

January 8, 1959

1958 Record Year
In Convention Aid

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention treasurer said here that 1958 was a record year in gifts to support the work of the Convention and its 22 agencies. The total received for calendar 1958 was \$24,808,919, according to Treasurer Porter Routh.

The amount included \$15,598,909 in Cooperative Program (undesigned) offerings toward a budget goal of \$16-1/2 million. However, the income was more than enough to meet the basic allocations to agencies of \$13,035,000.

Funds above \$13,035,000 were divided between the Foreign and Home Mission Boards with foreign missions receiving 75 per cent. Of the surplus, known as the "Advance Section," foreign missions received \$1,922,931 and home missions received \$640,977.

The balance came in designated offerings, funds which donors earmarked for specific objectives. These offerings totaled \$9,210,010 for 1958.

Giving was up over 1958 in both categories as well as in total received. Cooperative Program receipts increased \$1,338,607 (9.39 per cent); designations were up \$620,893 (7.23 per cent), and total gifts rose \$1,959,500 (8.58 per cent).

At year's end, disbursements gave this picture---\$14,912,666 to Foreign Mission Board; \$4,459,153 to Home Mission Board, and \$1,537,409 to Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Berkeley, Calif. No other agency received a million dollars. (See attached story for 1958 total disbursements.)

20 states forwarded more funds both in Cooperative Program receipts and in designations last year than they did during 1957. These states are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon-Washington, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Four state conventions forwarded more designated funds than in 1957 but 1958 Cooperative Program monies to SBC objectives declined during 1958. These states were District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, and Missouri.

It should be noted, however, that last December's offerings in local churches, during normally one of the peak months of the year, are not reflected in 1958 totals. December church offerings will not reach the SBC treasurer's office to be counted in 1958 receipts there.

Gifts reported by the Convention treasurer also do not reflect funds retained by local churches for their operation nor funds retained by states for their budget operations.

Five states topped the million-dollar mark in funds sent the SBC through the Cooperative Program during 1958. Texas led with \$3,038,665. Next were Georgia with \$1,312,366; Tennessee, \$1,139,562; South Carolina, \$1,133,184, and North Carolina, \$1,038,035.

Only Texas passed a million dollars in designated receipts forwarded to SBC agencies. Its year's figure was \$2,504,492.

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Total Agency Income
For 1958 Reported

NASHVILLE--(BP)--What were the total funds each of the Southern Baptist Convention agencies received during 1958? How much was through the Cooperative Program and how much was through designated gifts?

The tabulation below will tell the story.

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Baptist Press

DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1958

<u>Agency, etc.</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Cooperative Program</u>	<u>Total 1958</u>
Convention Operating Budget	\$ 417	\$ 185,000	185,417
Foreign Mission Board	7,304,484	7,608,182	14,912,666
Home Mission Board	1,856,426	2,602,727	4,459,153
Relief and Annuity Board	16,088	325,000	341,088
Southern Baptist Theol. Seminary	5,963	519,191	525,154
Southwestern Baptist Theol. Seminary	8,633	551,442	560,075
New Orleans Baptist Theol. Seminary	2,689	460,067	462,756
Golden Gate Baptist Theol. Seminary	76	1,537,333	1,537,409
Southeastern Baptist Theol. Seminary	2,982	746,967	749,949
Radio & Television Commission	5,778	400,000	405,778
American Baptist Theol. Seminary	333	100,000	100,333
Carver School of Missions	504	128,000	128,504
Southern Baptist Hospital	114	175,000	175,114
Brotherhood Commission	22	120,000	120,022
Public Affairs Committee	19	24,500	24,519
*Baptist World Alliance	227	---	227
Southern Baptist Foundation	67	27,500	27,567
Education Commission	25	35,000	35,025
Historical Commission	19	32,000	32,019
Christian Life Commission	--	21,000	21,000
Woman's Missionary Union	173	----	173
Miscellaneous	4,960	----	4,960

*Baptist World Alliance received \$35,000 from SBC Operating Account.

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Alaskans First
With 1959 Check

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The newest state in the nation---Alaska---was the first to forward a check through the Cooperative Program to Southern Baptist Convention offices here in 1959.

Treasurer Porter Routh announced a check for \$478 was received. The 1959 budget for operation of the Convention and its agencies is \$17-1/2 million.

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Housing At Louisville
Reported Going Fast

LOUISVILLE--(BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention housing bureau here confirmed over 1,000 reservations during December, the first month it accepted reservation requests for those planning to attend the 1959 session beginning May 19.

Reported already full are the Brown Hotel, downtown headquarters hotel, and the suburban motel adjacent to the Exposition Center where Convention sessions will be held.

Half of the available hotel space in the city remained still available early in January. Motel space also was still obtainable at that time. Those planning to attend were urged to make their reservations before all space is filled.

Official reservation forms to be used by messengers were printed in Baptist state papers in November. Additional forms may be secured from SBC Housing Bureau, 300 W. Liberty St., Louisville.

No reservation will be confirmed without a \$10 deposit per room for which request is made. The deposit will be applied toward the messenger's billeting cost.

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Rutledge To Direct
Division Of Missions

ATLANTA--(BP)--Arthur Rutledge, Dallas, secretary of stewardship and direct missions in Texas, has been elected director of the division of missions by the

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Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

In announcing his election, Courts Redford, executive secretary of the Board, said, "I feel that Dr. Rutledge is eminently fitted for this task by disposition, training, and experience. Surely the Lord has led in his election."

Under the Home Board's new organization, the missions division has 1,282 missionaries, a budget of over \$2,600,000, and six departments of work--- language group ministries, city missions, associational missions, pioneer missions, work with National Baptists, and survey and special studies.

Rutledge will begin his new responsibilities Mar. 1 after almost 20 years of service in Texas, his native state.

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Pastor Solves Tight Squeeze in Baptistry

DETROIT--(BP)--A problem almost requiring a ruler for solution confronted Bill H. Lewis, pastor of Eber Baptist Church, Detroit, in a baptismal service at his church one Sunday evening.

One of the candidates for baptism was Phil Jordan, a towering athlete who won fame while a student at Whitworth College, Bellingham, Wash., and who now plays center on the Detroit Pistons professional basketball team.

Jordan, who stands six feet, 10 inches tall in his bare feet, lacked only two inches being as long as the church baptistry. Some of the church members were doubtful that their pastor would be able to figure this one out.

But Lewis is resourceful. He seated the towering candidate on a step stool and baptized him sitting down! And the five-foot, seven-inch pastor says his new church member has a marvelous testimony and shows promise of making a very useful Christian.

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Keegan Youth Leader For World Alliance

NASHVILLE--(BP)--G. Kearnie Keegan, secretary of the student department, Baptist Sunday School Board here, has been named vice-chairman of the Baptist World Alliance youth committee and chairman of the Alliance youth department's administrative committee.

He was elected as a member of the Alliance executive committee when this body met in Zurich, Switzerland, last summer.

Functioning as the administrative body for the total youth committee between its meetings, the administrative committee also serves as an advisory group to the youth department headed by Associate Secretary Robert S. Denny of the Alliance.

Part of the youth committee's job is to encourage Baptist youth groups around the world through special assistance in the form of financing and programming. At a recent meeting in Washington, the administrative committee voted to recommend that the youth committee assist a Baptist youth leaders' meeting for the continent of Africa in 1959.

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