

October 9, 1953

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

CALIFORNIA BAPTISTS INCREASE
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GOAL

FRESNO, Calif.--(BP)--The board of directors of the California Baptist Convention will recommend to the state convention meeting in November a \$300,000 Cooperative Program goal for 1954. This is an increase of \$100,000 over the 1953 goal.

Of this amount 27 per cent will go to Southern Baptist Convention causes.

The board also approved a five-year program which will provide for fifteen area missionaries by the beginning of next year and 400 missions by the end of 1954. The program is calculated to result in the organization of at least 100 new churches by January 1, 1955.

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH
ORGANIZED IN WISCONSIN

MADISON, Wis.--(BP)--The first Southern Baptist church in Wisconsin was constituted recently as the Immanuel Baptist Church in Madison with seventeen charter members.

There is only one other white Baptist church in the city of one hundred thousand population. The movement was begun about two years ago when people of Southern Baptist conviction began to feel the need of such an organization.

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FURMAN UNIVERSITY BREAKS
GROUND FOR NEW CAMPUS

GREENVILLE, S. C.--(BP)--Furman University held a ground breaking ceremony on the new campus site in Greenville, October 6.

The ground breaking, which heralds the beginning of actual construction of the new campus, will mark an epoch in the history of South Carolina Baptists.

The university acquired the site in 1951 and began plans for relocation and expansion for the school.

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ILLINOIS PASTOR
GOES TO ORE.-WASH.

CARBONDALE, Ill.--(BP)--R. W. Wallis resigned recently as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Harrisburg, Ill., to accept new duties as a Bible teacher for Oregon-Washington Baptists, with headquarters in Seattle.

He will be employed by the convention to work with students of the University of Washington.

Wallis will have authority as an extension teacher from Baylor University, Waco, Tex., so that students in the Bible studies will receive credit for their work.

His resignation will be effective November 1.

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NEGRO LEADERS MEET
AT AMERICAN SEMINARY

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The Convention-wide Conference on Negro Work, sponsored by the Baptist Home Mission Board, met in late September at American Baptist Theological Seminary.

The program was under direction of Guy Bellamy, Home Mission Board director of Negro mission work.

Teacher-missionaries from twenty-six Negro Baptist colleges, directors of mission centers, state secretaries of Negro work, and pastors attended the conference.

The Home Mission Board now has thirty-one people working as teacher-missionaries in Negro colleges within the Southern Baptist Convention. The Board also conducts twenty special centers, holding special classes for adults and children. During the first ten months of 1952 the Board sponsored 374 institutions with an enrolment of 6,314, and in 1952 granted seventy ministerial scholarships and employed eight students to work full-time among the Negroes in the summer.

Host for the meeting was the American Seminary, Ralph W. Riley, president, Victor Glass, dean, and L. S. Sedberry, executive secretary of the Seminary Commission.

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ALABAMA MAN CRITIZES
ANNUAL CALL MOVEMENT

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--(BP)--The "annual call of pastors" was criticized by the state secretary of Alabama in a special article printed in The Alabama Baptist.

Dr. A. H. Reid said that "the annual call is not scriptural and it has never grown a strong church. It often leads to a division in the church membership and is unfair to good pastors. No pastor who is subjected to the whims of the people annually can feel any freedom or security in his ministry. Often he is not given time to become acquainted with the people so as to effectively serve them as pastor before he must move. He is unable to lead the church in a worthy program because he may be let out as pastor before he can develop a program. Also, the annual call opens the way for the transient Sunday preacher to move on to another church. He moves from church to church and gives little time or no time to the churches. He is only a Sunday preacher."

"Many of our churches are getting away from this unscriptural custom of the annual call," Reid said. "They are now looking for a pastor and not just a Sunday preacher. As a result these churches have found a new day. Many of them that were struggling to live only a few years ago, are now strong with a full program of work for the Lord. For a church to grow and effectively minister to the people in the community, it must have more than just a Sunday preacher; it must have a pastor and leader as well as a preacher."

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LARGEST MISSOURI CHURCH
COMPLETES BUILDING PROGRAM

ST. LOUIS, Mo.--(BP)--Third Baptist Church, largest Protestant church in Missouri, recently completed a twelve-year building program which cost more than \$1,500,000.

Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., dedicated the new \$900,000 church auditorium, which was the last unit finished. The total plant has 123 rooms and can accommodate a Sunday school of 4,000.

C. Oscar Johnson has served as pastor of the church for the past twenty-three years.

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