



127 Ninth Avenue, North Nashville, Tennessee

September 13, 1951

NASHVILLE, Tenn. *(BP)-- A new executive secretary and a proposed \$14,500,000 capital needs program were the two principal achievements of the semi-annual meeting of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, early in September.

Dr. Porter Routh, secretary of survey, statistics and information for the Baptist Sunday School Board, was elected executive secretary to succeed Dr. Duke K. McCall who has accepted the presidency of Southern Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Routh accepted to assume office September 24. Dr. Austin Crouch, former executive secretary, was elected as interim secretary.

The capital needs portion of the Cooperative Program budget was completely reorganized on recommendation of a special Resurvey Committee, Dr. Henry W. Tiffany, Virginia, chairman. If the proposal is adopted by the convention in Miami, Florida, next May 14-18, \$14,500,000 will be set aside in the next five years for purposes of improving old school and mission properties and adding new ones.

The plan follows an arrangement first adopted in 1946 that set a ceiling on the amount of Cooperative Program funds that can be spent for current operations. (For example, the total ten-million-dollar budget for 1952 is divided into three parts (1) current needs, the first \$4,500,000; (2) capital needs, the next \$2,500,000; and (3) the Advance Program with all receipts over \$7,000,000 to be divided 75 per cent to the Foreign Mission Board and 25 per cent to the Home Mission Board. All funds in the second portion of the budget will apply toward the \$14,500,000 goal next year.)

Agencies sharing in the five-year program will be:

Foreign Mission Board.	\$ 3,000,000
Home Mission Board	2,200,000
New Orleans Seminary	1,900,000
Southwestern Seminary.	1,370,000
Southern Seminary.	1,670,000
Southeastern Seminary.	1,000,000
Golden Gate Seminary	1,000,000
American Seminary.	210,000
Relief and Annuity Board.	1,460,000
Radio Commission	60,000
Baptist Hospital	600,000
Baptist Brotherhood.	30,000
	<u>\$ 14,500,000</u>

Members of the Resurvey Committee were Dr. Tiffany, chairman; George B. Fraser, Washington, D.C., president of the Executive Committee; Dr. Louis D. Newton, Georgia; Dr. J.W. Storer, Oklahoma; and Dr. W. Boyd Hunt, Houston, Texas.

-2- executive committee meeting....

The Executive Committee **also** adopted a resolution calling for stricter adherence to the Bible as the only rule for faith and practice. All editors, state secretaries and pastors present heartily and unanimously approved the action. The resolution is as follows:

"(1) We recognize the importance of the study of doctrines for all members of our churches and desire to encourage a continuing program of doctrinal instruction in the churches.

"(2) The Southern Baptist Convention at San Francisco voted to "Authorize its Executive Committee to have prepared a list of suitable books and other materials for study" on doctrinal questions.

"A Fundamental Baptist belief is that the Bible is our only rule of faith and practice. Because of this belief we as Baptists have always been reluctant to designate any other book or group of books as containing the interpretation of our faith. In keeping with this policy we urge our people to search the Scriptures in order to know what to believe and how to practice their Christian faith. Moreover, we commend to them the abundance of books and materials along doctrinal lines which have won a place of acceptance among us and which are listed in the Annual of the Southern Baptist Convention, and in the publications of our boards and institutions."

A plan was approved for carrying out the Simultaneous Stewardship Week in 1953. Worked out by Dr. Merrill D. Moore and the promotion committee, the plan brings together the efforts of the Training Union, the W.M.U., the Sunday School and Brotherhood. Date for the study course will be October 18-25, 1953.

A recommendation was adopted to ask the Convention to change the name of the Historical Society to Historical Commission. A new charter for the Historical Society was approved subject to adoption by the Convention.

The Committee re-elected Judge George B. Fraser, Washington, D.C., as president; H.W. Tiffany, Virginia, vice-president; Merrill D. Moore, director of promotion and Albert McClellan, director of publications. Oliver Shields, Missouri, was elected recording secretary.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in Nashville December 12-13.