

March 8, 1952

SBC TOTAL GIFTS EXCEED
\$3,000,000 IN TWO MONTHS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. --(BP)-- Southern Baptists in twenty-two states and Alaska in February gave \$1,565,825 to Southern Baptist Convention causes and agencies through the Cooperative Program and designated gifts, bringing total gifts for the first two months of the year to \$3,084,001, according to reports from the office of Porter Routh, executive secretary of the Executive Committee in Nashville.

The February gifts included \$796,104 to the Cooperative Program with the balance in designated gifts. Cooperative Program gifts for both months totaled \$1,525,266, a 19.04 per cent increase over the \$1,281,280 given for the same two months in 1951.

Total designated gifts have reached \$1,558,735, most of it being receipts from the Lottie Moon Christmas offering for foreign missions. A check not yet received from one of the larger states accounts for a decrease in the total when compared with the \$2,002,832 in designated gifts to date in 1951, Routh explained.

Of the total receipts this year, over \$3,000,000, the Foreign Mission Board received \$2,244,062, most of it designated.

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CITY MISSIONARIES MEET IN ATLANTA CONFERENCE

ATLANTA, Ga. --(BP)-- Juvenile delinquency, broken homes, work with institutions and ways and means of establishing new churches and missions were among the topics considered by forty-five city missionaries from sixteen Southern Baptist states in a recent three-day City Mission Conference in Atlanta.

The program was led by Dr. S.F. Dowis, head of the Department of City Mission Work of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

Officers of the conference named were A. E. Pardue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, president; A. L. Lowther, Oklahoma City, vice-president, and T. L. Sasser, Greensboro, North Carolina, secretary.

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RETIREMENT PLAN HELPS 638
DURING LAST FIVE YEARS

DALLAS, Tex. --(BP)-- During the five-year period of 1947-51, 638 Baptist preachers wereretired under the Ministers Retirement Plan, 540 of them being age annuitants and ninety-eight disability annuitants, according to Dr. Walter R. Alexander, executive secretary of the Relief and Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

A majority of the disabled annuitants are under sixty-five years of age, whereas all others are sixty-five or over, the records show.

Of the total number retiring during the five years, seventy-six died during the period. The disabled group lost seventeen, the others being in the age annuitant group.

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OKLAHOMA BAPTISTS SET \$2,000,000 GOAL
IN COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GIFTS BY 1956

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. --(BP)-- Oklahoma Baptists are planning a stepped-up program in Cooperative Program contributions which will reach two million dollars in 1956, according to Dr. T.B. Lackey, executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

With a 1952 goal of \$1,000,000, Baptist leaders in the state anticipate a yearly jump of \$200,000 to Southern Baptists' plan of supporting mission, educational and benevolent causes. The adopted goal for 1953 will be \$1,200,000.

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DAWSON SCHEDULED SPEAKER
ON TUCSON STATE-CHURCH MEET

TUCSON, Ariz. --(BP)-- Dr. J.M. Dawson, executive secretary of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, D.C., is to be speaker for the Tucson community conference on church and state in mid-March.

Chairman of the arrangements committee for the conference, Dr. Selwyn Smith, announced the program as a community-wide civic project sponsored by the Tucson Ministers Association. Dr. Smith is pastor of the First Southern Baptist church in Tucson, meeting place for the conference.

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TEXAS GIFTS BOOMING
FAR ABOVE SET GOALS

DALLAS, Tex. --(BP)-- Texas Baptists are giving in 1952 so that the state's Cooperative Program goal has been exceeded both in January and February, according to Floyd Chaffin, assistant executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

January's gifts were \$111,000 more than the goal set for the opening month of the year and February's goal was exceeded by \$90,000.

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