

December 6, 1954

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

MAJOR BAPTIST MEETINGS
SET FOR NASHVILLE IN DEC.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Five Hundred Southern Baptist leaders will begin arriving in Nashville December 8 for two major meetings and twenty-nine subsidiary meetings. The meetings will get under way Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m., December 9 when the Sunday School Board, one of the major meetings, convenes for its semi-annual meeting. The men and women, coming from twenty-five states in which Southern Baptists have most of their churches, will be in Nashville through Monday, December 20.

The two major meetings are required by their by-laws to meet in Nashville at this time. They are the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Baptist Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Executive Committee will convene Wednesday and Thursday, December 15-16. The Sunday School Board will meet Thursday and Friday, December 9-10. The other meetings are held in Nashville at this time because many of the members serve on more than one committee or board and by scheduling them close together, excessive traveling by the members can be avoided.

The Executive Committee, C. C. Warren, Charlotte, N. C., president and Porter Routh, Nashville, executive secretary will meet Wednesday morning, December 15, 9:00 a.m. at the Baptist Sunday School Board. The Committee will consider the 1956 Southern Baptist Convention mission and education budget which is expected to be near ten million dollars. It will also hear reports from sub-committees and secretaries. The Committee has forty-three members.

The Baptist Sunday School Board will meet Thursday evening in an executive session and Friday, December 10 at 9:30 a.m. W. A. Criswell, Dallas, Tex., is president and James L. Sullivan, Nashville, executive secretary. Reports of the work of the Sunday School Board for 1954 will be given and plans for 1955 projected. The group will hear reports from the Advisory, Audit, Assemblies, Budget, Building, Insurance, Plans and Policies, and Printing Committees. The Board has forty-nine members.

One of the largest of the other meetings will be the Leadership Conference on Evangelism that will meet at the Hermitage Hotel beginning at 12:00 noon, Monday, December 13. C. E. Matthews, Dallas, secretary of evangelism for the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be in charge. Final plans will be made for the 1955 Convention-wide simultaneous revival crusade scheduled for next

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spring. Reports of number of baptisms in 1954 in Southern Baptist churches, Cuban churches, and churches in Panama and Canal Zone will be made. Further plans will be laid for the program of co-operation in evangelism with the National Baptist Convention, Inc., a Negro Baptist group. Approximately sixty evangelistic leaders will attend.

Another group of equal size, the Stewardship Promotion Conference, will meet Tuesday morning and Wednesday at the Baptist Sunday School Board. J. Norris Palmer, chairman, and Merrill D. Moore, associate secretary of the Executive Committee will preside.

The program includes analysis of the biblical background for stewardship and reports on promotion of stewardship. Showing of the filmstrip, "Starting a Church Budget for the First Time," will highlight the Tuesday evening session. More than 100 leaders in promotion will be present.

Other groups to meet include:

FUTURE PROGRAM COMMITTEE, Monday, December 13, 2:00 p.m., Hermitage Hotel, T. B. Lackey, Oklahoma City, Okla., chairman.

GENERAL COMMITTEE, ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SOUTHERN BAPTISTS, Monday, December 13, 5:00 p.m., Hermitage Hotel, Norman W. Cox, Nashville, chairman. The committee will make further plans for the production of the Encyclopedia of Southern Baptists. Fifty persons are expected.

PROMOTION COMMITTEE AND WORLD EVANGELIZATION, Monday, December 13, 6:00 p.m., Hermitage Hotel, H. Guy Moore, Fort Worth, Tex., chairman. Approximately twenty-five will attend.

COMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE RURAL CHURCH PROGRAM, Monday, December 13, 6:00 p.m. Sam Davis Hotel, S. F. Dowis, Atlanta, Ga., chairman. The group will arrange and approve program for the Convention-wide Rural Church Conference, to be held at Ridgecrest, N. C., June 2-8, 1955. About sixteen will be present.

WORLD EVANGELIZATION COMMITTEE, Monday, December 13, 8:00 p.m., Hermitage Hotel, H. Guy Moore, Fort Worth, Tex., chairman.

STEWARDSHIP HANDBOOK COMMITTEE, Monday, December 13, 8:00 p.m., Hermitage Hotel, Purser Hewitt, Jackson, Miss., chairman. About ten people will attend.

FINANCE COMMITTEE, A sub-committee of the Executive Committee, Tuesday, December 14, 9:00 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board. The Committee will consider the 1956 Southern Baptist Convention budget, Louis D. Newton, chairman. There are eleven members of the Committee.

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PROCEDURE ON POLICY CHANGE, Tuesday, December 14, 2:00 p.m., S. H. Jones, Greenville, S. C., chairman. There are seven members of the committee.

COMMITTEE ON DOWNTOWN CHURCHES, Tuesday, December 14, 6:00 p.m., Frank Tripp New Orleans, La., chairman. Ten people will attend this meeting.

ORPHANAGE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, Tuesday, December 14, Baptist Sunday School Board, H. Truman Maxey, Oklahoma City, Okla., chairman.

AUDIO-VISUAL COMMITTEE, Wednesday, December 15, 7:30 a.m., Sam Davis Hotel, C. Vaughan Rock, Phoenix, Ariz., chairman. Ten are expected to attend.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST PRESS ASSOCIATION, Wednesday, December 15, 7:30 a.m., Sam Davis Hotel, David M. Gardner, Dallas, Tex., president. About twenty will be present.

BAPTIST FOUNDATION EXECUTIVES, Wednesday, December 15, 7:45 a.m., Hermitage Hotel, Arthur Jackson, Atlanta, Ga., president. Final preparation for the annual meeting of the group in Atlanta next February will be made. Twenty are expected for the meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE, Another sub-committee of the Executive Committee, J. D. Grey, New Orleans, La., chairman. Will meet Wednesday, December 15, 2:00 p.m., Baptist Sunday School Board.

CONVENTION ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE, Wednesday, December 15, 2:00 p.m., Baptist Sunday School Board, Oliver R. Shields, St. Louis, Mo., chairman.

SEMINARY EXTENSION COMMISSION, Wednesday, December 15, 2:30 p.m., Stewart A. Newman, Wake Forest, N. C., chairman. The group will survey results of the work and make plans for enlargement.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CONFERENCE, Thursday, December 16, 9:00 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board, Sibley Burnett, chairman.

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION SECRETARIES, Thursday, December 16, 1:30 p.m., Kearnie Keegan, chairman.

COMMITTEE ON DENOMINATIONAL CALENDAR, Thursday, December 16, 12:30 p.m., Hermitage Hotel, Albert McClellan, chairman. Plans for the calendar of activities for the denomination in 1956 will be made. Twelve will attend.

CHURCH MUSIC CONFERENCE, Thursday, December 16, 2:00 p.m., Hines Sims, chairman. The group will meet at the Baptist Sunday School Board.

INTER-SEMINARY CONFERENCE, Thursday, December 16, 2:00 p.m., Hugh Peterson, Louisville, Ky., chairman, Baptist Sunday School Board.

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TRAINING UNION CONFERENCE, Friday, December 17, 9:00 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board, J. E. Lambdin, chairman. Plans for all phases of Training Union work and reviews of plans for the promotion of this work in 1955 will be presented through panel discussions, special papers, and addresses. General goals and objectives for the Training Union promotional program for 1955 and 1956 will be announced.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE, Friday, December 17, 9:00 a.m., J. N. Barnette, Nashville, chairman. The group meeting in the Baptist Sunday School Board's chapel, will make plans and goals for reaching the objective of one baptism for every eight members.

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION CONFERENCE ON THE AGING, Monday December 20, 9:45 a.m., Baptist Sunday School Board, A. C. Miller, chairman. The group will seek to broaden Southern Baptist's ministry to the aged people. About thirty will attend.

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NOVEMBER SBC MISSION
GIFTS TOTAL \$813,660

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Mission gifts for the month of November reached \$813,660, bringing the year's total receipts thus far to \$9,890,982, according to Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Convention's Executive Committee. This is an increase of \$901,926 or 10.03 per cent over last year's Cooperative Program figure of \$8,989,055 for the same period.

Southern Baptists gave \$119,445 in designated gifts to Convention-wide causes in November bringing the year's total to \$6,049,648. This is an increase of \$473,915 or 8.50 per cent during the same period of 1953.

Cooperative Program and designated receipts together totaled \$933,105, bringing the total for the year thus far to \$15,940,630, an increase of \$1,375,842 or 9.45 per cent.

Texas led the states in Cooperative Program receipts for the month with a total of \$237,303, South Carolina was second with \$80,319, Louisiana third with \$65,534, and Tennessee fourth with \$50,402.

Illinois and Virginia are the only states not showing an increase in Cooperative Program gifts when compared with the same period last year.

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