

October 14, 1960

**Canadian, Southern  
Baptist Leaders Meet**

ST. JOHN, New Brunswick--(BP)--A committee of Southern Baptists and Baptists from Canada held one of a series of meetings here to discuss mutual problems.

The committee re-elected Harry A. Renfree of St. John, leading seaport of this Canadian Maritime province, as their chairman.

He is general secretary of the Maritime Baptist United Convention, one of several groups making up the Baptist Federation of Canada.

R. Alton Reed, Dallas, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board, continues as secretary of the committee.

Members will receive a quarterly newsletter pointing out any tensions between the two Baptist groups and suggesting ways to relieve them.

The committee includes representatives from the Baptist Federation of Canada, the Southern Baptist Convention, and the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington (the latter an independent regional organization in northwest United States and southwest Canada affiliated with the S B C).

-30-

**Graham Spanish Meeting  
Example To Churches**

(10-14-60)

ATLANTA--(BP)--The success of the Billy Graham Spanish Crusade in New York City should encourage Baptist pastors and evangelists to hold similar meetings.

This was the opinion expressed by Loyd Corder of Atlanta, secretary of the language group ministries department of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, following his attendance at the New York revivals.

More than 43,500 were reported to have attended the three Graham-led services, at which more than 1,000 made decisions.

"Billy Graham has shown what any Baptist pastor or evangelist can do by way of a bi-lingual ministry," Corder said. "The program of his services in this Spanish-American Crusade was practically identical with the program he uses in all his crusades, except everything was interpreted."

Corder suggested that all that was needed was an interpreter, and that there were many very capable men available. His office would supply names to anyone interested, as well as answer any questions.

"Even though it was evident that Billy Graham lacked, at some points, a full understanding of the point of view of the Spanish-American people, just as any other pastors or evangelists would," Corder stated. "Nevertheless, it was also evident that there was no serious adverse effect to the total response."

-30-

Utah, Idaho Hold  
Regional Meeting

BOISE, Idaho--(BP)--Southern Baptists in Utah and Idaho now feel the regional program presently used meets the needs of this pioneer area. Messengers from churches in the two states came close to organizing a separate state convention last year.

At the recent regional fellowship meeting in Boise, they had only praise for the present work and did not contemplate the organization of a state convention in the near future.

Churches in the states are affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Arizona, but a regional missions committee serves in an advisory capacity in recommending allocations for mission work. This has given the area a direct voice in mission efforts in the area. The committee is elected at this annual meeting.

Arthur Nunn of Pocatello, Idaho, was named president of the regional fellowship group. Other officers are Darwin Welsh of Salt Lake City, Utah, vice president, and Bill Thornton of Ogden, Utah, clerk.

The Home Mission Board of Southern Baptist Convention allocated \$31,000 in 1960 for these states, in addition to support by the Arizona convention, according to A. B. Cash of Atlanta, secretary of the board's pioneer missions department. These funds are for mission pastoral aid, pastoral missionaries, and two area missionaries.

The area missionaries are Ira Marks of Salt Lake City and Roy Ferguson of Twin Falls, Idaho.

The Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tenn., also co-operates with the Arizona convention in supporting a superintendent of religious education for the area. He is Roland Smith of Salt Lake City.

-30-

Oklahoma Secretary  
To Lead 1961 Tour

(10-14-60)

OKLAHOMA CITY--(BP)--Directors of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma meeting here approved their executive secretary leading a Bible study tour of the Holy Land.

They also voted to permit Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, to borrow up to \$750,000 to construct its new chapel.

T. B. Lackey, the convention's executive head, and a leading Oklahoma City pastor--H. H. Hobbs--will conduct the tour next June and July. The 32 persons in the party will visit Rome, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Israel, Greece, Paris, London, and Scotland.

They will be gone about one month.

The Baptist university formerly had authority to borrow up to \$300,000. When President John W. Raley said the balance needed to complete the initial project was \$399,000, the board more than doubled the debt limitation.

The chapel, with organ and other furnishings to come, will cost a total of \$1,691,169. About \$423,000 in cash is already on hand, Raley said.

The board accepted the resignation of W. E. Grindstaff as assistant executive secretary and presented him with an automobile. Grindstaff will join the Southern Baptist Convention stewardship staff in Nashville to direct Cooperative Program promotion.

-30-

Southern Baptists Plan  
New York Language Work

ATLANTA--(BP)--Language work among the more than 60 nationalities of New York City will be started in January by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The announcement came from Loyd Corder of Atlanta, secretary of the language group ministries department of the board, following a trip to New York City.

Corder was in New York to attend the first annual meeting of the Northeastern Baptist Association and the Billy Graham Spanish Crusade.

Two home mission workers will begin work in January with the language groups. One will seek to initiate work throughout the city, and the other will serve as pastor of a chapel of Manhattan Baptist Church. This chapel, located in Brooklyn, ministers to people of West Indian extraction from Panama.

Neither of these workers has been elected, and both will work under the direction of Paul S. James, director of Southern Baptist work in greater New York and pastor of Manhattan Baptist Church.

The next attempt to start work will be with the more than one million Spanish-speaking, mostly from Puerto Rico and Cuba.

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE  
LLOYD WRIGHT, regional editor  
103 Baptist Building, Dallas 1, Texas  
Telephone: Office — Riverside 1-1996  
Residence — BLackburn 4-6221

October 14, 1960

### Truman Blasts Baptists; Baptists Return Fire

WACO, Tex.--(BP)--Fiery Harry S. Truman mounted a political pulpit and chided fellow Baptists for injecting the religious question in the U. S. presidential election in this Central Texas bastion of Baptist strength.

Across town, meanwhile, messengers to the annual meeting of the Waco Baptist Association were approving a resolution critical of Truman's public conduct and manner of speech.

Speaking during a two-day campaign in Texas for the Democratic ticket, Truman blamed Republicans for capitalizing on a deluge of "smear and hate literature, all contrived to arouse religious prejudice."

"I say to you this is un-American. It makes me sick, and it makes me want to fight--and that's what I'm doing."

"I bow my head in shame and pray to God to forgive these people for what they do," said Truman.

Truman's famed salty speech habits cropped up in ad-lib remarks to Democratic faithfuls attending a \$50-a-plate dinner in San Antonio.

Attacking farmers and others who voted Republican in the last two elections, Truman warned them against voting for Nixon this year. "If you do," he said, "you ought to go to hell!"

At that meeting, Truman announced that he would "tell the Baptists what they ought to do" in view of the religious issue during his address.

Messengers to the Waco Baptist Association challenged Truman on his authority.

"He is presuming too much if he presumes that it is his prerogative or anyone else's to tell Baptists what they should do in this election or in any other realm of conscience," a resolution passed by the Association said.

The resolution stated that the Association "looks with disfavor upon his (Truman's) public conduct and his manner of speech as a Christian, a Baptist, and a guest in our midst."

Later in a news conference, Truman said he felt immune to any church criticism of his views on the political campaign.

He interrupted his prepared address to say, "One reason I'm a Baptist is that nobody dictates to me."

Truman said that it saddened him to have to speak on the subject of religious bigotry, which he called "an earmark of dictatorship."

Truman suggested that some of the efforts to defeat Kennedy are being carried on through Protestant churches with political money contributed for this purpose to avoid paying income taxes.

--more--

Circulation of the "scurrilous literature" takes a lot of money, he said, "and the people who are putting up the money don't really object to Kennedy's election because he's a Catholic--they object to him because he's a Democrat."

The outspoken former president who received the honorary doctorate from Baylor University here a few years ago, declared his support for Kennedy "because he's a Democrat...I don't care if he's a Baptist or not."

The Waco Baptist Association, including 69 churches and 14 missions, also approved a resolution to "encourage our churches and our people to consider seriously the men nominated for the presidency as to their allegiances other than to the Constitution of the United States."

--30--

Dawson Asks If Baptists  
Are Changing Catholics?

(10-14-60)

MCKINNEY, Tex.--(BP)--The dean of church-state separation defenders questioned here if Baptists could be "about to change the historic practices of the Roman Catholic Church?"

Speaking during the 75th anniversary meeting of the Collin Baptist Association here, Dr. J. M. Dawson of Austin cited two recent events that, in his thinking, indicate a new trend among Catholics in the United States.

The 81-year-old retired Baptist minister said that Protestant influence in the religion-in-politics issue "has made the Roman Catholic candidate for President know that he did not have a chance to win unless he came out four-square for the principle of church-state separation."

"Secondly," he said, "it has induced 150 of the nation's topmost laymen among Roman Catholics (not the Pope, not the Cardinals, not the Hierarchy) to make a five-point statement to the effect that their church is hurt unless it recognizes these American policies and urges the Roman Church to cease its discrimination and persecution against non-Catholics in countries like Italy, Spain and Columbia."

"If the Baptist witness is blameworthy in the sight of critics," Dr. Dawson said, "we rejoice in the good fruit it has already produced."

Dr. Dawson was executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs for seven years and has authored two books supporting the principle of separation of church and state.

"We Baptists are not deterred by the noisy, unintelligent cry of bigotry," he said. "We smile at the spectacle of those who side with a church that stigmatizes all other churches as counterfeit, that invalidates marriages performed by others and forbids its children from attending our public schools."

Earlier during the Associational meeting, messengers representing 54 Baptist churches with a combined membership of more than 15,700 approved a resolution stating that religious freedom "is in grave danger in our day."

The resolution called upon all Americans "to consider each candidate for public office in the light of his allegiance to any power within or without the United States which has historically opposed the separation of church and state and the principles of religious freedom."

Dr. Dawson, speaking on "Our Baptist Heritage," said that Baptists would deny to no candidate the right to his faith and his church. "However," he said, "We do need better proof than is afforded by the records that the present Roman Catholic candidate will not yield to clerical pressures for special favors for his church."

--30--

Dallas Group Opposes  
Catholic President

DALLAS--(BP)--Messengers representing the largest group of Baptists from any one metropolitan area in the nation approved a resolution here expressing some grave doubts about electing a Roman Catholic as President of the United States.

Representing more than 156,000 Baptists in 227 churches and missions, the messengers to the annual Dallas Baptist Association here passed the recommendation unanimously and without discussion.

The messengers make no claim, however, of speaking for the entire Baptist membership in Dallas County.

The resolution reaffirmed the group's faith in religious freedom, separation of church and state, and "the constitutional guarantee that one's personal faith shall not be a test of his qualification for public office."

However, the resolution went on to state that "the implications of a candidate's (church) affiliations are of concern to voters in every election."

"Especially is this true," the resolution said, "if a candidate is a member of a church which maintains a position in open conflict with... religious liberty, separation of church and state, the freedom of conscience in matters related to marriage and the family, the perpetuation of our public schools and the laws against the use of tax money for sectarian purposes."

"This becomes a matter of increasing concern when the candidate's church claims to have the right and duty to guide, direct and correct its members, allowing them never to depart from its teachings and directives."

The messengers urged the members of their churches "to be good citizens, to pray for our country and for our elected servants, and to seek divine guidance in the selection of those men who guide the destiny of our country."

--30--

Pollard Says Truman  
Has Keys to Kingdom

(10-14-60)

DALLAS--(BP)--The President of the Southern Baptist Convention blasted former U. S. President Harry Truman for "assuming the role of the Pope" and intensifying the religion-in-politics issue under the cloak of trying to eliminate it.

Truman, who said in San Antonio that anyone who votes for Republican Presidential Candidate Richard Nixon "ought to go to hell," prompted a quick reply here from Southern Baptist President Ramsey Pollard, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.

"Truman has associated with Catholics so much," Pollard said, "that he has taken on the characteristics of the Pope and is trying to assume the authority of sending people to hell."

"Though Truman is very outspoken in his disgust for those who raise the religious issue in politics, he is actually inserting religion into the campaign and making the political party a religion by saying such a thing," said Pollard in an interview with newsmen here.

Quick to say that he speaks only for himself and not for nine million Southern Baptists, Pollard indicated that Truman, in his address on "religious bigotry" in Waco, Tex., had tried to stir up prejudice against the Protestants.

Pollard, who speaks Oct. 13 at the Colorado Baptist General Convention in Bolder, Colo., was in Dallas to address the Brotherhood of Gaston Avenue Baptist Church.

--30--



103 BAPTIST BUILDING  
DALLAS 1, TEXAS



**FIRST CLASS**

Mr. Theo Sommerkamp  
127 Ninth Avenue, N.  
Nashville 3, Tennessee

A CO-OPERATIVE TEXAS AND SOUTHERN BAPTIST NEWS SERVICE  
WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE