

December 13, 1954

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

WALTER ALEXANDER  
DIES IN DALLAS

DALLAS, Tex.--(BP)--Walter R. Alexander, 65, executive secretary of the Relief and Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention died of a heart ailment in Dallas, Tex., at 12:30 p.m., Monday, December 13.

Dr. Alexander became <sup>head</sup> of the Board in 1947 and for four years prior to that he had served as associate secretary.

A native of Philadelphia, Pa., he was a graduate of Temple University in Philadelphia and Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa. Furman University honored him with the D.D. degree in 1931. He came to the South in 1916 and was pastor of churches in Virginia, Texas, and South Carolina. He came to the Board from the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Florence, S. C., where he had served for fourteen years.

During the eight years Dr. Alexander served as secretary the Board has recorded financial growth from twelve million dollars to over thirty-four million dollars and membership in the retirement plan has doubled.

Dr. Alexander served as president of the Church Pension Conference in 1951 and was active in helping work out present coverage of Social Security for ministers.

He was the author of three books, All Out for God, Holy Hours in the Holy Land, and Doing Likewise. He had traveled in Europe, Africa, and the Near East.

He is survived by his wife, Eva Elizabeth, and a daughter, Ruth, the wife of the late Dr. J. C. Cowell, Jr.

December 13, 1954

127 Ninth Avenue, North — Nashville, Tennessee

OBU PROFESSOR TO HEAD  
SBC ROYAL AMBASSADORS

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--Edward H. Hurt, Jr., professor of physical education and athletic director, Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., has been elected Royal Ambassador secretary for the Southern Baptist Convention. Announcement of Hurt's election was made by George Schroeder, executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, Tenn., on behalf of the Brotherhood Commission and the joint committee for the promotion of RA work composed of Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union leaders.

Hurt, who for the past twenty years has been in his present position, will begin work February 1, 1955. A graduate of OBU, Hurt received the M.S. degree from the University of Oklahoma and did graduate work there for the doctorate degree.

He was elected coach of the year in his conference in 1951, and for the past thirteen years OBU under his coaching has won track and field conference championships.

---30---

DANIEL HEADS SOUTH CAROLINA  
BAPTIST EDITORIAL GROUP

GREENVILLE, S. C.--(BP)--R. N. Daniel, professor of English and dean emeritus of Furman University, has been named chairman of the editorial committee for the South Carolina section of the proposed Southern Baptist Encyclopedia.

---30---

TWO BAPTIST HOSPITALS  
DEDICATED IN OKLA.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.--(BP) -Two new Baptist-operated hospitals were dedicated recently in Oklahoma. Both hospitals, which were just completed, opened for business the morning after dedication.

City and county officials participated in the dedicatory ceremonies of the 40-bed Grand Valley Hospital, Pryor, Okla., and the 30-bed Bristow Memorial Hospital, Bristow, Okla.

---30---

Nashville, Tennessee  
December 13, 1954

Baptist Press

FOOTBALL FANS  
INVITED TO CHURCH

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark.--(BP)--Fans of the University of Arkansas Razorbacks saw something new and different when they opened their football programs. It was an invitation to go to church if they were staying over after the game.

First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, Ark., ran a full-page ad in the Razorbacks' home game football programs. Cost of the ad, \$150, was paid by interested members of the church.

---30---

HAWAII BAPTISTS GAVE  
\$9,808 TO SBC MISSIONS

HONOLULU, T.H.--(BP)--During the 1953-54 Convention year, the Hawaii Baptist Convention gave \$9,808 to Southern Baptist mission causes, J. C. Wilkinson, treasurer of the convention, reported.

Of the \$9,808, \$2,332 went to the Cooperative Program, \$5,662 to Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, \$1,508 to Annie Armstrong Offering, \$155 designated to Foreign Missions, \$100 designated to mission work in Japan, and \$50 to the Baptist World Alliance, Wilkinson said.

---30---

INCREASING COLLEGE ENROLMENT  
PROBLEM FOR FLORIDA BAPTISTS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.--(BP)--College enrolment in the state of Florida will treble in the next fourteen years, A. J. Brumbaugh, director of the study of higher education in Florida, said recently in an address before a group of college public relations men in Jacksonville.

In citing the needs in Florida and other nearby states, Brumbaugh said the South will have to redouble its efforts to keep up with demands created by a growing school population. He also noted that in three years after 1950, elementary school enrolment increased by 35 per cent in Florida.

On the same subject at another meeting, J. Ollie Edmunds, president of Stetson University, asked high school principals in Florida, "where will you find teachers for this great influx of new pupils?" He pledged the full facilities of Stetson's teacher-training department toward providing more elementary teachers.

---30---

CALIF. BOND ISSUES  
TOTAL \$3,480,000

FRESNO, Calif.--(BP)--One hundred and forty-six California Baptist churches have issued a total of \$3,480,000 in securities through the Broadway Plan of Church Finance, since the office was opened in July, 1951, it was announced.

In October ten churches issued a total of \$192,500 in bonds, while during the first twenty days in November five churches issued \$82,500 in securities.

---30---

C. OSCAR JOHNSON VISITS  
FINLAND FOR U.S. GOVERNMENT

ST. LOUIS, Mo.--(BP)--C. Oscar Johnson, pastor of Third Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo., has returned to this country from a short trip in Finland. The trip made at the request of the Hon. Harold E. Stassen, director of Foreign Operations Administration of the United States Government, was for the purpose of counseling with leaders of a co-operative in Finland who are starting a business, the profits of which will be used to benefit world missions.

---30---

PAUL WEBER DIES

ST. LOUIS, Mo.--(BP)--Paul Weber, superintendent of the St. Louis Baptist Mission Board, died November 26. Weber had served the St. Louis Baptist Mission Board since 1940.

---30---

STATE BAPTIST PAPERS  
LAUDED BY AUTREY

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--"A call to consecration is not enough. The people must be informed. They must know the needs and what is the proposed answer to these needs. This need is met by placing the state Baptist paper in every home in the church, C. E. Autrey, Dallas, Tex., associate secretary in the Department of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board, told Georgia Baptists in their recent annual meeting. "Through out state papers the membership will gain a knowledge that will enable them to better grasp and follow the appeals of the pulpit."

---30---

DUKE McCALL PREACHES  
BEHIND IRON CURTAIN

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--Duke K. McCall, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will preach 100 miles behind the Communist Iron Curtain each Sunday in December.

The sermons were recorded in Berlin last September while McCall was on a special Air Force mission to Europe and the Near East. They will be broadcast from Berlin to Communist territory over the Air Force network. (Mat Enclosed)

---30---