

April 13, 1948

127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

DR. RANKIN OUTLINES AMBITIOUS PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS; 33 ARE APPOINTED

RICHMOND, Va.--(BP)--The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, meeting in semi-annual full session, has endorsed a program of its executive secretary for a goal of 1,750 missionaries and an annual budget of \$10,000,000. The board now has 663 active missionaries and a \$4,000,000 budget.

Dr. M. Theron Rankin, the executive secretary, called upon the 42 members of the board from the 20 states of the convention area to enlist all 6,000,000 members of the convention's 26,000 cooperating churches in an "aggressive program for world redemption through Christ."

Dr. E. C. Routh, editor of the board's monthly publication, The Commission, since May 1943, was given special recognition in view of his retirement on May 15. Under his management, the magazine has grown in circulation from 48,000 to 101,000. Dr. Frank K. Means, secretary for missionary education and promotion, was elected acting editor-in-chief until Dr. Routh's permanent successor can be named.

The board heard reports that Southern Baptist churches gave \$111,000 for relief through the Foreign Mission Board the first three months of 1948.

"Except for the relief and rehabilitation campaign in 1946 which provided \$4,000,000 for Asia and Europe, we could not have resumed our work in the devastated areas of China," reported Dr. Baker James Cauthen, who flew home from Shanghai to attend the board meeting and the May 19-23 sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Dr. Cauthen stated that 152 Southern Baptist missionaries are now in residence in China, 60 of them recent appointees. In reporting on conditions in communist territory, he stated: "We do not have a situation demanding evacuation of personnel from China to America. Missionaries are being evacuated from the most dangerous zones to other areas, and we are ready to enter southwest China and the far west sections if possible to continue our work. The missionaries are prepared to stay in China."

The board accepted a recommendation that 71 missionaries be secured for Japan by 1950, bringing the total for that country to 100. The board also committed itself to favorable consideration of possible mission work in India, Siam, and Indo-China -- parts of Asia Dr. Cauthen said have never had adequate Christian missionary service.

Dr. Everett Gill, Jr., reporting for Latin America, said that Southern Baptists are represented by 234 missionaries serving through six missions and 52

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mission stations in 10 Central and South American nations. He said that a two-year survey just completed shows need for an increase of 350 missionaries and a capital investment of \$3,100,000.

Reporting on work in Europe, Africa, and the Near East, Dr. George W. Sadler said that progress in Nigeria is especially encouraging. Baptist schools in Nigeria have a student body totalling 20,000 Africans, and Christian mission schools in that country are carrying 85 per cent of the educational load. Of the 317 Baptist churches in Nigeria, 225 are self-supporting, he said. Medical work in the country includes a hospital, six medical dispensaries, and nine leper colonies, staffed by six medical doctors, 19 American and 20 African trained nurses.

Dr. Sadler described Europe as "a spiritually destitute continent" and quoted a missionary at Barcelona, Spain, as saying Roman Catholics are waging "an intense propaganda campaign against non-Catholics." He said that "reports from behind the iron curtain lead us to believe there is freedom to worship and also to train ministers."

An appropriation of \$200,000 was made for establishment of a "full-fledged, first-class theological seminary," probably at Geneva, Switzerland, and further approved an operating budget of \$50,000 annually for the school.

Ten Southern Baptist missionaries are now on duty in Europe. A worthy educational and benevolent program is being carried on at Budapest.

Thirty-three new missionaries were appointed at this session of the mission board, bringing to 51 the number of appointments the first four months of 1948. Forty more candidates are scheduled for presentation later in the year.

The new missionaries are:

Mary Catherine Adams of Ocala, Fla., for Nigeria; Alma Jean Bach, Florence, Ky., for Nigeria; Anna Lucille Cowan, Urich, Mo., for Palestine; Ona Belle Cox Redford, Mo., for Brazil; Mary Elaine Crotwell, Tuscaloosa, Ala., for China; the Rev. and Mrs. Nathan Hoyt Eudaly, Grandfalls, Texas, for Mexico;

Gladys Elizabeth Farmer, Waco, Ga., for Hawaii; Mary Frances Gould, Covington, Ky., for China; the Rev. and Mrs. James Dewey Hollis, Cullman, Ala., for China; the Rev. and Mrs. James Edward Humphrey, Lumberton, N. C., for Nigeria;

Lois Eleanor Linnenkohl, Dearing, Ga., for Japan; Helen Iola McClellan, Hannibal, Mo., for Palestine; Ruby Miriam McCullough, Birmingham, Ala., for Mexico; the Rev. and Mrs. Archibald Memory McMillan, Valdosta, Ga., for China; Bonnie Mae Moore, Atlanta, Ga., for Nigeria;

The Rev. and Mrs. James Everett Musgrave, Fort Worth, Texas, for Brazil; Carrie Victoria Parsons, New Glasgow, Va., for China; Erlene Paulk, Ramer, Ala., for Hawaii; Jean Evelyn Prince, Camden, Ark., for China; Lois Josephine Roberts, Maryville, Tenn., for Brazil;

The Rev. and Mrs. D. Rudolph Russell, Dallas, Texas, for China; the Rev. and Mrs. Dan W. Sharpley, Corsicana, Texas, for Brazil; the Rev. John Watson Shepard, Jr., Atlanta, Ga., for China; the Rev. and Mrs. Robert Charles Sherer, East St. Louis, Ill., for Japan; and Mabel Miller Summers, Bardstown, Ky., for Palestine.

CIRCULATION OF TEXAS
PAPER TOPS 200,000

DALLAS, Texas--(BP)--The Baptist Standard, Texas Baptist weekly publication, has reached a circulation of more than 200,000.

Editor David M. Gardner said that 25 years ago a little more than 21,000 Standards were distributed. The circulation grew to 50,000 in 1941 and jumped to more than 100,000 in 1943.

The paper now goes into approximately 80 per cent of the Baptist homes in Texas.

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SOUTHERN BAPTISTS MEET QUOTA

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Southern Baptists have contributed their quota on refund of the deficit of Danish Baptists in entertainment of the Baptist World Alliance last summer.

A deficit of \$12,000 existed at the close of the world congress, charged to Danish Baptists. Other Baptist groups around the world asked to share the burden, and Southern Baptists accepted a quota of half that deficit.

Dr. Louie D. Newton, Convention president who directed the fund campaign, said the money was raised by some 50 pastors who had attended the Alliance and each of whom asked his church to contribute \$100 or more.

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WANTS TO CLOSE SHOWS
ON SUNDAY NIGHTS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--A bill requiring picture shows to close on Sunday nights during church hours is scheduled for introduction in the Nashville City Council.

Councilman Pat Doyle announced he has asked the city legal department to prepare the bill. He plans for the bill also to prohibit "bank night" at the movies and to establish a new movie censorship board.

The proposal for Sunday night closing of the theaters is a result of the current "See You in Church Sunday" campaign being conducted by Nashville churches. The bill would require all theaters in the city to be closed from 7 to 9 p.m. on Sundays.

"Several ministers have complained that Sunday night movies are drawing members away from their churches," Doyle asserted. "I don't believe picture shows should be open in competition with church services."

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