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Lottie Moon Receipts
Swell January Totals

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Lottie Moon Christmas Offering contributions began showing up in receipts at the Southern Baptist Convention treasurer's office here last month.

They helped swell the total SBC January receipts to \$3,293,636.

Treasurer Porter Routh said that Cooperative Program receipts, which are not designated for any specific cause but are disbursed proportionately among agencies, totalled \$1,555,365.

Designated offerings---these would include the special Christmas offering to foreign missions---reaching the SBC treasurer in January were \$1,738,270. An indication of Lottie Moon offering totals reflected in the January report is shown in the disbursement of \$1,713,677 to the Foreign Mission Board in designations.

The Lottie Moon Offering is customarily held at Christmas-time in Southern Baptist Convention churches, in memory of a pioneer Convention missionary to China.

Books do not close on the offering, however, until April or May so it is estimated the amount reaching the Southern Baptist Convention treasurer's office in January is only a portion of the final amount.

The January total for 1959 for both undesignated and designated gifts was over \$21,000 greater than the combined total for January, 1958. Cooperative Program receipts showed almost an \$80,000 increase while designations ran about \$58,000 below January, 1958.

Texas and Tennessee each forwarded more than \$200,000 in Cooperative Program receipts during January. Texas' designations were \$321,685 while those of Virginia's and Georgia's each surpassed \$200,000.

Figures reported by the SBC treasurer represent only funds forwarded from state Baptist offices to his office in Nashville for disbursement to agencies. They do not include funds retained by local churches and by state Baptist offices to support local and regional Baptist work.

Because of the time consumed in reporting funds from churches to state Baptist offices, and from state Baptist offices to the SBC treasurer, the SBC report more nearly represents money contributed in churches a month to six weeks before. Thus, the January SBC report would be an indication generally of what people contributed in 31,000 churches in December.

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Hospital Executives
Commend Frank Tripp

NEW ORLEANS--(BP)--Dr. Frank Tripp has a new scroll of commendation. Fellow administrators of Baptist hospitals presented it to him. Dr. Tripp, executive secretary and superintendent of the Southern Baptist Convention Hospital board, New Orleans, retires this year.

In that capacity, he has direct administrative supervision over two Southern Baptist Convention hospitals---Southern Baptist Hospital at New Orleans which is more than three decades old, and Baptist Memorial Hospital at Jacksonville, Fla., about three years old.

However, Dr. Tripp has also rendered counsel to the administrators of more than 30 Baptist hospitals operated by state Baptist groups, by districts and

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associations of Baptist churches, and by individual but unofficial Baptist laymen's groups.

Administrators of these hospitals comprise the Southwide Baptist Hospital Association. Tripp was association secretary also. The association, in preparing the scroll, entered these remarks upon it:

"The Southwide Baptist Hospital Association in grateful appreciation of his personal dedication to Christ's ministry of healing; and

"In grateful appreciation of his outstanding leadership and wise counsel as a member and as executive secretary of our organization; and

"In grateful appreciation of his fruitful efforts toward a better understanding in our denomination of the Christian ministry of healing, presents to Frank Tripp this scroll of commendation."

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Alabama Baptist Tops
100,000 in Circulation

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.--(BP)--The Alabama Baptist, weekly newspaper of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, is the third Southern Baptist state paper to go over the 100,000 mark in circulation. A record circulation figure of 100,036 was reached the week of February 12.

When Leon Macon became editor of The Alabama Baptist in 1950 the circulation was about 45,000.

The Baptist Standard of Texas and The Christian Index of Georgia are the other two state papers topping 100,000 in circulation. Total circulation of all Southern Baptist papers is approximately 1,364,000.

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