

FROM ATLANTA OFFICE

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**C. E. Autrey Elected
Evangelism Director**

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--C. E. Autrey of Fort Worth, Texas, Tuesday was elected director of the Division of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board to succeed Leonard Sanderson, who resigned last month to take a Louisiana pastorate.

Autrey, professor of evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Seminary in Ft. Worth, was elected at the annual meeting of the Board in Atlanta.

Leadership in evangelism work is not new with Autrey. He was secretary of evangelism for Louisiana Baptists for three years, and was a staff member of the Home Mission Board's Evangelism Division for four years. He accepted the seminary position in 1955.

"I believe with all my heart that God has been getting this man ready for this task," Courts Redford of Atlanta, executive secretary of the Board, said in presenting him for election. "He will begin this task effective January 16, and Sanderson has agreed to continue with the division until then."

The Division of Evangelism, which is located in Dallas, Tex., has led Southern Baptists in maintaining a primary emphasis upon evangelism. The division's promotion of a plan of local church and simultaneous evangelism has led in the winning of a half million converts this year.

Autrey was born in Columbia, Miss. By the time he was eight years of age he had heard his Christian father read all of the Old Testament and New Testament stories, much of the reading by Kerosene lamp.

The family attended a quarter-time Baptist church where he was converted at 14. In high school he was on the debate team, and planned to be a lawyer. He was valedictorian of his class.

Following graduation he worked in a saw mill in Selma, La. During this time he felt the call to preach, and since there was no Baptist church in the community, he preached his first sermon in the Methodist church at the age of 19.

In Louisiana College he was known as a young man with genuine evangelistic concern. He received the doctor of theology degree from New Orleans Baptist Seminary.

His pastorates have included Temple Church in Ruskin, La.; First Church of Union City, Tenn., and First Church of West Monroe, La.

Seattle Included
In Big Cities Program

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Seattle became the fourth major city to be included in Southern Baptists' "Big Cities" program Tuesday when the denomination's Home Mission Board voted to spend \$100,000 there.

Chicago, San Francisco, and New York City have received a total of \$400,000 in a stepped up advance some have termed "Operation: Big Cities." All but \$120,000 of these funds have been spent for sites or in other "ways that will best develop the work."

Seattle, a metropolitan area of nearly a million, has only 17 Southern Baptist churches.

The program is administered through the Home Mission Board's City Missions Department, of which Fred B. Moseley is secretary. He indicated that his department will concentrate on some city year by year.

"Efforts are being made to select the very best sites and to spend these funds in the way that will enlarge and promote our work in Seattle," Moseley said.

The Seattle city mission program is administered by Ray Harris, superintendent of city missions. Harris gave an enthusiastic reception to the news of Seattle's selection, and indicated that the money would be used for desperately needed church sites that will aid in the expansion of the work.

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Missionary Requirements
Adopted By Home Board

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Minimum requirements for all missionary personnel of the Home Mission Board were adopted here at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist agency.

The requirements have come from the work of a new missionary personnel secretary, Glendon McCullough of Atlanta, employed this year. "The challenge facing us in home missions demands missionaries of the highest caliber," McCullough said. "The missionaries now serving have set the pace. Our emphasis is and will continue to be on finding those whom God has called."

The requirements are grouped as to type of work, but most include college and seminary training, experience in the work, medical examinations (including psychiatric), and a minimum age.

"Basic qualifications include membership in a Baptist church, a knowledge of Baptist doctrine and policy, loyalty to our Southern Baptist program, a Christian character, and a definite sense of call to mission service," McCullough said in presenting the qualifications.

"These requirements will do much to continue the high level of personnel and even raise the level," Courts Redford, of Atlanta, executive secretary of the Board, said. "These qualifications will help us enlist the finest of the young men and women of Southern Baptists as missionaries."

Missionary personnel include workers with language groups, area and associational missionary, missionary pastors, superintendent of city missions, good will center workers, rescue mission workers, mission center workers, juvenile rehabilitation and Jewish workers, nurses, and teacher-missionaries with Negro Baptists.

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According to McCullough, persons who do not qualify for appointment because of age or training, but who can perform a specific function may be employed as an associate missionary where a need exists that cannot otherwise be met.

Appointment services at Ridgecrest and Glorieta during Home Mission weeks were approved by the Board. These will be handled by the personnel office, and the first such services will be held this summer.

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Home Board Loan Fund Expanded

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Southern Baptist churches and missions will receive \$1,230,000 for sites and buildings from the Cooperative Program in 1960. Three hundred thirty thousand dollars will be for the purchase or erection of mission properties, and \$900,000 will go into the Home Mission Board Church Extension Loan Fund.

The funds will come from the Capital Needs section of the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified budget plan, according to Executive Secretary Courts Redford, Atlanta, who made the announcement.

"This increase.....will assist in alleviating the bottle-neck that has made impossible the advance of our mission program in certain areas," Redford said.

The Church Loans Division is directed by G. Frank Garrison, Atlanta, who reported that \$10,486,144 in loans for church buildings and sites have been extended during the past six years.

Two-thirds of the 931 churches receiving loans are located in states in the West and industrial North where Southern Baptist work recently has been started or is numerically weak.

In addition to the more than ten million already loaned, 115 loans which amount to more than one and one-half million dollars are approved and pending closing, Garrison reported.

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Moore To Macon

MACON, Ga.--(BP)--Walter L. Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church of Meridian, Miss., for the past eight years, accepted on November 29 a call to become pastor of Vineville Baptist Church, Macon, Georgia effective December 16.

Moore succeeds C. Dewitt Matthews, who resigned in August to become professor of preaching at Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City. He previously served as pastor in Georgia before going to Mississippi, and he was a Home Mission Board missionary for four years in Havana, Cuba.

Record Budget Adopted
For Home Mission Work

ATLANTA, Ga.,--(BP)--A record budget of \$4,138,000 for mission work by Southern Baptists in the United States, Cuba, and Panama was adopted by the Home Mission Board in its annual meeting in Atlanta. This exceeds the budget of 1959 by more than a third of a million.

In other actions the Board completed cooperative agreements with eight additional states, heard that 430,000 baptisms were recorded during the year, and adopted goals through 1964.

An increase of \$446,066 in the Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions is primarily responsible for the increase in the budget, according to Courts Redford, Atlanta, executive secretary of the board. This offering, taken annually in Southern Baptist churches, accounts for about half of the total budget; receipts from the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified budget plan, complete the budget.

"A larger portion of the budget will go to less developed areas of work," said Redford. The board voted distribution of the budget among the board's five divisions, allocating the major portion, \$2,881,832, to the big Missions Division, which includes departments of city, associational, and pioneer missions, language group ministries, work with National Baptists (Negroes), and survey work.

The Evangelism Division with offices in Dallas, Tex., received \$150,000; Education and Promotion Division, \$151,650; Chaplains Division, \$85,000; Church Loans Division, \$152,215, and the remainder was distributed between general mission ministries of the board, \$548,530, and administrative expenses, \$233,338.

Eight additional states were included in the co-operative agreements. These agreements provide for the ratio of financial assistance from both states and Home Board, place the direction of missionaries under state leadership, and spell out the working arrangements.

New agreements were made with Maryland, Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, and Oregon and Washington.

"This makes 16 states who have entered into these agreements," Arthur Rutledge of Atlanta, director of the Division of Missions, said. "We are further along on this than we had expected, and by next year all of our state conventions will probably have signed agreements."

Redford announced that "we feel we are making great progress in formulating the uniform, co-ordinated, co-operative convention-wide program of missions that was recommended by the Survey Committee of the Convention."

He also indicated that the agreements would be extended to include "not only the field of missions, but evangelism, missionary education, promotion, and others."

"Southern Baptists baptized 430,000 this year," Leonard Sanderson of Dallas, Tex., director of the Division of Evangelism, told the Board. "There was a percentage gain over last year of between five and six per cent, which is significant in that there was only one per cent gain in Sunday school enrollment."

Sanderson also announced that the ratio of baptisms to

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membership was one to 20.9, where last year it was one to 22. He also said that the number of churches failing to report a baptism during the year had decreased by 2,000, while the number of churches has steadily increased.

Goals through 1964, the closing year of the Baptist Jubilee Advance, were adopted by the board. These included baptising 4,100,000, increasing language missionaries by 1,300, having 90 city mission programs, starting 5,500 churches and 11,000 missions, increasing loan and site funds to \$16 million, leading chaplains to start 3,000 preaching places and missions, enlisting 600 students in summer missions, having 5,000 churches in schools of missions, increasing magazine and book circulations, producing 30 film strips and five movies, and raising receipts through the Cooperative Program to \$6½ million.

Many of the goals are to be considered at a meeting with the state executive secretaries and will not be final until then.

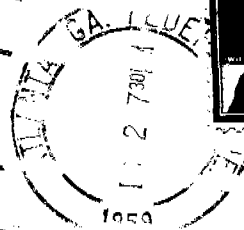
Officers re-elected at the meeting are president, C. G. Cole of Atlanta; state vice president, John Landrum of Mississippi; local vice president, Henry Barksdale of Atlanta, and secretary, Mrs. R. N. Landers of Atlanta.

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