

July 29, 1964

Indiana 1965 Budget To Expand State Work

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)--The State Convention of Baptists in Indiana will be asked to adopt a budget of \$323,897 for 1965, including \$196,000 from the churches in Cooperative Program funds.

The convention's executive board approved the increase after hearing Executive Secretary E. Harmon Moore report here that he expects the 1964 Cooperative Program goal of \$162,500 to be exceeded.

The convention, at its annual meeting this fall, will give the final say on the 1965 budget. The fiscal and calendar years coincide.

In addition to Cooperative Program receipts, the total budget includes appropriations from Southern Baptist Convention agencies for jointly sponsored home mission and religious education activities.

The proposal is that 26.4 per cent of Cooperative Program receipts be forwarded to support Southern Baptist Convention work nationally and worldwide in 1965. The remainder would be used within Indiana.

During 1964, Indiana Baptists have been sending 26.1 per cent of Cooperative Program receipts to the SBC.

The increased budget is expected to permit, effective July 1, 1965, the creation of a new convention department of evangelism and Brotherhood. A new secretary of evangelism and Brotherhood would be called to administer the department's work.

Moore is currently handling executive secretary duties, evangelism responsibilities and editorial work for the Baptist state paper. Brotherhood is combined with missions and church finance under another staff worker.

Effective Jan. 1, the convention would employ an editorial assistant for the state paper. No change in size or frequency of publication is expected, however.

The board approved a recommendation to the convention that a committee be created to work out closer cooperation with Negro Baptists in Indiana.

Carver Tinsley, Hammond, Ind., minister, is new board chairman, succeeding W. R. Davenport, layman of Indianapolis, who moved out of state.

Through June 30, according to Moore, Cooperative Program receipts for 1964 amounted to \$89,000.

-30-

Harold Crane Takes Michigan Position

DETROIT (BP)--Harold Crane, minister of music and education for Morningside Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., has accepted the position as secretary of Training Union, church music and student work for Michigan Southern Baptists.

Crane, a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, was to join the office of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan here Aug. 15.

-30-

10 For Earl Harding

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)--Earl O. Harding, executive secretary of the Missouri Baptist Convention here, marked his 10th anniversary in that office. Missouri Baptists presented him \$2600 to buy an electric organ for his home, since Harding is a pianist and organist.

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BAPTIST FEATURES

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Incidents En Route
Convince Lay Crusader

By Roy Jennings
Baptist Press Staff Writer

FRESNO, Calif. (BP)--Try to bring 900 Baptist laymen together from 26 states for a Christian witnessing campaign and some oddities are bound to occur.

That was the case during the West Coast Laymen's Crusade, a five-day Christian witnessing campaign in 600 Baptist churches in California, Oregon and Washington.

Take J. G. Stacy, who operates a furniture store in Leveland, Tex., for example, who was plagued with car trouble on the way to his assignment in Stockton, Calif.

While traveling through New Mexico the fuel pump on his 1958 Cadillac stopped functioning.

Stacy hiked over the hill to a service station and got the only fuel pump on hand. It was for a 1958 model car.

Several hundred miles west in a desolate section a tire blew out. At the next service station, Stacy found the proper size tire for his auto.

Almost to his destination, the main hose leading to the radiator burst. It was Sunday morning and most of the service stations were closed.

But at the first open station Stacy found a hose which fit his old car.

Stacy said those series of incidents convinced him he should participate in the witnessing crusade.

Eugene Young of Farmer City, Ill., was painting a house when he slipped on the ladder. He fell 23 feet and broke his right arm.

"I thought surely I wouldn't get to take part in the crusade," he said. "But with a broken arm I couldn't paint. So I just took a vacation and had my son, Willie, drive me to California."

Young did double duty, working in the San Jose Baptist Association for five days before the regular crusade began. He also served in the Fresno area.

Near Modesto, Calif., the influence of visiting laymen helped start a Baptist mission under unusual circumstances.

Floyd Pittman of Modesto, crusade director in the Central Valley Baptist Association, gave this account:

Members of Waterford Baptist Church of Modesto had been interested for several months in starting a mission in the LaGrange community, 25 miles east of Modesto, but they couldn't get a building for the worship services.

While taking the laymen on a tour of LaGrange before the crusade began, the tour guide told of the difficulty. The laymen asked for the opportunity to pray about the problem.

The next day the Waterford men surveyed the community for a building and 24 hours later they had an agreement to use one.

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The building was cleaned by the women of Waterford Church one day and a vacation Bible school was started there the next. The first convert was recorded on the second day of the school.

Five days after the prayer meeting, a LaGrange woman interested in the mission donated an acre of land as a building site.

At First Baptist Church, Lamont, Calif., one of the visiting laymen arrived early for an associational orientation meeting which preceded the crusade.

Near the front of the church was a boy with whom the laymen started a conversation to pass the time.

The laymen presented to the youth the plan of salvation and he made a profession of faith.

At Temple Baptist Church, Pittsburg, Calif., a layman who had never visited before in behalf of his church was encouraged to accompany a visiting layman.

On the first visit, a couple made professions of faith.

Orangeburg Baptist Church, Modesto, Calif., reported a flood of calls during the laymen's crusade. One of the callers, a woman, made this request:

"Please send a layman to talk to my husband. He will talk to laymen but he is afraid of preachers."

They sent the layman.

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