

April 9, 1954

127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

MARCH MISSION GIFTS
REACH ALL-TIME HIGH

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Southern Baptists gave more to missions during the month of March than for any one month in 1953-54, it was announced by Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn.

Cooperative Program receipts for March reached an all-time high of \$977,571, bringing the year's total to \$2,756,294. This is an increase of \$285,507 or 11.56 per cent over the same period last year.

Designated gifts received in March totaled \$608,618, bringing the year's total to date to \$3,776,585. This is an increase of \$273,041 or 7.79 per cent over the same period in 1953.

All states showed an increase in Cooperative Program gifts when compared with the same period last year except Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, District of Columbia, New Mexico, and Virginia. Texas leads all the states in mission gifts thus far with a total of \$435,859.

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CHRISTIAN HOME SERVICE
SCHEDULED FOR SBC PROGRAM

ST. LOUIS, Mo.--(BP)--A mammoth service celebrating the importance of Christian homes will climax the June 4, Friday morning session of the Southern Baptist Convention that opens here June 2. Announcement of the program was made by Joe W. Burton, editor of Home Life magazine, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., who will preside.

Highlighting the service will be a family worship period led by Everett D. Sugarbaker and his family and an address by Olin T. Binkley, professor of Christian sociology and ethics, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. Two musical groups, the Ouachita Baptist College Choir, Arkadelphia, Ark., and the combined Junior choirs of St. Louis will furnish the music. Dr. Sugarbaker is a cancer specialist living in Jefferson City, Mo. He and Mrs. Sugarbaker have eight children.

The program will begin at noon Friday. Prizes will be awarded the largest family present, parents for the first time of the youngest baby, and the couple married the longest.

Mrs. Helen Hart Faris, St. Louis will direct the Junior choir.

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SOUTHERN BAPTISTS 45,000
STRONG IN ST. LOUIS

ST. LOUIS, Mo.--(BP)--Southern Baptists attending the annual convention June 2-5 will find fifty-seven of the sixty-three Baptist churches here affiliated only with the Southern Baptist Convention. One only with the American Baptist Convention and five with both conventions. In addition there are one hundred Negro churches. The white Baptist have 45,000 members and the Negro 25,000.

Baptist witness began in St. Louis in 1788, but it was not until 1867 that the first Baptist church was organized. John Clark and Thomas Musick are credited with the founding of the first Baptist church in St. Louis.

St. Louis Baptists own \$8,536,220 worth of property and buildings. Work, under the direction of City Missionary Paul Weber, is done among the Jews, foreign people, and students. Weber has five full-time workers on his staff.

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BAPTIST BRIEFS

MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP

LEXINGTON, Ky.--(BP)--The Eastern State Hospital of Lexington, Ky., and Calvary Baptist Church of that city sponsored a Mental Health Workshop for ministers. This is believed to be the first workshop of its kind. The purpose of the workshop was "to acquaint ministers with the problems and procedures of the treatment of mental illness." Program was under direction of Chaplain Leonard Morgan, Eastern State Hospital.

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LOTTERY FUNDS

NEW ZEALAND--(BP)--"Lottery funds" are not acceptable to Baptists in New Zealand. The Baptist Union refused a government grant of \$1,400 for the erection of a home for children at Auckland on the grounds that the money came from lottery.

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GRAHAM LINKS CITIES

LONDON--(BP)--Citizens of twenty British cities will be able to hear Billy Graham, evangelist, in their own cities while he speaks from London. Plans are made to link the twenty cities each night by telephone so the evangelist can be heard simultaneously over public address systems. This is the first time Graham has tried any such thing.

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Baptist Briefs-Cont.

NEW MEXICAN TO MISSOURI

ALBUQUERQUE, N. Mex.--(BP)--Eual F. Lawson, superintendent of the Department of Evangelism, Baptist Convention of New Mexico, accepted a similar position with the Missouri Baptist General Association. He will move to Missouri June 15.

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"TYPICAL" SOUTHERN BAPTIST

RICHMOND, Va.--(BP)--The "typical" Southern Baptist contributed \$32.48 in 1952 to his local church and \$35.36 in 1953. For local expenses in 1952 he contributed \$26.48 and \$29.22 in 1953; for outside causes he gave \$6.00 in 1952 and \$6.14 last year.

To foreign missions in 1952 he gave \$1.01 of which 50 cents was contributed through the Cooperative Program and in 1953, \$1.11, 52 cents of which was contributed through the Cooperative Program.

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PEOPLE AND THINGS :

.....Louie D. Newton has served as pastor of the Druid Hills Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga., for twenty-five years.

.....Training Union Study Course awards for February totaled 45,869.

.....Dr. Stephen Lawton Watson, Southern Baptist emeritus missionary, was discharged from the South Carolina Tuberculosis Sanatorium, where he has been a patient since September, 1951.

.....Forty-two young people dedicated their lives to full-time Christian service at the annual meeting of the Portsmouth Association of Virginia.

.....The Metropolitan Tabernacle of London, made famous by the ministry of C. H. Spurgeon, and almost completely destroyed early in the war, plans a new building to seat 1,700.

.....W. Ray Watson, pastor of the University Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex., for fourteen years, died suddenly on March 27. He had just returned from a trip to the Holy Land.

.....J. Winston Pearce, pastor, First Baptist Church, Durham, N. C., resigned in order to accept the pastorate of Seventh Baptist Church, Baltimore, Md.

.....Preachers for Home Mission Weeks at Ridgecrest and Glorieta are W.A. Criswell, Dallas, for Ridgecrest, August 12-18; and H. H. Hobbs, Oklahoma City, for Glorieta, July 15-21. Bible teachers for the two weeks are E. N. Patterson, New Orleans, and Allen Graves, Tulsa.

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