



April 14, 1956

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO SBC

Recommendation No. 1

We recommend the approval of the 1956 budgets of the Convention agencies insofar as they do not conflict with the Business and Financial Plan of the Convention.

Recommendation No. 2

We recommend that the distribution of the Cooperative Program receipts for 1957 be on a single percentage basis, up to the Advance Program for home and foreign missions, with the understanding that if less than \$11,000,000 is received the agencies not sharing in Capital Needs will receive the balance on their Operating Budgets before final distribution is made.

Recommendation No. 3

We recommend that a full \$11,000,000 of Cooperative Program funds be distributed for current operating expenses and capital needs in 1957.

Recommendation No. 4

We recommend that the Convention Operating Budget for 1957 be as follows:

Convention Expense (including Annual).....	\$ 45,000
Special Committees.....	10,000
Executive Committee.....	100,000
Reserve.....	5,000
Total.....	<u>\$160,000</u>

(By agreement the Sunday School Board will pay \$60,000 toward operation of the Convention Budget, and the remaining \$100,000 will be provided out of the distributable funds.)

Recommendation No. 5

We recommend that all receipts in excess of \$11,000,000 shall go 75 per cent to foreign missions and 25 per cent to home missions.

Recommendation No. 6

We recommend that the \$250,000 for the Relief and Annuity Board on the 1957 Operating Budget be used specifically for Ministerial Relief.

Recommendation No. 7

We recommend that a transfer of \$35,000 capital funds designated to American Baptist Theological Seminary for 1956 be given to the Brotherhood Commission, and the 1958 capital funds of \$35,000 designated to the Brotherhood Commission be given to the American Baptist Theological Seminary.

RUSSIAN BAPTISTS TO
SPEND MONTH IN U. S.

WASHINGTON--(BP)--Five Russian Baptists will arrive in New York May 18 to begin a month's visit among Baptists in the United States, according to Arnold T. Ohrn, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance.

They will attend meetings of the Southern Baptist Convention in Kansas City, Mo., May 30-June 2 and later the annual meeting of the American Baptist Convention in Seattle, Wash. They also will attend a BWA executive committee meeting.

The five Russians, four men and a woman, will also visit a number of cities in the area of the Southern Baptist Convention, according to a tentative schedule.

The five are Jakov Zhidkov, president of the Evangelical Union of Christian Baptists; Nikolai Levindanto, vice-president; Alexander Karev, general secretary; Ilya Ivanov, treasurer, and Miss Claudia Tyrtova, a representative of Russian Baptist youth.

Zhidkov is one of the vice-presidents of the Baptist World Alliance. Miss Tyrtova is a member of the BWA youth committee.

It is the first time Russian Baptists have visited their fellow-Baptists in the United States in at least 28 years, and perhaps longer. In 1928, some Russian Baptists attended a meeting in Toronto, Canada, and may have entered the United States while abroad.

In a telegram to Ohrn, the visiting delegation said: "We Russian Baptists heartily thank you for your invitation to visit the USA. We plan to arrive in New York May 18. With best wishes. Zhidkov and Karev."

A. Klaupiks, of Washington, BWA official in charge of relief and refugee work, will accompany them on their coast-to-coast visit serving as interpreter.

Their appearances in addition to the Southern Baptist Convention will tentatively include the following cities in the SBC, with dates:

Richmond--May 25-27; Augusta, Ga., May 28-29; Nashville, June 6-7; Fort Worth, June 7-9; Phoenix, Ariz., June 9; Los Angeles, June 10; Fresno, Calif., June 12 or 13, and San Francisco, June 14.

They are coming to the United States, Ohrn said, in response to an invitation extended by a representative committee of the major Baptist conventions in the United States and their presidents.

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"The Russian group will visit as many Baptist centers, institutions, and conventions as can be reached within a span of a month to bring fraternal greetings from the 500,000 Russian Baptists," Ohrn added. They will speak to gatherings of Baptist people at most cities on their itinerary.

There are indications they will appear three or more times on the program of the Southern Baptist Convention at Kansas City--at the time designated for fraternal messengers; on the Christian home program, and on the youth night program.

G. Kearnie Keegan, in charge of the youth night program, said all young people visiting in Kansas City for the Convention as well as all young people living there, will be invited to that program. He said Miss Tyrtova will be on the program then.

WEATHERSPOON TO SPEAK
TO SOUTHEASTERN GRADS

WAKE FOREST, N. C.--(BP)--Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's commencement exercises have been set for Apr. 26-27, according to President S. L. Stealey.

J. B. Weatherspoon, professor of preaching, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will deliver the commencement address on Friday morning, Apr. 27.

This year's graduating class--all men--will include 89 receiving the bachelor of divinity degree, 11 receiving the master of theology degree, and two graduating by certificate.

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DEDICATION DAY SET

HARLINGEN, Tex.--(BP)--On May 18, the new \$2,250,000 Valley Baptist Hospital here will be dedicated, according to Stanley H. Holmgren, president of the hospital board.

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folks & facts.....

.....Funeral services were held at Main St. Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Fla., April 9, for W. W. Willian, who retired in 1946 as Sunday school secretary for Florida Baptists.

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.....Arnold T. Ohrn, general secretary, Baptist World Alliance, Washington, will be baccalaureate speaker at Golden Gate Baptist Seminary Apr. 26. Harold K. Graves, president of the seminary in Berkeley, Calif., will deliver the commencement address Apr. 27.

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.....Furman University, Greenville, S. C., takes another step toward completing its \$15 million new campus Apr. 24 when the cornerstone for the new library will be placed. The library, with an estimated cost of \$1,180,000, is scheduled for completion by April next year.

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.....Brooks Ramsey has accepted a call to pastorate of Ridglea Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex. He goes to Fort Worth from Curtis Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga.

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.....The B. B. McKinney Memorial Library at Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., will be officially opened to the public in dedicatory services May 10-11. It honors the memory of McKinney, secretary of the church music department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, prior to his death in 1952.

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BAPTIST FEATURES

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HELP WANTED: 375 MORE MISSIONARIES, NOW!
By Elmer S. West
For the Baptist Press

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has urgent specific requests to appoint 500 missionaries this year.

Indications are that at least 125 young Southern Baptists will qualify for missionary appointments in 1956, but where are the other 375 who are needed now?

Where are the preachers, doctors, nurses, teachers, medical technicians, hospital administrators, and other specialists to increase the missionary staff to the goal of 1750 missionaries and beyond?

Southern Baptists now have more than 1000 missionaries under appointment and serving in 35 countries and territories overseas. The Foreign Mission Board is ready to begin work in three new countries this year---if missionary personnel is available.

This fact is certain: God has called many more young people for missionary service overseas than have yet answered. And in all probability some of these young people are in your church--ready to go, or in a position to get ready.

Disproportionate Witness

Look at it this way: Christ's marching orders in the Great Commission are valid for every Christian, for the whole world. Southern Baptists, over 8 million strong, have 27,000 ordained preachers but only 350 witnessing overseas.

It is significant to serve God in America, but our disproportionate witness puts the burden of explanation upon us.

Daily the Foreign Mission Board receives letters from young men and women who are searching their souls in this matter. Until recently many of them never dreamed that God's place for them was overseas. But the facts are stabbing them wide awake.

They are looking at themselves -- and the lost world for which Christ died. And in these circumstances, the miracle of commitment and revelation takes place. Some prepare to go overseas. Others, sensing positive divine leadership to remain at home, commit themselves to a significant personal stewardship in world missions.

Sometimes those who are willing and ready to go, find it impossible to qualify for missionary appointment. More often, however, those who rationalized that they could never become missionaries, find that they can meet appointment qualifications.

This surge of concern and enthusiasm among young people should continue -- and increase. All Southern Baptists must commit themselves to a greater faithfulness in stewardship and prayer in response to this life dedication.

Sounding The Call

Missionaries on furlough and Foreign Mission Board staff members are sounding the call for missionary personnel. Leaders among students are seeking to inform and challenge them for world service in Christ's name. Churches have a responsibility to pray, and give, and inspire young people to a worthy commitment of life.

What about you? Have you ever spent five minutes considering the possibility of God's leading you to missionary service overseas? If you are beyond the age limit, or otherwise unable to qualify for appointment, what about your stewardship? Do you know world conditions? Are you praying for those who are not Christians, and encouraging those whom God is calling as missionaries to go overseas.

God waits expectantly. Southern Baptists must go where people live without a Christ who prays, ". . .that the world may know that Thou hast sent me and hast loved them even as Thou hast loved me" (John 17:23b).