

October 16, 1950

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD ADOPTS 1951 BUDGET TO SUPPORT ITS LARGEST NUMBER OF MISSIONARIES

RICHMOND, Va.—(BP)—The Southern Baptist Convention's Foreign Mission Board has adopted the largest budget in its history for 1951 to support the largest number of missionaries ever to serve abroad.

Operating budget for next year totals, \$4,538,672, an increase of \$1,100,000 over that of three years ago when the Convention authorized expansion of the mission program.

Appointment of four missionaries at the October Board meeting raised to 791 the number of active missionaries, an increase of 166 in the three years since the Advance Program started.

Of the appointments, 99 have been made during the ten months of this year which compares with a previous high in appointments of 74 three years ago. The Board, which had earlier set a ceiling of 100 on appointments for the current year, raised this so as to provide for twelve candidates who may appear at the December meeting.

Appointed as missionaries were Dr. and Mrs. Robert Harrell Culpepper of Tifton, Ga., for service in Japan and Rev. and Mrs. Reuben Boyd Robertson of Carrollton, Tex., for Argentina. Mrs. Culpepper is the former Kathleen Sanderson of Richmond and at one time was young people's secretary for the Virginia Woman's Missionary Union.

Dr. M. Theron Rankin, executive secretary, in presenting the 1951 budget said no ceiling could be placed on appointments for next year until the April meeting.

Dr. Rankin explained:

"Present indications are that all Cooperative Program funds reaching Nashville in December will, under the financial plan, be designated for the Foreign Mission Board. We cannot project our full program for next year until the amount of this is determined."

Best estimates are that the Cooperative Program budget will pass the \$6,500,000 ceiling around December 1 and all funds will be allocated to the Foreign Mission Board. This is variously estimated to add from \$250,000 to \$500,000 to funds for next year.

Dr. Rankin further told the Board:

"The only way there can be an advance in foreign missions, as authorized by our

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Convention, is to advance our giving so there will be an increase in Foreign Mission Board receipts."

L. Howard Jenkins, Richmond layman who has served as president of the Board for 18 years, was re-elected. Vice presidents re-elected were Dr. Clyde Hickerson of Richmond and Dr. M. Ray McKay of Little Rock. Dr. Garis Long of Richmond was re-elected secretary.

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MOTHER OF
EDITOR PASSES

CARBONDALE, Ill.—(BP)—Mrs. Otto Murrie, 81, mother of Dr. B. J. Murrie, editor, Illinois Baptist, died at her home in Vienna, October 9. She had lived in the same community all of her life.

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LOOKING TOWARD 1953 CONVENTION
R. Lofton Hudson

It is time to begin thinking about where the Southern Baptist Convention will meet in 1953. Why? Because arrangements for auditoriums and hotels are made two years in advance in most cities. These convention bureaus like to know where they are going. And only a few cities can entertain the Southern Baptist Convention any more.

The Convention Arrangement Committee of the Executive Committee is ready to make investigations on any invitation which may be extended for the 1953 convention. If your city wishes to make such an invitation, address it to Mr. Porter Routh, secretary of the committee, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tennessee. These invitations should be in by the December meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Convention in San Francisco will make the final decision about place, of course. This committee is authorized to get facts only.

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST RADIO HOUR
BROADCASTS WILL CHANGE STYLE

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--The general format and style of the Southern Baptist radio Hour is being changed, according to Dr. Sam F. Lowe, director, Southern Baptist Radio Commission, to make the broadcasts more intimate and less formal.

The new plan will go into effect when weekly broadcasts of the Baptist Hour are resumed in January of 1951. Charles Wellborn, Baylor University Bible instructor, will be the speaker for the first six months of the year. "This is God's Hour" has been selected as the general theme for the first quarter. Mr. Wellborn will preside over the programs throughout, and a special gospel quartet of male singers is being organized.

Dr. Lowe said further that the Baptist Hour is starting on a small scale in 1951, with the hope of expanding as more funds are available. The Radio Commission will engage a limited number of stations in each state, adding others only as listener contributions justify. However, transcriptions of the Baptist Hour will be available without cost to any stations that will carry it on a sustaining basis, and to any Baptists who want to sponsor it in their local community.

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MISSISSIPPI EDUCATION GROUP
PROPOSES TO CLOSE WOMAN'S COLLEGE

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--Baptists of Mississippi will consider a recommendation to close one of their fine colleges, Mississippi Woman's College, when the state convention meets here, November 14-16. The recommendation is a part of the report of the Mississippi Baptist Education Commission. Reason for the move is "failure of Mississippi Baptists to support Mississippi Woman's College." Proposed closing time is June 30, 1951. If the plan carries, all transferable assets will be delivered to the Mississippi Baptist Foundation to be used for Christian education.

The Commission also recommends that state Cooperative Program mission funds be distributed 55 per cent for state purposes. Christian education will receive 22½ per cent of the state's part to be divided, Mississippi College, 40 per cent; Blue Mountain College, 30 per cent; Clarke College, 25 per cent, and the School of Nursing, 5 per cent.

The Commission also proposes a one million dollar special campaign to be divided \$750,000 for endowment of the remaining schools and \$250,000 to build fine Baptist student centers adjacent to state school campuses.

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CALIFORNIA BAPTISTS
TO ENLARGE BUDGET

FRESNO, Calif.--(BP)--The board of directors of the California State Convention of Southern Baptists will recommend a total budget of \$247,500 for 1951 when it makes its annual report to the meeting of the convention in Bakersfield early in November. The proposed budget, the largest in the convention's ten year history, was approved by the board in session in Fresno, September 15.

If the convention adopts the recommendation of its board of directors it will begin the first year of its second decade by contributing 25 per cent of its distributable funds to convention-wide agencies, 10 per cent to Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, and the remaining 65 per cent to state missions. Necessary administrative costs and promotion expense will be deducted before division is made.

The board was unanimous in its approval of a \$125,000 goal for the Cooperative Program. The additional \$122,500 is expected to come from special mission offerings.

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BROTHERHOOD COMMISSION WILL
ERECT \$45,000 OFFICE BUILDING

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--A budget of \$64,300 for the Brotherhood Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention has been adopted for 1951. This amount is made up by the current \$40,000 from the Cooperative Program and an estimated \$24,300 receipts from the sale of literature.

The funds were authorized by the Southern Baptist Convention at Oklahoma City in 1949. The executive committee of the Commission was authorized to secure a location and to go forward with the erection of a \$45,000 office building at the earliest practical time. It is hoped that the Brotherhood will be housed in the new office building by the end of 1951.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: John W. McCall, Tennessee, chairman; Bryce L. Twitty, Oklahoma, vice chairman; F. Ivy Boggs, Texas, secretary; T. Robert Acklen, Tennessee, assistant secretary; Charles H. Heacock, Tennessee, treasurer.

The next annual meeting of the Brotherhood Commission will be held at Ridgcrest, N. C., August 16-23, 1951.

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