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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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ARKANSAS BAPTIST

BAPTIST OFFICIAL STATE PAPER

VOLUME 55

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, JUNE 14, 1956

NUMBER 24



Baptist Press Photo

CONVENTION OFFICERS

*Front row, left to right: Conrad R. Williard, Kansas City, first vice president; C. C. Warren, North Carolina, president; Deb Lee Stennis, Mississippi, second vice president.
Second row, left to right: Joe Burton, Nashville, recording secretary; Porter Routh, Nashville, treasurer of the Executive Committee; James Merritt, Georgia, senior secretary.*

Report of the Southern Baptist Convention Kansas City — May 27-June 2

By The Editor

(Continued from last week)

The meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City is now history. According to the testimony of many it was a great Convention, constructive and forward-looking in all its decisions. It seemed to be the unanimous opinion that the attendance on the sessions of the Kansas City Convention maintained a higher percentage than usual. The Convention auditorium was packed to capacity on more than one occasion and many people were turned away. The auditorium was well filled for most all sessions up to and through Friday.

As already announced, I did not feel justified in attending the sessions as continuously as has been my custom in order to report in detail each session of the Convention. Therefore, my report shall consist largely of the digests of the reports of the various agencies and institutions compiled by Dr. Albert McClellan, director of publications and associate secretary of the Executive Committee of the Convention. Dr. McClellan and his staff render an outstanding service through the Convention and to those responsible for reporting the proceedings of the Convention.

The digests of reports which follow are not necessarily arranged in the order in which they were received by the Convention. An attempt has been made to group them according to subject matter.

Report of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee

By PORTER ROUTH, Executive Secretary
Nashville, Tenn.

The Southern Baptist Convention on recommendation of its Executive Committee, approved a record-breaking budget of \$11 million for 1957.

It exceeds the 1956 budget by \$1 million. The 1957 budget gives added support to Southern Baptist missionary work at home and abroad during what will be designated as "World Missions Year."

Operating budgets of both Convention mission boards — the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board — have been raised. The foreign missions operating budget has been raised \$750,000 to \$3,950,000. The home missions operating budget is up \$265,000 to \$1,050,000.

The capital outlay budget of home missions for 1957 will be \$60,200 higher than for 1956, at \$500,000. The capital use budget for the Foreign Mission Board remains the same at \$600,000.

The funds to meet the 1957 budget will come through the Convention's financial plan called the Cooperative Program under which all boards, agencies, and institutions of the Convention share according to percentage system voted by the Convention.

Upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Convention will continue its "Advance Program." This program becomes effective each year after the Convention meets its annual budget.

The Convention met its 1955 budget in October, 1955. From that date through Dec. 31, 1955, all money received through the Cooperative Program went into the "Advance Program," and was divided three-fourths for foreign missions and one-fourth for home

missions.

Dr. Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee, reported that Cooperative Program receipts for 1955 were \$11,648,841 compared with receipts of \$10,739,497 for 1954.

The Executive Committee reported four major actions it took since the 1955 Convention at Miami, Fla.

In the first, it approved a request by the Home Mission Board to use \$300,000 to buy church building bonds.

A second action was naming a committee to study the proposed merger of two Negro Baptist schools in Nashville, one of which is partly supported by the Southern Baptist Convention. They are the American Baptist Theological Seminary, which received SBC aid, and the National Baptist Missionary Training School, which is entirely supported by Negro Baptists. The proposed merger is still under study.

Thirdly, the Executive Committee approved a request of Southern Baptist Hospital, New Orleans, to negotiate a second loan of \$750,000 with an insurance company at 4¼ per cent interest.

In a fourth action, the Executive Committee discussed with the executive secretaries of the various state Baptist conventions some matters affecting state budgets. (Under the Cooperative Program, individual donations are sent by churches to state Baptist conventions. The states retain a portion of the funds — usually 50 per cent or more — for their own missionary and educational work and forward the remainder to the Executive Committee which distributes money to SBC boards, agencies, and institutions.)

The Executive Committee also has taken under consideration, by Convention request, the question of hotel and motel accommodations and auditorium facilities available in cities proposed as sites for the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. It is undertaking to determine the minimum number of accommodations required before a city can be considered for a Convention site due to the attendance at the annual sessions.

Plans for Southern Baptist Convention participation in a program of world evangelism were presented. All Baptist groups in the United States and Canada have been invited to undertake simultaneous evangelism efforts from 1959 to 1964. The year 1957 also is "World Missions year."

Division of Promotion, Southern Baptist Executive Committee

By MERRILL D. MOORE, Nashville
Director of Promotion and
Associate Secretary

Development of an enlarged program of church finance for use within the Southern Baptist Convention is continuing, according to Merrill D. Moore, director of promotion and associate secretary of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee.

The program was approved in 1955 when the Southern Baptist Convention held its annual session in Miami, Fla.

Moore said that a church finance workshop was held in Nashville, Tennessee, Dec. 10-14, 1955, and that a church finance clinic will

be held, also in Nashville, June 9-13.

"Participants in this clinic," he declared, "will be the executive secretaries in the states and their assistants in charge of promotion, the editors of Baptist state papers, heads of Southern Baptist boards and agencies, and members of the Promotion Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention."

Pilot tests of the church finance program will be held this fall "in a few select churches in each state" in the Southern Baptist Convention, he continued. These will be planned by the executive secretaries of the various state Baptist conventions.

Coupled with pilot tests will be clinics in church finance in each of the cities. These clinics will be open to all local pastors of Southern Baptist churches and to visiting ministers taking part in stewardship revivals at the same time.

Materials for the church finance program are being prepared under direction of the Executive Committee and will be available to churches generally in 1957, according to Moore.

Southern Baptists reached a Cooperative Program goal of \$34 million during 1955, Moore reported. The goal was set in 1954 but not reached that year. In 1955, the goal was surpassed, with contributions through Cooperative Program reaching \$35,705,996. This includes both the Cooperative Program money used to support educational and missionary work of state Baptist conventions and that used to support Southern Baptist Convention boards, agencies, and seminaries. The 1956 goal is \$38 million.

Time, Place, Preacher For 1957 Convention

H. H. Hobbs of Oklahoma was named to preach the Convention sermon in 1957. Carl E. Bates of Texas was named alternate.

In 1957 the Convention will meet in Chicago, Illinois, May 29-June 1; the 1958 Convention will meet in Houston, Texas, May 20-23; the 1959 Convention will meet in Louisville, Kentucky, May 20-23.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST

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Report

Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

By BAKER JAMES CAUTHEN
Executive Secretary

"Response to the call for mission volunteers is more encouraging than ever before," Dr. Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary, said in presenting the annual report of the Southern Baptists Foreign Mission Board.

"Not only are young people dedicating themselves, but experienced pastors and other workers already established in posts of service (other than as missionaries) are reconsidering their personal responsibility and volunteering for mission fields.

"One hundred and four missionaries were appointed in 1955. It is our objective to appoint a minimum of 125 in 1956 and succeeding years. That number should be steadily increased as the call of world needs is heard," Cauthen continued.

Southern Baptists had 1,020 foreign missionaries in active service in 35 countries and territories of the world at the close of 1955. Among them were 392 men, 402 married women, and 226 single women.

Official reports from the overseas missions at the end of 1955 reveal that the 2,250 Baptist churches related to Southern Baptist work baptized 24,342 people last year, bringing the total membership of the churches to 236,494. (Figures from China have not been available since 1949 and are not counted in the reports.) These churches were served by 1,541 national and 130 missionary pastors. A total of 4,677 nations worked alongside Southern Baptist missionaries in 1955.

Fourteen hundred and twenty-four of the churches are self-supporting; all of them together contributed the equivalent of \$1,582,388 during the year.

There was a total of 3,880 outstations at the end of the year, most of which will become churches.

The 3,209 Sunday schools on mission fields showed an enrolment of 263,532; the 3,401 youth groups, 101,740; and the 2,861 missionary societies, 62,973.

Among the 791 Baptist schools on foreign fields were 22 theological seminaries with 896 enrolled and eight training schools with 684 enrolled.

Thirteen Baptist hospitals, 10 dispensaries, and 30 clinics were served by 35 missionary physicians, 54 national physicians, 42 missionary nurses, and 107 national nurses. These medical units ministered to a total of 240,411 patients during 1955.

Ten publication plants printed 195,000 Bibles; 483,435 copies of 155 books; 4,034,994 pieces of 307 tracts, and 2,194,537 copies of 128 periodicals.

Ten good-will centers enrolled 1,688 children and 797 adults.

"Only a small portion of the story can be told," Dr. Cauthen said. "The remainder will have to be visualized in terms of love, devotion, and sacrifice, making possible what has been done."

The Foreign Mission Board's total income for 1955 reached an all-time high of \$11,783,268, an increase of more than 9 per cent over 1954. Approximately 94 per cent of this total was used for support of missionaries and work conducted abroad.

Home Mission Board

By EXECUTIVE-SECRETARY COURTS REDFORD
Atlanta

The year 1955 was a year of "unprecedented growth and achievement" for the Home Mis-

Prepare For Opening Session



Participants in the opening session of the Convention Wednesday morning included W. O. Vaught, Little Rock, Ark., chairman of committee; Secretary Joe W. Burton, Nashville; unidentified messenger; John Raley, president, Oklahoma Baptist University; Secretary of Evangelism, Leonard Sanderson, Dallas, and Harold G. Sanders, Tallahassee, Fla., reading from right to left.

sion Board, Dr. Courts Redford, executive secretary-treasurer, told messengers at the Southern Baptist Convention in his annual report.

Increases were reported in missionary personnel, financial support, and missions and evangelistic results.

The year marked the beginning of the "Four-Year Conquest for Christ." It emphasized evangelism and conservation. Through the stimulus of the nation-wide evangelistic crusade, sponsored by the Board's Department of Evangelism, 416,867 baptisms (which indicate the number of converts) were reported by churches throughout the Convention territory in 1955. The number of baptisms were a 20,000 increase over 1954, the highest previous year.

Mission personnel of the Board increased from 1,054 to 1,105 and Board receipts from the Cooperative Program, convention financial plan, and the Annie Armstrong Offering, a special convention-wide home missions offering, showed gain. In 1955, the Board received \$1,762,010 from the Cooperative Program, and \$1,256,254 from the Annie Armstrong Offering, and general designations which brought the grand total from denominational sources to \$3,134,340.

Board workers recorded 37,475 professions of faith, and began 725 missions and 410 churches during the year.

The church loans department made an average of slightly more than five loans each week during 1955, and at the end of 1955 had nearly \$6,000,000 in outstanding loans to smaller churches, particularly where Southern Baptist work is rapidly expanding in the North and West.

The Board will follow the year of emphasis in evangelism and conservation with church

extension (building new churches) and revitalization in 1956. In 1957, reaching minority groups, language groups, and the spiritually under-privileged is the emphasis. This will tie in with the Convention's World Missions Years in late 1956 and 1957.

The Board released three motion pictures on home mission work through the production facilities of the Baptist Sunday School Board in 1955 and contemplates a 1956 release on World Missions, U. S. A. Two of the 1955 motion picture releases and two filmstrips dealt with the Indian-American, which was the 1956 home mission study theme.

The department of editorial service, which prepared the books for the Indian series, released 11 books during 1955, 10 of which were on the Indian theme. Home Missions, the Board magazine, reached a new high in circulation with a 146,859 average circulation per month.

The Home Mission Board now has work in 41 states, the District of Columbia, Alaska, Cuba, Panama, and the Canal Zone. Many nationalities are ministered to by these missionaries, including Chinese, French, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish-speaking groups. In addition, the Board has rescue homes, good-will centers, work with Negroes, deaf, migrants, Indians, and Jews.

Report of Chaplains' Commission Of Southern Baptist Home Mission Board

By ALFRED CARPENTER, Director
Atlanta, Ga.

Southern Baptists have 430 ministers serving on active duty as chaplains in various branches of the service and the veterans ad-

(Continued on Page 4)

Report of Woman's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to S.B.C.

By MISS ALMA HUNT

Executive Secretary, Birmingham

Increase in membership of organizations in the Woman's Missionary Union, women's auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, was reported to the Convention.

Miss Alma Hunt, Birmingham, Ala., executive secretary of the WMU, reported that WMU membership increased from 1,281,936 for 1953-54 to 1,345,153 for 1954-55. There was a gain of 3,464 WMU organizations.

These organizations include Sunbeam Bands, Girls' Auxiliaries and Royal Ambassadors for children and young people as well as Woman's Missionary Societies for adult women.

Circulation of the WMU's various periodicals was up to 480,623. This, broken down by magazines, was 259,853 for *Royal Service*, the publication for the adult women; *The Window of YWA* (Young Women's Auxiliaries), 34,647; *Ambassador Life*, for boys in Royal Ambassadors, 59,705; *Tell* (for GA's), 99,180, and *Sunbeam Activities* (small children), 27,238.

The number of missionary books studied and taught increased also, according to Miss Hunt. "It is in mission study that the most consistent gains are noted," she declared.

Two of the main emphases of the WMU last year were providing Christian recreation for church young people and distribution of Bibles and religious literature. Miss Hunt said a "growing interest" was shown in the recreational program and that the literature and Bible distribution "has been seriously undertaken in many of the states."

Weeks of prayer are observed by the WMU. Of its 20,617 societies, 15,717 observed a week of prayer for foreign missions; 15,496 a week of prayer for home missions, and 14,257 a week of prayer for state missions. This is an increase over the year before, she said.

Two special mission offerings are sponsored each year by the WMU—the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions and the Annie Armstrong Offering for home missions. The 1954 foreign missions offering was \$3,957,821 and the special home missions offering in 1955 was \$1,256,254.

Chaplain's Commission Report to Convention

(Continued from Page 3)

ministration. This fills the quotas for active-duty Southern Baptist men in all branches.

Alfred Carpenter, director of the Chaplains' Commission, reported there are openings for Southern Baptists to serve in reserve capacities in the army, navy, air force, V. A., and in the civil air patrol.

Southern Baptist chaplains have organized Sunday schools and Baptist Training Unions, as well as summer Vacation Bible schools, in many cases. A booklet, *The New Life*, has been published to aid chaplains in teaching distinctive Baptist beliefs.

The denomination's chaplains also have taken part in evangelistic crusades. Chaplains in all branches reported numbers of servicemen making professions of faith in Christ.

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TOMORROW, MORE THAN TODAY

In all the history of Southern Baptists, less than 2,000 foreign missionaries have been appointed. With nearly 30,000 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention, visualize the vast reservoir of volunteers which would be provided if these churches were earnestly praying for some in their own congregation to go.

—Baptist Bulletin Service



The W. M. U., auxiliary to the Convention, elected a new president for the first time in 10 years. She was Mrs. R. L. Mathis, of Waco, Tex., second from right. Other officers from left to right are Mrs. Wilfred C. Tyler, recording secretary, Blue Mtn., Miss.; Miss Alma Hunt, Birmingham, executive secretary, and Miss Lavenia Neal, Birmingham, treasurer.

Report of Committee on Baptist State Papers

By CHAIRMAN B. J. MURRIE, Carbondale, Ill.

An increase in Baptist growth goes hand in hand with increased circulation of Baptist state newspapers, according to B. J. Murrie, chairman of the committee on Baptist state papers.

"Increase in membership, baptisms, finance, and Baptist work was in direct proportion to the circulation of these Baptist papers," he said. "When the circulation declined or the papers were discontinued, the denomination lost in baptisms, membership, and churches."

"Southern Baptists began to have their greatest growth in numbers, finance, and in all areas of work after the Convention appointed a committee on Baptist state paper circulation and had the late George W. Truett (pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.) to speak for the papers at the Baltimore Convention in 1940," Murrie declared.

Circulation of all Baptist state newspapers then was 192,000; it is near 1,250,000 now.

"The papers," Murrie stated, "do not claim that these gains are solely responsible to the increased circulation. The papers have been the medium through which publicity in evangelism, increased Sunday school enrolment, stewardship, and all Southern Baptist emphases has been carried."

The papers operate on two principles generally — (1) that a democracy progresses in proportion to its informed membership for arriving at intelligent conclusions, and (2) that the papers are the real voice and the recorded action of the denomination rather than the directive of a minority group speaking to the majority.

There are two safeguards on the part of these papers. The first, on the side of their editors, "is the freedom of the press and the right to constructive criticism." For the people, it is the right to use the paper to promote the particular phase of work they are interested in.

"The freedom of thought and speech, with diversity of opinion, through the state papers, has brought Southern Baptists to the greatest unity in the history of any large democracy," Murrie stated.

The committee chairman declared that the change in promotion of the papers from an individual subscriber basis to the wholesale church plan (whereby the church budgets the paper each year for every family in its membership) was the beginning of the greatest advancement in the history of the Southern Baptist Convention, he said. It was the changing point in 150 years of Baptist journalism in the United States.

Problems confronting the papers have to do with size of the Southern Baptist Convention and the rising cost of newspaper production. The Convention is growing, yet at the time when state papers need to grow with it, there is the rising cost of putting out the papers.

Murrie recommended that the committee on Baptist state papers be merged with that on Baptist state papers circulation campaign, of which Louie D. Newton is chairman.

Murrie also recommended wider adoption of the every family plan under which churches budget the paper for every family in their membership.

Baptist Seminaries Report

Southern Seminary

By PRESIDENT DUKE K. MCCALL
Louisville, Kentucky

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary has the largest faculty of any theological school in the world, according to the annual report President Duke K. McCall made to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The seminary at Louisville, Ky., also experienced the largest gain in enrolment of any Southern Baptist institution in the current academic year, McCall continued.

McCall said the seminary needs a new library building costing not less than \$1½ million; additional classrooms, additional office space for faculty, a women's dormitory, 300 student apartments, a small recital auditorium, and a building for its school of sacred music.

Efforts are continuing to endow four chairs, each needing \$250,000 endowment — the A. T. Robertson chair of New Testament interpretation, W. Hersey Davis chair of New Testament interpretation, John A. Broadus chair of preaching, and W. O. Carver chair of missions.

"The curriculum of the school of theology has been revised to include a larger emphasis on biblical, theological, and historical subjects," McCall reported.

Beginning with the 1956-57 school year, the school of religious education will offer a course leading to the doctor of religious education degree and the school of church music will offer a course leading to the degree doctor of sacred music.

Gaines S. Dobbins, first dean of the school of religious education, retired at the close of the 1955-56 school year and J. B. Weatherspoon, another member of the seminary faculty, has reached retirement age but will teach during the 1956-57 year. Dobbins has taught at Southern for 36 years, Weatherspoon for 27.

McCall told of a number of special observances on the Southern Campus during the 1955-56 school year. They included a series of programs under the Lizette Kimbrough McCall Foundation, founder's day, a missions and missionary day. Special speakers were presented during each of the observances.

The absence of tuition charges to students at Southern is in conformity with the pattern of Southern Baptists and the requirements of the seminary's charter, according to its president.

Enrolment during the 1955-56 school year was 1767 compared with 1625 for the preceding school year.

New Orleans Seminary

By PRESIDENT ROLAND Q. LEAVELL
New Orleans, La.

Roland Q. Leavell, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, reported to the Southern Baptist Convention that the seminary's degrees from its school of religious education were accredited last year by the American Association of Schools of Religious Education.

He also said that the school of religious education next September will offer courses toward a doctor's degree in religious education.

The seminary, formerly the Baptist Bible Institute, looks forward to its 40th anniversary in 1957. This is Leavell's 10th report to the annual Southern Baptist Convention as seminary president.

The seminary moved to a new campus on Gentilly Blvd. in New Orleans in 1953. To date, the cost of this new campus is \$4,600,-

000, Leavell said. This does not include 108 student apartments built by Providence Housing Corporation.

The housing corporation bought 5½ acres of the campus and built the student apartments last year. The seminary invested one-third of the cost from money derived from sales of the old campus site. When the debt of the housing corporation has been liquidated, according to Leavell, the apartments will revert to the seminary without cost. The corporation also is building 48 additional apartments under the same plan. This brings total available apartments to 271.

Leavell said present enrolment demands 100 additional student apartments, a chapel, doubling the size of the existing children's building, a 100-capacity addition to the men's dormitory, three more faculty residences, an alumni center, a building for the seminary's school of Christian training, and much paving.

Endowment is a great need of New Orleans Seminary, he said. The current endowment is \$306,000. With an enrolment of 1,000, the Seminary will need not less than \$4½ million. Present enrolment is 856 with a good prospect the 1,000 figure will be reached by the close of summer school.

Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C.

By PRESIDENT S. L. STEALEY

For the first time since Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary was founded in Wake Forest, N. C., in September, 1951, Southern Baptists' youngest theological school will have the full use of its campus facilities when in June Wake Forest College with which the seminary has shared its campus, moves to a new \$20,000,000 campus in Winston-Salem, N. C. President S. L. Stealey told the 99th session of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Reviewing the brief history of the school Stealey also pointed out that for the past five years the Seminary has had the use of only one building and that more than \$1,000,000 will have to be spent for the conversion of the Wake Forest College plant into seminary use. This is in addition to the \$1,600,000 originally agreed to pay for the college property.

Southeastern Seminary reached its record enrolment this year of 459 students. It now has 14 full-time and four part-time professors. An enrolment of approximately 550 is anticipated when the new school term opens Sept. 10.

One new building, a cafeteria, on which construction was scheduled to begin June 1, will cost approximately \$175,000.

Two degrees are now being offered in the field of religious education — the B. D. (bachelor of divinity) and Th. M. (master of theology).

The first new classroom building to be erected at Southern will be a modern nursery and kindergarten to be used in connection with the religious education program.

President Stealey highly praised the fine fellowship which has existed between the administration of Wake Forest College and Southern during these "difficult years" of transition.

Golden Gate Seminary

By HAROLD K. GRAVES, President
Berkeley, Calif.

The report of Golden Gate Seminary continues to be one of growth and expansion. The current session has been marked by our largest record in every area: enrolment,

331; faculty, 17; library books, in excess of 14,000; and graduates, spring 1955, 46.

Dr. Clayton K. Harrop joined our teaching staff at the fall semester in the field of New Testament Interpretation. A graduate of William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., and Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky., he has a background of military and pastoral experience as well.

Two additional faculty members have been added for the fall of 1956 and several who will give part time to teaching. The library staff is being enlarged and a new department of field work has been established.

Some additional classroom and dormitory space is being provided to care for the increased enrolment in our present location. Secular work and adequate family housing continues to make possible the growing enrolment.

Ground was broken for the new campus development Oct. 14, 1955. The grading contract will be completed by early summer. Planting of trees and shrubs and some placement of utilities will follow this year. Working drawings will be completed on the first stage of development in 1957 when construction of buildings should begin. Rising costs make us fearful that it will take in excess of \$2,000,000 beyond the present promised monies to complete the first state of occupancy.

The new seminary campus is across San Francisco Bay from Berkeley, on a peninsula north of Golden Gate Bridge.

The Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' financial plan, is indeed our lifeline. The support of Southern Baptists has led us thus far. In confidence we plan and pray for the future.

Southwestern Seminary

By PRESIDENT J. HOWARD WILLIAMS
Fort Worth, Texas

Southwestern Baptist Seminary is engaged in a local campaign to secure \$1½ million to build 500 living units for married students, its president reported to the Southern Baptist Convention.

J. Howard Williams said the \$1½ million to be raised in Fort Worth, where the school is located, together with the \$1½ million committed by the SBC for capital improvement from 1952 to 1958, will put the seminary "far on our road in the \$5 million building expansion program we have set for our school."

He reported also that a large addition to the seminary's library and the theology wing to its main building are nearing completion. Renovation of the seminary's two oldest buildings was completed at a cost of \$225,000.

During the year just ended, the seminary's enrolment reached 2414, according to Williams.

Southwestern's library, which has passed the 100,000-volume mark, is the largest of its kind west of the Mississippi River and is the 10th largest in the nation. With its new equipment, he said, it can seat more than 700 undergraduates and provide 100 carrels for graduate students.

Southwestern recently acquired the collection of Ernest W. Brown for its library. Brown, of England, is a Baptist deacon and leader in that country who also served the British government. The 9000 volumes which Brown has been collecting over a 60-year period include numerous first editions, rare volumes, and the like, Williams announced.

The seminary also received the private libraries of Jeff D. Ray and J. W. Crowder. These men were connected with the semi-

Report

(Continued from Page 5)

nary for many years.

Needs of the seminary, as described by Williams, are for a larger faculty—"should be twice its present size"—and more per capita income per student. The income per student last year was \$267.11, including the appropriation from the convention of \$149.26 per student.

"The spirit of missions is the lifeblood of Southwestern Seminary," Williams said. The Foreign Mission Board has appointed 50 from the Southwestern campus as missionaries in the past year. There are 338 mission volunteers on campus at present, he added.

Carver School of Missions And Social Work

By PRESIDENT EMILY K. LANSDELL
Louisville, Ky.

Carver School of Missions and Social Work can render a "Distinctive service" in church social work and specialized missionary training for Southern Baptists, its president reported.

Miss Emily K. Lansdell said the school, operated by the Woman's Missionary Union, is supported by the WMU and by the Southern Baptist Convention. The WMU is the Convention's women's auxiliary.

The school last year got \$61,000 from the Cooperative Program, financial plan of the Convention, and \$45,500 through the WMU. It has seven full-time and six part-time faculty members teaching the 112 students enrolled.

Carver planned its first summer school for this summer. Richard Cortright, technical consultant for World Literacy, Inc., and Robert Laubach, professor of journalism at Syracuse University, were to teach in the summer school, offering courses in literary education, linguistics, and the teaching of English as a second language.

Miss Juliette Mather, editor of the WMU magazine, *Royal Service*, was to direct course work in missionary education leadership. Glenn Morris, president of the Baptist seminary in Bangkok, was to lead a seminar in missionary problems. A variety of other courses were to be taught also.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board appointed 22 former Carver School students as missionaries during 1955. They were assigned to mission fields in widely-scattered places in the world.

Report of Commission On American Baptist Theological Seminary

By L. S. SEDBERRY, Nashville
Executive-Secretary-Treasurer

Several committees are studying a proposed merger of American Baptist Theological Seminary with the National Baptist Missionary Training School, it was reported to the Convention by L. S. Sedberry, executive secretary of the Commission on American Baptist Theological Seminary.

The two schools for Negro students are located side-by-side in Nashville, Tenn. The seminary is operated jointly by Southern Baptists and the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., a convention of Negro Baptists. The training school has no connection with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Sedberry reported that Dr. Ralph W. Riley, for 12 years president of the seminary, has resigned that position effective June 1 and will become pastor of a church in Newark, N. J. Riley's successor will be Dr. Victor T. Glass, dean and professor at the seminary, who will have the title of acting pres-

ident. Glass is the first white man to head the seminary.

Enrolment at the seminary for 1956 is 138, including 67 day students, 48 students in the extension department, and 23 taking correspondence courses.

Don't Pass the Church By



The seminary had a deficit as of Dec. 31, 1955, of \$16,407, Sedberry declared. By previous agreement, a deficit limit of \$15,000 had been set. After that the Southern Baptist Commission on American Baptist Theological Seminary was to withhold its monthly contribution until "some satisfactory arrangement was made to care for the deficit."

"No satisfactory arrangement having been made, the Commission has withheld its check for January, 1956," according to Sedberry. The seminary operates on a yearly budget of about \$90,000. Of that \$20,000 comes in from student sources, leaving a balance of \$70,000 to be provided by the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. and the Southern Baptist Convention.

The SBC "agreed to pay the insurance and maintenance on all the buildings and the campus, estimated at \$10,000 per year, and in addition one-half of the operating budget of the seminary, approximately \$35,000." The SBC also pays the salary of the executive secretary of its commission and the expenses involved in operating the commission.

Sedberry said the Negro convention "agreed to pay one-half of the operating budget, in addition to the cost of all furnishings, as per the constitution adopted."

Seminary Extension Department

By LEE GALLMAN
Jackson, Miss., Director

The seminary extension department of the Southern Baptist seminaries presented its report to the Southern Baptist Convention, telling how it has reached students.

The department is a joint venture of the five Convention seminaries. Each of the seminaries contributes \$5,000 to the department for its operation.

The extension department reaches pastors and others desiring religious training who find it impossible to attend an educational institution, according to Gallman.

"Seventy-five centers were operated in the past year in states where the Baptist colleges do not promote a statewide program," he said. "A total of 3315 have enrolled in the extension program and 1721 more are enrolled in correspondence study."

The department staff was increased with two associates joining it during the year: Ray K. Hodge, who will be in charge of work in the Atlantic seaboard area and W. A. Whitten, who will work in the South and Southwest. The division of territory enables the department to supervise centers more closely and to extend its work, Callman declared.

The staff also includes three secretaries and three correspondence instructors. More than 200 teachers and directors are required on the field to carry the local program.

Report of Special Committee On Theological Education

By CHAIRMAN J. W. STORER, Pastor
First Church, Tulsa, Okla.

The special committee on theological education recommended conditionally that the Southern Baptist Convention establish its sixth seminary.

Chairman J. W. Storer, who presented the report, said the conditions are (1) that a suitable site be found, and (2) that the new seminary be financed without impairing existing activities of the Convention.

The committee on theological education also recommended that the Southern Baptist Convention take over control and operation of Carver School of Missions and Social Work, Louisville, Ky., or withdraw support.

The school is located next door to Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and has been operated by the Convention's women's auxiliary, the Woman's Missionary Union. The Convention has contributed support to its operation but has not elected its directors. Under the committee recommendation, the WMU would get out of the institution business by turning Carver over to the Convention including the right to elect trustees, or the WMU would operate Carver without support from the Convention.

The committee on theological education also recommended that the Southern Baptist Convention not allocate a percentage of its annual budget to any agency or institution for which the Convention does not elect trustees or directors.

Storer reports that the committee asks to be continued for another year to determine when the Southern Baptist Convention should establish its sixth seminary and where that seminary should be located.

Report of Education Commission, Nashville, Tenn.

By R. ORIN CORNETT
Executive Secretary

Continued increase in enrolments, growing financial support, a shortage of qualified faculty replacements, and the question of admission of Negroes to Baptist colleges were major developments cited in the annual report of the Education Commission presented to the Southern Baptist Convention by Dr. R. Orin Cornett, executive secretary.

"Enrolments in Southern Baptist colleges and schools reached a record total of 53,682 for 1955-56, surpassing by 3,602 the previous high of 1954-55," Dr. Cornett stated. This does not include 7,722 students in special, non-credit, or extension classes, or 3,135 students enrolled in the seminary extension department.

Enrolments increased 9.5 per cent over 1954-55 in the senior colleges, 4.2 per cent in the junior colleges. Seminary and academy enrolments were practically unchanged, and those of the Bible schools decreased slightly. The overall increase for Southern Baptist colleges was 8.7 per cent, in line with estimates of the national trend.

"The failure of seminary enrolments to increase significantly," said the secretary, "is largely a matter of saturation of facilities. Many qualified students seeking admission could not be accepted, or could not secure housing within a reasonable distance. Many senior colleges have also reached or neared the limit of housing facilities."

For the fifth successive year the enrolments of ministerial students reached a new record total. The 1955-56 total of 10,782, surpassing the 1954-55 figure of 10,454, includes 3,894 in seminaries, 6,448 in colleges, and 440 in academies and Bible schools.

Other Boards and Committees Report

Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

By EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JAMES L. SULLIVAN

"The major Convention responsibility of this Board is in the general field of teaching and training as it aids the churches in their program of mass education," Dr. James L. Sullivan said concerning the 65th annual report of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Board's executive secretary-treasurer named the four basic responsibilities of the Board as: (1) publication of literature, books, and supplies; (2) discovery and development of education and service programs for use in churches; (3) operation of Baptist Book Stores; and (4) operation of summer assemblies at Ridgecrest, N. C., and Glorieta, N. M.

Total net sales for the year were \$19,520,365, an increase of 10 per cent, which enabled the Board to increase its physical assets and reserves and to expand its denominational service program in 1956. Denominational appropriations to aid other work in the Southern Baptist Convention totalled \$1,782,027.

The total circulation of general tracts for the year was 9,631,460, an increase of 1,100,000 over 1954.

Twelve motion pictures, 13 filmstrips, and one hymn slide were released, and 8 motion pictures and 13 filmstrips are scheduled for release in 1956. Five agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention used the film production service of the Board, which was in line with the 1954 action of the Convention. *Missionary to Walker's Garage*, a 1954 release, was named the best religious film of the year by the 1955 Cleveland Film Festival.

Book publishing totalled: 47 titles, first editions, 1,377,497 volumes; 147 titles, reprints, 2,296,356 volumes. Two books reached the 20,000-sales mark in less than a year, and another reached the 20,000 class in slightly more than a year. The children's book program has been reactivated and six books for juveniles will be published this year. The *Baptist Hymnal* was made available Mar. 1 in all Baptist Book Stores. This new hymnal is the one being used by messengers at Southern Baptist Convention sessions.

Grand total distribution of all issues of all periodicals in 1955 was 65,855,363 as compared with 59,664,633 for 1954, a gain of 10.41 per cent. *Home Life*, the Board's family monthly magazine, circulation now exceeds 750,000.

Southern Baptist Historical Commission

By NORMAN W. COX
Executive Secretary

More than 500 Southern Baptists specialists are at work on a definitive *Encyclopedia of Southern Baptists* which is scheduled for publication next year, Dr. Norman W. Cox announced in his annual report of the Southern Baptist Historical Commission.

Dr. Cox, executive secretary of the Historical Commission and editor of the forthcoming encyclopedia, said in his report to the Southern Baptist Convention that during 1955 approximately 3,600 subjects selected for treatment in the encyclopedia were assigned to writers and many of the manuscripts have been prepared. The 500 writers were chosen from those who are most competent for such service. They are working without pay.

The encyclopedia is made possible through the co-operation of all the state Baptist conventions, Southern Baptist agencies, the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, and the Woman's Missionary Union, Convention auxiliary.

Microfilm production by the Historical Commission reached a record high in 1955, the executive secretary reported. As the year ended the commission had a total of 2,179,476 pages of vital Baptist historical film, including all recoverable minutes of local Baptist associations of churches in South Carolina, Illinois and Texas.

The Historical Commission also is arranging to secure microfilm copies of all important Baptist materials from the major libraries of the world.

Special Committee on Baptist Film

By CHAIRMAN LOUIE D. NEWTON
Atlanta

The Convention's special committee on a Baptist film reported that the study of a preliminary script for a film on the subject of religious liberty is under way.

It asked the Convention to keep the committee alive for another year to pursue this study and make a report to the 1957 annual meeting in Chicago.

Dr. Louie D. Newton, chairman, said that other Baptist groups in the United States and elsewhere have shown continued evidence of interest in the film project but that the Southern Baptist Convention special committee has not received any word on actual action taken by these other Baptists.

The film committee was appointed at the annual Convention in St. Louis in 1954 "to consider the advisability and the practicability of producing a film or films on some Baptist personality . . ." After considering many Baptist leaders of history, the special committee took under consideration also the subject of religious liberty.

During the meeting of the Baptist World Congress in London, England, last July, the SBC special film committee met with leaders of the Baptist Union of Britain and Ireland, the Canadian Baptist conventions, and the American Baptist Convention. There was indicated "definite interest" on the part of these leaders, according to Dr. Newton.

Report of Brotherhood Commission Of Southern Baptist Convention

By GEORGE W. SCHROEDER, *Memphis*
Executive Secretary

"The year just past was one of the most outstanding years of advance in the history of the Brotherhood Commission," George W. Schroeder, Commission executive secretary, told the Southern Baptist Convention.

He said there was a 5.8 per cent gain in membership in the Brotherhood organizations in 9,625 churches in the Southern Baptist Convention. Membership reached 289,307 in 1955.

"During the past year the Brotherhood Commission reached a milestone in the quarterly circulation of its major publication, *The Brotherhood Journal*," he continued. For the first time, its circulation went past 100,000 and had reached 110,000.

Progress is continuing in transferred responsibility for Royal Ambassador work from the Woman's Missionary Union to the Brotherhood Commission. This is to be completed by the end of 1957.

The layman's group is planning for a National Conference of Southern Baptist Men

to meet in Oklahoma City Sept. 18-20, 1957. From 8,000 to 10,000 men are expected there. "The program for this Conference," according to Schroeder, "is built around our denominational work and dramatized in such a way that these thousands of men will be sent home with their hearts on fire for the work of the Lord as Southern Baptists are projecting it around the world." 1957 is the 50th anniversary year of the Brotherhood.

Baptist Joint Committee On Public Affairs

By WALTER POPE BINNS
Liberty, Mo., Chairman

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, with offices in Washington, D. C., asked the Southern Baptist Convention to approve a constitution under which the committee will function.

The constitution has been written "clearly within the framework of actions already taken by the sponsoring conventions," according to Committee Chairman Walter Pope Binns.

Six Baptist conventions, one of which is the Southern Baptist Convention, sponsor the Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Binns explained that the organization has, to date, operated under resolutions and official statements of the two originating conventions — the Southern and American Baptist Conventions — and from other Baptist conventions that joined in its support later.

The constitution sets forth the purpose and scope of the Joint Committee. It is to "act in the field of public affairs" whenever the interests or rights of sponsoring conventions call for conference or negotiation with the United States government or other governments. It is also to serve when Baptist principles are involved in or are jeopardized by governmental action and in matters referred to it by sponsoring conventions.

The constitution declares that the Joint Committee on Public Affairs is to "enunciate, commend, and defend the historic Baptist principle of religious freedom with particular application to the separation of church and state as embodied in the Constitution of the United States." It is also to communicate and commend to government authorities and agencies "such declarations as Baptists from time to time officially adopt concerning public matters."

The Joint Committee, according to its constitution, is to make contacts between the government and Baptists on matters of business and is to inform members of its sponsoring conventions of government movements and measures affecting church-state relations and "the right application of Christianity to the life of the nation."

Relief and Annuity Board of S.B.C.

By EXECUTIVE SECRETARY R. ALTON REED
Dallas, Texas

The year 1955 has been one of the most successful years of the Southern Baptist Relief and Annuity Board, the annual report of its executive secretary declared.

R. Alton Reed said assets of the agency at the close of 1955 were over \$42 million. He expected assets to increase another \$8 million during the current year.

The inauguration of new retirement and annuity plans marked 1955. These plans benefit, in addition to ministers, other persons in denominational work. This especially pertains to persons employed by various denominational boards and agencies.

During the year, the Relief and Annuity Board also surveyed the need for a hospital-

(Continued on Page 8)

Report

(Continued from Page 7)

zation insurance program for the more than 22,000 ministers of Southern Baptist churches. A sample of 1500 ministers — including various salary levels, ages and size churches — was taken. In addition to asking them about hospital insurance, the Board also asked their interests in a ministers' group insurance plan and a systematic monthly savings plan.

There were 1129 replies; 66 per cent already had hospitalization coverage, but 46 per cent said they would be interested in a hospital plan sponsored by the R&A Board; 73½ per cent were interested in taking part in a group insurance plan and 53 per cent in the systematic savings plan.

Full effects of the government's offering social security coverage to ministers has not been felt yet, Reed said. However, he reported that some Baptist ministers cancelled their denominational retirement participation after going on social security coverage. The R&A Board takes the position that social security does not replace the denomination's program but supplements it.

Reed said there is a large number of people who are eligible for participation in Southern Baptist retirement plans who are not taking part. An effort is being made to interest these people in the plans.

Two associate secretaries joined the staff of the Board during 1955. They are L. Taylor Daniel, who is in charge of gift annuities and relief, and Floyd R. Chaffin, who is director of public relations.

Southern Baptist Hospital Board, New Orleans, La.

By FRANK TRIPP
Executive Secretary

Opening of Baptist Memorial Hospital of Jacksonville, Fla., admission of a record number of patients at Southern Baptist Hospital of New Orleans, La., and allocation of \$312,100 grants to the two hospitals by the Ford Foundation are highlighted in the annual report of the Southern Baptist Hospital Board presented by Dr. Frank Tripp, executive secretary-superintendent.

The Hospital Board is making no recommendation concerning the proposed teaching hospital in Alhambra, Calif., since the group in that state, which originally suggested the project, has not yet met the conditions under which first approval was given by the Convention in Miami last year, according to Dr. Tripp. The Miami Convention gave first approval to the proposed hospital with the understanding that Baptists in California would provide a suitable site and \$2,000,000 in cash with which to begin construction.

"The year ended last Dec. 31 was in many respects the very best in the history of Southern Baptist hospitals," Dr. Tripp reports. "At the New Orleans institution, 38,422 persons received some kind of care during the year. Of this number 20,481 were admitted as bed patients, 13,918 were 'out patients' and 4,023 were new born infants. All three figures establish new records."

The newest Southern Baptist Hospital, Baptist Memorial Hospital of Jacksonville, opened to receive patients on Sept. 13 and has been well received by the community.

Near the close of the year, the Ford Foundation announced a grant of \$246,700 to the Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans,



along with grants to other hospitals in the United States. A grant of \$65,400 to the Jacksonville institution was announced subsequently, since the original grants were based on 1954 figures, and the Jacksonville hospital, at that time was not in operation.

Other grants were made to the two hospitals, according to Dr. Tripp, and will be used for research at Jacksonville and continued modernization of the plant at New Orleans.

The Damon Runyon Memorial Fund for Cancer Research gave \$4,000 to the Baptist Memorial Hospital of Jacksonville and \$4,728 was given by the National Institute of Health. Southern Baptist Hospital in New Orleans received \$40,000 from the Libby-Dufour Foundation for modernization and an additional \$25,000 was willed to the New Orleans hospital by the late R. C. Bynum and will be used to assist with remodeling of the first buildings which were constructed in 1926.

Both hospitals are in sound financial shape and are retiring existing debts on schedule, Dr. Tripp declared.

1955 in Retrospect

J. P. EDMUNDS, Secretary
Department of Survey, Statistics
and Information
Baptist Sunday School Board

Baptist historians will record the decade 1945-55 as a decade of unparalleled growth. During that period Southern Baptist churches baptized an average of 6,663 persons per week, and gained 2,609,187 in membership. This ten-year gain was more than our total church membership in 1914, after sixty-nine years of Southern Baptist history.

During this period Southern Baptist Sunday School enrolment increased 3,115,558, or 88.4 per cent. And still more impressive, was our Training Union growth of 240 per cent while our church property increased 379 per cent. No other denomination can match this record.

In 1955 Southern Baptist churches reported an average of 8,000 baptisms per week, for a record of 416,867 for the year. They also reported a net gain of nine new churches for every week of 1955. A total of 45,658 revivals were reported, and the mobility of our people

Convention Audience, Kansas City, Mo.



was expressed in the 542,348 additions to the churches by letter. Total gifts through the churches reached an all-time high of \$333 million, of which the Cooperative Program received \$35,717,000, an increase of approximately \$4 million over 1954. A total of 1,013,973 tithers were reported, approximately one of every eight Southern Baptists.

While Southern Baptists now have 30,377 churches, 8,321 have fewer than one hundred members; 22,531 fewer than three hundred members; and 26,344 fewer than five hundred members. Only 1,329 churches have more than one thousand members.

The 1956 Southern Baptist Handbook (not to be confused with the Convention Annual) gives complete statistics, by states and location of churches, on all phases of Southern Baptist work. Graphic illustrations and charts interpret these statistics and provide source material for messages and sermons. The individual records of more than 2,500 selected churches are carried; also a section on other religious groups, and latest statistical information on population trends, crime, beverage alcohol, and other facts of

interest. The Handbook is available at all Baptist Book Stores.

W.M.U. Votes For Transfer Of School

The Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention, cleared the way Monday for full Southern Baptist Convention control and support of Carver School of Missions and Social Work, Louisville.

In annual session the women's group, by unanimous action, voted to make necessary changes in the bylaws of W. M. U. to transfer the school from W. M. U. to Southern Baptist Convention ownership and operation.

Heretofore, the Southern Baptist Convention has contributed annually to operating costs of Carver School, but Woman's Missionary Union has retained full control.

The following recommendations of the W. M. U. executive board were adopted by the women:

1. That a committee from W. M. U. be appointed to formulate necessary changes in the bylaws of W. M. U. in regard to the Carver School of Missions and Social Work and sub-

mit these for consideration by the Executive Board of W. M. U. at its January, 1957, session and thereafter for publication in *Royal Service* and for adoption by W. M. U. at the 1957 annual session.

2. That the same or another committee be appointed to work with the Southern Baptist Convention's theological committee in the details of the transfer of the school to the Convention.

3. That this committee explore ways in which W. M. U. can fulfill its trust in certain funds and properties now held by W. M. U. for the Carver School of Missions and Social Work, safeguarding the purpose for which these funds and properties were given and also allowing flexibility within the framework of this purpose as the school continues to grow and adjust to changing needs and situations. The committee will report to the January, 1957, session of the Executive Board, and the matter will be submitted for consideration at the 1957 annual session.

Report of Southern Baptist Foundation, Nashville, Tenn.

Executive Secretary T. L. Holcomb of the Southern Baptist Foundation announced his retirement from the Foundation effective June 1.

He reported he plans to become associate pastor of Lakewood Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex., where his son, Luther Holcomb, is pastor.

Holcomb became executive secretary of the Foundation June 1, 1953, after retiring as executive secretary of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn.

This is his 21st annual report to the Southern Baptist Convention for an agency of the Convention. He made reports for the Sunday School Board for 18 years and for the past three, made them for the Foundation. In addition, in 1934, he preached the annual Convention sermon. This was the year before he went to the Sunday School Board.

"The year 1955," for which Holcomb is reporting, "was marked by the steady progress," he said. The Foundation entered its 10th anniversary year — 1956 — with "a record of accuracy, promptness, and Christian courtesy." The future, according to Holcomb, "grows brighter and more promising."

Nearly every other agency and institution of the Southern Baptist Convention has placed trust funds with the Foundation to be invested. Total assets of the Foundation on Dec. 31, 1955, were \$1,873,069. There also are many individual accounts.

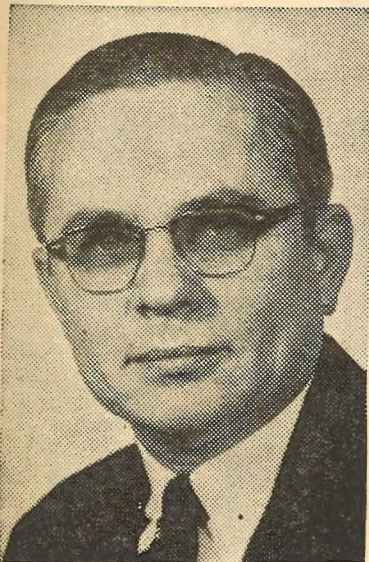
(Since Dec. 31, when the year ended on which this report is based, the Foundation has received additional trust funds from SBC agencies and schools. This enabled it to surpass its 10th anniversary goal of \$2 million in total assets.)

Holcomb said it was "fortunate" the 10-year growth of the Foundation has been gradual. "It takes time for an organization handling the life savings of people to prove its integrity of purpose and performance. We are glad to report that nothing has occurred since the Foundation was authorized by the Southern Baptist Convention (in 1946) that would reflect unfavorably."

A "very successful" conference was held in Nashville last December under the theme "The Ministry of Baptist Foundations," Holcomb declared. Many of the executive secretaries of Baptist foundations located in state conventions affiliated with the SBC were present then. The conference helped foundation officers feel they are "members of a great Christian team."

—Baptist Press

Seminary Professor



DR. T. L. DELAUGHTER

A separate school within New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary was authorized by the trustees at their last annual meeting. It is called School of Christian Training.

Considerable progress has been made toward getting it well established. As of January 7, 1956, its Director began work. For this position Dr. Thomas J. DeLaughter, pastor at Pascagoula, Miss., and a Th.D. graduate of New Orleans Seminary, was chosen. His post as the head of the School of Christian Training, is on par with Dr. John M. Price, Jr., Director of School of Religious Education; and with Dr. W. Plunkett Martin, Director of the School of Sacred Music; and with the directorship of the School of Theology (filled by President Roland Q. Leavell, ably assisted by Dr. J. Wash Watts, Dean of Students).

Providence Church Receives 15

Missionary Jesse Reed was with Pastor Walter Jesser and Providence Church, Washington-Madison Asso., in an evangelistic campaign recently. There were 15 additions on profession of faith and baptism and one by letter. There were two other professions. Hugh Martin, church music director, led the singing with Mrs. Edith Mayes accompanying at the organ and Miss Margaret Gillum at the piano.

Pastor Jesser reports that the Providence Church has baptized 27 this year, a ratio of approximately 4.1 of the membership at the beginning of the year, and 11 others have come by letter. He states: "The church is now working with the Board of Church Architecture of the Sunday School Board in planning a future building program to take care of the increased Sunday school enrollment. We hope to have the building under way by this fall."

Eppinette Leaves Altheimer

L. D. Eppinette has resigned the pastorate of First Church, Altheimer. He served the Altheimer church for more than three years. During that time there were approximately 100 additions to the church. Gifts to the Cooperative Program were increased; an educational building was constructed; and improvements were made on the main church building and pastor's home.

Mr. Eppinette is available for supply work or revivals. He may be contacted at Altheimer or in care of P. D. Hollis, Bearden.

Pastoral Changes

C. Phelan Boone has resigned the pastorate of Hickory Grove Church, Harmony Association, to accept the Tinsman Church, Carey Association.

H. J. Adkins is the new pastor of South Side Church, Fordyce.

Hulbert Revival

The revival meeting at Hulbert Church, West Memphis, May 27-June 1, resulted in 7 additions on profession of faith and baptism. Henry Wood, pastor of Old Town Church near Elaine was the evangelist. A Vacation Bible School was held with an enrolment of 85. Ed Connelly is pastor of the Hulbert Church.

Goodson at Russellville

Felix Goodson is the new music director at First Church, Russellville. He has just completed a year's study in the School of Church Music, Southern Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky.

Mr. Goodson was born at Ola and has made his home in Harrison and Bellefonte in recent years. He was mayor of Bellefonte at the time he gave up his insurance business and entered the Church Music School in Louisville.

Mr. Goodson has been active in community and civic affairs in his home town for several years. He has served the First Church of Harrison as music director. He also has been active in Sunday school, Brotherhood, and various other forms of church activity.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred R. Major, Southern Baptist missionaries to South Brazil, have returned to the States on emergency leave due to the illness of Mrs. Major. They may be addressed at Box E, Elaine, Ark., where they make their permanent American home. Mrs. Major, formerly Sarah E. Myatt, is a native of Modoc, Ark.

A small trouble is like a pebble. Hold it too close to your eye and it fills the whole world and puts everything out of focus. Hold it at proper viewing distance and it can be examined and properly classified. Throw it at your feet and it can be seen in its true setting, just one more tiny bump on the pathway to eternity.

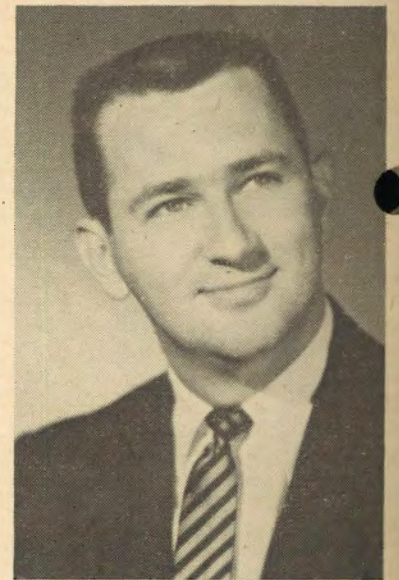
—Celia Luce, Argonaut

Baptist Student Choir Concludes Tour

The Arkansas Baptist Student Choir, directed by Richard Essman of Arkansas State College and accompanied by Betty Ann Holloway of Ouachita, has just returned from a week at the annual Baptist Student Retreat at Ridgecrest, North Carolina. The 45 voice choir sang on the program of the southwide student retreat, and the choir made stops at Bauxite, Little Rock, Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, and Brownsville, Tennessee.

Seventy Arkansas Baptist students attended Student Week at Ridgecrest. There the students were privileged to hear such outstanding speakers as Frank Laubach, H. Guy Moore, Brooks Hays, Eric Rust, Ruth Wick, Chester Swor, Robert Hingson, Roy McClain, George Schweitzer, Paul Stevens, and Stewart Newman.

John Bruce Keith, a Ouachita student from Malvern, presided at the state meetings which the Arkansas students had each night after services. Dale Jones of the University of Arkansas was in charge of devotionals at the retreat and on the journey. Bill Osment of Arkansas Tech planned the social activities. An Arkansas student, Miss Jerry Carter of Ouachita, served as violinist during Chester Swor's morning de-



RICHARD ESSMAN

votionals.

Student directors attending the retreat were Jamie Jones of University of Arkansas, Naoma Clifton of Arkansas A & M, Neil Jackson of Arkansas Tech, James Smalley of Arkansas State Teachers College, and Joel Bruner of Southern State College.

Tom J. Logue
Student Director

Baptist Memorial Hospital Graduates 58 Nurses

Fifty-eight students from nine states received diplomas from Baptist Memorial Hospital's School of Nursing in Memphis, June 7. Graduation exercises were held at First Baptist Church there.

Dr. Prentis W. Chunn, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Marcos, Texas, was the principal speaker. Diplomas were awarded by Dr. Paul A. Wieland, president of the hospital's board of trustees and pastor of First Baptist Church, Trenton, Tennessee.

Three awards were presented to outstanding seniors by Frank S. Groner, administrator. Dr. S. Fred Strain, president of the medical

staff, brought greetings from that group.

Graduates from Arkansas were: Patricia Autrey, West Ridge. Wilma Boyd, Paragould. Jean Chrestman, Dyess. Betty Clement, Corning. Elizabeth May Cockrell, Clarendon.

Margaret Ann Foster, Batesville. Helen Jarrett, Marvell. Mary Jane Morrow, Yellville. Jimmie Shankles, North Little Rock.

Helen Joyce Tatum, Forrest City.

Bobbie Jean Vaden, North Little Rock.



Our Mission Program Must Be Rural and Urban

The mission program of Arkansas Baptists must be both rural and urban if we continue to increase in number and prosper as a denomination. The fact that there is a shift of population from the rural areas to the larger towns and cities is no indication that our mission program should no longer be rural. We must, of course, recognize the need of a mission program for the fast growing towns and cities, but we cannot do away with one field of mission work as we increase our interest in other areas. Both are important and essentially necessary to our Baptist constituency. It is true that many of the small churches do not show any increase in number year after year. Some may feel that if a church does not grow and become a strong church, both numerically and financially, it is not important in our Baptist life.

Church Builders

We must keep in mind that the rural churches are feeders to the town and city churches. Many are evangelized in the country, and then utilized in the cities. Many of our young people begin their Christian service in a rural church, but will later establish their homes in city areas. The fact that the church does not get the benefit of their services in the Lord's work does not mean that their services were not accomplished in the church which led them to Christ. The church that meets them with the gospel may never get the benefit of their financial support nor service from their many talents; but if the Kingdom of our Lord gets their money and service in some larger church, why should anyone feel that mission money used in establishing the church or keeping it alive was in vain?

I heard about some Arkansas people who left a small, weak, discouraged church to move to Spokane, Washington. It was there that they helped to establish a Baptist church and later their church went out into other areas and established two mission stations. What if that little, weak church here in Arkansas had ceased to have services? Those people who moved to Washington may have gone as some other religious denomination, and we would not have had that church and missions. I know, personally, a Texan who was reared in Arkansas and converted in one of our country churches. Today, he is a great leader in Baptist affairs, spending much money for the freedom in the state of Texas. There is no way to estimate the value of mission funds dispersed in the interest of rural missions.

In the 1951 Southern Baptist Handbook are found some very interesting facts in regard to the rural churches within the bounds of our Southern Baptist Conven-

tion. We quote to you these facts to keep the record straight as to the growth and condition of the rural situation in our Southern Baptist area.



"There are now 23,146 churches which would fall within the classification of rural (open country, village, and town). There were 22,043 rural churches in 1923. A total of 39.7 per cent of the rural churches now report the pastor living on the field compared with only 29.9 per cent in 1923. In 1923, a total of 13,386 of the rural churches had fewer than 100 members. In 1950, only 5,846 of these churches had fewer than 100 members. In 1923, only 76.5 per cent had their own church houses; while 95.3 per cent owned their houses in 1950. Only 77.2 per cent had Sunday schools in 1923; in 1950, 95.6 per cent reported Sunday schools. Only 36.4 per cent had some WMU organization in 1923. In 1950, 48.1 per cent reported WMU organizations. Only 27.2 per cent had B.Y.P.U. Today, 50.2 per cent report a Training Union."

We must also keep in mind that there should be a mission program in the urban areas to reach the people as they move into these fast growing communities. Unless something is done by our denomination to help secure a location, build a building, and establish a mission or church within reach of the people, we are going to lose them to other churches and denominations. We must maintain both a rural and urban mission program!

Department of Missions
C. W. Caldwell, Supt.

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Headquarters for
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Percent of Churches With Training Unions By States

Southern Baptist Convention	69.8
Alabama	70.7
Alaska	90.0
Arizona	93.8
Arkansas	82.1
California	93.6
District of Columbia	98.0
Florida	85.8
Georgia	67.3
Hawaii	94.1
Illinois	60.8
Kansas	91.9
Kentucky	49.4
Louisiana	88.1
Maryland	81.2
Mississippi	77.4
Missouri	66.0
New Mexico	84.6
North Carolina	58.7
Ohio	73.0
Oklahoma	81.1
Oregon-Washington	93.3
South Carolina	79.7
Tennessee	58.3
Texas	82.4
Virginia	56.6
Mexican	

You will notice that with the exception of the newer states in the west that Arkansas ranks right at the top with only a few states ahead of Arkansas. Only two states east of the Mississippi have a higher percentage of churches with Training Unions.

During April, 1956, there were 4,678 Training Union study course awards issued in Arkansas. Only one month (August, 1949) has this number been exceeded.

FIVE-IN-ONE WORKSHOPS

Five big workshops — Second Baptist Church, Little Rock, Tuesday morning and afternoon, September 25 — will be for all who work in Nursery, Beginner, Primary, Junior or Intermediate Departments. This will be the HOW meeting of the year. There will be five separate workshops going on at the same time.

The following leaders from the Sunday School Board, assisted by

our state-approved workers, will direct the workshops:
Nursery—Florrie Anne Lawton
Beginner—Nora Padgett
Primary—LaVerne Ashby
Junior—Frances Whitworth
Intermediate — Versil Crenshaw

Each of these workers is head of his department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. Pastors, Training Union Directors, and Educational Directors should plan to bring their workers to this one-day state workshop. Registration fee will be 50 cents.

Training Union Dept.
Ralph W. Davis, Secretary
Robert A. Dowdy, Associate

—00—

Seminary Teacher

Joseph W. Bartlett has been assigned as the first sacred music teacher in New Orleans Seminary's SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN TRAINING. He will lead in the training of ministers of music, church pianists and organists, and other workers called into the field of religious service through music, but who are not college graduates. Providing such persons with the best possible preparation is the objective of the new School of Christian Training.

Mr. Bartlett is exceptionally well qualified to render just this service. He is an experienced evangelist, both as preacher and as singer. He has witnessed far and wide with his rich, strong bass voice. He has held several fruitful pastorates. Prior to this change of assignment, he was serving as Assistant Professor of Voice and Hymnology in the School of Sacred Music. Mr. Bartlett holds degrees in both religious education and sacred music, and has taught eight years at New Orleans Seminary.

—Robert C. Buckner

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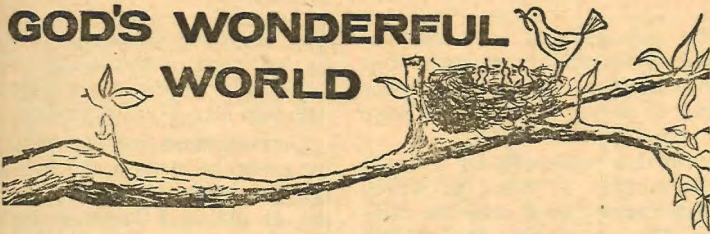


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615 MAIN LITTLE ROCK

Children's Page

GOD'S WONDERFUL WORLD



A storm at sea is a memorable experience to men at the controls of ships. A sea captain once described hurricane waves as "a band of wild horses running blindly into whatever lies in their path!"



Strangely, down, not too far below the ocean surface there is no storm. Only a perpetual quiet. All wave motion dies away. It's difficult to imagine, isn't it? The quiet that exists deep down below the ocean surface — and the terrifying surface waves riding headlong over each other.

Although sunlight penetrates some distance down into ocean water, there is no light in the deepest part of

the ocean. The temperature is only a few degrees above freezing, and the weight of the water is terrific!

No plant life exists in the deep, cold darkness of the ocean, and only a few sea animals live in the deepest ocean spots.

During a storm at sea, when the waves pound like huge fists, fishes and other sea animals retreat to the quiet deep ocean for safety. When the storm is over and the sea is peaceful, the animals come to the surface, or near the surface, where they feed on smaller fishes.

In Psalms 107, we read: "(The waves) — mount up to the heaven,—. "He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still."

Note: If you have a question that you want answered about God's wonderful world, send it to God's Wonderful World, c/o Baptist Press, 127 9th Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn.

"Hold A Hobby Show"

By HAROLD GLUCK

We had a Hobby Show last week at our school. The librarian was kind enough to set aside a section of the library for the display of different hobbies. Any student was eligible to display his or her hobby. Hobbies were divided into the following classifications: 1. Things you collect. 2. Things you make. 3. Things you do. It was also agreed that there would be a winner in each of the three classifications.

One boy who was an Amateur Radio Operator brought his equipment to school and showed how it was used. Then several boys who were stamp collectors displayed pages of stamps from different countries. One girl collected gift wrappings and had a display of all kinds of papers used to wrap packages. Another girl had a large collection of birthday cards and get well cards. Many of these were illustrated and had pleasant sayings on them. One boy had made a collection of minerals which were mounted on boards. Underneath each mineral was the name.

There was one hobby with a demonstration that always had a

full audience. This particular boy was a Yo-Yo champion and he displayed his agile ability with that toy. A girl who wanted to be an artist had on display all her drawings and paintings.

You can hold a similar hobby show sponsored by your Sunday school class. Select a committee of judges, 3 or 4 adults or young people, to judge the show for the best hobby. If you desire a small prize can be given for the best hobby.

Put posters up in the classrooms telling about the hobby show and invite other boys and girls to participate.

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BABY BROTHER

By ELSIE SIMON

I have a baby brother
He's sweet as he can be,
I wish that he were able
To run and play with me.
While he's growing bigger
I think it only fair,
That I should try to help him
With lots of love and care.

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Blanche Needs A Lesson

By GLADYS CLEONE CARPENTER

"I'm going to the library," Carl told his sister, Blanche, after school. "I want to get some books for Grandma Reader. Want to go?"

"No," Blanche answered. After he was gone, she said to herself, "I should think he'd get tired of getting so many books for Grandma Reader."

Later Carl asked Blanche to go with him to a friend's home. "I'm going to help Pauline bandage her puppy's paw."

But Blanche had rather stay at home. And she grumbled to herself that Carl was always helping Pauline with her pets.

After dinner that evening, Carl announced that he was going to Mary's home to take her Sunday

school paper to her because she hadn't been in Sunday school the day before.

"She's always missing Sunday school," Blanche complained.

"But she doesn't want to. She couldn't help it," Carl declared.

"I suppose not," Blanche agreed. "But I should think you'd get tired of always taking her paper to her."

"No, I like to," Carl declared. "I'll tell her all about yesterday and we'll talk about next week's lesson."

"I must study it, too. What's it about?" Blanche asked.

And Carl answered: "Let us not be weary in well doing."

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SAVE 25% ON WORD RELIGIOUS RECORDINGS

Yes, during this special Baptist Book Store "month of June" sale, you can purchase five LP religious albums valued at \$24.90 for only \$18.95.

And here's still better news—if you purchase five or more of these albums, you get your choice of a 10 inch LP album at no additional cost.

Your favorite gospel hymns, wedding songs, and spirituals as sung and played by many of America's best-loved recording artists are available on these 33 1/2 RPM albums. Below are just a few of the many popular albums being offered to you at a 25% reduction in price.

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With orchestra and pipe organ accompaniment

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I Need Thee Every Hour
The Nail Scarred Hand

For All My Sin
What Will You Do with Jesus
Saved by Grace
Why Do I Sing about Jesus

W-2014-LP LONGING FOR JESUS Sale Price, \$2.89
Sung by Dick Baker with organ and quartet accompaniment

Longing for Jesus
I Walk with the King
Heartaches
I May Never Pass This Way Again

Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen
He Bought My Soul at Calvary
Stand by Me
When He Reached Down His Hand

W-3004-LP FRANK BOGGS SINGS FOR YOU Sale Price \$3.74
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Battle Hymn of the Republic
Swing, Low, Sweet Chariot
Wonderful Peace
Bless This House
Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen
Amazing Grace

I Wonder As I Wander
The Church in the Wildwood
The Prayer Perfect
Softly and Tenderly
America the Beautiful
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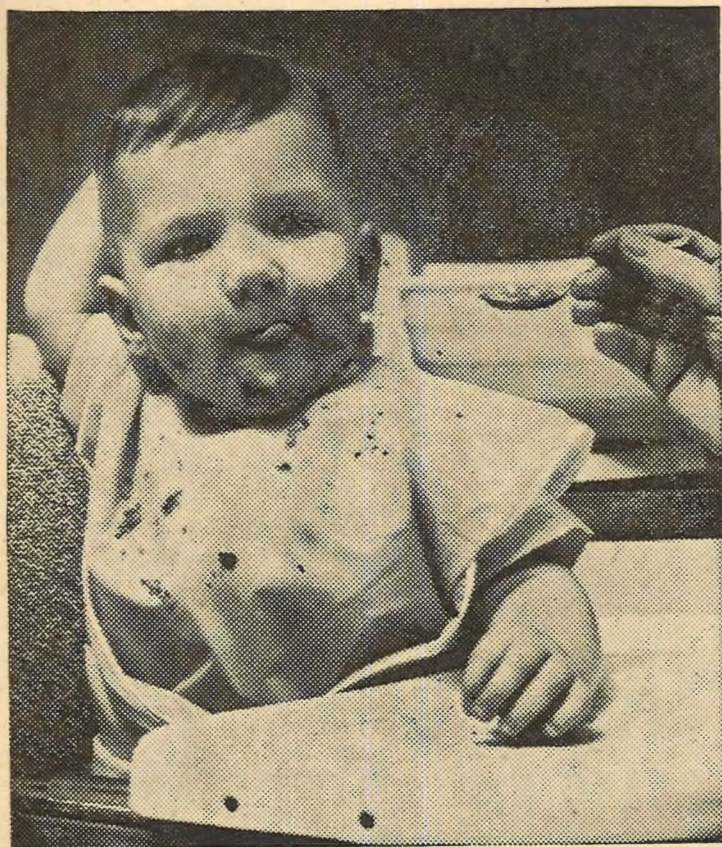
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A picture of a man who owns the Electric Companies

Year-old Alexander Maier is one of the newest of the 94 million owners of America's independent electric light and power companies.

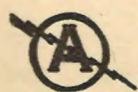
Alexander's father has bought his son seven shares of stock in their local power company as a first-year birthday present. This makes young Alexander one of about 4 million *direct* owners who hold securities of the electric companies.

Alexander's *grandfather* just opened a savings account in the youngster's name. This makes him one of more than 90 million Americans who are *indirect* owners through their bank savings, insurance premiums or pension funds. Banks, insurance companies and pension fund trustees put much of this money to work in the securities of electric companies.

Some people would have the federal government take over all of the power companies. But isn't there a real danger in a single federal power monopoly—rather than in 400 independent electric light and power companies owned by more than 94 million people?

Arkansas

POWER & LIGHT



HELPING BUILD ARKANSAS

Company

Giving to Missions Intelligent, Satisfying

By FORREST C. FEEZOR

The responsibility is clearly established by the Scriptures that each Christian is to spread the gospel to areas that do not have it.

From this responsibility there is no exemption. A point at which all can comply is to pray for missions. We are commanded "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest." Some can comply by going and giving the message.

A third channel open to nearly all, if not all, is giving money. Many are now giving. The question emerges "How can more money for missions be secured?"

There are three factors that determine whether an individual will give to an enterprise: (1) The reason for the gift must be intelligent. (2) The appeal must stir the emotion; it must touch the heart. (3) The appeal must disturb the conscience.

To secure more money for missions, these three factors must be put in operation. How? First, the people must be informed as to needs. Mission clinics, mission schools, mission conferences, world mission convocations will serve as channels of information, letting people know about the needs.

I know of a wealthy woman

who is giving thousands of books to seminary libraries on foreign fields. She began when a missionary told her of the need.

Second, this information must be given in such a manner as to stir the heart. The greatest example of giving I know is recorded in Exodus 35:4-29. The circumstances were these: God told Moses He wanted a Tabernacle in which to meet the people. Moses convened the people and explained God's desire. The people went away to return with their gifts. They brought so much they had to be restrained from giving.

The record is in verse 21, "And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and every one whom his spirit made willing, and they brought the Lord's offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments."

Before more money is given for world missions, ways and means must be devised to have "stirred hearts and willing spirits." Nothing will do this like the message of the missionary fresh from the field of need. His appeal must be intelligent, emotional and directed to the conscience.

—Baptist Press

One Has Asked

"Should a sinner pray for himself and will a sinner's prayer be answered?"

Jesus taught that we ought always to pray (Luke 18:1), and the word of God holds out every encouragement that prayers are answered (Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21; Rom. 10:13).

In Philippians 4:6, Paul tells the Philippian brethren, "Be careful for nothing; but in all things by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known unto God." True, this passage is directed to persons in the church at Philippi, but one statement in it, "Let your requests be made known unto God," applies to all men.

Certainly, if a sinner has no request to make of God, he has no prayer to pray. He is like the

Pharisee who "prayed thus with himself," thanking God for his own personal high status and reminding God of his own several special goodnesses. The publican at the same time, having a deep conviction of need, boasting no worthiness, pleading for mercy, had his prayer answered.

But you say, "Is it not stated that, 'we know that God heareth not sinners?'" Yes, but that statement was in reply to the charge that Jesus was an imposter, that He, Jesus, was against God and in opposition to Moses. Certainly, if one seeks God's help to carry out a purpose opposed to God, God will not hear him.

We need only to go on with the rest of the statement to which you refer, "But if any man be a worshipper of God and doeth his will, him he heareth." (Jno. 9:31) The publican was a worshipper of God when he turned to God's temple to pray. He was doing God's will when in penitence he pleaded for mercy. "For God is longsuffering to usward not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9b).

This day's greatest need is that sinners call on the name of the Lord and be saved. Result: new men, a new world.

—W. B. O'Neal
Batesville, Arkansas

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Ambassador in Bonds

By BURTON A. MILEY

Why do active Christians suffer? If one is in God's work should he not be clothed in protective armor? Should he not be unmuned to prisons, to persecutions and famines? Dr. William Wallace, who gave his life in foreign mission work, died in a Communist prison. Adoniram Judson saw days unpleasant to recount. Dr. Theron Rankin was in internment camp for a long while. Why should these men suffer for the cause of Christ to which they were publicly dedicated?

Paul returned to Jerusalem where he reported his third missionary journey (Acts 21:17-25). Paul seemed to publicly associate himself with the temple even after his missionary tours. Out-of-town Jews from Asia saw Paul in the temple and seized him. This incited a riot which resulted in his arrest. Paul did not escape imprisonment as others after him have endured for the cause. The lesson today deals with the Ambassador in Bonds. The last eight chapters of Acts cover the five years of Paul's life when he was a Roman prisoner. One wonders why these chapters do not report more of church progress and less of Paul's personal life. One reason is that Luke, the writer, was with Paul and knew his condition first hand. Paul's imprisonment resulted in his bearing witness to people to whom in normal course of events he would have never spoken the Christian testimony. He witnessed to two governors, one king, and in the imperial palace at Rome and to an unknown number of soldiers.

BEFORE FELIX

Paul was taken prisoner in Jerusalem. There was a plot by unscrupulous Jews to take his life. He was removed under guard by night for safe keeping to Caesarea (Acts 23:23-24). There he was under the province of Felix, governor of the area. Five days later a company including the High Priest and a lawyer, named Tertullus, came to make charge against Paul. The lawyer spoke with a flare of oratory. Three charges were filed. First, Paul was charged with being a pestilent fellow, a seditious among the Jews. Next, he was cited as a "ringleader" of the sect of the Nazarenes. The third charge was that he had gone about to profane the temple. Paul acknowledged the second accusation but denied the first and the third. The result was that Felix dismissed Paul to await further developments. Felix's wife, Drusilla, a Jewess, also heard Paul at another time. Paul's testimony for righteousness, temperance and judgment to come caused Felix to tremble and Paul was dismissed once again. Felix had hoped that there would be bribe money com-

Sunday School Lesson

June 17, 1956

Acts 26:2-8, 19-23

ing to him. If so, then he would free Paul. Corruption in high places is not of modern origination.

BEFORE FESTUS AND AGRIPPA

Paul was kept in prison two years under Felix. Felix was replaced with Festus. After he became governor, Festus went up to Jerusalem. The High Priest and chief Jews informed him of Paul and asked the favor that he would send Paul to Jerusalem. The motive was that they had hoped to ambush Paul. Festus countered their proposal with the request that witnesses come down to Caesarea and establish their case.

Festus called Paul to judgment on his return to Caesarea. The Jerusalem Jews stood round about giving grievous complaints against Paul which they could not prove. Paul testified that he had done nothing against the Jews nor the temple. Neither had he done anything against Caesar. Festus, willing to play the Jews for profit, asked Paul if he would go to Jerusalem. At this point Paul exercised the right of his Roman citizenship and appealed to the imperial court at Rome. This request was relief to Festus who was anxious to get rid of the case which seemed to have neither political expediency nor final settlement.

However, before Paul was dispatched to Rome, King Herod Agrippa came to visit Festus and desired to hear Paul. Paul was brought in before King Agrippa and Festus along with Bernice, Agrippa's sister. Festus acknowledged that he had no reasonable charge against the prisoner to forward to Rome. King Agrippa gave Paul the opportunity to speak. His speech is a classic oration on the Christian faith. He reviewed his life as an antagonist and persecutor of the Christian cause. He gave the record of his conversion. He spoke of Christ being raised from the dead and showing light unto the Gentiles. At this point Festus interrupted him with the charge that his much learning had made him mad. King Agrippa was appealed to upon the ground that he knew Jewish customs and knew the truth of which Paul spoke. Paul asked "Believest thou the prophets?" Without waiting for an answer he gave his own reply, "I know that thou believest." This agitated King Agrippa to the point that he said "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

This does not mean that Agrippa was on the verge of becoming a believer. Rather it carries the idea that Agrippa in half irony and sarcasm said to Paul, "Do you believe that you will cause me to become a Christian?" Paul replied, "I would to God that not only thou but also all they that hear me this day were both almost and altogether such as I am except for these bonds," and so concluded the testimony of the ambassador in bonds.

"God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform" and one never knows the full extent of God's dealings. It does not seem right that Paul should have suffered the imprisonment, confinement, and persecution which fell his lot. However, it is only the imperfect sentimental knowledge of man that would conclude that it was unjust for Paul to suffer in such manner. The wisdom of God saw the suffering to be a furtherance of the gospel and afforded privilege that no peaceful existence would ever have provided. One is reminded of the words of Christ, "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my name's sake" (Matthew 5:11).

PRACTICAL LESSONS

Every believer has had an experience. One is not excused from bearing witness because he does not know the Bible. He can always tell his experience. Lack of knowledge of church policy and doctrine is not a valid excuse for silence. Another's experience may be less glamorous than Paul's. It should be as real to him as that of Paul. One experience in belief challenges another to believe. Have you ever told your experience to another.

Each should assimilate suffering. Flowers have been called the poor man's gems. Suffering can be the saint's purification. He must know how to assimilate suffering. To rebel against it, to assume martyrdom because of it or to hold harsh attitudes in it will never do. Suffering was Christ's portion and it will be the saints. Happy is the man who has learned to make suffering his

teacher. It increases capacity and makes his potential greater.

No opportunity should be wasted. Paul never grew harsh to the point of losing an opportunity. The jail at Philippi, the walls of Lystra, the prison in Caesarea, and the courts of Rome knew his testimony. He was Christ in bonds or in freedom. Paul did much of his work under other than ideal circumstances. The man who waits for the ideal opportunity may miss a thousand chances to serve.

—000—

Dependence On Man or God

By CHARLES A. WELLS

There is a sorry revelation in America's present political scene. Many of us shun responsibility and, in following the great parade of prosperity and pleasure-seeking, do not even take time to inform ourselves and do our own thinking. Consequently, any strong leadership that will think for us, relieve us of the responsibility of decisions, attracts an almost fantastically devoted following which, in truth, few men can bear. Evil men like Hitler, Mussolini and Peron are poisoned by such adoration. Intelligent men of sensitive conscience and goodwill often break under it, for they know that no man can be wise enough to think for a whole nation. A democracy is secure only to that degree which all men in it seek God's will. In this collective sense of God's will, the task of the leader is to make politically articulate what men feel in their hearts, and thus the burden is not unbearable and a leader does not become indispensable. When Moses falls, there is always a Joshua ready. It is because of this that democracy endures through many generations and does not die until its spiritual strength has ebbed away.

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We're trying to let all of them visit at the same time.

August 1 to 15 has been selected as vacation time.

Could you arrange transportation?

Please let us know how many you would like to have.

Phone or write Mrs. H. C. Seefeldt, Monticello; phone 34, P. O. Box 180.

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H. C. Seefeldt, Supt.
Monticello, Ark.

Executive Board STATE CONVENTION

B. L. Bridges, General Secretary; Ralph Douglas, Associate; 100 Baptist Building, Little Rock, Ark.

Executive Board Arkansas Baptist State Convention Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

January 1, 1956 to March 31, 1956

CASH RECEIPTS:

Cooperative Program _____		\$346,620.52
Designated Contributions:		
Ark. Baptist Hospital _____	\$ 3.00	
Ark. Temperance League _____	363.19	
BSU Capital Needs _____	3,635.00	
Foundation _____	4,950.85	
Orphanage _____	4,375.79	
Ouachita College _____	750.69	
State Missions _____	609.04	
State Missions (WMU Offering) _____	507.34	
American Bible Society _____	15.00	
Foreign Missions _____	2,065.31	
Home Missions _____	1,220.45	
Old Ministers Relief _____	55.92	
Total Designated Contributions _____		18,551.58
Total Cash Contributions _____		\$365,172.10
Miscellaneous Cash Receipts:		
Ark. Baptist History _____	7.50	
Baptist Boards Retirement:		
Employees Dues _____	1,635.71	
Employer's Dues _____	3,361.26	
BSU: Sunday School Board _____	1,104.75	
Church Music: Sunday School Board _____	579.75	
Evangelism: Home Mission Board _____	666.68	
Federal Withheld Tax _____	2,401.34	
Foundation Interest on Investments _____	393.16	
Relief & Annuity Board for MRP Administrative & Promotional Expense _____	41.66	
Office Building Rent _____	1,997.33	
State Missions: Home Mission Board _____	6,706.32	
Sunday School: Sunday School Board _____	1,903.24	
Training Union: Sunday School Board _____	1,767.24	
Total Miscellaneous Receipts _____		22,565.94
Total Cash Receipts _____		\$387,738.04

CASH DISBURSEMENTS:

Administration _____	\$ 10,716.91	
Less Refunds _____	157.24	\$ 10,559.67
American Bible Society _____	15.00	
Arkansas Baptist _____	3,750.00	
Ark. Baptist Assembly _____	1,250.00	
Ark. Baptist Hospital _____	11,253.00	
Ark Temperance League _____	363.19	
Baptist Boards Retirement:		
Employees Dues _____	1,635.71	
Employer's Dues _____	3,361.26	
Baptist Memorial Hospital _____	2,500.00	
Baptist Student Union _____	9,531.86	
Less Refunds _____	896.80	8,635.06

Brotherhood _____	5,576.14	
Less Refunds _____	407.85	5,168.29
Church Music _____	4,598.86	
Less Refunds _____	1,007.74	3,591.12
Evangelism _____	4,687.35	
Less Refunds _____	767.29	3,920.06
Federal Withheld Tax _____		\$ 2,401.34
Foundation _____	\$ 1,706.57	
Less Refunds _____	78.57	1,628.00
Foundation Interest _____		1,049.20
Foundation Investment _____		5,000.00
Ministerial Student Aid _____		2,215.00
Ministers Retirement _____		15,283.34
J. S. Rogers Retirement _____		300.00
Office Building _____		1,844.06
Orphanage _____		15,625.79
Ouachita College _____		44,500.69
Promotion & Convention _____	5,516.85	
Less Refunds _____	657.96	4,858.89
Southern Baptist College _____		7,500.00
State Missions _____	40,141.76	
Less Refunds _____	88.85	40,052.91
Sunday School _____	9,420.35	
Less Refunds _____	1,110.50	8,309.85
Training Union _____	7,090.45	
Less Refunds _____	401.86	6,688.59
Woman's Missionary Union _____		7,500.00
Remitted to Executive Committee, SBC:		
Southwide Causes _____	111,702.27	
Foreign Missions _____	835.31	
Home Missions _____	475.45	113,013.03
Foreign Mission Board _____		1,230.00
Home Mission Board _____		745.00
Relief & Annuity Board for Old Ministers Relief _____		55.92
Total Cash Disbursements _____		\$335,803.97

Cooperative Loyalty

The first quarter of this year (1956) was the best, for Cooperative Mission receipts in the history of our State Convention. Due to seasonal situations, like vacation time, financing crops and drop in business activity, the second quarter (May, June, and July) gifts to local churches are usually lower. Consequently, the gifts through the Cooperative Program are usually lower. It is at this time of the year that church and denominational funds begin to shrink. So, you can see how important it is for each church member to be faithful with the tithe, so each church can be faithful to Jesus Christ by going into all the world to make disciples and baptize people in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

The gifts, thus far, have been most gratifying, and this is just a reminder. It is so easy for us to say, "Oh well, our church and our denomination are both prospering and my faithfulness does not matter." Remember God's word says, "It is required in a steward that a man be found faithful." Faithfulness is expected because that is the main thing. It is an indispensable virtue and a cardinal doctrine. The first requisite for the office of a steward is faithfulness. As a servant, he is to be faithful to his Master. "To be found faithful." This is why trusts are placed in individuals, that these individuals might conduct their affairs according to the will of God and be found faithful in glorifying Christ and magnifying Him through fidelity in stewardship.

As members, one of another, we are all stewards of the Gospel and trustees of our financial increases.

Like the good shepherd, who seeks the welfare of the whole flock, we are to be faithful in our giving.

N22-A-B
MRS CORA HODGES
318 PINE
N LITTLE ROCK ARK