

127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

August 21, 1953

WAKE FOREST COLLEGE MUST RAISE
"MATCH-GIFT" FUND BY DECEMBER 31

WAKE FOREST, N. C.--(BP)--If Wake Forest College is to get two million dollars from a group of anonymous donors who promised the money on a "match-gift" basis, North Carolina must raise \$1,784,884 before December 31. The proposition was that if North Carolina Baptists would raise three million, the donors would give two million. The Baptists thus far raised \$1,215,116.

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BAPTIST PASTOR NAMED TO
"WATCHDOG" COMMITTEE

BATON ROUGE, LA.--(BP)--Robert Taylor, pastor, Southside Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, La., along with three other clergymen, was named to the nine-member committee which will serve as the citizens' "watchdog" over a proposed \$40,000,000 public improvement program here.

The appointments were made by Mayor-President Jesse Webb, Jr. of the East Baton Rouge City-Parish Council. The committee will have power to recommend sale of bonds, approve contracts, and conduct audits.

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TEXAS BAPTISTS ELECT
STEWARDSHIP LEADER

FORT WORTH, Tex.--(BP)--L. B. Cobb, pastor of the River Oaks Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex., since July, 1951, resigned recently to work with the direct missions phase of the Baptist General Convention of Texas promoting stewardship.

Before coming to the River Oaks church Cobb served as president of the Tennessee State Baptist Convention.

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Baptist Press

TWO SOUTHERN BAPTISTS NAMED
"RURAL PASTORS OF THE YEAR"

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Two Southern Baptist pastors, A. L. Strozier, Enterprise, Ala.; and S. G. Rogers, New Iberia, La., were named "Rural Pastors of the Year," by the The Progressive Farmer, an agricultural magazine and the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Ga.

G. Ross Freeman, director of Emory's Town and Country Development program, in making the awards said that the two pastors were leaders in "a new approach in rural church development that involves an aggressive church program. outreach in the community and a world concern."

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STEWARDSHIP LESSONS
ARE NOW AVAILABLE

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Special stewardship lessons for Juniors, Intermediates, and Young People and Adults have been prepared by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., upon request of the state mission secretaries.

Lessons are available in separate leaflet form and may be ordered directly from the Baptist Sunday School Board, 161 Eighth Avenue, North, Nashville 3, Tenn., at one and a half cents each.

The lessons are as follows: "Honest Work," by Freda Henderson, Nashville, Tenn., for Juniors; "Being Honest with God," Purser Hewitt, Jackson, Miss., for Intermediates; and "Honest Stewardship," Walter L. Moore, Meridian, Miss., for Young People and Adults.

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GARB GAINS

CHICAGO, Ill.--(BP)--Membership in the 657 churches of the General Association of Regular Baptist (GARB) churches rose by 6,150 to a total of 113,878 in the year ended last May 1, the denomination's headquarters reported.

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TEN DOLLAR BILLS
"SPROUT" FROM TREE

MEMPHIS, Tenn.--(BP)--Ten-dollar bills will be harvested from a tree by the McLean Baptist Church congregation when it meets to break ground for a new \$350,000 church building.

Members will tape ten-dollar bills on a leafless tree. At least 500 of them will "sprout" before the "foliage" is stripped off again and put into the building fund treasury, according to Herbert C. Gabhart, pastor.

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BAPTIST HELP DEFEAT
PUBLIC WELFARE PLAN

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.--(BP)--A proposal to establish a city public welfare department was rejected by the San Antonio city council.

Opposition at a public hearing was led by John Daniel Brown, South San Antonio Baptist pastor, after the local Baptist Pastor's Association had gone on record against a tax-supported welfare set-up. Dr. Brown predicted that a "boycott" of the Community Chest would result if the city adopted the proposal.

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WORLD COUNCIL TO PROBE
CZECH BAPTIST SENTENCES

GENEVA--(BP)--The executive committee of the World Council of Churches, meeting at Bossey, Switzerland, authorized its chairman to inquire into the recent trial and sentences given four Czechoslovak Baptist leaders. A request for proof of charges made against them will be made.

In June, it was reported that a Communist court at Pardubice in eastern Bohemia had sentenced the four Czech Baptist leaders to prison terms ranging from five to eighteen years for "espionage and sabotage." All were relieved of their rights as citizens and their property was seized.

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NEW ORLEANS BAPTISTS
TO QUERY CANDIDATES

NEW ORLEANS, La.--(BP)--Baptists in New Orleans served notice that they will question all candidates for public office "and support only those who affirm they will support the laws if elected."

O. S. Chiocchio, chairman of the New Orleans Baptist Association's public affairs committee, said the action was taken by the organization after local government officials had indicated approval of church-sponsored raffles and games of chance.

New Orleans' mayor and district attorney announced that the city would not prosecute raffles and games of chance after state police officials warned that "keno, bingo and all other gambling games anywhere in Louisiana" would be raided after August 31, regardless of their sponsorship.

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REPORTER FINDS MEMBERS
WEAK ON CHURCH DOCTRINE

LOUISVILLE, Ky.--(BP)--"Church members are amazingly ignorant of doctrine" is the conclusion of a Louisville, Ky., reporter who visited fifty-two churches in twelve months. Ora Spaid, who writes a weekly column called "A Reporter Goes to Church" for the Courier-Journal, didn't go to church on a recent Sunday. Instead he stayed at home and wrote about the churches he attended in the last year.

In honor of the first birthday of the feature, he wrote a column entitled "Church Reporter Stays at Home," summarizing his impressions of the churches.

Some of them: Similarities among churches of all faiths are stronger than their differences. Too many sermons are "bogged down with religious cliches fraught with glittering generalities. Even the hell-fire-and-brimstone sermon appears to have lost its hell-fire." "Church members are amazingly ignorant of doctrine."

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