

September 7, 1949

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS GIVE \$7,080,852  
TO MISSIONS FIRST EIGHT MONTHS 1949

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--August Cooperative Program receipts totaled \$477,832.51 and designations totaled \$90,303.47, giving a grand total of \$568,135.98, according to Dr. Duke K. McCall, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Cooperative Program receipts are \$271,112.39 higher than last year at the close of business. Designations are \$294,996.58 higher. So far this year Southern Baptists have given a total of \$7,080,852 to their mission and benevolent causes. All Cooperative Program funds contributed the last four and one-half months of the year will be used for capital improvements of missions and other properties.

---30---

A TIP TO THE SBC

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--Southern Baptists can learn a thing or two from Northern Baptists, according to Dr. A. L. Goodrich, editor of the Mississippi Baptist Record. He says: "Southern Baptist conventions have often used loud speakers for overflow crowds, but the Northern Baptists have improved on that plan. Missions, Northern Baptist magazine, reports as follows:

"To Dr. Warner Cole, preacher of the Convention sermon at San Francisco, belongs the distinction of being the only Convention preacher who had to preach his sermon twice. Because of the over-crowded sanctuary of San Francisco's First Congregational Church and the overflow congregation in the lower Sunday school room, he went to that room while the musical program was being rendered and preached his sermon. Then he returned upstairs and preached it again."

---30---

EDITOR BLASTS CRITICS WHO  
LABEL SBC "PROBLEM CHILD"

NEW YORK CITY--(BP)--A prominent Northern Baptist editor, Dr. John W. Bradbury, has blasted the critics who brand Southern Baptists as "the problem child of American Protestantism."

He says in his independent Baptist paper, The Watchman-Examiner: "It is indicative of the spirit of intolerance which frequently masquerades under the title of 'liberal.' The attempt to make Southern Baptists the black sheep in the area of Protestant cooperation is reprehensible and undeserved. Simple because the interdenominationalists, who would build in this country a Protestant hierarchy controlled by a liberal few, do not like the freedom exercised by Southern Baptists, and other Baptists, for that matter, is no reason for American Baptists to accept the abuse that is heaped upon them unjustly. It is simply not true in relation to the Baptists in Southern states, particularly, that they do not cooperate with the fellow Protestants.

"They do not do so, certainly, in relation to organic matters, but when it comes to moral reform, community social progress, evangelism, and every other Christian good work, the Baptists are not merely in, but frequently take a leading part. Where is there a Protestant body in the United States which last year won to Christ through the preaching of the Gospel and baptized into the churches 312,000 people? What denomination is doing more to Christianize America? In 1862, Southern Baptist Sunday schools had a total enrollment of 94,810; in 1948, over 4,000,000. Where is there a Protestant denomination in this country that has done better than that?

"It is highly improper and unfair to refer to a great religious body consisting of 6,500,000 church members as a 'problem child.' Of course, we know that the epithet is hurled at our Southern Baptist friends because they will not fall for the organic scheme to pyramid American Protestantism until it will all be ruled by a minority council desirous of deciding the public policies of the various denominations, withal belittling and defaming the minority groups which exercise independence in policy and point of view.

"We think this one-sided criticism has gone far enough. The respect due to great bodies should be preserved with all its amenities and with less conceit on the part of critics."

SENATOR KERR ENTERS  
FIGHT AGAINST REPEAL

OKLAHOMA CITY--(BP)--Smiling Bob Kerr, Oklahoma's junior senator in the United States Congress, and veteran Baptist Sunday School teacher, has entered the Oklahoma repeal fight with an article denouncing the effects of alcohol on the nation.

Kerr, a consistent dry, both personally and politically, said in an article published by a national Methodist temperance magazine, "Based upon my observation and knowledge of the many evils of liquor to human beings, I have been against it all my life and will oppose it as long as I live."

The legislator estimated that there are six million excessive drinkers in the nation and that 750,000 of them are alcoholics. He said, "One out of every fifty persons who start drinking winds up an alcoholic."

Since national prohibition was repealed he said, "Saloons have multiplied until there are now 407,000 in the United States, while package stores alone outnumber churches and schools. There are actually more barmaids than college girls."

The liquor issue will be voted on in Oklahoma on September 27, the date set by Governor Turner after wets filed a petition asking that the state's dry laws be repealed.

---30---

BAPTISTS HAVE ONLY CHURCH  
IN WESTERN ATOMIC CENTER

LOS ALAMOS, N. Mex.--(BP)--Baptists in this new atomic energy center of 10,000 have the only church in the community. Organized two years ago it was only recently granted land upon which to build a house of worship. The church has had phenomenal growth, according to Editor Lewis A. Myers of the Baptist New Mexican and has recently begun the operation of a mission in the White Rock suburban area, a community that will eventually have 3,000 families.

---30---

JAPANESE BIBLE SCHOOL  
HAS SPECIAL HAND WORK

TACHIKAWA, Japan--(BP)--A Waco, Texas, woman, Mrs. J. V. Bledsoe -- now with her husband, Captain Bledsoe, on duty here -- is sponsoring a Vacation Bible school for 300 Japanese children.

The project follows the usual pattern of songs, Bible study, and hand work. A special part of her program consists of a study of Japanese art forms taught by Japanese specialists.

Mrs. Bledsoe, the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. O. J. Chastain, Mount Pleasant, Texas, is a former student of Baylor University.

---30---

**GRAND OLE OPRY ANNOUNCER IS  
NARRATOR OF BAPTIST FILMSTRIP**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--A regular Saturday night Grand Ole Opry announcer is the narrator of the new filmstrip, "Southern Baptists, ADVANCE!" He is Louie Buck of WSM who became so convinced of the greatness of Southern Baptist work that he contributed \$25 to the cause. He said, "Working on this film has sold me on the importance of your great program. I want to make a personal contribution to it."

Buck, son, grandson, and great grandson of ministers, is a graduate of the University of Alabama. While working on the film he told Dr. Merrill D. Moor, director of promotion for the Executive Committee, "I worked for a long time to get through the university and ever since I have been working in the Grand Ole Opry to convince people that I never saw a university. Most people don't believe I ever graduated from a university."

The film, portraying the importance of the Cooperative Program, is now available from the Executive Committee, 127 Ninth Avenue, No., Nashville 3, Tenn. Price, \$4.95 plus shipping for record, manual, and film; \$1.95 without record.

---30---

**DR. W. S. BROOKE DIES**

COLUMBIA, S. C.--(BP)--W. S. Brooke, 71, general secretary-treasurer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, died here September 8. He had been with the South Carolina Convention since 1929.

A native of King and Queen County, Virginia, Brooke attended the Fork Union Academy, the University of Virginia, and the Southern Baptist Seminary. He was ordained at Danville, Va., in 1907.

During his early years Brooke served as representative of the Anti-Saloon League and as an endowment solicitor for Southern Seminary. From 1912 to 1929 he was pastor of churches in South Carolina.

---30---

NOTE TO EDITORS: In order to allow you more time to get current Baptist Press dispatches into your papers, we are mailing all BP material four days earlier. We will mail on Saturday instead of on Tuesdays as heretofore.

ALBERT McCLELLAN