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127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

February 27, 1957

KENTUCKY BAPTISTS HELP
FLOOD-DAMAGED CHURCHES

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--Kentucky Southern Baptists are taking a special offering to aid Baptist churches in eastern Kentucky damaged by January and February floods.

The amount of the special offering will be announced when the executive committee of the General Association (convention) of Baptists in Kentucky meets Mar. 5 to distribute the collection.

Executive Secretary W. C. Boone reported that at the flood's height water rose to 14 feet in Jeff Baptist Church, Perry County, Ky. Many of the homes of church members were damaged.

In Hazard, nearby county seat, the First Baptist Church once had five feet of water in its sanctuary. The damage was said to be "tremendous."

First Baptist Church, Pikeville, Ky., reported its auditorium was flooded, and that song books had been lost and seven pianos ruined. Reports of lesser damage came from numerous other churches in the area.

"One serious result is the personal loss suffered by so many members of our churches which will seriously affect these churches in every way," Boone declared.

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Texas Baptist Hospital
Makes Medical History

HOUSTON--(BP)--Baptist Memorial Hospital scored a "first in medical history" when Mrs. Virginia Covington gave birth to a baby boy here while under post-hypnotic suggestion.

According to Mrs. Covington's surgeon, who delivered the baby through Caesarean section, there is no mention in any medical journals of any other major surgery performed before in this manner exclusively.

Watched by approximately 150 doctors, nurses, and students, who had a closed circuit TV set nearby, Mrs. Covington was conscious during the hour-long operation and talked with the physicians often. She did not receive any sedation before or during the surgery.

Before her operation her doctor put her into a hypnotic trance and repeated, "You will not feel any pain or discomfort in your abdomen. I am giving anesthesia to your right hand."

It worked. Doctors said "her main discomfort (was) a sense of heaviness, like a weight." She felt no later pain, hospital authorities reported. Asked if she would undergo another such operation, Mrs. Covington said she would, if she had the same doctor.

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Foundation Reports
High Interest Rate

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Funds invested by the Southern Baptist Foundation brought their best interest in the history of the Foundation last year, its executive secretary reported here.

J. W. Storer, Nashville, told members of the Foundation board that the interest rate received on \$936,000 was 4.94 per cent. His report was to the board at its annual meeting.

Storer attributed the high interest rate to "careful investments made by the Foundation's investments committee." The committee meets monthly. It is made up mainly of Nashvillians who have daily contacts with investment work in their own businesses. Members of the committee include bankers, contractors, etc.

The funds are invested in stocks and bonds and some mortgages.

The \$936,000 is principally money from individual annuities and trust agreements. The interest from most of these agreements goes to benefit work carried on by the Southern Baptist Convention, Storer said.

The Foundation also handles \$1,141,950 belonging to Southern Baptist agencies over which the Foundation does not have investment power. The various agencies invest the money themselves but ask the Foundation to handle the necessary detail work during the investment period.

This \$1,141,950 returned an interest of 2.88 per cent last year, the Foundation's auditors reported. The difference in the two interest rates brought this comment from the auditors: "It is the recommendation of the auditing committee that these agencies examine the possibility of allowing these funds to be placed (where they can) share in the greater return."

The Foundation elected new officers at its annual meeting. Jack C. Massey, who owns a chain of drug stores in the Nashville area, succeeded Stirton Oman, Nashville contractor, as president.

Raymond L. Rogers, vice-president of a Nashville bank, is the new Foundation vice-president. Recording secretary is Walton Smith, Clarksville, Tenn., realtor.

The Foundation re-elected Storer its executive secretary and changed the by-laws of the agency to give him the additional duties as Foundation treasurer.

In his first annual report since becoming executive secretary, Storer told the board "The Southern Baptist Foundation must have the support of Baptist people. They must be confident in its integrity and in its ability to make wise, rewarding investments. The growth of the Foundation reflects this confidence."

Storer reported that the Foundation may be asked to handle the investment of the endowment fund for Carver School of Missions and Social Work at Louisville, Ky.

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Carver is being transferred from the Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention, to the Convention proper.

Details of the transfer are subject to approval by the Southern Baptist Convention at its meeting in Chicago in May. If approved, the \$325,000 endowment fund would become the responsibility of the Foundation to invest.

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Reynolds Sees Dream Of Years Come True

DALLAS--(BP)--Homer B. Reynolds, pastor of Ross Ave. Baptist Church here, has seen a 20-year-old dream come true.

Said Reynolds, "I've always wanted to be a missionary." At last he and his wife are going to Maracaibo, Venezuela, to take charge of a small pioneer church they started there last year. He has resigned his 1435-member church here to undertake the new venture.

Reynolds and his wife, Martha, volunteered as foreign missionaries for the Southern Baptist Convention 20 years ago, but were turned down because they had reached the maximum age for missionaries.

In addition to pastoring the little (32 members) Maracaibo congregation, the Reynolds will also help establish other missionary churches in the area. The Reynolds have the full support of Dallas Baptist Association, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Reynolds said that most of the members of the Maracaibo church are Southern Baptists working in that country. He estimated the English-speaking population of Maracaibo now totals 7,000, although he feels the number will increase during the next five years with new concessions granted to American oil companies.

The new church is the first English-speaking Southern Baptist congregation in the country.

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Burriss First Leader For New Mission Work

DALLAS--(BP)--A Texas pastor, Frank B. Burriss, has been named Southern Baptists' first superintendent of missions for Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Burriss, former pastor of Central Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Tex., will help establish new Southern Baptist churches and strengthen the ones already existing in these two states.

His work is sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

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New Children's Home
Opened In California

BAKERSFIELD, Calif.--(BP)--California Southern Baptists have opened their new children's home, Sunny Crest, here.

The home, located on 11 acres of property in a residential area of the city, has two cottages for 10 boys and 10 girls, plus a residence for the superintendent and temporary office facilities.

Funds for the establishment of Sunny Crest have been accumulating since the Southern Baptist General Convention of California organized, and during the years, W. A. Herring, superintendent of Sunny Crest says, "interest and enthusiasm has mounted in anticipation of opening day."

"It is hoped," states Herring further, "that Sunny Crest may serve homeless and needy children in the state in a positive and progressive approach to their needs and problems."

Sunny Crest is the only Southern Baptist child care institution on the West Coast.

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\$1 Million In Bonds
To Aid Church Growth

DENVER, Colo.--(BP)--The Colorado Baptist General Convention will issue \$1 million worth of bonds to aid church building programs in the six-state area served by the convention.

Executive Secretary Willis J. Ray reported the bond issue will help 30 churches on the first phase of operation. Over a period of 20 years, the money will help 100 churches, he said.

The bonds will bear a 5 per cent interest rate.

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Second Hawaiian Church
Becomes Self-Supporting

HONOLULU, Hawaii--(BP)--Olivet Baptist Church here, with 1100 members, is the second Southern Baptist church in Hawaii to become entirely self-supporting.

Three years ago Olivet began paying the salaries of all its workers. The church also contributed most of the money for its new auditorium, and at present the church is completely financing its newly-completed, \$240,000 education building.

Olivet also gives \$280 a month to the Hawaii Baptist Convention Cooperative Program, which is above 10 per cent of its receipts.

Malcolm W. Stuart is pastor of the church, the largest Southern Baptist Convention church in Hawaii. He and his wife are missionaries of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

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.....John M. Tubbs, state Baptist Training Union secretary, Baptist General Association of Virginia, has accepted the newly-created position of church-related vocations counselor in the education division, Baptist Sunday School Board.

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.....Henry M. Chiles, pastor, Bearden Central Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tenn., has been named that city's "Young Man of the Year." He was cited for his constant willingness "to go beyond the call of duty to help people."

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.....R. Elmer Dunham, superintendent of city and rural missions for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, has resigned to become superintendent of missions for the El Paso Baptist Association in Texas.

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.....J. E. Hurley, for the past 10 years owner and operator of a construction business in Kentucky, Ohio, and other states, has been employed recently as business manager at Gardner-Webb College, Baptist school in Boiling Springs, N. C.

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.....Lewis White has resigned pastorate of First Baptist Church, Denham Springs, La., to accept the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Natchez, Miss.

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.....Stetson University, DeLand, Fla., Baptist College, has been accepted for membership in the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. The Association is a national voluntary organization of colleges and universities organized to improve the quality of teacher education.

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