



March 5, 1954

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

## MISSION GIFTS UP

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Southern Baptists gave \$802,640 to the Cooperative Program during the month of February, according to Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn. This brings the year's total in mission gifts for the first two months of this year to \$1,778,723, an increase of \$54,665, or 3.17 per cent over the same period last year.

Designated gifts for February total \$1,892,722, bringing the year's designated gifts to \$3,167,966. This is an increase of \$1,190,913 or 60.24 per cent over the same period in 1953.

Eight states: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, District of Columbia, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Virginia failed to show an increase in Cooperative Program gifts over the first two months of 1953.

### COMPARISON 1953 AND 1954 RECEIPTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION January-February, 1954

	Cooperative Program 1954	Cooperative Program 1953	Designated 1954	Designated 1953
Specials	1,525.63	1,706.61	5,072.10	6,208.05
Alabama	84,825.20	102,768.41	141,593.63	118,513.64
Alaska	600.00	244.58	2,258.62	--
Arizona	2,103.93	4,900.57	5,000.00	10,289.71
Arkansas	62,426.78	78,286.12	91,927.48	81,735.68
California	12,139.15	3,716.45	26,805.41	18,609.02
District of Columbia	5,559.62	6,477.42	7,450.81	7,227.35
Florida	110,452.15	86,763.34	105,397.79	95,092.42
Georgia	137,479.39	108,247.67	191,584.59	181,459.03
Illinois	30,129.47	29,591.65	27,434.20	27,221.39
Kansas	1,798.17	1,407.65	4,407.24	907.10
Kentucky	103,503.14	98,118.92	116,938.99	108,684.93
Louisiana	79,828.56	57,966.08	151,730.14	145,670.24
Maryland	17,481.05	15,059.25	215.64	643.18
Mississippi	99,761.83	75,794.26	144,322.11	114,384.34
Missouri	123,358.54	88,925.47	132,596.91	106,544.32
New Mexico	--	6,013.04	--	17,301.92
North Carolina	123,977.30	116,923.33	327,200.77	292,902.84
Oklahoma	117,619.64	121,336.80	144,874.12	136,732.45
Oregon-Washington	1,206.70	949.43	3,315.95	3,437.68
South Carolina	169,836.69	155,796.00	189,612.04	152,947.71
Tennessee	141,486.65	139,142.43	135,168.31	115,546.65
Texas	250,000.00	286,833.32	998,642.70	46,150.42
Virginia	101,623.86	137,089.18	214,417.31	188,843.18
Totals	1,778,723.45	1,724,057.98	3,167,966.86	1,977,053.25

#### RELIGIOUS JOURNALISM NOT STATIC

ALBUQUERQUE, N. Mex.--(BP)--Southern Baptists are lagging in news distribution, according to Lewis Myers, veteran Southern Baptist journalist. He made this statement in an editorial in the Baptist New Mexican, of which he is editor. He suggested wider circulation of existent papers, more use of color, and installation of teletype machines to bring the news outlets up to date.

"Southern Baptists do not have a daily nor anything that makes a near approach of it. We are working laboriously to get a combined weekly circulation of 1,500,000 (one paper in the hands of every fifth Baptist.) How far behind that we are in news dissemination may be seen by one comparative study. All Baptist state papers combined will not reach the circulation of merely one of many known secular magazines. We simply are lagging and losing in news distribution," Myers said.

"Suppose we draw the net a little closer. In New Mexico there are twenty-seven teletypes--newspapers and radios. While membership in the association is accessible to religious journals we think we are not in error when we say that there is not a teletype in our state nor in the whole of the Baptist field. This is the more alarming when it is known that the machines are installed by one of more nationally known electrical companies, that the wires can be leased at nominal rates, and that the associations controlling the use of the machines for both gathering and disseminating news are charitable in their acceptance of new members--a main condition being the ability of the new member to exchange news from its field.

"This is an age of rotogravure, color printing, but very few of our Baptist publications have moved even remotely in the direction of pictorialization or color printing. We simply do not have the facilities, the denominational support, and the best "know how." Our denominational presses, if denominationally owned, are too small except in rare instances."

While the secular press has moved out with speedy printing, most of our state papers continue to be printed in manner and quality as of three decades ago. This is no indictment against the editors nor their staffs as much as it is against a denomination faced with a multiplicity of calls, some abiding the time for fruition. Our journalism has been one of them:

"Our backwardness in the particular fields mentioned is not an indictment against our presently operating news-gathering agencies. These agencies have all taught us what could be done if we had at least one teletype at Nashville, and maybe one in each of the states."

GEORGIA CHURCH TO  
AID CHURCH IN JORDAN

DECATUR, Ga.--(BP)--A Georgia church is undertaking construction of a mission church in Jordan. First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga., Dick Hall, Jr., pastor, will devote part of a fund being derived from the commercial renting of its old building to the construction of a building for the Southern Baptist mission in Ajloun, Jordan. This is the first of several such projects planned by the Decatur church.

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COLLEGE BAND TO APPEAR  
ON CONVENTION PROGRAM

CLINTON, Miss.--(BP)--The Mississippi College Concert Band will appear on the program of the Southern Baptist Convention when it meets June 2-5 in St. Louis, Mo. So far as it is known, this will be the first time a band has ever appeared on a program of the Convention in its 109-year history.

The Band, 51 members strong, and under direction of Walter B. Duda, will render special music on Thursday night before the audience expected to pack the 11,500-capacity Kiel Auditorium.

Officers of the band are: Billy Latham, Greenville, president; Joe Abrams, III, Clinton, assistant director; Jo Ann Stanley, Brookhaven, secretary; Billy Spell, Clinton, business manager; Carol Quinn, Memphis, Tenn., reporter; and Bradley Pope, Brookhaven, chaplain.

Approximately 600 Mississippians from every section of the state are expected to attend the Convention.

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BAPTIST BRIEFS

SLOAN ACCEPTS  
ILL. STATE WORK

TULSA, Okla.--(BP)--Bluford M. Sloan, minister of education, Immanuel Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., has accepted work as secretary of the Training Union Department of the Illinois Baptist State Association.

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Baptist Briefs--Cont.

ASSEMBLY GROUNDS SECURED

DAYTON, O.--(BP)--Southern Baptists in Ohio leased a 153-acre farm recently on Lake Seneca in the eastern part of the state for state assembly grounds. The farm, leased from Russell Purdy, pastor, Lexington, Ky., has a tabernacle with seating capacity of 200-300 persons, and a large dwelling house. It is adjacent to one of the large Ohio recreational parks.

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CHAPLAIN RECEIVES AWARD

VALLEY FORGE, Pa.--(BP)--Chaplain Darrell C. Richardson, United States Army, was selected for "The George Washington Honor Medal" for his sermon "Stewards of Freedom" by the National Awards Jury of Freedoms Foundation, Valley Forge, Pa. The sermon was originally delivered at Covington, Ky., in the Fort Mitchell Baptist Church, where Richardson served as pastor from 1947 to 1954. It was later published in the Baptist Training Union Magazine.

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FURNITURE DESTROYED

CLEARFIELD, Utah--(BP)--Misfortune struck a pastor going west to work in the mission fields. W. W. Fordham and family lost all of their household furniture and dishes when the trailer in which they were moving turned over three times near Gladewater, Tex.

Fordham's books, a sewing machine, and linens were salvaged from the wreck that completely demolished his electric refrigerator, gas range, china closet, two complete bedroom suites, desk, typewriter, three gas heaters, a semi-automatic washer, cedar chest, breakfast set, platform rocker, living room furniture, a new bicycle, and shotgun.

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BRIDGES RECOVERING

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.--(BP)--B. L. Bridges, executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, is out of the hospital and at his home recuperating. He recently underwent surgery at the Arkansas Baptist Hospital.

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Baptist Press

PRESIDENT OF REA

CLINTON, Miss.--(BP)--Norman O'Neal, member of the Mississippi College faculty, Clinton, Miss., was elected president of the Mississippi Religious Education Association recently.

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NEW ACCOUNTANT

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.--(BP)--Frank C. Richardson has been named head accountant for the Florida Baptist Convention. He has served as assistant accountant since August 1, 1953.

Before coming to the Florida position, he served as business manager of Gardner-Webb College, Boiling Springs, N. C.

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PRESIDENT RESIGNS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.--(BP)--W. W. Adams, president, Central Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., recently submitted his resignation to the board of directors. Action taken by the board of directors is not known at this time.

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ARK. PASTOR DIES IN  
KANSAS CITY HOTEL

KANSAS CITY, Mo.--(BP)--Dwight O. Northrip, pastor, Harrisburg Baptist Church, Harrisburg, Ark., died in a Kansas City hotel room from a heart attack recently. He was in Kansas City to take orals for his doctorate from Central Seminary. He formerly had pastored churches in Oklahoma and Arkansas, and had served many years as a United States Army Chaplain.

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