

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

September 11, 1952

RIDGECREST ASSEMBLY
IMPROVEMENT PLANS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--A North Carolina Baptist layman, seeing hundreds of people unable to get in the Ridgecrest auditorium during the Sunday school conference last July, launched a movement for an enlarged auditorium by making a gift of \$2,500 for that purpose which grew by the end of the summer to \$25,000.

These gifts are being matched by appropriations of the Sunday School Board. The Ridgecrest Assembly Committee of the Board has approved plans for a \$100,000 addition to the auditorium to be started just as soon as funds are available for this purpose.

Enlargement of the auditorium is considered a necessity according to Dr. T. L. Holcomb, secretary of the Board, since eight out of the thirteen weeks of the assembly program draw crowds far exceeding the capacity of the present auditorium.

Willard K. Weeks, manager of the assembly, and Hardie C. Bass, Sunday School Board architect, say that the enlarged auditorium will seat 3,400. Overflow space will care for 600 others.

Other plans have been approved for the following projects during the next year: a new hotel unit to provide about 24 rooms; an addition to the girls' staff dormitory to house 80 girls; approximately a mile of urgently needed paving; changes to guarantee a more adequate water supply; the development of new playground facilities made necessary by a change in the highway through the present playground; and the construction of all-weather tennis courts at the Boys' Camp. Mr. Perry Morgan, manager of the camp, reported \$1,000 given by the parents of a boy attending the camp for the erection of a \$10,000 camp center. This year's Boys' Camp had an enrollment of 256.

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FOUR TV SETS
FOR CARMI HOME

CARMI, Ill.--(BP)--Four television sets have been given to the Carmi Baptist Children's home, according to an announcement by Superintendent Wade B. East.

The sets were the gift of U. A. Sanabria, president of the American Television Corporation and were given in response to a request of Miss Mary Kolenski, assistant treasurer, American Television Corporation, who as a child spent seven years in the home.

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TWO WRITERS CONFERENCES
SCHEDULED FOR NEXT YEAR

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Plans are being made for two 1953 Southern Baptist writers' conferences to attract a total of 275 writers and editors. One will be at Ridgecrest, N.C., July 30 - August 5, 1953. The other at Glorieta, N. M., August 20-30. The Ridgecrest conference is expected to have a total attendance of 200 and the Glorieta conference, seventy-five. The dates were announced by Dr. Clifton J. Allen, director of the conferences.

Dr. Allen said, "These conferences are planned for students in Christian journalism, persons interested in creative writing, lesson writers, editorial workers, persons serving denominational institutions in the field of public relations, church workers responsible for publicity, and persons engaged in the secular journalism field, who desire spiritual enrichment as a background for their work."

This year's conference was held at Ridgecrest in August with an attendance of 175, including 49 men. Forty were present for the first time. This year's attendance was the largest on record. The Writers' Conferences were begun by The Sunday School Board in 1931.

Writers who wish additional information about next year's conferences should write Dr. Clifton J. Allen, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville, Tenn., requesting him to place their names on the writers' conference mailing list.

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WAKE FOREST REMOVAL FUND
STANDS AT HALF-WAY MARK

WAKE FOREST, N. C.--(BP)--North Carolina Baptists are past the half-way mark in raising the first \$17,000,000 needed for construction of the new Wake Forest campus at Winston Salem. They have eight millions in hand. The total program is expected to cost twenty-five millions. This is according to an editorial in the Biblical Recorder, state paper for North Carolina.

The plan to move Wake Forest was adopted in 1946. The new campus will be built with a religious theme centered about a massive chapel. Work under way includes campus streets and the chapel.

The removal of Wake Forest to Winston Salem is of interest to Southern Baptists, because of the purchase of the old campus for the new Southeastern Seminary. The property was bought for \$1,600,000 by an action of the Convention at Chicago in 1950 and is to be paid for at the rate of \$300,000 each year or at least by Jan. 1, 1961. The seminary is now operating on the campus. No date has been announced for removal of the college to Winston Salem.

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SOUTHERN SEMINARY PLANS
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHOOL

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will establish a school of religious education provided the board of trustees will accept a recommendation of the faculty. A sub-committee of the Board had previously declared its willingness to recommend the new school to the Board of opening in the fall of 1953 provided "it could be soundly financed." The announcement was made by the Information Office of the seminary.

The proposed school will be open to both men and women and will major on producing "scholars as well as craftsmen." It will offer a Master of Religious Education degree for two years' work. In order not to compete with colleges, it will offer no degree for students who do not possess a college degree.

The trustee committee will meet Nov. 25, to further consider the recommendation.

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SHOW YOUR COLORS DAY
HAILED SUCCESSFUL

SAINT LOUIS, Mo.--(BP)--Sunday, July 27, the hottest day of the summer in St. Louis up to that date, was "Show Your Colors Day" at the Calvary Church, Nelson Reagan, pastor. People attending Sunday school were given a red ribbon to wear; those who were present at the morning service were given a white ribbon. Those in Training Union received a blue ribbon, and those at the evening worship service one of gold. At the close of the day a photograph was made of all those who had attended all four services of the day, and there were more than 200. The total membership of the church is not quite 700.

An attendance record for the Training Union was established with 276 present, and the church also broke all previous attendance records for the Sunday evening worship service. The Sunday school record for August was topped with an attendance of 410.

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KENTUCKY ACCIDENT

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--O. J. Steger, until recently pastor at Newport, lost his right arm in a mowing machine accident. His injury was complicated by a diabetic condition.

The state mourns the loss of Rev. A. S. Petry, hero of Harold Dye's Prophet of Little Cane Creek. He died in late summer after a Kentucky ministry of more than fifty years.

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TEXAS COLLEGES TO MAKE
JOINT APPEAL FOR BIG GIFTS

WACO, Tex.--(BP)--Baylor University is one of the 19 non-tax-supported Texas colleges forming the Texas Foundation of Voluntarily Supported Colleges and Universities, which in Dallas has received the approval of the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The Baylor board of trustees had already approved the university's membership in the foundation subject to approval by the Baptist board.

Representatives from the 19 colleges and universities forming the foundation will meet at Baylor University Union Building Sept. 26, to complete organization of the foundation.

Eight of the foundation colleges are Baptist sponsored. The Baptist board's action amounted to a go-ahead signal for the Texas Baptist colleges and universities to join the foundation.

The foundation represents a united appeal by private Texas colleges -- faced with money problems -- to big corporations for money.

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MERCER UNIVERSITY OPENS
28 EXTENSION CENTERS

MACON, Ga.--(BP)--Mercer University is opening 28 extension centers in Georgia. They are primarily for pastors and church leaders and will teach courses in Christian education. They are sponsored by Mercer University and paid for with a special appropriation of the Georgia Baptist Convention.

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TEACHING IDEA
CONSIDERED

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--(BP)--An idea for use of projectors for teaching reading to African children, suggested by Forrest R. Sawyer, Brotherhood secretary for Alabama, is being considered by the Le Tourneau Foundation in its new pioneer mission venture in Siberia.

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300 EXPECTED
AT GRAND CANYON

PHOENIX, Ariz.--(BP)--Grand Canyon College expects to enroll 300 students before the end of the semester. One hundred seventy-five had filed application with \$10 deposit before school opened.

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MISSIONARY DOLLARS ARE STILL BIG

by J. D. Grey, President
Southern Baptist Convention

The American dollar has become pitifully small in its purchasing power. The price index shows how weak it is on the consumer market. However the dollar invested in missions is still as big as it ever was, if not bigger. Southern Baptists can be happy over the bargains they are getting with their missionary dollars. Their dollars invested in missionary activities around the world are bringing glorious dividends!

This observation comes from a journey of 19,360 miles and brief visits to seventeen countries, including several Southern Baptist mission fields. In all of these places I saw American dollars at work. Industry has them working; world trade, world transportation and the military have them working. The Marshall Plan has our dollars working for the tremendous benefit of many nations. But nowhere did I see a dollar bringing as great and lasting benefits as the missionary dollar.

I saw the missionary dollar at work. I saw it on missions of mercy in war-devastated countries as it brought relief from famine, encouragement and hope to displaced persons. I saw it in the work of reconstruction as bombed-out churches were being repaired and as many small church buildings and chapels were being erected in areas wholly destitute of the evangelical faith. As a typical case I cite a chapel built by Southern Baptists at Salzburg, Austria, where the Baptist church already has 200 members and ministers to thousands who are swarming out of Communist-infested Eastern Europe. If every Southern Baptist could see just one situation like Salzburg, he would be happy over the return on his investment and sad because he had not given more.

Our missionary dollars are at work in medical missions. In just one field - Nigeria - I beheld scenes that would make the angels rejoice. Our Southern Baptist doctors and nurses there are truly "angels of mercy" and humble servants of Christ as the Lord uses them to place healing hands on diseased bodies and win to Christ those who are being healed. One missionary doctor just completing a major operation said to me, "God has saved the life of this pagan man; the operation seems to be a success. I must now seek to win him to Christ before he leaves the hospital. I feel God has helped me in ministering to his body so I may also minister to his soul." I saw instances and heard of many more where entire pagan communities have been turned to faith in Christ because of the efficient medical care and the humble Christian lives of the medical missionaries. But with a limited personnel and equally limited facilities they cannot begin to meet the needs. In hospitals, leper colonies, women's dispensaries, and in homes for abandoned infants the missionaries are "making brick without straw."

I saw also our missionary dollars hard at work in the field of education and evangelism. Be assured on the mission field these two must always be inseparably linked together. The same ought to be the case on the home field as well. At Ruschlikon, our Seminary is training the leaders who will shape the destiny of Europe for a thousand years. In Nigeria in the elementary schools, high schools, colleges and seminary, we have Christian education indeed. It is active - not simply passive. Not only are our preachers being trained in our Baptist schools, but school teachers, businessmen, and public officials. A minister in the government at Lagos is a product of our Baptist schools. There is an insatiate thirst for education in Nigeria. A new nation is being born. More and more the British are handing over the reins of Nigeria's destiny to the natives. The extent to which these new leaders are Christian in their attitudes depends upon what we have done and will do in giving them Christian education. Every one of our schools is a focal point for intensive evangelistic activity. Our missionary dollars are hard at work through the Seminary at Ogbomosho. Here the native pastors and Baptist leaders are being well trained for their work. A strong spirit of evangelism emanates from the seminary. This is demonstrated by the fact that last year there was one baptism for every nine Baptists in Nigeria while here at home we had one baptism for every nineteen members.

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What our missionary dollars are doing in education and evangelism elsewhere, they are doing also in Brazil. A brief visit at only one mission station - Recife - convinced me of this. The 47 Baptist churches of the city were in the midst of a Simultaneous Evangelistic Crusade. Both the Seminary and the Woman's Training School had dismissed classes for the week to enable the students to work in the crusade. In addition to regular services in these churches and additional mission stations, other activities of such a crusade were being carried on. Numerous radio broadcasts were heard each day and, on the opening Sunday, fifteen open-air services were held and a five o'clock each afternoon an evangelistic service was held in a public square in the heart of the city. All of these services had tremendous crowds and a marvelous response. What I witnessed in Recife was happening, I was told, throughout Brazil and the rest of South America. I noted the same spirit in evangelistic fervor when I stopped briefly in Venezuela where our mission work is only a little over one year old.

The missionary dollar also gets us more than our money's worth in the type of missionary personnel we have. In caliber, ability, consecration and spirit, our missionaries are among the finest Christian workers on earth. Most of them are doing the work of two or three men and they do it without complaining.

Southern Baptists, your missionary dollars are still the biggest in the world. The only trouble is we don't have enough of these dollars at work.