

THEO SOMMERKAMP, editorial assistant
February 22, 1957

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention has initiated its World Missions Year with a check for \$2,241,253 to its Foreign Mission Board, the largest single check ever sent to one agency in the history of Southern Baptists.

Treasurer Porter Routh, Nashville, said the large check resulted from heavy contributions to the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions made in December and January.

The Convention has set aside 1957 as a year for special concentration on its mission work in the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and about 40 foreign nations.

The Foreign Mission Board has 1,113 missionaries serving throughout the world. It maintains hospitals and schools in the countries where its missionaries serve and will also use the record-making check to increase the number of churches on these mission fields.

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BIG BOOST TO MISSIONS---Southern Baptists initiated their observance of World Missions Year with contributions of \$2,241,253 to work of their Foreign Mission Board. Convention Treasurer Porter Routh, left, is shown checking final adding machine tape with Mrs. Ruth Nelson, bookkeeper in the office of the Executive Committee, Nashville. Routh points out that the total represents the largest single disbursement to an agency of the Convention in the Convention's history. It includes \$1,987,840 in designated offerings, most of which came through the Convention's annual Lottie Moon Christmas offering.--Baptist Press Photo.