

February 27, 1965

Mission Agency Studies
Help For Ex-Prisoners

ATLANTA (BP)--The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention approved a 10-month, \$10,000 study to determine needs and guidelines for a national ministry to ex-prisoners.

"More than 100,000 prisoners are released from state and federal prisons annually," L. W. Crews of Atlanta told the mission agency in asking for the study.

"More than a third of them return to prison. These prisoners and their families receive little assistance from the churches, and in a preliminary survey we found no national ministry by a religious group," he said.

Crews, director of juvenile rehabilitation for the mission agency, served as chairman of a committee which studied the attitude and role of the church in helping the released offender. It recommended the detailed study.

Prison officials have asked for more church-relatedness in prisoner rehabilitation. One said 75 per cent of those in his state's penal system have had a church connection.

According to James V. Bennett of Washington, director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, "One of the places where the rehabilitation processes break down is at the point of relating the offender to the church when he returns to the community."

Interviews, questionnaires and group conferences will be used in making the study. Objectives of the study will be to discover the needs of the offender and his family, his attitude and relationships to the church, and the most effective ways the church and association of churches can assist in rehabilitating the offender.

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Duke McCall Plans
Semester Of Study

2-27-65

LOUISVILLE (BP)--The president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here is planning to take a semester off for study.

Two years ago, Southern Seminary trustees extended the study leave policy to cover administrative personnel who have academic responsibilities. The administrative personnel get a half year for study every seven years, called a half sabbatical. Teaching staff get a year.

The announcement that President Duke K. McCall would take a half year running from September, 1965 through January, 1966 follows the use of the half sabbatical leave by the deans of the three seminary schools--theology, religious education and church music.

McCall, who teaches a preaching course as well as administering the seminary's affairs, has been with Southern for 14 years. He said he plans to study educational administration and theology at post-graduate level.

The school or schools he would attend during the study leave have not been announced. Arrangements for administering the seminary during McCall's absence will also be announced later.

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Utah-Idaho Witness
Serves New Convention

SALT LAKE CITY (BP)--The Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Witness will serve the new Utah-Idaho Southern Baptist Convention as a twice monthly periodical.

The Witness, published here, originated as the paper of Salt Lake Baptist Association in the Utah capital. It was put out by Charles Ray, area missionary, for seven years. During this time, Utah and Idaho were a part of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention which publishes the Baptist Beacon weekly.

On Jan. 1 Utah and Idaho convention became an independent body.

Charles Ashcraft, Utah-Idaho convention executive secretary with offices here, will edit the Witness. It will print 3000 copies and make subscriptions available through the churches at \$1 per family per year.

During its early years, the paper was called Southern Baptist Witness in Mormon Utah. Later the scope was widened to include Idaho, and the Mormon reference was dropped from the title.

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Cooperative Program
Has 40th Birthday

2-27-65

NASHVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptist leaders attending a series of denominational meetings here commemorated the founding of the Cooperative Program 40 years ago.

The Cooperative Program is the unified budget plan for supporting Baptist work in the states as well as nationally and worldwide.

W. L. Howse, Nashville, director of the education division of the Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School Board, said the first book defining and explaining the Cooperative Program will be issued in August by the Sunday School Board.

The book is "Our Cooperative Program." William E. Grindstaff, director of Cooperative Program promotion for the SBC Stewardship Commission here, wrote it.

Howse said the book will be used in the fall in Southern Baptist associational meetings.

Joe L. Ingram, Oklahoma City, assistant executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, described the role of tithing in supporting Baptist work through the Cooperative Program.

He said 86 per cent of Southern Baptists do not tithe, that is, give at least 10 per cent of their incomes to Christian causes.

"The plan for financing the giving of the gospel to a lost world is through the tithes of God's people," Ingram said. "Every state and every SBC agency has a common need and that's more money. There is one source of that income--the members of the local churches."

The executive secretary of the SBC Home Mission Board, Arthur B. Rutledge of Atlanta, explained that for 80 years Southern Baptists did not have any organized financial plan, despite the pleadings of several denominational officials of that time.

Four persons among 250 present for the banquet commemorating the 40th birthday indicated they were present in Memphis in 1925 when the Southern Baptist Convention adopted the Cooperative Program.

They included Hugh R. Bumpas, Oklahoma City pastor and member of the SBC Executive Committee; J. W. Storer, Nashville, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foundation and former SBC president; Richard N. Owen, Nashville, editor of the Baptist and Reflector, and Lucius M. Polhill, Richmond, executive secretary, Baptist General Association of Virginia.

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Epic Burney Decade
Climaxes At New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--A decade of progress for the Robert S. Burney family climaxed here at the winter commencement exercises at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

The 10-year span had included marriage, the arrival of two children and four advanced degrees--concluding with a doctorate each for dad and mom.

Burney received the doctor of theology degree at winter commencement; Mrs. Burney had been awarded the doctor of religious education degree in 1962.

"It's been a busy, but rewarding 10 years," said Mrs. Burney. "We're glad we're through, but we also hate to leave what is truly our home."

No 10-year stay was intended by either Robert Burney or Edith Bleckley when they arrived at New Orleans Seminary from their respective hometowns in 1955. Burney, a native of Plant City, Fla., had just graduated from Carson-Newman College (Baptist) in Jefferson City, Tenn., and was entering the school of theology to study for the bachelor of divinity degree.

Georgia-native Edith, whose home is Rabun Gap, had been graduated from Tift College (Baptist), Forsyth, Ga., and Mercer University (Baptist), Macon, where she had received the master of education degree.

"We met on a mission assignment from the school," the Burneys explained, "and in between classes and final exams, we courted."

Bob received his B. D. (bachelor of divinity) and Edith her M. R. E. (master of religious education) before she earned her MRS. (change of last name).

Following their marriage in 1959, the couple alternately and simultaneously worked and studied. Mrs. Burney became the first woman to receive a doctorate from New Orleans Seminary. She is presently serving as director of pre-school activities, First Baptist Church, New Orleans.

While completing work on his thesis, Burney also taught at Union Baptist Theological Seminary in New Orleans.

With libraries, long days and leftovers now behind them, the Burneys are beginning a new era, one which will probably not be as eventful, but undoubtedly just as exciting.

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(Picture to be mailed to accompany this feature.)

1966 SBC Budget Goal
Hits Peak \$21.8 Million

2-27-65

NASHVILLE (BP)--The proposed 1966 Cooperative Program goal for the Southern Baptist Convention is a record \$21.8 million.

The goal was approved here by the Executive Committee of the SBC. It will be recommended to the 1965 Convention session at Dallas for passage. It includes \$19,016,000 for operating budgets of SBC agencies; \$2,244,750 for their capital needs, and an estimated advance for missions of \$539,250.

The advance would be divided two-thirds for foreign missions and one-third for home missions. Very likely the advance will go over \$539,250 according to Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee.

The Convention's 1965 Cooperative Program goal is \$20,335,600. Of this \$17,590,850 is operating funds for agencies, another \$2,244,750 is for capital needs, and the expected advance is at least \$500,000.

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During 1964, however, receipts from state Baptist groups for national and worldwide work supported through the Cooperative Program reached \$20,891,636. This included \$14,626,500 for operating needs; \$3,372,000 for capital needs of 1964, and \$1,188,855 to make up unpaid 1963 capital needs--for a total operating and capital needs budget of \$19,187,355.

Though no advance goal was set, the advance receipts amounted to \$1,704,281 last year, which added to the previous total makes \$20,891,636.

The 1966 budget, which coincides with the calendar year, marks the first time \$10 million has been allocated to the Foreign Mission Board from Cooperative Program funds for operations. The allocation recommended is an even \$10 million, up \$700,000 over 1965.

The six SBC theological seminaries are proposed to receive \$3,633,000 together, an overall hike of \$205,000 above the current year's budget, to meet operating needs.

The seminaries divide this \$3.6 million among themselves according to a formula based on enrolment and other factors.

An increase in operating funds of \$355,650 is recommended for the Home Mission Board over the 1965 allocation. The 1966 amount is \$3,203,000.

The Radio and Television Commission's recommended boost of \$100,000 over the present operating allocation brings its 1966 total to \$900,000.

An increase of \$20,000 is in the Brotherhood Commission's proposed operating allocation, making it have \$205,000 for 1966. The Christian Life Commission would be raised to \$90,000 with its \$18,500 increase for the year.

The Stewardship Commission would receive \$18,000 more than in 1965 and be allocated \$83,000 for 1966 operations. The Public Affairs Committee's operating allocation would rise by \$15,500 to a total of \$98,000 for next year.

The Education Commission's proposed share is \$88,000, an increase of \$11,500. The Historical Commission's operating amount for 1966 of \$83,000 contains a hike of \$5000.

The Southern Baptist Foundation would be increased from \$54,000 this year to \$60,000 for operations next year.

No changes were made in the allocation, from 1965 amount to 1966 recommendation, for the Annuity Board, \$250,000; Southern Baptist Hospitals, \$35,000; and Commission on American Baptist Theological Seminary, \$88,000.

The Convention Operating Budget would remain constant at \$200,000. The Baptist World Alliance support from Southern Baptists comes through this Convention Operating Budget. The Alliance's amount would jump from \$80,000 to \$82,500.

The Convention Operating Budget receives funds from other sources than the Cooperative Program, including \$300,000 from the Sunday School Board.

Out of the Convention Operating Budget also comes funds for the SBC Executive Committee. There is no change in its funds from 1965 to 1966; they stay the same at \$233,000.

The Convention Operating Budget also allows \$75,000 for Convention expenses; \$18,000 for the work of special SBC committees, and \$14,000 for operating and maintaining the Southern Baptist Convention Building in Nashville in which the Executive Committee and several other agencies, not a part of the Sunday School Board, are housed.

All SBC agencies receive Cooperative Program funds except for the Sunday School Board, which gets its funds from sales of literature and other operations.

The Foreign Mission Board said it planned to use its additional \$700,000 in operating funds in 1966 to make a general increase in the support of missionaries and their work.

It will provide for the increasing number of foreign missionaries under appointment, including 50 single young adults in the initial group of missionary journeymen serving two years each to assist lifetime missionaries around the world.

The Home Mission Board's \$355,650 hike will help advance the work of language missions, permit church extension projects in large cities, and allow for a nationwide Rural Church Conference to be held in March, 1966, the board said.

2. That the 1966 Cooperative Program budget be as follows:

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>1965¹</u>	<u>1966 Request</u>	<u>Increase Requested</u>	<u>PROPOSAL</u>
Convention Operating (6 operating areas)	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	-	\$ 200,000
Foreign Mission Board (5 programs)	9,300,000	10,600,000	\$1,300,000	10,000,000
Home Mission Board (14 programs)	2,847,350	3,400,000	552,650	3,203,000
Annuity Board (relief) ² (2 programs)	250,000	250,000	-	250,000
All Seminaries (3 programs)	3,458,000	3,721,262	263,262	3,633,000
Foundation (2 programs)	54,000	64,945	10,945	60,000
Hospital (4 programs)	35,000	35,000	-	35,000
American Seminary (1 program)	88,000	88,000	-	88,000
Brotherhood Commission (3 programs)	185,000	230,000	45,000	205,000
Christian Life Commission (2 programs)	71,500	98,500	27,000	90,000
Education Commission (4 programs)	76,500	90,435	13,935	88,000
Historical Commission (2 programs)	78,000	83,000	5,000	83,000
Radio-TV Commission (4 programs)	800,000	1,000,000	200,000	900,000
Stewardship Commission (3 programs)	65,000	86,250	21,250	83,000
Public Affairs Committee (4 programs)	82,500	112,900	30,400	98,000
TOTAL	<u>\$17,590,850</u>	<u>\$20,060,292</u>	<u>\$2,469,442</u>	<u>\$19,016,000</u>
			1966 Capital allocations already voted	<u>\$ 2,244,750³</u>
			TOTAL	<u>\$21,260,750</u>
			Estimated Advance	<u>539,250⁴</u>
			GOAL	<u>\$21,800,000</u>

1. Actual 1965 figures. They do not agree with the book since fiscal years for the agencies are not uniform.

2. Any unused portion to be transferred to the Old Annuity Fund.

3. Allocated as follows by 1964 Convention:

Home Mission Board	\$ 606,250
Midwestern Seminary	189,250
Southwestern Seminary	289,250
Southern Seminary	160,000
New Orleans Seminary	800,000
Radio-TV	200,000
TOTAL	<u>\$2,244,750</u>

4. All funds above \$21,260,750 are Advance funds and shall be divided two-thirds to the Foreign Mission Board and one-third to the Home Mission Board.

Dehoney Says Pioneer
States Hold Destiny

NASHVILLE (BP)--"Our destiny as a denomination lies in the states outside the territory of the Southern Baptist Convention of yesterday," SBC President Wayne Dehoney told the semiannual meeting of the Convention Executive Committee here.

He said six key states in the United States can elect a president of the country. "Not one of these states is within the old SBC territorial lines," according to Dehoney.

Dehoney, the pastor of Jackson, Tenn., First Baptist Church, said an action of the Executive Committee during its session would permit the SBC Home Mission Board to multiply the usefulness of its loan funds five times. The loans help chiefly churches in states in which Southern Baptist work is new or still in early development.

Although critics outside the denomination continue to oppose the SBC, and other people feel the Convention will split, Dehoney said he is convinced the Convention is "on the threshold of the greatest era we have ever known."

He cited "evidence all around us of the tremendous potentiality of this hour and the brightness of the future." Dehoney added, "God is preparing us for the greatest evangelistic, missionary thrust any group has ever had in history."

He mentioned as evidence a worldwide evangelistic conference to be convened by Evangelist Billy Graham. Another evidence he referred to was the call of Brazilian Baptists for an evangelistic crusade in the entire western hemisphere.

Dehoney said thousands of letters have come to him since he was elected SBC president last May in Atlantic City, N. J. "Only two letters in all this time were asking me 'What are you going to do about some theological situation?' The theological controversy is behind us. It is past. We must get to the main question of proclaiming the gospel and quit fighting an issue that is settled," he declared.

There are diversities in the Convention, Dehoney acknowledged. His 100,000 miles of travel since June 1 of last year have given him an impression of unity, however.

"I sense more unity and harmony in our Convention now than at any time in recent years," he stated.

He said many of his letters protest the listing of a James Baldwin book for reference in a Training Union program last summer. Training Union is the Sunday evening membership training group in Southern Baptist churches.

The quarterly in which the Baldwin book was mentioned is published by the SBC Sunday School Board.

"Dr. Sullivan (James L. Sullivan of Nashville, executive secretary of the board) has made a clear statement, an honest, open admission of their mistake. He has said steps have been taken to prevent it happening again."

Attacks on the Sunday School Board over this mistake "are not coming from within Baptist circles," Dehoney said. "They are coming from outside, from enemies of Southern Baptists and in some cases enemies of the cause of Christ.

"They come from groups which get every list of names of Southern Baptists they can and exploit it to try to siphon off our membership and our support," he reported.

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Maryland School Case
Arguments Conclude

2-27-65

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (BP)--An Annapolis judge is expected to rule sometime early in March on a case which could decide the future of public support of religious schools in the United States.

Arguments were concluded in the suit challenging the constitutionality of construction grants totaling \$2.5 million awarded to four church affiliated colleges by the Maryland legislature in 1962 and 1963.

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Attorneys on both sides agree the decision handed down by Judge O. Bowie Duckett in Anne Arundel County Circuit Court could have far-reaching consequences. Both sides have served notice they will appeal a losing verdict.

Lawyers spent five hours on the final day arguing over the constitutional issues involved and over whether the Maryland taxpayers who initiated the action had standing to sue.

Leo Pfeffer, chief attorney for the taxpayers, argued that although the U. S. Supreme Court has never decided the precise question involved in this suit, comments from related opinions clearly indicate that the court considers direct grants to church-operated schools or colleges unconstitutional.

He read from Supreme Court opinions on bus transportation to parochial schools and on released time to support his argument.

He told the local court contribution of tax funds to religious institutions which fulfill welfare functions have been upheld, but there is a distinction between education and welfare.

William L. Marbury, chief attorney for the colleges, disputed Pfeffer's interpretation of the Supreme Court and state court decisions. He said he did not know of a single case where a law was overturned which involved "merely an appropriation of funds."

"What's so sacred about money if the money isn't used primarily for religious purposes?" he asked.

He argued the real issue of the case is not whether tax funds aided a religious function but whether the primary purpose of the grants was secular or religious.

The four colleges involved in the case are St. Josephs College and Notre Dame College of Maryland, both Roman Catholic institutions; Hood College, affiliated with the United Church of Christ; and Western Maryland College, a Methodist school.

Pointing to spiraling college enrolments in Maryland, Marbury argued the schools perform a secular function by "furthering the training of Maryland's youth in the fields of liberal arts and sciences."

He also brought up one of the major points raised earlier--the difficulty of deciding whether the degree of religious affiliation precludes the receiving of tax funds by a college.

He told the court almost every private college in the United States has at least some connection with a religious body. He said a ruling that the Maryland grants were unconstitutional would doom them to "extinction or at least a badge of inferiority," because they could not participate in state or federal programs.

Pfeffer said, however, the courts could set up criteria to decide which colleges exceeded permissible limits of religious affiliation and that such universities as Harvard and Columbia need not be included.

Maryland Attorney General Thomas B. Finan attacked the standing of the plaintiffs to bring the suit. He argued that if the private colleges were not providing educational opportunities for some Maryland students, the state would be saddled with the responsibility of educating them.

Thus, he argued, taxpayers actually are saved money and the taxpayers who brought the suit cannot show any loss because of the legislative action and have no standing to sue.

However, Walter R. Tabler, another attorney for the plaintiffs, argues there was nothing to show that the state would be required to educate any additional students if the grants were not made to the colleges.

The Maryland practice of providing tax funds for constructing buildings at private colleges dates back to the 1700's, but apparently has never seriously been challenged. Maryland was chosen by a group of opponents of aid to church schools as the scene for a legal battle against the practice, both in this state and other states and on the federal level.

The case, if it eventually reaches the Supreme Court as expected, could affect aid to religious schools at all levels. If the grants are ruled unconstitutional, it probably would end, at least for a while, attempts to get federal funds for secondary parochial schools. If the ruling goes the other way, it could be used to convince Congressmen and legislators to support such aid.

Higher Education Study
To Cover 2-Year Span

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission will undertake a two-year study of Christian higher education during which two national conferences, one in 1966 and another in 1967, will be held.

The study will be devoted to problems facing Southern Baptist colleges and schools. A special allocation from the Convention reserve next year to the Education Commission has been proposed to help finance the study.

The two-year study will include a look at the denomination's philosophy of education, which was asked for by a subcommittee of the Executive Committee of the SBC. The subcommittee's study was asked for by a group of state Baptist executive secretaries and college presidents.

The Education Commission, in describing the need for the two-year study, reported that the problems of Baptist colleges in one state are not limited geographically but are shared with colleges in other states. The whole Southern Baptist Convention has an interest.

Enrolment at the two national conferences would not exceed 275 each. The conferences would divide into 10 or 12 study groups, each study group considering a basic question pertaining to Christian higher education.

Another project of the 1966-1967 study would be writing a "white paper" on Baptist higher education, "a manifesto on which the next half century of progress can be based."

The subcommittee of the Executive Committee studied the effects of federal aid to education on Baptist colleges and universities. It has completed its report and the subcommittee has disbanded.

It majored heavily on church-state involvements in federal aid and on the science emphasis involved in government grants to colleges.

The subcommittee put much of its report in the form of questions, such as, "Why are we, as Southern Baptists, in the business of education? Are our original reasons for going into this field still valid? "

The questions presumably could be included in the Education Commission's forthcoming study.

The subcommittee's three-page report was presented by its chairman, Howard P. Giddens of Athens, Ga. It will be supplied to presidents of all Southern Baptist colleges and to editors of Baptist state papers.

Giddens said the subcommittee did not have the responsibility to recommend any actions on federal aid questions "to the state conventions or to the boards of trustees of various institutions." The subcommittee provided "some guidelines to help you with your own decisions."

Its report listed both advantages and disadvantages of taking federal aid for Baptist colleges. "By receiving this money, we would be able to have modern facilities and be in a better position to keep pace with other institutions which are receiving the money," the subcommittee reported.

Struggling Baptist colleges might get a "shot-in-the-arm" from federal aid.

Speaking of the government's emphasis on science in allocating money, the subcommittee said: "The question then becomes, are Baptists willing to support schools that are primarily oriented in the sciences?"

At another point the report added, "If the expansion is to be in the direction of sciences, it has been difficult in the past to raise money from our denomination for science projects."

A third mention of the theme was in the form of a series of questions: "Do we as Baptists want to produce physicists? Can we afford such a program? Is it not impossible for us to put in atomic reactors to train physicists? . . .

"Should we not level with prospective students and confess our inadequacies in certain fields rather than producing apologetic, defensive, perhaps even hostile graduates who leave our denomination because they feel they were defrauded in our schools?" the committee inquired.

Could the denominational colleges give preference to Baptists in admitting students if they took government funds? In the subcommittee's opinion, "Church institutions would then have to determine whether they wish to minister primarily to the denomination or to society as a whole."

Government aid would enable Baptist schools to enrol more students, the subcommittee said. This leaves the question of whether the denomination wants its schools to be "large, with less distinctiveness, or small, with more distinctiveness."

"Some believe that to substitute cooperation between the church and state, in the field of education, for separation of church and state, would take the prophetic edge from the church," the report declared.

"The faithful relating of spiritual insights to our culture requires a free pulpit in a free church in a free society. If we forsake the principle of separation of church and state, we may find ourselves looking back in a few generations wishing we had done differently," the subcommittee pointed out.

"If our institutions become too entangled it may be impossible to liberate them . . . (We are) aware that some of our institutions may already be so involved that they have reached the point of no return," it said further.

Other subcommittee members are Charles C. Bowles, San Antonio, Tex.; L. K. Edwards, Irvine, Fla.; Mrs. Robert Fling, Cleburne, Tex.; W. R. Pettigrew, Louisville; Charles A. Trentham, Knoxville, and Jaroy Weber, Beaumont, Tex. All are members of the SBC Executive Committee.

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Advice to Editors:

2-27-65

In the Baptist Press mailing February 24, 1965, appeared a story from Fort Worth headlined "Baptist TV Film Team/Makes Movies in Africa." Please delete this sentence from paragraph 3 of the story as mailed to you: Girgis is a native-born, Southern Baptist missionary.

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