

July 4, 1958

This Year's Gifts Run Ahead Of 1957

NASHVILLE--(BP)--At the half-way mark of 1958, contributions to missionary, educational, and benevolent work of the Southern Baptist Convention are running 8.3 per cent ahead of 1957.

Convention Treasurer Porter Routh announced that total gifts for the first six months of the year were \$15,994,930 compared with \$14,769,457 for the first half of 1957.

Cooperative Program gifts---those which are given without special designation and are shared on a percentage basis by all Convention agencies---are 7.95 per cent ahead of their six-month figure in 1957.

The Cooperative Program receipts thus far in '58 are \$7,676,298 compared with \$7,111,273---an increase of \$565,024.

Special designations are also ahead of their January-June, 1957, amount. They are up \$660,449---8.62 per cent---to \$8,318,632. They were \$7,658,183 at the mid-year mark in '57.

What's more, financial statements show that the percentage increase in Cooperative Program gifts from 1957 to 1958 is greater than it was from 1956 to 1957. They had increased 7.33 per cent from 1956 to 1957 (at the mid-year mark) compared with the 7.95 per cent from 1957 to 1958.

However, the percentage of increase for the six-month period has declined in designated gifts, from 12.19 to 8.62, and in total gifts, from 9.8 to 8.3.

The statement for the month of June, 1958, showed \$1,167,110 coming in through the Cooperative Program and \$369,203 through designations for a total of \$1,536,314. This compares with \$1,068,195 in Cooperative Program; \$424,930 in designations, and \$1,493,126 in total gifts during June a year ago.

Totals include only Cooperative Program gifts shared at large by Southern Baptist Convention agencies and offerings designated directly to them. They do not include funds retained by local churches or state Baptist organizations for their activities.

In June, Cooperative Program and \$ contributed \$ through the \$ in designated gifts for a total of \$. This placed the state among those reporting.

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Minor New President Of Shorter College

ROME, Ga.--(BP)--The principal of a high school near Rome has been elected president of Shorter College here.

He is R. H. Minor, who has been principal of Model High School, in nearby Shannon, Ga., for 22 years. In addition to being principal of the high school, Minor is associated with a Shannon firm in public relations work.

He is also the current president of Georgia Education Association.

Minor succeeds George A. Christenberry, who leaves Shorter on July 15 to become administrative director of Furman University, Greenville, S. C. Minor is a native Georgian.

Shorter College is an educational institution of Georgia Baptist Conv ntion.

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**Farewell Tribute Paid
To C. Oscar Johnson**

ST. LOUIS--(BP)--Members of Third Baptist Church here paid farewell tribute to the man who has been their pastor for 27 years---C. Oscar Johnson.

He retires July 12, and will move to Berkeley, Calif., to serve as an instructor at Berkeley Baptist Divinity School. His son, Ralph Johnson, is president of the school.

At a special testimonial service, an oil painting of Johnson was unveiled. It will hang in the office of the Baptist World Alliance in Washington.

Johnson was president of the Baptist World Alliance, a fellowship organization of Baptists around the world, from 1947 to 1952. He is also a former first vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The congregation of Third Church also presented Dr. and Mrs. Johnson with a check for \$3500 as a love offering.

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**Furman Breaks Ground
For New Apartments**

GREENVILLE, S. C.--(BP)--Ground was broken recently for a 24-unit garden terrace type apartment project for married students at Furman University's new campus near here.

The project, scheduled for completion by late fall, will cost \$215,410.

The colonial-style, brick veneer buildings, include 18 two-bedroom apartments and six one-bedroom apartments. Parking facilities will be provided and the entire project will be landscaped in keeping with the rest of the campus.

There is space for another 50 to 75 units in the apartment area. Additional units will be constructed as needed.

Furman University will move to its new campus this fall. Other buildings already completed include the main classroom building, library, four dormitories, and administration building. A dining hall and science building are nearing completion.

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BAPTIST FEATURES

PRODUCED BY BAPTIST PRESS
NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
127 NINTH AVE., N., NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE AL 4-1631
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July 4, 1958

Baptist Youth Take
Over Canadian City

By W. C. Fields

TORONTO--(BP)--Young Baptists from 67 nations gathered here for the fifth Baptist Youth World Conference and pretty well took over this Canadian fortress-city on the Great Lakes---and without a shot being fired.

Registration at the close of the week-long meeting was 8022, by far the largest attendance for any of the world-wide gatherings of Baptist young people.

Canada's Baptist Prime Minister John Diefenbaker flew down from Ottawa to join in the Sunday activities of the conference. Addressing a capacity crowd of 15,000 registrants and local Baptists in Maple Leaf Gardens, he said: "This is one of the most inspiring meetings I have ever attended."

The U. S. delegation, over 6000 strong and from all 48 states, blended happily into the scenery and turned in a remarkable record of good behavior. Every province of Canada was represented except Newfoundland.

Approximately 300 participants were from overseas and they appeared most often on the program. The Australians and New Zealanders travelled the greatest distances to the meeting.

There was general disappointment that young Baptists from Russia were not permitted to attend. Among Communist countries, only Poland, Yugoslavia, and Hungary were represented.

Arnold T. Ohrn, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, Washington, D. C., observed that the age level of those attending was lower than that of previous conferences. Approximately 90 per cent of the crowd was of high school and college ages.

They sang with gusto, led by a magnificent 700-voice choir. They fraternized at the drop of a hat---and some of the hats were quite fancy. They swarmed in international clusters on any level spot available. They ate their way through mountains of food.

The number and variety of their accents and the crescendo of their conversation would have made the tower of Babel seem calm and serene by comparison.

Miss Sadako Matsuo of Tokyo, slim and elegant in a white Japanese gown, spoke in response to the welcoming speeches. Her words set the tone of unblinking realism which characterized the entire assembly. She said: "We have witnessed bloody wars which have left feelings of hatred and distress in the hearts of people in many of the countries of the world. Yet, we have each experienced an encounter with God in Jesus Christ. We have seen the work of God at different times and different places but we are bound by one tie in Christ."

Some leaders of students spoke during the week---Joel Sorenson of Sweden, David Gomez of Brazil, Mrs. Edgar Bates of Canada, Theodore F. Adams of Richmond, Va., president of the Baptist World Alliance, and others---but most of the personal testimonies, public discussions, and speeches were by the young people themselves.

The meeting was under the direction of the youth department of the Baptist World Alliance. Robert Denny of Washington is department secretary.

States-side participants struggled to untangle a maze of strange sounding names of people from faraway places---Arayakosol of Thailand, Wickramasinghe of Ceylon, Opaku of Ghana, Carcelen of Ecuador, Stowasser of Austria, Shorrosh of Jordan, and the like.

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Wearing the costumes of their native lands (agbadas and saris, kimonos and kilts, sack dresses and Confederate caps) these young people moved through a busy round of activities from 8:30 A.M. to 10 P.M., speaking and being spoken to, entering into discussions in small groups, sharing in fellowship gatherings over the city of Toronto.

The first Baptist Youth World Conference was held in 1931 at Prague, Czechoslovakia. There were 400 participants present from 20 nations. The second conference was in Zurich, Switzerland, in 1937 with 1564 young people registered from 28 nations.

The third meeting was in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1949. Approximately 1500 representatives from 30 nations were present for the fourth conference which met in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1953.