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\$5 Million Capital Needs Proposed For Five Years

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention has voted to recommend a proposed \$5 million allocation to ten Baptist agencies during the next five years for capital needs and building construction.

The proposed \$5 million capital needs budget will be considered by the Southern Baptist Convention when it meets in Houston, June 4-7, 1968.

Covering the period from 1969-1973, the proposed capital needs budget would provide the agencies with \$800,000 during 1969, and \$1,050,000 each year from 1970-73.

Receiving the funds would be each of the six Southern Baptist-owned seminaries, the Baptist Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla., the SBC Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth, the SBC Brotherhood Commission in Memphis, and the SBC Home Mission Board.

The Home Mission Board will receive \$1 million to provide loans to Project 500 for the purchase of church sites. Project 500 is an effort to establish 500 new churches or church-type missions in strategic cities as part of the Crusade of the Americas.

Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., would receive \$32,500 in 1969 and \$150,000 in 1970 to be used for student housing (\$150,000), a preaching lab (\$7,500), and maintenance building (\$25,000).

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., would receive a total of \$517,000 to finance a \$317,000 student apartment building and a \$200,000 classroom building for academic instruction. It would receive \$55,500 in 1969, \$262,500 in 1970, and \$66,333 each year during the remaining five-year period.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La., would receive a total of \$325,000, including \$100,000 for a new library building, \$100,000 for renovation of the present library, and \$125,000 for student housing.

The funds to New Orleans would be allocated in chunks of \$55,500 in 1969, \$69,500 in 1970, \$66,666 in 1971, \$50,000 in 1972, and \$83,334 in 1973.

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., would receive a total of \$710,000 most of it going to a new library. A student housing unit would cost \$60,000 and the library, \$650,000. The seminary would get \$55,500 in 1969, \$4,500 in 1970, \$183,334 in 1971, \$250,000 in 1972, and \$126,666 in 1973.

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, would receive a total of \$950,000 with \$800,000 going to new building to house facilities of the School of Church Music. Another \$150,000 would construct a nursery school-kindergarten building as both a laboratory for religious education students and facilities for children of students.

The Southern Seminary allocations each year would be \$55,500 in 1969, \$134,500 in 1970, \$253,333 in 1971, \$236,667 in 1972, and \$270,000 in 1973.

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, would receive a total of \$525,000 to be divided \$300,000 to a nursery school and kindergarten, \$100,000 for a medical center including a clinic, dispensary, and dental facilities, and \$125,000 for student housing.

The annual allocations would be \$55,500 in 1969, \$69,500 in 1970, \$100,000 in 1971, \$166,667 in 1972, and \$133,333 in 1973.

In Memphis, the SBC Brotherhood Commission would get \$125,000 for a new operations building to provide facilities for circulation, shipping, handling, storage, printing, binding and maintenance operations and to be built in 1968. The commission would receive annual allocations of \$25,000.

Most of the allocation to the SBC Radio-Television Commission will go to the construction of a new television studio in its new communications center, and for purchase of technical equipment.

Actual allocations are for \$292,000 for the studio, \$47,000 for television technical equipment, \$70,000 for radio technical equipment, \$16,500 for radio duplicating equipment, \$100,000 for a color video-tape television recording-playback-editing unit, and \$65,000 for lots adjoining present property.

The allocations would be divided into the following periods: \$65,500 in 1969, \$134,500 in 1970, and \$130,333 in 1971, 1972, and 1973.

The Baptist Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, one of two hospitals in the Southern Baptist Hospitals, Inc., system, would receive \$75,000 for pastoral care facilities or chapel in their new hospital. It would receive the funds in three \$25,000 allocations in 1971, 1972, and 1973.

The complete capital needs budget proposal for the five-year period will go to the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston with the approval and recommendation of the SBC Executive Committee.

In September, 12 different SBC agencies presented their capital needs outlining needed construction totalling \$37½ million for the five-year period. The program subcommittee of the Executive Committee sent investigating teams to each of the 12 agencies to go over their requests and analyze the needs before paring down the requests.

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Layman Charges Ministers Ignore Churches' Laity

2/21/68

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--A layman entered a minister's fortress here and leveled a series of blasts at what he called the greatest failure of today's preachers.

Speaking to the faculty and students at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, Tom McCord of Decatur, Ga., charged that ministers are ignoring the capable laymen of their churches who sincerely want to become involved in church work.

"I know by name several creative laymen who have given up church work more or less because they have felt our Baptist democracy is a farce," said McCord, a construction company owner.

"I think we laymen live in a vacuum and you preachers live in another vacuum, so that we actually talk and associate without really communicating," he told the seminary students and faculty. Then he continued:

"If we could somehow reach this great reservoir of Christian manpower in our church; somehow mobilize the incalculable energy of the laymen in our churches, then we could see a great spiritual awakening.

"It seems you ministers are resentful and feel we are trying to push you aside and take your place in the pulpit.

"The minister is vainly trying to be equal to laymen in laymen's business sense, mistakenly hoping to appear equal in secular areas.

"When you as a minister have lunch with a layman, stick to your profession, and to your astonishment you will realize that laymen are hungry for sharing the great store of knowledge in spiritual areas that you have gained during long and arduous years of preparation.

"I wish we had a course in New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary that would teach ministers to increase their skills as enablers; that is they would better learn how to enable the laymen to find significant work.

"Maybe I am reading something into the situation that is not true, but at times I feel the minister doesn't want laymen spouting off any new ideas, they just want us to come to all the services, put some money in the plate, and not criticize the preacher or his program."

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