

December 13, 1948

140 BAPTIST MISSIONARIES REMAIN ON DUTY IN CHINA

RICHMOND, Va.--(BP)--Dr. M. Theron Rankin, executive secretary of the Baptist Foreign Mission Board, has announced that 15 missionaries stationed in Tsingtao and Shanghai are en route home. These evacuations are for the reasons of health, age, or imminent furlough, and do not indicate a general evacuation of North China, he said.

Approximately 140 Baptist missionaries are still on duty in China. Five missionary language students, formerly at Peiping, have evacuated to Manila, P. I., eight others to Shanghai, to continue their studies.

The Board, in its December meeting, voted to raise the subscription rate of the monthly journal, The Commission, from 50 cents to \$1.00 a year, effective April 1. The magazine, now in its twelfth year, has a circulation of 98,000. The Board will subsidize it to the extent of \$28,000 for 1948.

Dr. Frank K. Means, secretary for missionary education and promotion, was authorized to tour the Board's missions in South America in 1949. The Rev. Fon H. Scofield, Jr., director of visual education, will tour Colombia in February, and visit West Africa later in 1949, making motion pictures of the Baptist missionary work in those areas.

The African film will be produced for wide showing during 1950, the centennial of Southern Baptist Missions in Nigeria.

Treasurer E. P. Buxton reported total receipts for the first eleven months of 1948, \$4,906,000. For relief purposes during the same period, the receipts total \$241,673.

The missionaries en route to the States for expected arrival December 15 are: Dr. and Mrs. C. Hart Westbrook of Richmond, Va.; the Rev. and Mrs. I. V. Larson of Kansas City, Mo.; Miss Bonnie Jean Ray of Commerce, Ga.; Dr. Jeannette Beall, of West Plains, Mo.; Miss Hannah F. Sallee of San Antonio, Tex.; Miss Jennie Alderman of Alcolu, S. C.; Miss Alda Grayson of Rutherfordton, N. C.; Miss Mary Crawford of Senoia, Ga.; and Mrs. Charles Cowherd of Tampa, Fla.

On later dates the following missionaries are expected: Mrs. Greene Strother and son, Willis, of Pineville, La.; Mrs. A. S. Gillespie and three children of Reidsville, N. C.; and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Ware of Tupelo, Miss.

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Baptist Press
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1948 MONTHLY AVERAGE RECEIPTS OF
SBC COOPERATIVE PROGRAM NEARS THAT
OF FULL YEAR, JUST 15 YEARS AGO

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--If Southern Baptists contribute as much as \$514,000 to the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention in December, the year's receipts will have averaged over a half-million dollars monthly.

Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary, held 1948's possible \$500,000 monthly average up as a worthy objective -- a monthly average, in fact, equal to the full year's receipts in 1933.

Cooperative Program (undesignated) receipts through November have totalled \$5,486,261.08, Dr. McCall said. Total receipts of the Executive Committee of the eleven months, both designated and undesignated, were \$8,292,693.60, an increase of \$1,421,075.93 over the same period last year.

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LOUISIANA BAPTISTS
EXCEED 1948 BUDGET

SHREVEPORT, La.--(BP)--The century-old organization of Louisiana Baptists reviewed past achievements and launched a greatly enlarged program in its annual sessions here. Part of the convention program was a centennial celebration at Mt. Lebanon where the group was organized in 1848.

The convention adopted the largest budget in its history -- \$622,000, and it is believed that designated gifts may swell the total 1949 program beyond a million dollars. Following announcement that the 1948 budget goal of \$380,000 has been exceeded, the Convention voted that \$50,000 of the 1948 surplus be added to the Louisiana College endowment and \$30,000 to Acadia Academy.

Dr. J. D. Grey, pastor of First Baptist Church of New Orleans, was unanimous choice of the messengers as convention president.

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