

March 21, 1962

Foundation Reports
Estate Settlement

NASHVILLE (BP)--The settling of an estate in Daytona Beach, Fla., which may bring about a conditional scholarship program aiding Baptist colleges, was the year's high point for the Southern Baptist Foundation here.

Executive Secretary J. W. Storer of Nashville told the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention agency that court contests brought against the executor of the Florida estate failed to break the will of Mrs. M. May Robertson of Daytona Beach.

Since the estate came to the agency undesignated, its \$400,000 could be distributed according to the judgment of the Foundation's directors, subject to approval or recommendation of the SBC itself or the SBC Executive Committee, Storer noted.

The executive committee of the Foundation suggested the funds be given to the Convention's Education Commission to develop a conditional scholarship program. The matter will be voted on by messengers attending the 1962 Southern Baptist Convention session in June.

Rabun L. Brantley of Nashville, executive secretary of the Education Commission, reported earlier the \$20,000 a year income from the \$400,000 investment could provide scholarships for graduate study to persons interested in teaching in Baptist colleges.

Brantley said the funds, provided to students on the basis they carry out their plan to teach in Baptist colleges, will meet a "heavy demand for this available help."

Storer said word from the probate judge of Cook County (Chicago), Ill., indicated the Southern Baptist Foundation is a 50 per cent beneficiary in an estate valued at \$385,000, plus a 50 per cent share holder in an insurance trust of \$13,087 already received.

Mrs. Christine M. Bess of Nashville, the Foundation's administrative assistant, reported trust funds totaled \$5,578,502 at the end of the year, with deposits surpassing those of any previous year amounting to \$1,770,194.

There was a net increase in trust funds of \$1,114,699 for the year.

She pointed out the average rate of return on the various funds brought a 5.31 per cent return on cost and a 4.82 per cent return on market in the general fund.

A 6.01 per cent return on the annuity fund was adequate to pay all annuity commitments out of income with a balance to be distributed to all annuitants, according to Mrs. Bess.

G. Frank Cole of Nashville, chairman of the investments committee, said the policy is not to invest more than 40 per cent in common stocks. The balance is invested in prime first mortgages, preferred stocks and bonds not below Grade A rating.

The prevailing interest rate on mortgage loans is 6 per cent, with all loans yielding over a 5 per cent average, Cole continued. There has never been a default in payment on any loans made by the Foundation in its history.

Stirton Oman, Nashville contractor, was reelected president of the Foundation; Walton N. Smith, Clarksville, Tenn., insurance agent, reelected vice-president; Nobel C. Caudill, Nashville shoe firm executive, reelected recording secretary and Storer and Mrs. Bess reelected to their administrative posts.

The nominating committee was instructed in its 1963 report to consider nominating the two administrative officers for indefinite tenure, rather than making them subject to annual reelection.

Letter Urges October
Finance Study Month

NASHVILLE (BP)--A letter from the Stewardship Commission office here urges Southern Baptists to give special attention to the Cooperative Program during the month of October.

The commission, an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention, helps to promote the Cooperative Program, the Convention's financial plan which supports state and worldwide activities.

"It is hoped that Sunday school, Training Union, Woman's Missionary Union, Brotherhood, and all SBC organizations and periodicals will carry special Cooperative Program study helps during October each year," the letter from W. E. Grindstaff, director of Cooperative Program promotion, stated.

"Although we would not want to put stress on a special offering, exceptions might be made in the case of churches that are behind in the Cooperative Program gifts," he added in his letter to executive secretaries of state Baptist conventions and their associates in charge of statewide Cooperative Program promotion.

Suggested church emphases on the Cooperative Program include using the five Wednesday nights in October this year to pray for Baptist missionary, educational and benevolent causes supported by the financial plan.

Grindstaff also called attention in the letter to tracts and other material available informing Baptists of the Cooperative Program.

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Folks and Facts.....

(3-21-62)

.....Len Chappell, who led Wake Forest College (Baptist) of Winston-Salem, N. C. into national tournament playoffs, has been chosen for the All-American first team by Associated Press. (BP)

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BAPTIST FEATURES

PRODUCED BY BAPTIST PRESS
NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

127 NINTH AVE., N., NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE AL 4-1631

W. C. Fields, *Director*

Theo Sommerkamp, *Assistant Director*

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German Relief Kitchen
Opportunity To Witness

By Herbert Syre
For Baptist Press

It is not difficult for one to read in the newspapers about the flood in Hamburg. I don't want to add sensational news about this disaster, but only to relate the experiences of two seminary students working for six days among some of those left homeless by the flood.

Our part started with a telephone call from the German Red Cross to the Hamburg Baptist Seminary: "You have furnished workers of various kinds. Don't you have someone who could work in a relief kitchen?"

"Certainly," was the answer, "one cook and one waiter."

This meant Dieter Neuhauser and I. We moved from the dormitory to the kitchen-help quarters of the Red Cross. On the way, I began trying to work out my shopping list and meals schedule. With 150 places at the tables we would have to serve 10 times each day to provide needed meals for the 500 refugees in our care. From this, I tried to figure how many hundred kilos of meat and how many of bread, potatoes, etc.

It turned out to be 1600 meals per day that we had to prepare, but still there was time now and then to answer questions from workers and refugees who knew we were seminary students.

One of the young women slicing and buttering bread asked, "Do you know Billy Graham? I was in his meeting in the tent here in Hamburg but I was not converted. That is something which should come from the heart, I think."

I kept on stirring the big can of soup I was cooking. "Hand me the bowls of vegetables for the soup," I said to the young woman.

Then I tried to explain to her what the New Testament says about repentance, referring especially to the Gospel of John. She promised to try to follow Christ.

In the pantry, where several workers were cleaning vegetables, I noticed a young blonde who had stopped for a smoke. "Pretty tired, aren't you?" I asked.

"Yes," she confessed. "I am not accustomed to such work. I sing on the radio, for movies and television."

"Not a bad idea for all of us to do physical work sometimes," I suggested, thinking of the various backgrounds of the 65 of us working in that huge kitchen.

"Yes," said the blonde, "that's right." And by this time she had donned her rubber boots and apron again and was scrubbing two 400-liter cooking pots.

The girls asked Dieter and me how we could do our work so cheerfully, singing choruses all the time as we performed our duties. They asked us how to lead a Christian life without just being hemmed in with pietist prohibitions.

Some of the language was pretty rough. One girl was constantly ejaculating, "O God; O my God." I asked her privately why she didn't just say "Oh." She agreed to this and asked me to correct her when she failed to remember; she had used such expressions so long and so meaninglessly that she was not even aware of saying them.

It took two days or so for her to break the habit. By that time it was always just "Oh!" accompanied by a friendly laugh and a glance in my direction. Perhaps, some day, God's name will have its true meaning for this young woman.

As Dieter and I sat down to our own meals, we bowed our heads for a prayer of thanks. Those near us were embarrassed at first. Then they began folding their hands at these times and perhaps praying silently with us.

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When we undertook this strenuous work, we asked God to give us needed strength for it. We asked Him also to give us opportunities to witness and power to do it. He answered both our prayers.

When the emergency was passed and we were leaving to return to our studies at the seminary, one of the Red Cross nurses said, "You have not only cooked for us but you have been a blessing to our lives. Please come again."

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Baptist Press Photo

FOUNDATION OFFICERS--Settlement of a \$400,000 estate with the Southern Baptist Foundation as beneficiary may be a surprise windfall to students seeking graduate degrees before teaching in Baptist colleges. Discussing the conditional scholarship program likely to result are Stirton Oman, Nashville contractor (center, seated) and J. W. Storer (right) of Nashville. Oman is president of the Foundation, Storer, executive secretary. Looking on are Mrs. Christine M. Bess of Nashville, administrative assistant of the Baptist agency, and Walton N. Smith, Clarksville, Tenn., vice-president. (BP) Photo