



# BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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April 3, 1980

80-56

March CP Totals  
Up Over Last Year

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Giving through the Southern Baptist Convention's national Cooperative Program totaled \$5,871,735 in March, the sixth month of the fiscal year.

The March total was a 9.61 percent increase over March 1979 but the percentage is distorted because of circumstances last year. A Cooperative Program check from a major state convention failed to reach the Executive Committee, which disburses the funds, last February. The check arrived in early March, making the Cooperative Program totals smaller in February, but with two checks in March, making that month deceptively large.

Consequently comparisons in 1980 show a tremendous increase over February 1979 and a smaller increase in March. But when comparing the two months as a unit, February-March 1980 shows an 18.56 percent increase over February-March 1979.

The undesignated Cooperative Program receipts for March, along with another \$8,937,216 in designated contributions, brought total giving for the month to \$14,808,951, up 1.13 percent over the same month last year.

Through the first six months of the 1979-80 fiscal year, Southern Baptists have given \$36,071,047 through the Cooperative Program, up 14.55 percent over the same point last year. Designated contributions total \$40,541,234, up 14.92 percent. Designated and undesignated gifts total \$76,612,281, up 14.74 percent over last year.

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Preaching, Singing Mark  
Evangelists Meeting

Baptist Press  
4/3/80

ST. LOUIS (BP)--Evangelists from around the country will preach and sing for the annual conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists at the Third Baptist Church, St. Louis, June 11.

The meeting is one of several that precede the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting being held at the Cervantes Convention Center.

According to Don Womack, conference executive director and evangelist from Memphis, Tenn., the meeting will run from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. A mid-morning breakfast and business session will be held at 8:30 at the Sheraton Downtown.

A concert by music evangelists opens the session. Singing will be Jimmy Snellen, Dallas, Texas; Leon Westerhouse, Birmingham, Ala.; Lowell Leistner, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.; the Cruse Family, Jacksonville, Texas; Sam Allen, Lubbock, Texas; Bill Sky-Eagle, Dallas; Chuck Kennedy, St. Louis, Mo.; Jim McNeil, St. Louis; Ron and Claudia Henderson, Albany, Ga.; and Ed and Joni Wingfield, Bristow, Okla.

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Sermons will be brought by evangelists Henry Linginfelter, Alcoa, Tenn.; Ed Stalnecker, Jacksonville, Fla.; Hyman Appelman, Kansas City, Mo.; and Rick Ingle, Denton, Texas.

Special music will be brought by Dick Barrett, Bremen, Ga.; Bette Stalnecker, Jacksonville, Fla.; Connie Ware, Plano, Texas; and Jerry Swimmer, Ripley, Miss.

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Allen To Address  
Israeli Lawmakers

Baptist Press  
4/3/80

JERUSALEM, Israel (BP)--Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, has been invited to speak to Israeli lawmakers to discuss a proposed law regarding human rights.

Allen will appear before the Israeli parliaments' Constitution Law and Justice Committee during hearings May 19 and 21 on "freedom of religion," one of the subjects included in the proposed legislation.

In extending the invitation, Committee Chairman David Glass said he knew Allen and Baptist congregations had a "keen interest" in the subject. Glass said he believed Allen's participation in the discussions "would contribute to a better understanding of the various views regarding this important and delicate subject."

Allen had visited Israel in December 1978, as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, to discuss with government leaders a controversial Israeli law that makes it illegal to offer or receive material inducements or other benefits to change religions. Baptists and other Christian leaders in the United States and Israel strongly oppose the law, fearing it may be interpreted to rule out the right of evangelical Christians to witness for their faith.

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Directors of Missions Have  
Four Conference Choices

Baptist Press  
4/3/80

ST. LOUIS (BP)--Registration for the annual two-day meeting of the Southern Baptist Conference of Directors of Missions opens at 3 p.m. June 8 at Fee Fee Baptist Church, 11330 St. Charles Rock Rd., Bridgeton, Mo.

The meeting, one of several that precede the Southern Baptist Convention June 10-12 in St. Louis, features educational conferences for both the directors of missions and their wives.

W. Randall Lolley, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, will lead Bible study during the three sessions June 8-9. Special music will be brought by Don Cracchiola and David West, ministers of music at Concord and St. John's Baptist Churches respectively, in St. Louis.

Other speakers to bring inspirational messages are Gordon Murray, pastor of Southside Baptist Church, St. Louis; Morton Rose, vice president for church programs and services at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.; and R. Keith Parks, executive director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

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The business session is to begin at 9 a.m. June 9 and will include, among other things, the recognition of new directors of missions and election of officers.

Each participant will choose two special interest conferences from four possibilities. They are, "Administration in the Association," led by Tom Roote, director of missions for the Birmingham, Ala., association; "Being Pastor to the Pastor," led by Earl Crawford, director of missions for the Calvary-Arrowhead Association in Riverside, Calif.; "Working with Bivocational Pastors" led by Neal Wyatt, director of missions for the Carey, Clay and Randolph associations in Wedowee, Ala.; and "Developing Financial Support for the Association," led by Cecil Ray, general secretary-treasurer of the Baptist Convention of North Carolina.

Two special conferences for wives will be "Where do I go to Scream?" led by Mrs. Mickey Patrick, wife of the director of missions for the Lake County Association in Lindenhurst, Ill.; and "Fashion Trends and How To's" led by Mrs. Esther Pounds, wife of a retired St. Louis pastor.

A fellowship snack supper hosted by the Sunday School Board will be served in the church dining hall at 6 p.m. June 8. A fellowship luncheon hosted by the Foreign Mission Board will be served at 12:15 p.m. June 9.

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Robison Continues  
To Press Complaint

Baptist Press  
4/3/80

DALLAS (BP)--Evangelist James Robison continues to press his year-old case with the Federal Communications Commission over the FCC's fairness doctrine and says he's prepared to pursue it to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Robison told a press conference in Dallas that he'd received a letter March 3 from Arthur L. Ginsburg, chief of the FCC's complaint and compliance division, saying it did not seem "appropriate" for the FCC to rule on its fairness doctrine which demands a broadcaster give equal time to opposing views. The letter also stated that television station WFAA had a right to cancel Robison's Sunday morning television show last Feb. 25.

WFAA, citing the fairness doctrine, cancelled Robison after he preached on homosexuality as sin, quoting biblical condemnation but also quoting from periodicals. The Dallas station gave a gay rights advocate equal time to respond to Robison's charges. It was the only one of 90 stations that carry Robison to cancel him after that show.

The Robison program was restored in July, about the time he asked the FCC for a ruling on the matter and for a clarification of the fairness doctrine.

Robison said the Ginsburg letter was what his attorneys had told him to expect and that it was designed to see "If we were serious" about the complaint. But he was concerned that Ginsburg avoided the question. He has submitted an "application for review" asking the FCC to rule:

--WFAA's exclusion of commentary on controversial issues is unreasonable and inconsistent with the licensee obligation under the fairness doctrine and personal attack rules;

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--That the decision to terminate the Robison show on grounds stated by the station were unreasonable and inconsistent;

--That the discussion of homosexuality in the broadcast did not involve a discussion of a controversial issue of public importance;

--That if the station's actions are ruled reasonable, then the fairness doctrine and personal attack rule have an unconstitutional, chilling effect on religious broadcasting in America.

Insisting he now is on good terms with WFAA, Robison nevertheless criticized media for limiting the right of people to hear issues presented forthrightly.

"There's something dangerous about one station or three networks determining what the public hears," he said. "I am convinced that there is a strongly humanist, socialist, potentially atheistic philosophy that does control much of what the public hears. Never has sensual, suggestive, sexual liberty been so protective in expression. Attacks on the home and family and basic moral standards are protected.

"But you let a man speak out forthrightly and he doesn't seem to have that same protection. Rather he is under constant scrutiny and pressure that causes him to have to so guard his words that basically he may not say anything."

The evangelist said he finds himself "on pins and needles" every time he says something forthrightly about a controversial issue because of the fairness doctrine cloud.

Robison insisted he was not pressing the issue just for himself, but for others who want to preach on moral issues and may not have his financial ability to pursue the legal action. The fight, he said, has already cost him from \$125,000 to \$150,000, and he denied his continuing effort is an attempt to raise money.

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CORRECTION: In (BP) story mailed 3-26-80 entitled "Myths Prevent Hunger Solutions, Lappe Says," please change the seventh paragraph to read "Inefficiency in the current anti-democratic food system results in half the land being used to grow five export commodities" in Central America....etc. The line did read "in the United States."

In (BP) story mailed 4-2-80 entitled "Kammerling Will Edit Southern Baptist Journal" change name spelling to Kaemmerling throughout story.

Thanks,

Baptist Press

Baptist Layman Grew Pot,  
Warns of Marijuana Danger

By Robert Hastings

CARBONDALE, Ill. (BP)--Dr. Norman Doorenbos is a Baptist layman who gained distinction as the "government pot farmer" at the University of Mississippi, 1968-71. During those years he operated a "pot farm" which raised all the marijuana used for government-sponsored research in the U.S. Under government supervision, he tended a five-acre plot containing over 300 types of marijuana.

His job was to find the types and strength of other drugs present in marijuana. Now the dean of science at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, Doorenbos found over 80 drugs in marijuana. In contrast, tobacco has only one, nicotine.

How does he feel about marijuana, based on research? Not all the answers are in, he explains, but here are some of his convictions:

(1) Marijuana alone won't "drive people into crime," nor lead them to use harder drugs, nor increase sexual activity and pleasure. But marijuana users often develop a new set of friends who use other drugs, thus increasing their exposure to harder drugs.

(2) Marijuana does most of the harmful things that alcohol and tobacco do, plus some things which neither do. "My impression is that marijuana has a great deal more potential danger than either tobacco or alcohol," he says.

(3) Marijuana can hinder the development of muscle and bone in young people. Doctors and psychologists working with drug users have noted the bones and muscles of young men in their early twenties (who used marijuana in their teens) have not grown much since childhood.

(4) A person smoking marijuana is a highway risk. It affects peripheral vision, time sense, and judgment of distance.

(5) Some of the chemicals in marijuana suppress or depress production of male hormones. Six weeks after conception, a male child begins to manufacture male hormones. But if the mother smokes marijuana, a number of consequences are possible. For one, he may be sterile as an adult.

(6) A marijuana user believes that somehow he is special, that someone else might get hurt, but not him. His friends know it's hurting him because they see personality changes--he grows forgetful, self-centered, loses interest in the future.

(7) Some drugs in marijuana are beneficial. For example, they may be safer to use in organ transplants. They may be beneficial in treating glaucoma, asthma, and nausea caused by powerful anti-cancer drugs.

(8) The carcinogenic (cancer-causing) content of marijuana smoke is 20 to 150 times higher than in tobacco smoke.

"Some people tell me if God created marijuana, why not smoke it?" he says. "I say that's as ridiculous as jumping off a cliff because God made the cliff!"