

March 4, 1962

Gifts 15 Per Cent
Greater Than 1961

NASHVILLE (BP)--Cooperative Program and designated gifts for Southern Baptist Convention work each continue to run more than 15 per cent above January and February totals for 1961.

Convention Treasurer Porter Routh here announced receipts through the Cooperative Program for February of \$1,523,040 bringing the year to date to \$3,225,302.

This is 15.18 per cent above the two-month mark of \$2.8 million a year ago.

Designations, continuing to show Lottie Moon Christmas Offerings to foreign missions, reached \$4,941,359 in February receipts here. The year to date total is \$7,320,763 compared with \$6,304,595 a year ago. This is 16.12 per cent higher.

The combined amount for the year to date is \$10,546,065, up 15.83 per cent over 1961.

Only three states trail their 1961 gifts to the Cooperative Program after two months--Kentucky, Michigan and Texas.

At the end of February, 1961, Cooperative Program receipts were running behind the first two months of 1960--\$2,000,266 against \$2,943,002.

Indicating the continuing flow of Lottie Moon funds, disbursements during February to SBC agencies included \$4,917,381 in designated funds to the Foreign Mission Board.

Gifts reported do not represent total collections of churches, but only the portions sent by the churches to support state and national work of Baptist conventions.

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Memphis Chaplain
Heads Association

(3-4-62)

CHICAGO (BP)--Charles D. McKnight of Memphis is the new president-elect of the Southern Baptist Association of Hospital Chaplains.

Elected at the meeting here, McKnight will assume the presidency in 1963. George W. Miller of Paducah, Ky., assumed the president's position this year.

McKnight is chaplain of Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, and Miller of Western Baptist Hospital, Paducah.

The chaplains set up a committee to study the standards which Baptist hospital chaplains should subscribe to. The committee will consider the means for accrediting chaplains and from whom such recognition should come.

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Baptist Hospital Group
Changes To New Name

(3-4-62)

CHICAGO (BP)--The Southwide Baptist Hospital Association held its last meeting here under that name.

Henceforth, it will be known as the Baptist Hospital Association. It includes leaders from Baptist hospital work maintained by state Baptist conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Homer D. Coggins, administrator, Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington, Ky., was elected president. He will serve for two years. T. Sloane Guy Jr., New Orleans, executive secretary, Southern Baptist (Convention) Hospitals, is secretary-treasurer.

A new constitution and bylaws adopted are to help the association achieve better patient care, educational programs and denominational relationships. They also are designed, according to Guy, to express the Christian concern of Southern Baptists for the sick and troubled everywhere.

The association recognized the demand for a second institute for trustees of Baptist hospitals. The first such institute convened last year in Memphis. A committee will work out details for the second one this summer.

The association ordered printed materials to tell young people about vocations in Baptist hospital ministry, which will be displayed at the annual Southern Baptist Conventions.

One resolution paid tribute to the late Dr. J. F. Murrell of Hugo, Okla., for his service to Oklahoma Baptist hospitals. Another honored C. E. Copeland, retiring as administrator of Missouri Baptist Hospital, St. Louis.

Copeland is a former president of the Baptist association and of the American Protestant Hospital Association.

Baptist hospital leaders normally meet at the same city during the same period as the American Protestant Hospital Association. Next year's meeting of both groups will be held in Cincinnati, Feb. 11-15.

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One Of Two Non-Church
Members In Gulfport

(3-4-62)

GULFPORT, Miss. (BP)--Only one of every two residents of greater Gulfport is a member of a local church, a survey by 2,238 workers representing all denominations revealed in counting 61,047 people.

Local church membership is only 32,349, according to Leonard Irwin of Atlanta, Ga., director of the survey. However, he said there was a large unaffiliated Christian group of 10,083.

Irwin is associate director of the survey and special studies department of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. He credited the large unaffiliated group to the influx of new residents to the area.

Assisting Irwin in the leadership of the survey was Orin Morris of Jackson, director of survey and church development work for Mississippi Baptists.

Non-church members above nine years of age totaled 6,155. There were 4,864 under nine years of age not in Sunday school, and 7,498 in Sunday school.

The denominational affiliation of local church members were Roman Catholics, 13,941; Baptists, 7,748; Methodists, 5,015; Episcopalians, 1,419; Presbyterians, 914; Church of Christ, 354, and others, 2,958.

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Protestant Hospital
Men Choose Baptist

(3-4-62)

CHICAGO (BP)--The American Protestant Hospital Association here chose its new president-elect from the ranks of Southern Baptist hospital leaders.

He is Robert J. Guy, newly elected administrator of Missouri Baptist Hospital, St. Louis, and former administrator of Baton Rouge General Hospital (Baptist) in Louisiana.

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H. L. Dobbs, administrator, Kentucky Baptist Hospital, Louisville, presided over the 1962 session here as president.

Baptist hospital leaders participate in the Protestant association. During off-time from this meeting, the Baptist leaders also conduct their own annual meeting in the same city.

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Brotherhood Plans
Mexico Mission Tour

(3-4-62)

MEMPHIS (BP)--A 12-day laymen's tour of Baptist mission points in Mexico will be conducted this fall under the auspices of the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The tour, open to 30 laymen, will include stops in 13 cities. They are Saltillo, San Luis Potosi, Mexico City, Taxco, Toluca, Morelia, Zopoco, Uruapan, Guadalajara, San Juan de Los Lagos, Zacatecas, Durango and Torreon.

The men will leave on the 1,000-mile tour by bus from Laredo, Tex., on Sept. 17 and return to the border on Sept. 28.

Laymen will pay all of their expenses, said George W. Schroeder, executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission.

The Foreign Mission Board has approved the tour and will provide a missionary serving in Mexico as guide and interpreter, Schroeder said.

Lucien E. Coleman, associate secretary of the Brotherhood Commission here, will serve as tour director. Men interested in making the tour should write their state Brotherhood department, Coleman said.

More than 200 Southern Baptist laymen have participated in the four previous Mexico mission tours arranged by the Brotherhood Commission.

Coleman, who has directed several of the tours, said the laymen usually return home with a deep concern for missions after viewing the spiritual needs of the people first hand.

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Walter Pope Binns
Retiring July 1

(3-4-62)

LIBERTY, Mo. (BP)--Walter Pope Binns will end 19 years as president of William Jewell College (Baptist) here when he retires July 1.

The 66-year-old educator has also been active in religious liberty and church-state separation movements among Southern Baptists.

He plans to move to Falls Church, Va., near Washington, to live. He hopes to continue to speak before denominational meetings and to supply pulpits in Baptist churches.

College leaders asked him to help find his successor.

Binns is a native of Washington, Ga., who graduated from Mercer University (Southern Baptist), Macon, Ga., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

He came to Jewell from pastorate of First Baptist Church, Roanoke, Va., In pastorates, he also served churches at Macon, Moultrie and LaGrange, Ga., and at Lawrenceburg, Ky.

He has served the Southern Baptist Convention as chairman of its Public Affairs Committee and Committee on World Peace.

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Baptist Press

SUNBEAM EDITOR--Miss Betty Thomas of Joanna, S. C., is the new editor of Sunbeam Activities, published by Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to Southern Baptist Convention, Birmingham. She is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. (Separate story follows.)