

December 9, 1948

"HE BEING DEAD, YET SPEAKETH" THROUGH  
TITHING AND 50-50 PROVISION IN HIS WILL;  
TOTAL OF \$37,000 RECEIVED SINCE 1930

WILLIAMSBURG, Ky.--(BP)--When Thomas Breckenridge Mahan died in 1930, he left a sizeable estate. He was president of six coal mining companies and vice president of two others. He also held stock in the Bank of Williamsburg.

But death did not end his influence on earth. Because of his obedience to certain Christian convictions, his fortune will bless the world for the rest of time.

Mr. Mahan was a deacon of the First Baptist Church of Williamsburg. He was a man keenly conscious of stewardship obligations. He believed also that his duties to God in the financial realm extended, even beyond his death, as long as his estate should last.

His convictions led him to write a will. He provided for certain investments and the setting up of trust funds from which his survivors would draw an income throughout the years ahead. And he said in those provisions:

"I hereby authorize, empower, and direct my said trustees to pay to the First Baptist Church of Williamsburg, Ky., one tenth of the annual income derived from the trust funds herein created, and one-half the amount received by said church shall be used by the deacons of said church for the use and benefit of the church, and the other one-half shall be applied by the deacons of said church for missions and other charitable purposes."

Rev. Herbert C. Gabhart, pastor, reminded the congregation last Sunday of this deceased deacon's superb recognition of stewardship obligations. The provision has paid thus far \$37,000 to the church and Baptist causes.

It is interesting also, Pastor Gabhart said, that "at the time of his death 18 years ago Mr. Mahan saw eye to eye and heart to heart with the program now under-way for Southern Baptists -- the program embodied in the slogans 'Every Baptist a Tither' and 'Fifty-Fifty by 1950.'"

**BULLETIN SERVICE NOW PUBLISHED BY  
SSB; EDITED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--An agreement has been made between the Executive Committee and the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention whereby the latter will be publishing and distribution agent for the Committee's Baptist Bulletin Service.

The Bulletin Service, appearing weekly in two forms adaptable to any type need by the churches, has a circulation approaching 500,000.

The Executive Committee, publishers of the Bulletin Service since its inauguration, announced the arrangement as "a change we are confident will result in greatly improved service to the customer. It is a logical and wise step in the light of the Sunday School Board's almost unlimited experience and their special facilities for these two vital phases of the work."

Complete editorial duties and privileges will be retained by the Executive Committee, and C. E. Bryant will continue as editor. "The Bulletin will continue to be representative of all Southern Baptist Convention institutions and agencies. Its pages will promote the whole program of Southern Baptists in this nation and around the world," said the Executive Committee announcement.

The work will continue under the name of Baptist Bulletin Service with the same mailing address, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn.

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**THE TITHE IS KEY TO CHURCH'S  
"ALL-INCLUSIVE" BUDGET**

BLYTHEVILLE, Ark.--(BP)--First Baptist Church of Blytheville will raise money in 1949 for a new auditorium and educational building -- but there will be no special campaign.

Dr. E. C. Brown, pastor, explained that the plan is for all church members to tithe, placing the money in an all-inclusive church budget which includes the building fund.

"All of us want to build without incurring an indebtedness," explained Pastor Brown. "God has given us the plan; it is the tithe."

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#### MISSOURI GOES 50-50

KANSAS CITY, Mo.--(BP)--Adoption of a Million-Dollar Cooperative Program for 1949 was a feature of the 114th session of the Missouri Baptist General Association. This program, the largest in the history of the denomination, provides that, after certain deductions for administration and publicity, all undesignated gifts will be divided 50-50 between state and Southwide causes. To provide full right-of-way for this effort, it was voted that there be no special campaigns in 1949.

Announcement was made that during the year a total of 16,169 have been baptized into the churches, exceeding last year's all-time high record of 14,097. Other reports said that the present rate of giving assures that the 1948 financial goal of \$725,000 for the Cooperative Program will be realized. A Chair of Bible and Baptist Student program at Missouri University have been established and the work is under way.

All officers were re-elected, including Dr. K. J. O'Banion, moderator.

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#### OREGON BAPTISTS ORGANIZE

SWEET HOME, Ore.--(BP)--The Baptist General Convention of Oregon, composed of members from 22 churches contributing financially to the Southern Baptist Convention, held its first annual session here.

The group was organized in April with 13 churches and have elected two full-time workers: Rev. R. E. Milam, executive secretary, and Rev. Roland P. Hood, missionary.

Budget for the Convention was set up on a monthly basis at \$981 per month of which 25 per cent will go to the Southern Baptist Convention. In addition to the budget, a church building fund was initiated, the plan being to secure 1000 people who will give \$1 each for every new church organized.

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#### EVERY BAPTIST A TITHER

JASPER, Ark.--(BP)--At Deer Baptist Church, it's really "every Baptist a tither."

Pastor John Stratton announced that each of the 40 members of this church has pledged a tithe of their income through the church for 1949.

This is believed to be the first church in the Southern Baptist Convention to achieve the goal embodied in the denomination's tithing slogan.

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