

TEXAS CONVENTION ADOPTS  
\$5,000,000 BUDGET FOR 1950

EL PASO, Tex.—(BP)—Evangelism had major emphasis at the meeting of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, meeting here November 1-3. It even overshadowed the report of Treasurer R. A. Springer that more than ten million dollars was raised during the year for the Cooperative Program and for Baptist institutions in Texas. The \$5,000,000 budget voted for next year will be divided 50-50 with S.B.C. causes.

Matters of human relations, including vice and threat of war, were referred to a committee of seven for study and a report next year. Dr. W. R. White is chairman of the committee.

Convention-owned institutions were instructed by the convention to refuse any gifts from the government. Secretary J. Howard Williams reported progress in 20 departments of work. Rural rehabilitation was presented by motion picture shown by Assistant Secretary Floyd Chaffin.

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CALIFORNIA CONVENTION IS NO  
LONGER A BABY, SAYS EDITOR

LONG BEACH, Calif.—(BP)—California Southern Baptists avowed belief in separation of church and state, deplored liquor traffic, and protested teaching of dancing in public schools in their annual meeting held here. The 1,109 messengers and visitors gave testimony to the fact that they are no longer a small and largely unknown denomination in the Golden State, says Editor Floyd Looney, of the California Southern Baptist.

The messengers voted a Cooperative Program goal of \$110,000 and a total operating budget of \$244,000 for 1950. All departments of the convention will participate in the Western Evangelistic Crusade next year. A survey will be made to determine the possibility of establishing an orphanage.

Dr. S. G. Posey was elected president.

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**RURAL CHURCH EXTENDS  
AN "EVANGELISTIC ARM"**

WILLIAMSBURG, Va.—(BP)—The Jamestown vicinity of America's first English settlement now boasts one of the most active rural churches in the South. It is the 46-year-old James River Baptist Church that maintains two meeting houses, five miles apart.

The church itself is located deep in the woods, seven miles northwest of Jamestown Island. Within the past two years a new \$41,000 auditorium and educational building has been erected, completed with carpeted floors, oak pews and electric organ. The congregation meets in this building for all daytime services.

The second building for night services is five miles away on U. S. Highway 60 and is called the "evangelistic arm" of the church. It grew out of a tent revival sponsored by the church two years ago. The cinder block building seats 400 and is equipped with latest type opera chairs, hot air furnace, and pastor's study. It is erected on the site of Old Smyrna Baptist Church organized around 1800.

Since beginning its "evangelistic arm" this country church has received 125 new members, 75 for baptism. Per capita gifts last year were \$87.24.

The 1948 Lottie Moon Christmas offering was around \$500. Present Cooperative Program contributions are running about \$150 monthly.

Rev. Jesse Bowman, formerly a business man of Richmond, has been pastor of the church since 1942. The church recently completed a revival with Rev. Percy Ray, Myrtle, Miss., doing the preaching.

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**KANSAS BAPTISTS TAKE  
STEPS TO OUST LIQUOR**

WICHITA, KANS.—(BP)—Kansas Baptists in annual session here voted a \$11,375 Cooperative Program goal for 1950, which will be divided 80 per cent for state causes and 20 per cent to S.B.C. causes, reports Orbie Clem, editor, Kansas Southern Baptist Beams. Messengers to the convention also voted to work toward the goal, "Every Baptist a Tither," and to encourage churches to divide their gifts 50-50.

A Dry Crusade Committee was set up to lead in movement for re-submission of the liquor question to Kansas next year. Evangelistic plans include participation in the 1950 Western Evangelistic Crusade and a state evangelistic conference in January. Campaign was launched for a \$50,000 revolving building and loan fund and the Kansas Baptist Foundation was approved.

Pastor W. A. Burkey, First Church, Bethel, was elected president.

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ILLINOIS BAPTISTS APPROVE  
LONG-RANGE ADVANCE STEPS

DUQUOIN, Ill.--(BP)--Illinois Baptists meeting here in annual session adopted a five-year, long-range program which includes the organization of 50 churches, the completion of dormitories at the Baptist Foundation in Carbondale, the securing of housing facilities for state headquarters, the augmentation of a church loan fund up to \$100,000, and the establishment of a teaching foundation at the University of Illinois.

Messengers voted a goal of \$230,000 for cooperative missions for 1950 and asked churches to give through the Cooperative Program on a percentage basis. Gifts in 1949 totaled \$369,841.46, an increase of \$14,361.48 over 1948. Church and associational stewardship revivals will be among the 1950 emphases. Pastor Paul Carleton, First Church, Vandalia, was elected president.

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OREGON CONVENTION  
TAKES ADVANCE STEPS

LONGVIEW, Wash.--(BP)--The Baptist General Convention of Oregon, made up of Washington and Oregon and voted a part of the Southern Baptist Convention at its 1949 session, took far-reaching steps at its annual session here, according to Editor Bob Hite, of the Pacific Coast Baptist. Messengers to the meeting voted to cooperate in the Western Evangelistic Crusade in April, 1950; to set up a department of evangelism; to investigate the purchase of a headquarters building; and to raise a building fund for loans to new churches. Two new workers, a Sunday school secretary and a Woman's Missionary Union executive-secretary, will be added to the convention's full-time workers. The group also voted to try to increase its percentage to the Cooperative Program. The Rev. H. C. Price, of Portland, was elected president.

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T. P. HASKINS TO LEAD  
OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS

OKLAHOMA CITY--(BP)--The Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma elected the following officers for the ensuing year at its annual session here: T. P. Haskins, Oklahoma City, president; B. I. Cherry, Madill, first vice-president; Chester Mason, Tulsa, second vice-president; Andrew Potter, Oklahoma City, executive secretary; John Daniel, Oklahoma City, recording secretary, Tom Carter, Pauls Valley, assistant recording secretary; J. B. Rounds, Oklahoma City, historical secretary. The convention will meet in Tulsa in 1950. Frank Allee, Barnsdall, was selected to preach the annual sermon, with Joe Wilhelm, Tulsa, as alternate.

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November 11, 1949

NOTE TO EDITORS: Before sending you the following Carbondale story through the Baptist Press, I talked with both the editor and the executive-secretary in the presence of each other. They are agreed on the validity of the statement.

## QUESTIONNAIRE PROVES MISUNDERSTANDING IN CHARGES THAT ILLINOIS USED HIGH-PRESSURE TO GET 1950 CONVENTION

CARBONDALE, Ill.—(BP)—The General Committee on Entertaining the Southern Baptist Convention, a committee of the Illinois Baptist State Association, released here this week the following statement clearing away misunderstanding on how Illinois promoted Chicago as a meeting place for 1950:

"In a few of the Baptist state papers and other publications has appeared a statement which tends to make it seem that Illinois Baptists at the Oklahoma City convention used questionable methods in presenting the Illinois Baptist State Association's invitation for the Southern Baptist Convention to meet in Chicago. That statement, referring to applause which greeted speeches favoring the Chicago invitation, is as follows:

" 'This didn't happen accidentally, for the night before many of the Illinois messengers were instructed to be on hand and to be scattered over the entire auditorium. They were to applaud when mention of sufficient rooms was made. It is the old Mississippi strategy of appearing to have much by having it scattered over the entire building.'

"In order to determine to what extent this statement is true, the Illinois Baptist State Association's general committee on arrangements for entertaining the convention in Chicago sent a questionnaire to each person from Illinois who attended the convention in Oklahoma City. That questionnaire contained the following questions:

"At the Southern Baptist Convention in Oklahoma City:

1. Were you instructed to applaud during speeches favoring the Chicago invitation?
2. Were you instructed not to sit with other Illinoisans during consideration of the Chicago invitation so that the Illinois people would be widely scattered in the audience?

"This questionnaire was sent to 136 persons, one of whom had moved, leaving no address. One hundred twenty-seven of the 133 replying answered the above questions in the negative.

"Five persons answered both questions in the affirmative. One person answered question No. 1 in the negative and question No. 2 in the affirmative. Three of these six persons indicated that they did not follow those instructions. Only three of the 133 persons replying indicated that they followed these instructions.

"This questionnaire indicates that the above mentioned statement is somewhat lacking in accuracy. The committee feels that this statement does not correctly portray the activities of Illinois Baptists attending the convention in Oklahoma City and regrets the appearance of the inaccurate publicity."