

January 21, 1962

Ambassador Writers
Attend Conference

MEMPHIS (BP)--Fourteen writers for Ambassador Leader and Ambassador Life received instructions at a two-day conference here on how to prepare 1963 program materials for 240,000 boys in the Royal Ambassador organization.

The boys' work is led by the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

They heard addresses by Miss Kate Ellen Gruver, book editor, and L. O. Griffith, director of education and promotion, both of the SBC Home Mission Board in Atlanta; Floyd North, editor of the Foreign Mission Board's magazine, the Commission, Richmond, Va., and John Carter, professor at Howard College (Baptist) in Birmingham, Ala.

Miss Gruver dealt with writing techniques for boys. Griffith and North helped writers with their home and foreign mission themes. Carter led a discussion of special problems in program writing.

Writers attending the annual event were Mrs. Marjorie M. Armstrong, Springfield, Mo.; Carter; Mrs. J. C. Durham Jr., Atlanta; George L. Euting, Virginia Brotherhood secretary, Richmond; Jack U. Harwell of the Christian Index, Atlanta; Don Holton, Highland Heights Baptist Church, Memphis;

Robert L. Lynn, All-Church Press, Fort Worth; William N. McElrath, SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville; David K. Morris, public relations director for Alabama Baptists, Montgomery; Jim Newton, Baptist public relations department, Dallas.

Theo Sommerkamp, Baptist Press, Nashville; Gordon Vestal, Speedway Terrace Baptist Church, Memphis; Jack Watson, professor at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and George Wheeler, state Brotherhood secretary, Carbondale, Ill.

Two writers, Mrs. C. J. Humphrey, Amarillo, Tex., and Ralph A. Phelps Jr., president of Ouchita (Baptist) College, Arkadelphia, Ark., were unable to attend.

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State Convention Goals
Exceed \$54 Million

(1-21-62)

NASHVILLE (BP)--State Baptist groups cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention expect to receive \$54,890,096 in total collections through the Cooperative Program this year.

The sum was announced here by John H. Williams after a survey of state Baptist offices for budgets adopted at annual conventions last October and November. Williams is financial planning secretary for the SBC Executive Committee.

Cooperative Program gifts--the undesignated funds churches provide to support their state and Southern Baptist Conventions--are divided at state offices between state and Southern Convention work.

The states voted, separately, to send slightly more than one-third of their expected Cooperative Program receipts to the SBC. The sum they collectively plan to forward to the SBC treasury is \$18,915,920.

The Southern Convention's 1962 Cooperative Program budget is \$19,013,500. Its 1961 Cooperative Program receipts from state Baptist conventions came to \$17,715,140, nearly \$800,000 short of the 1961 budget goal, but still the largest yearly receipts in history.

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Only three states still have what they call "preferred items" in the budget. Preferred items usually are administrative expenses deducted before the state begins sending receipts to the Southern Baptist Convention.

These states are Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. Their preferred items, individually, range from \$350,000 to \$380,000.

States sharing the highest percentages of their budgets with the SBC are Florida, Maryland and Oklahoma, each 40 per cent. Georgia, after administrative deductions, divides the remainder equally. The SBC share is about 44 per cent of the total before deductions.

South Carolina, not counting preferred items, also forwards about 40 per cent.

Texas, of course, has the largest Cooperative Program annual budget--\$10,633,195. North Carolina follows with \$4-1/4 million. Alabama, Georgia, Missouri, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia each have \$3 million or more for their 1962 budget goals.

Smallest budgets are Alaska's \$52,503 and Hawaii's \$54,000.

The state convention apparently sharing the smallest percentage of its budget with the SBC is Oregon-Washington where the division of its \$164,500 budget will be 84-16 per cent.

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GLOBE-TROTTING With GINNY

Century Ago, Troop
Also Spread Gospel

By Virginia Harris Hendricks

WATERLOO, Belgium (BP)--Since the last World War, thousands of American service men and their families have been temporarily displaced from America to serve as occupation forces overseas.

Hundreds of Southern Baptists among these have started and supported mission churches where they are living. They were not the first occupation troop to do so, however.

Following the famous 19th Century battle of Waterloo, when Napoleon was finally defeated, the British sent occupation soldiers into Belgium and northern France.

One of these, a Baptist, was assigned to the French village of Nomain.

One day he discovered a group of farmers who were studying a Bible they had found. They were thrilled by the part they understood but were wishing for someone to explain the parts they could not.

The Baptist soldier guided this Bible study and told the French seekers about Baptists in Britain. As a result of the young soldier's witness, along with the discovery of the Bible, the first Baptist church on the European continent was established almost 150 years ago in Nomain, France.

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Outline: Waterloo battlefield monument.

BAPTIST FEATURES

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W. C. Fields, *Director*

Theo Sommerkamp, *Assistant Director*

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To state paper editors:

We have secured the following story for release under two conditions: (1) that it not be run in Baptist state papers before issues dated Thursday, Jan. 24 (actual enrolment day), and (2) that it not be released to secular papers by any of our Baptist Press offices or state paper offices. The school administration specifically required the first "break" to secular papers come from Arkadelphia. The only alternative Baptist Press faced was a "no comment" or "off the record" from officials, in which case this key story, in advance form, would have been denied to our Baptist family in the present detailed and feature style. We felt you would prefer to have us accept the second restriction in order for you to have the full story immediately.-- Theo Sommerkamp, assistant director, Baptist Press.

Editors, please note: Advance for state Baptist papers of Jan. 24.

Ouachita Receives 2
Rhodesian Students

ARKADELPHIA, Ark. (BP)--Ouachita Baptist College here has received two Baptist students from Southern Rhodesia for second semester enrolment.

Michael Makasholo, 40, and his wife, Mary, have been teaching for seven years in the Baptist school at Gatooma, Southern Rhodesia--he in the eighth grade and she in the third grade. He plans to work toward a bachelor's degree with a major in secondary education.

Makasholo was a deacon in the Gatooma church.

Mrs. Makasholo will enrol as a special student--not necessarily working toward a degree--taking elementary education and related courses.

The couple is living in faculty apartment housing on the campus, President Ralph A. Phelps Jr. told the Baptist Press.

"This is in keeping with a policy adopted by Ouachita trustees in April, 1960," Phelps continued. "The trustees voted for the school to admit any qualified students from our foreign mission fields provided they are recommended by two Southern Baptist foreign missionaries."

He added this is the first time the policy has been followed in receiving students.

The Makasholos came with the recommendation of missionaries Marion G. and Jane Fray, who are presently at home on furlough from Southern Rhodesia. The Frays, alumni of Ouachita, met the African couple at the airport in Little Rock on their arrival.

The Makasholos, who expect to be in this country at least 3-1/2 years pursuing their education, left their four children with grandparents in Southern Rhodesia.

The trip was financed by the Southern Baptist Mission in Southern Rhodesia and by money Makasholo raised by selling the cattle he owned, according to Phelps.

Phelps said he notified the student body at Ouachita a week before the arrival date of the Makasholos. The students had been advised in 1960 of what the trustee policy would ultimately mean, and also knew last fall someone was coming during the 1961-62 school year.

A campus service fraternity, he added, has been raising funds to help with some of the couple's personal expenses.

"In challenging the student body, I told them that the stakes involved are much higher than just how these two individuals are treated. We have taken this step with the conviction it is an essential part of our world mission program," the college president explained.

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Baptist Feature

"Our missionaries in Africa and other parts of the world have told us the communists are 'beating them to death' with the fact that mission converts are not permitted to come to the school that sent out the missionaries.

"We are hoping to take the handcuffs off our missionaries in some of these areas where the struggle between Christianity and communism is so acute," Phelps said.

"I told the students and faculty they are in dead center of this world struggle in their treatment of these two products of our world mission program. I told them in a very real sense they hold the key to the future of a very important part of our world," he continued.

Makasholo is originally from the Basuto tribe in Basutoland, in southern Africa.

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Note: Please observe release date, Jan. 24.