

June 1, 1949

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS VOTE MONEY FOR MISSION ADVANCE

A \$10,000,000 annual budget, two-thirds of which will go to overseas missions, was voted by the Southern Baptist Convention at its annual meeting at Oklahoma City in May.

The record budget, with a larger portion than ever before designated for foreign work, was viewed by denominational leaders as essential if Christian forces are to evangelize the world.

Officials stated that the \$10,000,000 figure is only for national and overseas activities sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention, and is in addition to expenditures by local churches and associational and state groups. Southern Baptists last year contributed a total of \$156,000,000 to all causes.

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SPIRITUAL REVIVAL IS SOUTHERN BAPTIST AIM

Adopting unanimously a report of its promotion committee, the Southern Baptist Convention at Oklahoma City in May declared "that all our work be purposely directed toward spiritual revival."

The report asked further that "we urge all our people to pray and labor toward that end, giving particular cooperation to the Southern Baptist program of evangelism and the simultaneous revivals west of the Mississippi River in 1950 and east of the river in 1951."

The simultaneous revival plan, it was pointed out, is that beginning with Easter Sunday 1950, every Baptist church west of the Mississippi River conduct simultaneously a series of revival services. The same plan would be followed by churches east of the Mississippi beginning with Easter Sunday 1951.

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Baptist Press filler material

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Addition of Washington and Oregon to the "territory" of cooperating constituencies of the Southern Baptist Convention brings to 23 the number of states actively participating in the denomination that until a few years ago was wholly Southern. One newspaper headlined the story: "Baptist Convention Loses Its Southern Accent."

Next session of the Southern Baptist Convention, apparently breaking with all tradition as a strictly Southern group, will be in Chicago, May 10-14, 1950. The 1951 session will meet in San Francisco.

Fifty per cent of Southern Baptist churches are located in the open country. Only 15.7 per cent are in cities of more than 2,500 population.

A mountain site at Glorieta, New Mexico, has been chosen by Southern Baptists for a "western" assembly grounds. When developed, the encampment will compare with the Southern Baptist Assembly at Ridgecrest, North Carolina, established in 1908.

Sixty-two conversions are reported in evangelistic services held in Oklahoma City as part of the annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention. The 10,000 Baptists in the meeting thus not only made plans for the denomination, but paused in the host city to win souls to Christ.

The American Bible Society distributed 9,716,251 copies of the Scriptures in 151 languages in 1948. Distribution in 40 foreign countries totalled 5,668,336, and in the United States 4,047,915.