

August 5, 1962

July Report Shows  
No Summer Slump

NASHVILLE (BP)--Thus far, Southern Baptists apparently have heeded pleas not to let summer vacations interfere with their church contributions. Cooperative Program gifts reported by the Convention treasurer here show \$1,548,418 for worldwide work came in during July.

This figure does not include an even larger share of the Cooperative Program kept by state Baptist conventions, nor does it show the full offering plate receipts of the churches.

Treasurer Porter Routh of Nashville said the \$1.5 million-plus brings the seven-month total for 1962 to \$10,824,957 compared with \$10,108,746 on July 31, 1961. This is an increase of 7.09 per cent.

Designations--for which the givers have named a certain agency or cause exclusively --also continued strong. The \$342,973 received in July carries the total for the year to \$12,892,926 compared with \$11,520,028 one year ago. This is up 11.92 per cent.

The total for the two types of receipts comes to \$23,717,883 for the year to date, up 9.66 per cent over the \$21,628,775 at this point in 1961.

The SBC Foreign Mission Board, with just under \$15 million in Cooperative Program receipts and special offerings, leads the list of agencies in funds disbursed by the treasurer during 1962.

The Home Mission Board, with just over \$4.5 million, follows. Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth holds third place with disbursements to it of \$731,789 so far this year.

-30-

Seminary To Have  
\$1,333,200 Budget

(8-5-62)

LOUISVILLE (BP)--A \$1,333,200 operating budget for the seminary fiscal year beginning Aug. 1 was approved by the executive committee of trustees for Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

Cooperative Program gifts provide \$567,000 of the amount.

William Carl Hunker, a missionary on furlough from Taiwan, was appointed visiting professor of Christian missions and world religions for a one-year period.

Five Luther Rice and five Adoniram Judson scholarships for \$1,000 each were approved for presentation in the spring of 1963.

Rice awards are for students who will serve churches and the denomination in the United States. Judson scholarships are for foreign mission volunteers. This will be the second year for the scholarships.

Civil Defense officials in Louisville were given permission by the 16-member executive committee to equip and stock the basement of a student apartment building, Fuller Hall, as an area fallout shelter.

A Carver School of Missions and Social Work memorial room was approved as part of an agreement to be climaxed with the proposed merger of Carver into the seminary.

-30-

Midwestern Trustees  
Called Into Session

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary trustees will be called into a special session here "as early in the fall as possible to give consideration to the action of the (1962 Southern Baptist) Convention regarding theological education."

This was announced following a meeting of the trustee executive committee in Kansas City.

Malcolm B. Knight, Jacksonville, Fla., president of trustees, said the executive committee discussed the action taken in June at the San Francisco Convention.

-30-

Baptist Group Hears  
Blast At Medicare

(8-5-62)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)--Southern Baptist hospital officials meeting here heard the president-elect of the American Medical Association brand the medicare proposal as political and having nothing to do with the health of the American people.

The attack on the medical plan before Congress was delivered by Dr. Edward R. Annis of Miami to about 500 persons. The principal group was 120 trustees, administrators and other officials from 27 Baptist hospitals in the Southeast and Southwest.

The others were local doctors and dentists and officials of other hospitals in the Jacksonville area. The institute attended by the 120 Baptist officials was sponsored by the Baptist Hospital Association.

Afterward a spokesman for the Baptist Hospital Institute said the views of Dr. Annis on medicare did not necessarily represent those of the 120 officials. No stand was taken by the institute itself on the controversial issue.

Dr. Annis alleged that the whole medicare program is part of a political platform. He said politicians have distorted the record and vilified positions in an effort to obtain power and votes.

At the November elections, Dr. Annis predicted, those who use health for purely political purposes will be rejected by the American people.

He said the medical association believes all persons should receive adequate medical attention regardless of their financial status, but that one segment of the community (those over 65) should not be singled out for government assistance based on age rather than need.

The president-elect also blamed labor costs as the major factor behind rising hospital charges. Over 70 per cent of total operating costs in some hospitals is the cost of labor, he claimed.

"Do you think a labor leader would ask that this cost be cut in order to provide cheaper hospital care?" Dr. Annis asked.

-30-

Hospitals May Face  
Government Inroads

(8-5-62)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)--Further government penetration into the hospital and medical fields is possible, speakers warned a group of Southern Baptist hospital officials here.

Robert Scates, assistant administrator, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, said government is a major purchaser of hospital care. Then he added:

-more-

"Any mass purchaser of hospital care is going to interfere with the traditional prerogatives of management."

John A. Gilbreath, administrator, Arkansas Baptist Hospital, Little Rock, reviewed the problems between Baptist hospitals, which generally turn down Hill-Burton Act grants, and competitive hospitals, which accept government aid.

This, he told the 120 hospital administrators, trustees and other officials from 27 Baptist hospitals, makes it "extremely difficult for our hospitals to maintain the physical facilities which we would in many instances desire."

Gilbreath recommended Baptist hospitals seek their support from a broad base in the community through a continuous program of education.

William Richardson of Miami, trustee chairman of a Baptist-related hospital, urged other trustees to seek out in their communities people with money and influence. Interest them in helping hospitals, he advised.

Henry L. Ashmore of Pensacola, Fla., president of a junior college there, said the most important single act of hospital trustees is their selection of an administrator. Ashmore is trustee of Pensacola Baptist Hospital.

This was the second successive year trustees and other executives of Southern Baptist hospitals have met together in an unofficial capacity to discuss their responsibilities.

-30-

Bishop Pike Asks For  
Constitutional Change

(8-5-62)

WASHINGTON (BP)--A clergyman and two members of Congress asked for a change in the first amendment of the Constitution in order to reverse the Supreme Court decision on prayer in public schools.

Bishop James A. Pike of the Episcopal Diocese of California proposed his own version of the "establishment clause" of the first amendment. He testified at a hearing before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

At present the first amendment reads, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Pike proposed that "the establishment of religion" be restated as "the recognition as an established church of any denomination, sect, or organized religious association."

Rep. Frank J. Becker (R., N. Y.), a Roman Catholic, and Rep. John Dowdy (D., Tex.), a Methodist, also appeared before the Senate committee and asked for a constitutional amendment to provide for prayers, Bible readings and religious observances in the public schools.

The Supreme Court in the New York regents' prayer case ruled that prayer "composed by governmental officials as a part of a governmental program to further religious beliefs" is unconstitutional. The court held that the "official" prayer approved for recitation in New York public schools violated the Constitution.

Pike testified "the Supreme Court has distorted the meaning of the first amendment." He said "the principle of separation of church and state was not even relevant in the school prayer case because no church was involved in the New York arrangement."

The California bishop claimed his amendment would block the "secularization and deconsecration" of the nation which, he charged, recent Supreme Court interpretations of the first amendment have begun.

Pike was the major witness in a hearing that was announced only on the day on which it was held. He was kept on the stand nearly an hour and 45 minutes.

-more-

The Committee on the Judiciary has not yet heard witnesses who oppose any change in the first amendment or who agree with the interpretation the Supreme Court has been giving to it. A number of organizations are known to want to tell their views on religious liberty to the Senate committee.

It is the opinion of a number of Washington observers that there will be no proposed Constitutional amendment approved by the present Congress. Those who are urging haste for such an amendment want it this year so state legislatures can have opportunity to vote on it in 1963. Otherwise, it will be three more years before action can be taken to amend the Constitution, since most state legislatures meet every other year in the odd-numbered years.

--30--

Jacksonville Group  
Organizes Seminary

(8-5-62)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)--Several Southern Baptist ministers are backing a new seminary opening here Sept. 11.

It will be known as Luther Rice Seminary and will hold classes in an education building of Central Baptist Church. Robert G. Witty, Central Church pastor, is chairman of the trustees.

President of the institution is Clyde P. Jones, pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, who recently resigned as president of a Baptist school in Waycross, Ga., to assume the position in Jacksonville.

Robert A. Dunaway, pastor at Hilliard, Fla., and one of the sponsoring ministers, said the seminary will offer bachelor and doctor of theology degrees.

"The closest degree-granting institutions among Southern Baptists in the area are the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N. C.," Dunaway said.

Minimum entrance requirement for students working toward a degree will be a high school education. Other students will be accepted on a non-degree basis with lesser qualifications, upon approval of the faculty, he added.

Dunaway said all of the faculty members are ministers affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention "and we plan to operate in full sympathy with Southern Baptist policies."

John Maguire of Jacksonville, executive secretary of Florida Baptist Convention, said the convention "has no connection with the Luther Rice Seminary nor has it had any approach from the group to participate in any way."

The convention supports Stetson University in DeLand, Fla., a four-year liberal arts school, and Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Fla.

Robert R. Yates, Jacksonville, moderator of Jacksonville Baptist Association, reported, "This seminary is not sponsored by the Jacksonville Baptist Association nor does it have any connection with the association."

Officials of the new Luther Rice Seminary said they expect enrolment of 30 to 40 students in September, coming from Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and southeastern Alabama.

-30-