

DR. HOUGHTON DIES SUDDENLY ON COAST

**Moody Bible Institute Head,
60, Was Pastor Here at
Calvary Baptist Church**

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LOS ANGELES, June 14—The Rev. Will H. Houghton, president of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, and a former pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in New York City, died early today at the Hollywood Receiving Hospital after collapsing in his suite at the Ambassador Hotel. He was 60 years old.

Dr. Houghton had been on leave of absence from the institute, one of the world's largest theological schools, for a year because of heart and sinus trouble. After a stay in Arizona, he came to Los Angeles with Mrs. Houghton several weeks ago. He had delivered some talks here and was planning to return to Chicago tomorrow.

A police inquiry was started because of the presence of sedative tablets in his room. Dr. Samuel Benbrook, one of the doctors who had been attending him here, attributed his death to coronary occlusion, and said the sedatives had been prescribed in connection with sinus treatments. The coroner's office reported that an autopsy would be performed Monday.

Under his administration the institute, founded by the evangelist, Dwight L. Moody, grew until today it has 1,000 day students, night classes and 30,000 correspondence students. It operates two radio stations.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Elizabeth Andrews of New Bethlehem, Pa.; two sons, Firman Houghton of Boston, and Everett Houghton, a member of the faculty of Miami University, Ohio, and a daughter, Mrs. R. B. Brown, wife of a Los Angeles minister.

Brief Career as Actor

Dr. Houghton was well known as a pulpit orator, receiving much of his training as an actor for four years between his high school and college years.

Born in Boston, he attended Nazarene College of Rhode Island. He held the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Wheaton College, Ill. Before coming to this city he had been pastor of the Baptist Tabernacle of Atlanta, Ga., one of the largest Baptist congregations in the South.

Dr. Houghton came to Calvary Baptist Church, 123 West Fifty-seventh Street, after the death of the Rev. Dr. John Roach Straton. During his five years as pastor, he was outspoken on many subjects, including atheism, communism and nazism. After a trip to Germany in 1934 he reported that the Nazis were losing caste because of their attacks on the Jews.

Church Built Apartment Hotel

While Dr. Houghton was pastor the Calvary Baptist Church erected an apartment hotel on its site, with the church occupying a 1,000-seat auditorium on the ground floor. This move caused much controversy at the time. Some called it irreverent, but Dr. Houghton defended the action, saying that the church and the home were two institutions bestowed directly by God and that their union was a natural one.

On many occasions Dr. Houghton opened his pulpit to guest preachers, among them the famous revivalist, Billy Sunday, and Walter Bannigan, an ex-convict who

DIES ON WEST COAST



Rev. Dr. Will H. Houghton
The New York Times Studio, 1935

turned to religion after his release from prison.

In 1934, Dr. Houghton resigned his pastorate to succeed the Rev. Dr. James M. Gray as president of the Moody Bible Institute. He also was editor of the Moody Monthly, wrote the words and music to several religious songs and was the author of several books, including "The Living Christ," "Let's Go Back to the Bible" and "Back to the Bible."