

November 10, 1958

Convention \$250,000
Shy of Its 1958 Goal

NASHVILLE--(BP)--As of Nov. 1, the Southern Baptist Convention was about \$250,000 shy of its operating and capital needs budget for 1958 of \$13 million.

Treasurer Porter Routh reported that \$1,236,317 in Cooperative Program funds came in during the month of October. This was disbursed to agencies of the Convention according to a percentage scale approved by the 1957 session of the Convention.

The October receipts from states in the Southern Baptist Convention brought the 10-month Cooperative Program total to \$12,753,864.

During October, the Convention also received \$142,168 in specially designated gifts, according to Routh. For 1958 to date, the amount received in designated gifts amounts to \$8,968,646.

Designated gifts are forwarded to the work of the Convention specified by each of the donors.

The 10-month total of \$21,722,510 was \$1,721,929 more than had been received at Convention treasurer's office here during the same period in 1957. This represents a gain of 8.61 per cent.

Figures issued from the Nashville office do not reflect funds kept by local churches or by state Baptist organizations for their own programs.

The Southern Baptist Convention operates on a fiscal year corresponding to the calendar year and thus had two more months in which to reach its 1958 goal. However, it was expected that the \$13 million figure would be reached before the end of November and that the Convention would then enter its Advance goal period, during which receipts through the Cooperative Program are divided between home and foreign missions.

Cooperative Program gifts for the 10 months of 1958 were running 9.61 per cent ahead of a like period in 1957. Designated gifts for January through October were running 7.22 per cent above corresponding dates in 1957.

During October, 1958, _____ contributed \$ _____ through the Cooperative Program and \$ _____ through designations for a total of \$ _____. This placed the state _____ among those in the SBC.

(Note to editors: October receipts reported from the office in Nashville do not necessarily correspond to October receipts at the state offices. In most cases, there is some time difference between receipts from churches at state offices and the forwarding of the SBC portion to the Nashville office. Thus October receipts reported from Nashville may actually have been contributed in churches during September.)

Ohio Honors First Missionary Couple

DAYTON, O.--(BP)--Ohio Southern Baptists paid special recognition to their first foreign missionary appointees at their annual convention here.

Dr. and Mrs. David Dorr, members of Tri-Village Baptist Church, Columbus, O., will be the first foreign missionary appointees from Ohio since the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio was organized four years ago.

The Dorrns have four children. They will be going to the Baptist hospital at Gaza in the Near East about Jan. 1.

At the convention, it was reported that there are now 158 churches and 86 missions in the area of the convention which also includes parts of neighboring states.

Executive Secretary Ray Roberts said that 36 churches and 61 missions had been organized during the past year.

A convention budget of \$282,000 was approved. Approximately \$32,000 will be forwarded through the Cooperative Program to Southern Baptist Convention causes.

The new budget provides for four additional state workers. They are a secretary of evangelism and Brotherhood (combined) and three area missionaries. Area missionaries will serve in Cleveland, Columbus, and the Hamilton-Middletown area.

Messengers elected Joe Waltz, pastor, First Baptist Church, Fairborn, O., president.

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New Mexico Adopts Budget Of \$459,559

ALAMOGORDO, N. M. --(BP)--The Baptist Convention of New Mexico, in annual session here, approved a budget for 1959 of \$459,559. This is \$53,000 greater than the current budget.

30 per cent of the 1959 budget will be channeled through the Cooperative Program to activities carried on by the Southern Baptist Convention.

The convention elected W. D. Wyatt, pastor, First Baptist Church, Albuquerque, president. It asked Lewis Myers to continue serving as editor of the Baptist New Mexican, weekly convention paper, until his successor has been elected. Myers had announced his retirement.

Progress reports of Baptist work in the state showed a gain of 23 churches and missions during the past year. There are now 243 churches and 103 missions affiliated with the New Mexico convention.

These churches and missions have a total membership of 73,705.

It was also reported that state Baptists now have chairs of Bible adjacent to all state-supported colleges and universities.

In other action, the Convention:

Selected Hobbs as convention city for 1959.

Reaffirmed its support of the principle of church-state separation.

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California To Survey;
Endorses Los Angeles

SANTA ROSA, Calif.--(BP)--Messengers to the annual session of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California here approved a survey of their convention operation by a professional management consultant firm.

It was expected that the convention would call on Booz, Allen, and Hamilton of Chicago, which has done surveys of the Southern Baptist Convention, several SBC agencies, and several state Baptist groups.

The convention also joined with the Los Angeles association of Southern Baptist churches and Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce to invite the Southern Baptist Convention to meet in that city in 1962. The SBC has already chosen its meeting places for 1959, 1960, and 1961.

If the SBC were to vote to go to Los Angeles, it would be the second visit to California. The 1951 session was at San Francisco.

The California convention elected Charles L. McClain, pastor, Truett Memorial Baptist Church of Long Beach, president, and selected San Diego for its 1959 session.

It adopted a 1959 budget of \$953,635. Of this, \$800,000 will come from anticipated Cooperative Program receipts and 22 per cent of the \$800,000 will be forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The convention voted constitutional changes which provide for service on the state board and other boards.

BAPTIST FEATURES

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Albert McClellan, *Director*
Theo Sommerkamp, *Assistant Director*

Churches Face Role
In Civil Defense

By Theo Sommerkamp

BATTLE CREEK, Mich.--(BP)--The United States, though a combatant in two major world wars in the 20th Century, has been spared direct attack at home.

With the development of longer-range aircraft, new submarines, refueling in flight, guided missiles, and 20-megaton hydrogen bombs, the prospect of the United States proper escaping enemy attack in a third world war appears dim.

The Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization---called in government parlance OCDM---has its offices here. It is responsible for developing a plan for non-military defense---the defense of the civilian populace ---to be used during and after any attack.

One of the departments of this government agency is a religious affairs office. It considers the spiritual aspects involved in civil defense strategy and presents these aspects to groups of religious leaders.

The message of civil defense, admittedly, is a difficult one to put across to the American public. Not having been subjected to enemy attack at home, and having been the victor in the century's two major wars, Americans have had a tendency to shrug off warnings that they are subject to massive attack on short notice.

Civil defense leaders here are not directly responsible for leadership in preventing a conflict. Yet, in presenting the civil defense program, they can scarcely escape mentioning Communism, which poses the immediate threat of war, and thus the immediate reason for having a civil defense program.

Since Communism is an ideology, a doctrine to which people commit their thoughts and actions, the spiritual aspect is involved. Christianity, too, is a way of life to which people dedicate themselves.

Civil defense leaders are in no way anxious that there be a third world war so that they may test their program. While they speak very realistically of prospects for a massive attack on the United States, they hope such an attack never comes.

Such a massive attack could come by air or sea (from submarines), or both. The H-bombs of today dwarf the atomic bombs which fell on Nagasaki and Hiroshima at the close of World War II, and which inflicted such great death, injury, and property destruction.

A massive attack such as civil defense leaders discuss could affect 70 per cent of the nation, either by direct bomb attack or by radio-active fallout which would be very deadly. The refugees fleeing the bombs and fallout would retreat toward the "safe" areas.

Civil defense leaders believe the United States would deliver a massive retaliation on the enemy that would render the enemy incapable of a second attack on the United States. This fact, however, does nothing to make the picture brighter concerning the havoc brought by the original enemy attack.

For instance, should a 20-megaton hydrogen bomb fall on St. Louis, not only would it wipe out that city, but its deadly fallout would kill thousands in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Prevailing winds would endanger residents along the Ohio-Pennsylvania border. This deadly fallout would be

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around for weeks or months.

Therefore, the shelter program is an important phase of civil defense. The shelter would offer safety from fallout but those fortunate enough to survive and reach shelter would have to live in the shelter---without going outside---for weeks or months until radioactivity subsided.

Those who survive a massive attack would face the problems of burying the dead, caring for the injured, and having on hand in their shelters adequate supplies of food and water uncontaminated by fallout.

The churches and religious leaders are involved in civil defense in the following ways:

1. Burial with religious rites for those killed.
2. Spiritual ministrations to dying and badly injured persons, as well as to thousands who, though unhurt, are separated from family not knowing if their loved ones are dead or alive, or where they are.

This is complicated by the fact that those needing spiritual comfort may not have a minister of their faith available. Will they turn to a minister of a faith whose doctrines are different than their own, and, on the other hand, how will the minister react in the same situation?
3. Use of church structures as shelters or hospitals.
4. Preparing church members before an attack so that instead of panicking they will face death and destruction with a Christian attitude, and if they survive, they will be able to help restore order and comfort other people.
5. Construction of churches and church-related hospitals and schools so they will withstand radiation and be useful as shelters.
6. The procedure for action if any attack comes during a worship service. (Pearl Harbor was attacked on Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941.)
7. The knowledge that churches and their ministers will be called on more than ever in time of emergency and disaster.
8. Instilling a Christian attitude in survivors so that they will feel there is "something to live for"---a continued purpose in life---despite such devastation.
9. Guarding the principle of separation of church and state so that the sanctity of the church is respected and the minister is allowed to function as a spiritual counsellor.
10. Combatting great emotional disturbances among survivors---injured and uninjured---caused by seeing death and destruction, separation from family or bereavement, and perhaps claustrophobia from living in shelters for long periods.
11. The church press as a vital source of information presenting the spiritual aspects of civil defense before attack, and afterward quashing rumors and reducing hysteria by publishing accurate accounts and instructions. (Because of destruction, a church paper might be the only printed communication available in some areas after an attack.)

The immediate task for the churches is to help bring about conditions that will prevent any third world war and possible hydrogen bomb attacks.

Until the conditions exist that eliminate the possibilities for a war, the churches have to consider what they will do in a civil defense emergency.

CUTLINES:

MIDWESTERN FACULTY--Faculty of new Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, is pictured at the seminary's first "Missionary Day." Back row, from left, Joseph T. McClain, Seminary Pres. Millard J. Berquist, Keith C. Wills. Front, from left, William H. Morton, Ralph H. Elliott, E. C. Bryant, V. Lavell Seats. They are standing near buildings of Calvary Baptist Church, whose facilities they are using while developing a seminary campus.--Baptist Press Photo.