

July 17, 1953

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

BAPTIST W.M.U. ENROLMENT
SHOWS INCREASE IN 1952

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--In 1952 the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union increased its enrolment 56,566. This is a gain of 5.2 per cent over 1951. Total enrolment in 1952 was 1,143,993, according to J. P. Edmunds, secretary, Department of Survey, Statistics, and Information, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.

Mr. Edmunds said that W.M.U. enrolment in rural churches increased from 194,043 to 204,294 in 1952, a 5.3 per cent gain, and in villages an increase of 3,771 was shown making the total enrolment 110,026.

In towns with population from 500 to 2500 the enrolment increased 1.1 per cent or from 211,091 to 213,487 in 1952.

Enrolment in city churches over the Southern Baptist Convention totaled 595,699, an increase of 40,048 over 1951.

Texas leads all the states in the Southern Baptist Convention with a total W.M.U. enrolment of 148,637, North Carolina is second with 137,512, and Georgia third with 102,457.

North Carolina leads in the rural churches with an enrolment of 37,321, South Carolina is second with 29,542, and Virginia third with 29,042.

In the village churches North Carolina leads with an enrolment of 18,122, Texas is second with 12,572, and Virginia third with 10,527.

Texas leads in city and town churches with an enrolment of 96,899 in city churches and 28,058 in town churches.

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PASTOR'S SALARY
AVERAGES \$2,498

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Southern Baptists pay their pastors an average salary of \$2,498 per year, according to J. P. Edmunds, secretary, Department of Survey, Statistics, and Information, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn. In 1951 the average salary was \$2,340, an increase of 5.3 per cent.

Half time pastors were paid an average of \$550 and quarter time pastors \$232.

The District of Columbia leads the Southern Baptist Convention churches with \$3,273 per year, an increase of 14.3 per cent over 1951.

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OVER 6000 FOUR STAR
CHURCHES IN SBC

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Of the 28,865 Southern Baptist churches 6,127 can be classified as four star churches, or churches having a Sunday school, Training Union, Woman's Missionary Union, and Brotherhood.

Of the 5,323 city churches 2,768 are four star churches. There are 1,220 four star open country churches; 1,170 of the 3,806 town churches are four star; and 724 village churches out of the 4,934 village churches in the Southern Baptist Convention are four star churches.

Texas has 1,416 four star churches; Alabama, 292; Arizona, 39; Arkansas, 218; California, 165; District of Columbia, 23; Florida, 306; Georgia, 537; Illinois, 148; Kansas, 26; Kentucky, 182; Louisiana, 457; Maryland, 17; Mississippi, 336; Missouri, 443; New Mexico, 91; North Carolina, 313; Oklahoma, 381; Oregon, 9; South Carolina, 313; Tennessee, 332; Virginia, 74; Washington, 7; and Alaska, 2.

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NORMAN SMITH DIES
IN TENNESSEE

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--F. Norman Smith, 83, former member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, died Thursday, July 16, at his home in Clarksville.

He was on the board of trustees of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., member of the Baptist Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and a member of the Executive Committee of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation.

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MISSISSIPPI COOPERATIVE PROGRAM
GOAL RAISED TO \$1,200,000

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--The Cooperative Program goal of Mississippi Baptists for 1953 was increased from \$1,100,000 to \$1,200,000 at a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

This action was taken, according to Chester L. Quarles, executive secretary-treasurer, because of increased receipts thus far in the year putting the state ahead of schedule on the old goal.

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Baptist Press

BAPTIST TRAINING UNION HAS
122,633 NEW MEMBERS IN 1952

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--At the end of 1952 122,633 new members were enrolled in Baptist Training Unions in all the states of the Southern Baptist Convention which made a grand total of 1,677,293 members.

The 768,036 Training Union members in city churches represent a 12 per cent gain over the previous year's enrolment.

Training Unions in open country Baptist churches had a total enrolment of 438,928, a 5 per cent increase over 1951. The village churches reported 186,214 Training Union members and the town churches 251,156.

States reporting the greatest percentage increase during 1952 were Washington, Oregon, and Kansas. Alaska also reports a high percentage increase.