

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

January 11, 1954

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS GIVE \$15 MILLION FOR SBC CAUSES IN 1953

BY: Porter Routh
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Southern Baptist Convention causes received \$15,359,142 during 1953 through the offices of the Executive Committee, a 10.31 per cent increase over 1952.

Cooperative Program receipts for Convention-wide causes received from the twenty-three state conventions accounted for \$9,683,360 of the amount, and designated gifts accounted for \$5,675,781. This is a gain of \$607,313 in Cooperative Program gifts for the Southern Baptist Convention during the year, and an increase of \$823,803 in designated gifts. The designated gifts are made up largely of the Lottie Moon and the Annie Armstrong offerings sponsored by the WMU.

More than half of the total money, \$8,373,630, went to foreign missions. This compares with \$7,482,064 going to foreign missions in 1952. A total of \$2,757,796 went to home missions. This compares with \$2,590,580 going to home missions in 1952. Total of Advance funds received through the Cooperative Program, that is, funds above the operating and capital needs of Southern Baptist Convention agencies, went \$998,520 to foreign missions and \$332,840 for home missions. This compares with Advance funds of \$1,038,035 for foreign missions in 1952, and \$346,011 for home missions in 1952.

All states showed an increase in gifts for the Cooperative Program over 1952, with the exception of California, Florida, Missouri, New Mexico, Tennessee, and Virginia. New Mexico was the only state failing to show an increase in designated gifts over 1952.

The combined operating and capital budget for 1954 is \$8,750,000 and all receipts over that amount, after \$160,000 is paid to the Carver School of Missions and Social Work for capital needs, will go 75 per cent to foreign missions and 25 per cent to home missions.

The comparative Southern Baptist Convention receipts by states for the Cooperative Program and designated for 1953 and 1952 is as follows:

(more)

	Cooperative Program <u>1953</u>	Cooperative Program <u>1952</u>	Designated <u>1953</u>	Designated <u>1952</u>
Specials	5,301.31	2,669.79	13,214.04	10,841.21
Alabama	467,079.37	459,268.74	257,065.19	224,401.05
Alaska	2,941.22	2,264.56	2,597.59	1,528.54
Arizona	28,958.90	22,205.77	24,016.45	12,657.17
Arkansas	354,475.02	334,306.40	127,813.26	105,284.18
California	30,952.68	35,612.68	30,093.34	22,610.51
District of Columbia	32,417.98	29,067.76	31,170.57	23,747.89
Florida	484,499.66	520,824.45	208,748.58	170,660.90
Georgia	674,261.76	598,488.98	396,217.58	347,267.81
Illinois	164,786.70	135,193.22	53,584.53	43,987.49
Kansas	9,472.50	6,864.03	7,433.62	6,487.05
Kentucky	535,052.76	428,724.33	239,977.14	198,744.27
Louisiana	410,409.57	311,647.06	243,518.96	184,560.40
Maryland	88,135.44	70,439.97	5,401.29	3,450.13
Mississippi	444,829.00	382,173.62	234,170.03	212,011.16
Missouri	490,684.51	498,094.28	236,613.00	193,046.08
New Mexico	59,072.68	65,929.94	52,141.13	63,907.29
North Carolina	768,029.66	728,706.16	558,428.28	475,981.61
Oklahoma	623,000.54	536,133.68	226,365.49	204,198.43
Oregon-Washington	6,981.14	4,269.62	6,562.43	4,190.97
South Carolina	886,644.90	803,149.24	323,277.89	280,976.94
Tennessee	752,826.71	826,984.71	231,928.43	197,907.25
Texas	1,733,520.35	1,597,288.45	1,764,209.67	1,508,923.11
Virginia	629,026.59	675,740.38	396,233.15	349,606.47
Totals	<u>9,683,360.95</u>	<u>9,076,047.82</u>	<u>5,675,781.64</u>	<u>4,846,977.91</u>

---30---

CLOSED CIRCUIT TV
IN ATLANTA CHURCH

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--First Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga., found at least part of the answer for overflow crowds at its Sunday morning preaching services in a closed circuit TV channel serving persons seated in the chapel.

The church rents camera equipment from an Atlanta TV station and televises the service for persons seated in the chapel beneath the auditorium.

The cameras, as in regular televising of church services, change from the choir to the minister during the order of service. Sound equipment was already available from the auditorium to the chapel.

"The church plans to use the private television arrangement until plans can be completed for telecasting of the services over one of the Atlanta stations," Roy O. McClain, pastor said.

---30---

FIRST SBC MEDICAL MISSIONARY
TO CHINA DIES IN ATLANTA

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Dr. Thomas W. Ayers, 95, first Southern Baptist medical missionary to China and second oldest of the retired missionaries, died here,

(more)

Nashvill , Tenness
January 11, 1954

Baptist Press

January 5, after an illness of several weeks.

Dr. Ayers was engaged in newspaper work prior to studying medicine. In 1901, at the age of 43, he went to China as a missionary, where he served until 1926. He returned to this country as a field secretary for the Foreign Mission Board and retired at the age of 75.

He was decorated by two presidents of China for his medical work, and was the second living man to be honored with a monument in China. It was erected in Hwangshien.

Funeral services were held in Atlanta and burial was in Anniston, Ala.

---30---