

May 8, 1959

April Showers Bring Monthly Gift Peak

NASHVILLE--(BP)--In terms of financial receipts, April was a month of showers for the Southern Baptist Convention. The treasurer's office here said receipts were \$2,188,813, highest April receipts ever reported.

According to Treasurer Porter Routh of Nashville this brought total receipts for the year to date to \$13,099,686. At this same time a year ago, total receipts has not passed the \$12 million mark.

Funds received support Convention-operated missionary, benevolent, and educational activities. Offerings kept by churches and by state Baptist groups for local and regional activities are not included in the \$13 million figure.

Cooperative Program receipts for April were \$1,276,171. Added to these were \$912,641 in designated offering receipts. Cooperative Program funds are not specially designated by contributors, but are divided according to a scale approved by the Convention to see that all agencies receive support for their work.

Designated gifts, those on which contributors say what activity shall benefit, are recorded and then forwarded to the work specified by the donors.

For the first four months of 1959, Cooperative Program receipts have reached \$5,456,013, an increase of \$357,106 (7 per cent) over 1958. Designations are up 11.97 per cent, from \$6,826,611 to \$7,643,673.

Total receipts of \$13,099,686 compare with \$11,925,518 a year ago, up 9.85 per cent.

Largest April disbursement was to the Convention's Foreign Mission Board--- over \$920,000. Of that, \$501,152 was through the Cooperative Program.

The Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions during the spring bolstered designated receipts to the Home Mission Board. Its designated April receipts were \$486,951 and it received another \$181,216 as its per centage share of Cooperative Program gifts.

Only other disbursement exceeding \$100,000 was to Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Berkeley, Calif. Its share of Cooperative Program receipts in April was \$194,743.

During April, Cooperative Program and \$ forwarded \$ through the \$ in designated offerings for a total of \$. This placed the state among those affiliated with the SBC.

-30-

Young Men's Mission Conference Personnel

GLORIETA, N. M.--(BP)--Three widely-known Southern Baptists have agreed to lead conferences in the Young Men's Mission Conference Aug. 13-19 at Glorieta Baptist Assembly here.

They are C. W. Scudder, professor of Christian ethics, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.; J. P. Dane, associate professor of Bible, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and Bill Cody, associate secretary for mission personnel, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

Scudder will address the group daily on common problems of youngmen. Dane will lead a series of discussions on secular vocations and Cody a series on church-related vocations.

The annual conference emphasizing missions is open to young men 15 years and above. Special features include vocational guidance, teenage living, mission tours and conferences, and recreation.

-more-

Theme of the conference is "New Horizons for Christ". Edward Hurt, Jr., Memphis, associate secretary of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, is conference director.

-30-

College, University
Men meet June 16-18

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Christian higher education will be under study here June 16-18 by several groups of Southern Baptist Convention leaders.

Focal point of the three-day series of meetings will be the annual session of the Convention's Education Commission. The Commission is presently without an executive secretary, who serves as full-time administrator.

A report of this nominating committee could be presented at the session.

While the Education Commission has no authority over the more than 50 Southern Baptist colleges and schools, it serves as a resource agency to co-ordinate work and to assist in educational surveys and teacher placement.

Another group meeting during the three days is the Southern Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools, a voluntary organization of educators from Baptist institutions of learning. Except for special business periods, the association and Education Commission often meet jointly.

A workshop for deans of Southern Baptist Colleges and universities will cover June 16-17.

Theme for the joint study session of the Education Commission and Southern Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools is "Securing Adequate Financial Support for Christian Education."

In discussing the topic, the educators will consider ways of increasing Cooperative Program receipts, state Baptist funds in which they share; use of fund-raising firms, winning business firm grants, getting alumni support, and whether to accept government aid.

Ralph A. Phelps, Jr., Arkadelphia, Ark., is chairman of the Education Commission and H. Leo Eddleman, New Orleans, La., is president of the association. Starr Miller of Forsyth, Ga., is in charge of plans for the dean's workshop.

-30-

Florida Accepts Lease
For Student Building

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.--(BP)--The board of missions of Florida Baptist Convention voted here to negotiate a 99-year lease for a Baptist student center at a new state university.

It was offered on-campus property at the University of South Florida, now being developed near Tampa. The school is scheduled to open about 1960.

A condition of the lease is that the Baptist student center building be erected by 1965. The university has offered to lease property also to several other denominations, it was reported.

The state mission board also voted to buy a small piece of land to "square out the property" at its new Baptist office building site in Jacksonville. The building is now under construction. Builders said construction is running slightly ahead of schedule.

14 new-work revolving loans were approved at the meeting. Under the plan, churches sponsoring new missions may borrow money from the state board for five years without interest. Money is used to buy mission sites. The 14 new loans amounted to \$91,700.

Miss Carolyn Jane Baker of Gadsden, Ala., soon to receive a master of religious education degree, was appointed associate student director at the Baptist student center at University of Florida, Gainesville. She will move to the position in late summer.

-30-

296 In Graduating
Class At Seminary

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--Degrees will be conferred officially on 269 graduates of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here during the opening session of the Southern Baptist Convention at Louisville's Freedom Hall. (7:20 p. m., Tuesday, May 19.)

With the exception of the candidates for the doctor of theology degree, the graduates will have received their diplomas individually the previous evening in Alumni Memorial Chapel on the seminary campus.

their

Doctoral graduates and/ fields of study are: Oscar S. Brooks, Chattanooga, Tenn., New Testament; John R. Claypool, Nashville, Tenn., theology; James W. Crenshaw, Troy, Tenn., theology; Don M. Everson, Jacksonville Beach, Fla., theology.

James H. Gilmore, Knoxville, Tenn., theology; George W. Harrison, Beaver Dam, Ky., Old Testament; Richard D. Lucas, Nashville, Tenn., preaching; Victor E. Mantiply, New Glasgow, Va., church history; Robert B. Mussman, Newport, Ky., church history; Francis R. Otto, Bristol, Conn., theology; Ernest O. White, Liberty, Mo., New Testament, and Roy B. Wyatt Jr., Richmond, Va., Old Testament.

The principal speaker---preacher of the Convention Sermon---will be R. Paul Caudill, pastor, First Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn. Scripture will be read by Frank E. Morris, pastor, Bull St. Baptist Church, Savannah, Ga., alternate Convention preacher.

Special music will be presented by combined choirs, including the Seminary Oratorio, William Carey College Chorale, Georgetown College Choir, Belmont College Glee Club, and Bethel College Choir.

During the special program Wade H. Bryant of Roanoke, Va., chairman of the seminary's board of trustees, will offer the prayer. The various classes will be presented by Allen W. Graves, dean, school of religious education; Forrest H. Heeren, school of church music dean, and Henlee H. Barnette, representing the school of theology.

Dale Moody, professor of Christian theology, will be in charge of the investiture of the doctor of theology candidates.

Convention President Brooks Hays will give the benediction. A feature of the commencement will be the singing of the "Seminary Hymn," written by Dr. Basil Manly, Jr., in 1860, and sung at every commencement since that time.

Candidates for the bachelor of divinity degree total 164. Other degrees or diplomas and the number of candidates include: master of religious education, 40; master of sacred music, 30; master of theology, 13; bachelor of theology, 7, and diploma in religious education, 3.

During the commencement programs this year school of theology graduates will wear black gowns with red trim. Colors for the school of religious education are black and light blue, and the school of church music colors are black and pink.

Tennessee leads among states with the total number of graduates in the Centennial class. The Tennessee total is 33. Kentucky is next with 32. Alabama has 30 graduates, while Georgia and Florida are next with 20 each.

Other states with more than 10 candidates are Missouri, 18; Mississippi, 15; South Carolina, 13, and North Carolina and Texas, each 12.

On Monday evening, Seminary President Duke K. McCall will make the address, in the form of a "charge to the graduates". Other program participants then will be Wayne E. Oates, professor of psychology of religion, who will lead in prayer, and professor of music Russell Hammar, who will sing.