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Churches Should Order
Annuals Before July 15

NASHVILLE--(BP)--Churches which want additional copies of the 1957 Southern Baptist Convention Annual for their libraries and offices should order them before July 15.

Paper-back editions of the Annual cost \$2.50. Cloth-bound, stiff-backed editions are priced at \$3. Orders for these Annuals should be addressed to Southern Baptist Executive Committee, 127 Ninth Ave.. No., Nashville.

All active pastors will receive copies of the Annual as is customary.

The Annual contains the reports of the various Convention agencies, minutes of the 1957 Convention session in Chicago, and listings of ministers and other church and denominational workers by states.

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Active Retirement For
Florida Missionary

DeLAND, Fla.--(BP)--Although Florida's first woman foreign missionary volunteer for Brazil has now retired from service after 45 years, she is proving that hers will be an active retirement.

Mrs. Lula Terry, widow of missionary A. J. Terry, went with him to the Brazilian mission field in 1912--at a time, she says, when "there were no churches in the area where we went and very few in the entire nation."

Now, she points out thankfully, there are more than 1000 Baptist churches in Brazil, a predominantly Roman Catholic country.

Mrs. Terry plans to use her retirement as an opportunity to counsel with young people considering becoming missionaries. This was just what she was doing, for example, recently during the summer assembly session Florida Baptists held at Stetson University here.

Her father, T. J. Sparkman, a Florida minister, was a trustee of Stetson University from 1886 until his death in 1917. During her childhood, the family lived for several years in DeLand.

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New Arizona Business
Manager Is Packwood

PHOENIX, Ariz.--(BP)--Ed J. Packwood, administrative assistant to the executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Arizona, is the convention's new business manager.

As such, Packwood will work with all departments and agencies of the Arizona convention. Packwood has handled many of the functions of business manager already; the board action confers the official title of business manager.

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Dobbins Abroad Aiding
Baptist World Alliance

BERKELEY, Calif.--(BP)--Golden Gate Baptist Seminary Professor Gaines S. Dobbins and Mrs. Dobbins are on a summer visit to overseas points in the interest of the Baptist World Alliance.

They plan to visit Hawaii, Japan, Formosa, Burma, India, and the Middle East to help promote the extension of Bible teaching and training. They will confer with missionaries and local Baptist leaders along the route.

The Dobbins expect to return to Berkeley just prior to start of the new seminary year this fall.

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Over \$1½ Million In
On Armstrong Offering

NASHVILLE--(BP)--More than \$1 1/2 million has been received to date in the 1957 Annie Armstrong Offering for home missions, according to Porter Routh, treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Final receipts for this year's offering have not come in, but Routh said the amount thus far received exceeds the final total for 1956. It was \$1,414,451 last year.

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BAPTIST FEATURES

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A Baptist Press Feature

55,000 Attend State
Assemblies This Summer

By the Baptist Press

Before the summer is over, nearly 55,000 Southern Baptists will have attended summer assemblies and camps in the 23 state conventions stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

This does not include many thousands more who will have attended the assemblies owned and operated by the Southern Baptist Convention at Ridgecrest, N. C., and Glorieta, N. M.

These State Baptist assemblies include Fort Caswell, on the Atlantic Ocean at Southport, N. C.; Camp Kittiwake, at Pass Christian on the Mississippi Gulf coast; Lake Seneca in east central Ohio, and mile-high Jenness Park near Sonora, in the high Sierras of California.

Most assembly-goers will travel in their own autos. The next largest group will charter buses. Most of them can travel from their homes to the assemblies in a day's time or less since each state provides its own meeting.

More than a third of the 55,000 assembly-goers are Oklahomans, who flock in droves to their Falls Creek Assembly in the Arbuckle Mountains of south central Oklahoma. About 20,000 register there for the three, 8-day assembly periods.

The length of assemblies runs about a week. Some have an immediate turn-over so that as one group is leaving another arrives. Others stagger their weeks so that there is time-gap between the meetings. In still other cases, particularly in states where Southern Baptists are "young", there may be only one big assembly period.

Many of the state conventions have bought their own assembly grounds, ranging on size from less than a hundred to about 200 acres, and some have been used for decades.

Kansas is typical of states renting camp facilities. To hold their annual family assembly each year, Kansas Southern Baptists rent the camp of the Evangelical United Brethren Church. However they will one day occupy a 130-acre permanent assembly site of their own.

Texas Baptists have assemblies in the various districts of churches.

"Assembly time" is as much awaited as Christmas by many who attend, especially children and young people. There are many eager adults as well.

It's a time for inspiration. Well-known Southern Baptist ministers and musicians direct the inspirational services where each year hundreds of young people commit their lives to Christ for service in church-related vocations.

It's a time for study and contemplation. For a lot of "assemblyites" the summer assembly each year provides class work in the current Sunday School and Baptist Training Union study course books. "Preachers' schools" are often held in connection with an assembly.

It's also a time for prayer and forming life-long Christian friendships. Scores of people at each assembly will select prayer mates. Their friendships and prayer partnerships often continue after they return to their homes widely separated from one another.

"Repeaters"--those who return to the assembly summer after summer--see old friends from far away. Many Christian marriages are the result of "boy meets girl" at a state Baptist summer assembly.

Recreation is always taken care of. Assemblies leave free afternoon hours for hikes, swimming, carpet golfing, and tours. If recreational facilities aren't on the grounds--they usually are--groups will drive their cars to nearby lakes, "swimmin' holes," parks, and scenic spots.

Prices aren't high. A week for Royal Ambassadors at Mississippi's Camp Kittiwake, for example, cost \$17 including room and board, registration, and accident insurance. Private rooms cost a little more and the stated amount does not include what's spent for transportation, books, recreation, and souvenirs.