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**July Cooperative Program
Ranks 10th On All-Time List**

NASHVILLE (BP)--July contributions to the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program ranked 10th on the list of monthly receipts for the convention-wide missions budget, announced Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer of the denomination's Executive Committee.

The Cooperative Program finances Southern Baptist evangelistic, ministry and educational efforts worldwide. The national receipts come from 37 Baptist state conventions, which receive contributions from Southern Baptist congregations.

July receipts were \$10,778,300, Bennett said. They represent an increase of slightly more than \$1.5 million over receipts for July of 1986, a gain of 16.24 percent.

Five of the top-10 Cooperative Program monthly totals have been reached in the 1986-87 fiscal year, which began last October. The monthly record is almost \$13.1 million, set in January of this year.

After 10 months of the 1986-87 fiscal year, the Cooperative Program has received \$108,893,265. That is a gain of almost \$5.3 million over the same period last year.

The Cooperative Program's strong showing in July pushed the year-to-date increase to 5.09 percent, compared to the current U.S. inflation rate of about 4 percent.

No apparent reasons explain the increase of more than 16 percent in July, said Tim A. Hedquist, Executive Committee vice president for business and finance: "No states made extra payments; nobody was catching up. Very few states did not have an increase last month."

"I was surprised and gratified at the size of last month's increase," Bennett said. He noted that in recent months the inflation rate had climbed while the Cooperative Program gain had fallen, bringing them almost dead-even at the end of June.

He gave credit to the state Baptist conventions for maintaining the Cooperative Program's increases: "I must commend the state convention leaders for the way they have continued to increase the percentage of their contributions to Southern Baptist Convention causes. The states are increasing their contributions to SBC causes more consistently than churches are increasing their gifts to the states."

Southern Baptists have struggled to keep the Cooperative Program ahead of inflation, despite troubled regional economies in some of the states where Southern Baptist work is strongest.

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Student Ministry Includes
Campuses And Churches

By Linda Lawson

Baptist Press
8/19/87

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)--After five years at the helm of national student ministries, Charles Johnson believes the dream of strong Baptist Student Unions and local church ministries with students working closely together is a reality "with substance and success."

"Our commitment is to reach students and faculty members for Jesus Christ," said Johnson, who heads the Southern Baptist program of student work based at the denomination's Sunday School Board. "Our recipe for doing that is BSU and local church ministries to students -- not one or the other or one against the other. We want to build strength upon strength."

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About 175,000 students participate in Baptist ministries on about 1,200 campuses. No statistical figures are available as to how many students are involved in local-church student ministries.

Johnson said the challenge for student ministry is evident in the fact that 13 million students attend colleges and universities in the United States.

"We are making progress," said Johnson during the annual student conference at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center. "We can do even better."

He said Southern Baptist Bold Mission Thrust projects in student ministry will not only result in greater student involvement but also will enable students to grow and develop in their faith. Bold Mission Thrust is the plan to spread the gospel around the world by the year 2000.

Goals include increasing the number of campuses with BSUs from 1,200 to 1,500 by 1995 and providing students for helping to start 500 new churches in the next five years.

Also, "we believe each student should have the opportunity to accept Christ as their personal Savior during their four years of college," said Johnson. Through ReachOut 87/88, church and campus ministries are attempting to conduct an evangelistic activity on or adjacent to at least 1,000 campuses.

Through activities such as Bible distribution, simultaneous revivals, Bible study groups, book tables and visitation, "we will see evangelistic efforts that result in baptisms in local churches," said Johnson.

Finally, campus and church ministries are encouraging students to participate in at least one mission project during their college years.

"When students get involved in missions, they grow, a task is accomplished and God is able to plant a seed," said Johnson. "If Bold Mission Thrust succeeds, then today's students are the ones who will be leading in the 21st century. This program is integral to the future of Southern Baptists."

In another matter, Johnson announced that the Sunday School Board's national student ministries department is coordinating an increased emphasis on continuing education for student ministers.

As part of that emphasis, four regional professional development conferences will be held on seminary campuses in 1988 -- May 16-20 at Southeastern and Southwestern Baptist theological seminaries, May 23-26 at Southern Seminary and May 26-29 at Golden Gate Seminary.

In addition, national student ministries will produce a catalog of professional development opportunities sponsored by Baptist state conventions and Southern Baptist agencies. This will become an annual project, Johnson said.

The monthly magazine produced by the department, The Student, is being redesigned and will be related to the total program of student ministry, Johnson said. Beginning in October 1988, Sunday school lessons written specifically for students will appear in the magazine and will be part of the Life and Work Series.

"We want the magazine to be in the hands of every Baptist student," said Johnson.

He expressed optimism about the future of Baptist student ministry.

"I feel the program is in a position, through the pursuing of strong Baptist Student Unions and vibrant church ministries to students, to contribute mightily to the accomplishment of Bold Mission Thrust," Johnson said.

Brotherhood Commission Sponsors
Laity Studies At Korean Seminary

By Jim Burton

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission has entered into agreement with the Korea Baptist Theological Seminary in Taejon, South Korea, to sponsor a professor and curriculum for laity studies, announced commission President James H. Smith.

The three-year agreement begins in September. The school is the largest seminary outside the United States.

Working with Huh Kin, Korea Baptist Theological Seminary president, and Lee Myung-Hee, who will teach the courses, the commission has assisted the Korean seminary in designing a curriculum that introduces the doctrine of the priesthood of the believer.

Every student will be required to take three courses taught in the school of theology -- The Theology of Lay Ministry, Equipping the Laity for Ministry and Missions Education for Laity.

"We have helped the school realize the importance of the doctrine of the laity becoming a part of Baptist churches and their role in it," said Larry Yoder, the commission's director of church relations.

Korea has built a reputation for huge churches, with some congregations in Seoul claiming more than 40,000 members. However, the majority of Baptist churches are small.

Seminary graduates outnumber the existing Baptist churches in Korea. Typically, a graduate will start a church and pastor it his whole life.

"In many instances, churches start in conjunction with that young man's family and some of his relatives," said Smith. "And in many instances, he becomes the owner of the property and it's his church in a sense. It stays a relatively small church because it is basically a one-man operation."

Huh noted that in order for Baptists to grow in Korea, a new emphasis must be given to the laity.

"Activating the laity in missions has a lot to do with expansion of Baptists in Korea," he said. "But since Baptists have been overshadowed by non-Baptists, the movement hasn't had a chance to grow. We haven't had the opportunity to develop the doctrine of the priesthood of the believer."

Historically, the Protestant movement in Korea has been dominated by Presbyterians who have a hierarchial church structure there, Huh said. That influence has been felt in Korean Baptist churches.

"The hierarchial system has created the desire among some very competent men to not just sit and listen but to express themselves," said Yoder.

Dan Moon is a language missions consultant for the Brotherhood Commission and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. As a native Korean, he has been instrumental in developing the relationship that led to this agreement.

"The Korean Brotherhood's approach to missions education had never been defined," said Moon. "Emphasis has been on church planting with not much emphasis on content given to the hands of laymen once the church was established."

"Our relationship poses significance," said Huh. "The significant result is in bringing all the laity in Korea to a better understanding of laity and their involvement in missions."

In addition, the Brotherhood Commission is working with Southern Baptist missionary David Weng and Korean businessman Kim Sa-Chul to develop Brotherhood programs in local churches.

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"What we are ultimately hoping will be achieved is that there will be an active, functioning Brotherhood in the churches in Korea," said Smith, "and that the churches will catch the vision of involving men and boys in missions."

It's a vision shared by Huh.

"I cannot help but realize that the entire Brotherhood Commission program is geared to training and teaching Southern Baptist laity about missions," said Huh, "and how well this has been designed and systematized."

"The process of teaching missions to the laity through the local church can only bring unity in the missions cause at home and abroad."

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Editor's Note: Following is the second of a two-part series on Christian higher education and evangelism, adapted from the H.I. Hester Lectures published in the September issue of The Southern Baptist Educator.

Vision Must Be Regained
For Evangelism, Lotz Says

By Lonnie Wilkey

Baptist Press
8/19/87

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Theological controversy has blurred the vision of world evangelization in this generation, Denton Lotz contended in a recent lecture series.

Lotz, deputy general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance in McLean, Va., delivered the H.I. Hester Lectures during the annual meeting of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools in Kansas City, Mo.

Lotz told Baptist educators Christian schools need to "nurture Christian students with a compelling vision beyond the narrow confines of family and church" while leading them to the "biblical vision of Jesus Christ and his kingdom."

Yet this task has been made difficult by theological controversy, Lotz said: "One side emphasizes the King; the other side, the kingdom. You can't have one without the other. You can't sing 'King of my Life, I crown thee now,' speak of Jesus as your personal Savior and then in your personal life be mean, hateful, prejudiced and lacking in love and social concern."

Likewise, Lotz said, Christians cannot "speak of bringing in the kingdom of God by social action and then not be concerned about lost individuals who do not know Christ as their personal Savior."

Lotz cited the need for "simultaneity" -- both/and, not either/or.

"Christian schools have the tremendous opportunity and challenge of holding high the King and the kingdom," he said.

He expressed fear for the future of Christian churches if the challenge is not met, noting, "Recent theological battles do not inspire youth or provide a compelling vision. In fact (theological battles) drive many from the faith."

Lotz offered five suggestions for things Baptist colleges can do to enable students to gain a compelling vision of Christ -- implementation of cross-cultural evangelism, exchange of students and faculty, partnerships with overseas colleges, renewal of the study of foreign languages and creation of a Baptist world university.

Students should be exposed to cross-cultural evangelism, Lotz said: "Christian students in America need to be challenged by Christians from the Third World. There is a freshness and newness to the gospel preached by an African, a Latin American or an Asian."

Overseas partnerships and exchange programs would be beneficial to all parties and would aid in cross-cultural evangelism, he added.

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A renewed interest in the study of foreign languages is needed, Lotz said, noting many schools no longer require a foreign language. "A liberal arts education which does not require languages is hindering the future missionary enterprise," he warned.

Finally, Lotz expressed a desire for a Baptist world university in Africa. He cited statistics from missiologists that predict 350 million Christians will live in Africa by the end of the 20th century.

What would it take to start a Baptist university in Africa, a university for all Baptists around the world to confront students in all fields of academic study with the claims of Christ for the whole world, he asked educators.

"I'm dreaming, but wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if the more than 250 Baptist colleges in North America could unite in founding a Baptist world university?" he said.

Lotz expressed optimism about students once again becoming an "effective instrument of God to evangelize the world in our generation."

"The Christian college can be the place where Baptist students gain this vision. It must be a vision centered in worship, celebrated with joy and filled with hope," he said.

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Brown Named President
Of Hannibal-LaGrange

Baptist Press
8/19/87

HANNIBAL, Mo. (BP)--Paul Brown, executive vice president and academic dean of Hannibal-LaGrange College for 11 years, has been elected president of the Missouri Baptist school.

The college's board of trustees unanimously elected Brown to succeed Larry Lewis, who became president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board early this summer. Brown had been acting president of the school in Hannibal since June 1.

Brown has been admissions counselor for Union University in Jackson, Tenn., and chairman of the division of languages and arts at Clarke College in Newton, Miss. He also has been pastor of churches in Mississippi and Tennessee.

He is a graduate of Mississippi College in Clinton, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and the University of Mississippi in Oxford, where he earned a doctorate in higher education and student personnel.

Brown said his goals for his administration are to maintain the college's Christian distinctives and Southern Baptist identity; to offer "a wide range of academic programs that encourage our Christian graduates to go out and bear a strong witness for Christ;" to increase enrollment from between 750 and 800 to between 1,200 and 1,500; to provide adequate facilities for the expanded academic programs and student population; to increase the school's financial base; and to lead the school to "continue giving a strong witness for Jesus Christ in today's world."

Brown and his wife, Connie, have four adult children.

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Scholarship Recipient Studying,
Teaching, Preaching At Age 72

By Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP)--Like many Texas Baptist Black Scholarship recipients, Benjamin Mills is both a full-time pastor and a full-time student. Unlike most students, he also is a Bible institute teacher. And unlike any others, Mills is 72 years old.

Mills decided to pursue a master of arts degree in religion at Dallas Baptist University so he might be better equipped both as pastor of St. Andrews Institutional Baptist Church in Dallas and as instructor in religious studies at the D. Edwin Johnson Bible Institute.

The Johnson Institute is an instructional program jointly sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas Baptist Association and Bishop College in Dallas.

"The work in the master's program has increased my confidence in biblical studies," said Mills. "Now when I teach or preach, I don't have to be in doubt about whether or not I am understanding something properly."

Teaching at the Bible institute the last four years has been the fulfillment of a dream deferred for Mills, who originally prepared for a teaching career more than 40 years ago.

"I received a teachers' certificate from Grambling (College) in the 1940s and taught for one year, but the salary was so low that I went into the life insurance business," said Mills, who worked in life insurance until his retirement in 1979.

At about that same time, he sensed he should enter the ministry and accepted the pastorate of St. Andrews Church. In 1981, he graduated from Bishop College with a degree in religion and philosophy.

After returning to school to work on a master's degree at Dallas Baptist, Mills applied and was accepted into the Texas Baptist Black Scholarship program this year.

In the past 19 years, Southern Baptists in Texas have invested \$276,595 in the education of 288 black students attending the eight Texas Baptist universities and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Although Mills is beyond retirement age, he has given no thought to slowing down in teaching or preaching: "I hadn't planned on retiring. I don't know of any sickness that would force me to do so. I don't think about working with a stopping date in mind."