen upon me. But wife and I prayed, and God opened the way," he said.

God Opened Way

"God put me in business with a brother," he continued. He was in debt and "finally we got \$90,000 in the red. But we fasted

and prayed and God opened the way. Since then I have prospered and have never failed to give God the tithe.

"Since I have been baptized by the Holy Ghost I have prospered spiritually and temporally. He can do and will do the same

for every person who will trust and obey him.

"What a work he did on me! — a criminal, a prison bird."

Sullivan said he spent five years in prison. "Once I escaped, rode freight trains," he continued. "In a box car the devil said, 'No hope for you — fall beneath the wheels and die!' In 19 days I was back in prison, breaking stones in a brickyard. I made God promises, but didn't keep them. But I came to the end — desperation, turned to God and was gloriously made a new creature.

"Now I'm filled with joy and living a life of purpose and witness in the sufficiency of everything he gives."

At the conclusion of his message the entire audience of many hundreds stood to its feet, arms held aloft, with most of them uttering vociferous "Amen's" and "Glories." Some were kneeling, others were talking in "tongues," and still others were "interpreting." One young man was kneeling, head bowed, choked up in prayer.

Miniature Scale

For 10 minutes a facsimile of Pentecost on a miniature scale was re-enacted. Many told Sullivan after his message:

"If you'd give this witness in churches all over the land it would result in tens of thousands giving up lives of sin, taking God's hand and enjoying happiness and better material things in life."

Sullivan declared God answers ALL prayers of those dedicated to him. "He makes the rough way even — temporarily and spiritually."

Harlingen Youth Head Boys State

AUSTIN (AP)—Pete Coneway, a high school junior from Harlingen, moved into the 1961 Boys State chief executive's chair Thursday following a sweeping 326-245 win over Ralph Baker of Dallas.

Coneway led his Longhorn Party to victory as they captured seven of the 11 top Boys State offices. James Jarvis of Fort Worth gathered the most votes, however, as he beat Philip Mabry of Austin 370-290 to take the lieutenant governor's office.

Other victors in Wednesday night's balloting were Chuck Sublett of Kingsville, attorney general; Douglas Henager of Bellmead, land commissioner; Richard Faulkner of Tyler, comptroller; Gilberto Menchaca of Laredo, treasurer.

Dan Nesley of Lamesa, agriculture commissioner; Wayne Hardeman of Grand Prairie, Larry Lebar of McAllen and Joe Tidwell of Knox City, railroad commissioners. Glen Saats of New Braunfels was named chief justice of the Texas Supreme Court.

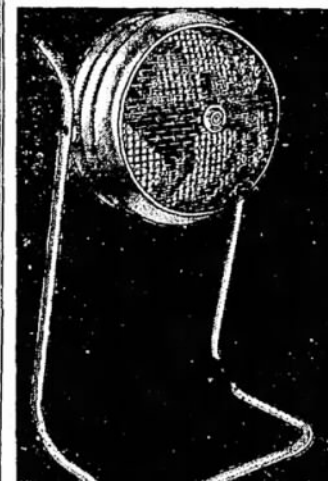
Frank Krizan of Brenham was elected chief justice of the Court of Civil Appeals.

Chief justice of the Court of Criminal Appeals is Robert Wilson of Overton.

Inauguration ceremonies were held at a joint session of the Boys State House and Senate.

The young politicians heard Chief Justice Robert W. Calvert of the Texas Supreme Court and Walter Long, chief of the Texas Legislative Service.

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