



May 10, 1967

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Texas Baptist Mother of Year
Is "Mom" to More Than 10,000

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By LaWayne Hulse
Editorial Assistant, The Baptist Standard

FORT WORTH (BP)--The 1967 Texas Baptist Mother of the year has had three children of her own, and is "Mom" to more than 10,000 others.

Mrs. Lena Holston Pope, founder of the Lena Pope Home in Fort Worth 37 years ago, recalls the numerous experiences--the joys, the hopes, the problems, the crises, the victories--associated with rearing thousands of children and says she tried to give each of them two things: "love, and a feeling of security."

At the age of 85, her memory is sharp, her reasoning clear, and her work diligent as she answers mail for the home here. She is official correspondent for the home she founded, and the great volume of business and personal correspondence takes a lot of her time.

Her desire to found the home began when Mrs. Pope and her husband, the late Ewell Hicks Pope, lost their seven-year-old son, Conrad. Just before he died of diphtheria, Conrad told his mother of dreaming of a mansion.

"It's a big mansion out beyond the blue," the boy said. "You and my daddy must fill it with children."

The Popes reared two other children of their own. William Howard Pope is a rancher in Weatherford, Tex. Mrs. Charles (Dottie) Archibald is a sociologist for the Edna Gladney Home (for unwed mothers), also in Fort Worth.

Of the more than 10,000 children reared in the Lena Pope Home here, "none has ever gone to prison, none is on welfare rolls, many have been able to help their families, and several have entered social work," Mrs. Pope said. "And we have graduates from every university in Texas."

The home was started in 1930 with \$150 which was soon lost when a bank went broke during the depression. The struggle was hard from the beginning with just over a score of children, but now the home is located on a 70-acre tract near the West Freeway in Fort Worth. An endowment fund started in 1965 stands at \$85,000.

Mrs. Pope has written a book, *A Hand on My Shoulder*, published by Branch-Smith, Inc., of Fort Worth, which tells her marvelous story.

Mrs. Pope is an active member of Broadway Baptist Church here where she was a teacher of a class of about 200 women for 16 years. Many of the members of the class helped to found the home in 1930.

Her pastor, J. P. Allen, described her membership as "solid", and said she is always faithful in her attendance. "She's always surrounded by a large number of children of all ages," Allen said. She is presently working with a class of young people which meets at night.

In her modest Fort Worth residence, she points to various of the scores of portraits on the walls and refers to her "children" by name.

Among them is the photograph of a young aviator, the only one of the 268 former residents of the home in military service to lose his life during World War II.

Said the Texas Baptist Mother of the Year, and "Mom" of more than 10,000: "His home is more real than ours, and he is more alive than we." She attributed the statement to "his buddy", who returned home to tell her of his death.

The annual Texas Baptist Mother of the Year award is made jointly by the Baptist Standard and the public relations office of the Baptist General Convention.



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May 10, 1967

Dallas Mayor, Wife, Give
Baylor Hospital \$1 Million

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DALLAS (BP)--The mayor of the city of Dallas, Erik Jonsson and his wife, have given Baylor University Medical Center here 7,500 shares of Texas Instruments stock valued at an estimated \$1,040,000.

The hospital trustees, in accepting the gift, named a new 200-bed hospital that will be part of a more than \$8 million expansion at the Medical Center in honor of the Jonssons. The hospital will be called the Erik and Margaret Jonsson Medical and Surgical Hospital.

Their donation caused the final figure of a \$4 million fund drive to shoot well past the goal to a total of about \$5.4 million.

The Jonsson Hospital will be the third major unit of the medical center. The first of the three was the George W. Truett Hospital. Next was the Women and Childrens' Hospital, recently named the Hoblitzelle Hospital in honor of a late Dallas banker.

Work was scheduled to begin in May on the new hospital named for the Jonssons.

Boone Powell, executive director of the medical center, said the drive was as much of a civic effort as it was a benefit of the Baptist institution. Denominational lines were crossed by campaign workers and donors.

Jonsson, for example, is a member of Highland Park Methodist Church. The chairman of the committee which handled the fund drive, James W. Aston, chairman of the board of Republic National Bank in Dallas, is a member of Northway Christian Church. Among the major contributors was the Zale Foundation set up by a Jewish family.

Powell said that the city-wide nature of the campaign emphasized the seriousness of the responsibility placed on Baylor Hospital as stewards in matters of the community's health. He pledged to build the finest medical and surgical hospital to be found in the country.

Baptist Foundation of Texas officials said the Jonssons' gift to Baylor was one of the largest, if not the largest, single outright gifts ever given to a Baptist institution in Texas.

Dewey Presley, president of the First National Bank in Dallas and chairman of the Baylor Trustees in Dallas, accepted the Jonsson gift and expressed the appreciation of the trustees for the fund-raising team. He also paid special tribute to Jonsson.

This final report session was termed a "victory" luncheon and was attended by about 600 invited guests and team members.

Other donors and gifts mentioned during the luncheon were the Zale Foundation, \$180,000; the Hoblitzelle Foundation, \$500,000; Mr. and Mrs. Herman Lay, \$350,000; Mr. and Mrs. Carr Collins, \$100,000, and Fidelity Union Life Insurance Company, \$40,000; Jack and Grady Vaughn and the Jack Vaughn Foundation, \$120,000; the Hillcrest Foundation, \$100,000, and two anonymous gifts of \$100,000 each.

Trustees of the hospital gave \$60,000; employees gave \$135,000; and the medical staff gave \$635,000. The Big Gifts Division of the campaign reported \$202,410; the Advance Gifts reported \$410,400; Business and Industry showed \$511,050; and Pattern Gifts were for \$2,686,790.

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North Carolina Hospital
Gets \$7.4 Million Grant

4/18

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WINSTON SALEN, N. C. (BP)--North Carolina Baptist Hospital here has been awarded a federal grant of \$7,427,327 for the construction of a 14-floor hospital and clinic building.

It is one of the largest federal grants ever awarded to any institution in North Carolina, the Associated Press reported.

The proposed hospital building, to contain 390 hospital beds, is part of a new \$28 million expansion program at the Baptist hospital and the Bowman Gray School of Medicine of Wake Forest College (Baptist) here.

The grant was made through the Health Professions Educational Assistance Act, and was the fourth and largest grant to be awarded by government agencies for use in the project, which will increase the size of the medical center by 80 per cent.

More than \$11 million in federal matching funds have been received to date by the hospital, the Associated Press reported.

The \$7.4 million grant will finance both the 14-story hospital building and also support the renovation of present hospital facilities and construction of a new power plant to serve the medical center.

The new hospital and clinics building will increase the number of hospital beds at the medical center to more than 700, and will insure adequate clinical teaching facilities to support a proposed 37 per cent increase in medical student enrollment as well as expansion of the post-doctoral and para-medical training programs at Bowman Gray School of Medicine.

Work is scheduled to begin by July 1 on the power plant, a 122,000 square foot addition to the medical school, and a 400 seat-auditorium.

Construction of the 14-story hospital and clinics building is scheduled to start on completion of the power plant, probably in June, 1968.

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Louisiana Baptists Give
College \$2 Million-Plus

4/19

5/10/67

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PINEVILLE, La. (BP)--Baptists throughout the state of Louisiana have given and pledged a total of \$2,020,139 as part of a "Louisiana Baptist Convention Crusade" to support the convention's major school, Louisiana College here.

Louisiana College and convention officials expressed deep appreciation and joy that the fund drive had surpassed its \$2 million goal.

The funds will be used to construct a new science building and a new auditorium-chapel at Louisiana College.

"It is our hope," said Louisiana College President G. Earl Guinn here, "that we shall be able to renovate and remodel the old auditorium and the space that will be vacated by the science department when the new facilities are erected."

Guinn expressed appreciation, on behalf of the College, "to Louisiana Baptists for your magnificent response to the Convention Crusade for Louisiana College. Your loyal support," he said, "has brought inspiration and encouragement to the trustees, faculty, and students."

The chairman of the fund drive, C. O. Walker, reported that actual cash already sent in had totaled \$185,719. The majority of the \$2 million came in pledges from Baptist church members over and above local church contributions.

In an editorial accompanying three articles on the crusade, Louisiana Baptist Message Editor James Cole said the \$2 million figure "represents the largest amount ever pledged to one of our institutions."

"The crusade had a unifying effect; it netted the largest lay participation ever in a convention-wide project," Cole's editorial said. "It has brought about a renewed interest on the part of some in Christian education; and it initiated awareness on the part of others."

The executive secretary of the Louisiana convention, Robert Lee, wrote that the "good results of the convention crusade give cause for rejoicing. . . .The dedicated faculty and promising student body (at Louisiana College) are worthy of unselfish support from Louisiana Baptists and the community."

Louisiana College is located in an adjoining city to Alexandria, La., where offices of the Louisiana Baptist Convention are located.

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