

April 20, 1949

127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

NEED FOR RELIEF CONTINUES GREAT AMONG EUROPEAN REFUGEES

By Marjorie E. Moore

RICHMOND, Va.--(BP)--Steadily diminishing income for relief, over against an appeal from European Representative Jesse D. Franks for help in meeting new needs, was the problem faced by the Relief Committee of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board at its April meeting.

"It looks like we'll soon have to close up shop," L. Howard Jenkins, the chairman, said after hearing the treasurer's report for receipts for the first three months of 1949. "We can't do relief business without funds."

Yet letters from missionaries in China, Japan, Israel, and Europe arrive every week expressing unlimited gratitude for bales of clothing from the Southern Baptist Relief Center, New Orleans, and Dr. Franks reports needs in Europe which cannot be ignored.

"The biggest and most urgent need of all is that growing out of the refugee problem," Dr. Franks wrote. "In the Displaced Persons category are between 800,000 to 1,000,000 miserable, though not entirely hopeless, souls in Germany, Austria, and Italy. The most pitiable and helpless refugee group is that horde of eight to ten millions who do not qualify as Displaced Persons and therefore have least hope of finding homes in other parts of the world."

Dr. Franks said the number of refugees is growing. "Every day they keep pouring across the borders. They come from behind the iron curtain needing everything -- food, clothing, medicine, work, and spiritual comfort."

Another needy group are the students, who need food, clothing, books, and scholarships, Dr. Franks wrote. "I am so glad that Southern Baptists are doing something really big and constructive in this field. In this group the churches have their most far-reaching opportunity, one which they dare not neglect."

Contributed goods of all kinds will be needed for at least another year, in the judgment of the leaders of relief projects who met recently for conference. Dr. Franks expressed the opinion that "Southern Baptists again have shown up to good advantage here. New Orleans Center has been a great success. This service we should continue."

In conclusion the relief representative said, "Southern Baptists are in a peculiarly favorable position in Europe now to render a great spiritual service, sharing with our Baptist brethren the fellowship of service so richly inviting

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fields of evangelism, education, missions, and church reconstruction. The churches and only the churches can enter this wide open door. This is no time for us to do less for relief; it is the time when we should begin to shift our emphasis from the largely physical to the definitely spiritual service of relief."

The committee authorized its director, Dr. George W. Sadler, to write Dr. Franks that the relief effort would be sustained so long as support for it from the Convention permitted the program.

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YOUTH REVIVAL DEMONSTRATION
SCHEDULED FOR CONVENTION

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.--(BP)--A youth-led evangelistic service typical of Baptist youth revivals which resulted in 15,000 decisions for Christ last year will be held in Taft stadium here Saturday night, May 21, as part of the Southern Baptist Convention's annual session.

Robert Denny of Nashville, Tenn., associate secretary of the Southern Baptist Department of Student Work, said that the service will be "a natural, normal evangelistic service closing with a plea for professions of faith, as well as being a demonstration of youth revival techniques."

Young people from all of Oklahoma are being urged to attend the Saturday night service, Denny said. The stadium will be equipped to seat 20,000 persons.

Three Texas students -- Howard Butt of San Antonio, Bo Baker of Fort Worth, and Frank Boggs of Dallas -- will lead in the service. Baptist student leaders from all the Convention will cooperate.

Denny declared that "the youth revival movement is one of the greatest spiritual tides in recent decades. He estimated that 60,000 Christian decisions are possible each year in properly promoted youth revivals throughout the Southern Baptist Convention's 21-state territory, as compared to the 13,000 to 15,000 decisions last year.

Dr. E. Hermond Westmoreland of Houston, Texas, chairman of the Convention's program committee, said that the Saturday night sessions have been assigned to the youth revival emphasis "in the hope the service will spark a nation-wide crusade for winning young people to Christ."

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Cutlines for mat --

Oklahoma City's 6,500-seat Municipal Auditorium, above, will be the scene of day sessions of the 1949 Southern Baptist Convention. Night and Sunday sessions will be held in Taft Stadium, seating 20,000.