

December 16, 1962

**Conference Explores
Layman-Pastor Link**

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Curb-stone theology on the part of laymen and a lack of understanding of ministers' church leadership roles are reasons for communications problems between clergy and laity.

So said pastors from 12 states attending a Continuing Theological Education Conference at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

The conference included four days of group discussion and comprehensive classes on pastoral counseling and current theological trends taught by four Southern Seminary professors.

In a research session on clergy and laymen communications, the pastors blamed themselves for lay members of their congregation not knowing more theology and having to rely on cliches for their application of scriptural teaching.

Instead of having time to teach and perform pastoral jobs, the pastors said more and more of their time is being consumed by administration and promotion. Most laymen expect an impossible ministry from their pastors, said the group.

"Cultural pull, self interest and egoism" keep laymen from breaking through old thought patterns and making Christ's teaching relative to their lives," said the group.

The group also agreed they need to better understand laymen's everyday problems, as they provide teachings for spiritual growth.

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**Unpaid 1961 Capital
Need Funds Sent Out**

(12-16-62)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention received their final distribution of operating funds for the year 1962 on Dec. 11, it was announced here by a Convention official.

The distribution also included all unpaid balances (totaling \$798,360) on 1961 capital needs funds allocated to agencies, said John H. Williams, financial secretary for the SBC Executive Committee. Sixty per cent of the 1962 capital needs have also been met.

For the year to date--the fiscal year and the calendar year being the same--Cooperative Program receipts for SBC work have reached \$17,781,860. By year's end, they were expected to reach somewhere between \$18.1 and \$18.5 million, Williams added.

This would still leave the Convention shy of its \$19,013,500 Cooperative Program budget for operating and capital needs in 1962. Balances due agencies on 1962 capital needs will be carried over into 1963 and will have priority over 1963 capital allocations.

The operating budget for 1962 is \$13,938,500 and capital needs \$5,075,000. To complete 1961 capital needs left over, and meet all 1962 allocations, the Convention this year would have to receive \$19,811,860, compared with the maximum anticipated of \$18.5 million.

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Conference Wonders
'Where Are People?'

NASHVILLE (BP)--Reports of possibly the leanest numerical growth since World War II faced Southern Baptist Convention leaders assembled here for a week of conferences.

Executive Secretary James L. Sullivan of the SBC Sunday School Board, Nashville, sponsor of the conferences, put this question to the 200 secretaries from state Baptist offices attending them:

"We have been emphasizing the functions and planning projects, but where are the people?"

Preliminary statistical reports indicate Southern Baptists, leaders in Sunday school enrolment totals in the nation, increased only 54,000 in membership there during the 1961-62 associational year.

This apparently is the lowest numerical increase since the mid-1940's.

The increase during the 1960-61 associational year was over 124,000. Combined Sunday school enrolment of Southern Baptist churches stands at more than 7-1/2 million.

Present for the conferences, called each winter by the board, were executive secretaries of state Baptist conventions and their associates who lead work in five special areas--Sunday school, Training Union, church music, work among college students and church building consulting.

In addition, representatives from a number of SBC agencies attended or spoke to groups.

Sullivan said Sunday school growth spurs gains in other areas of church life. After the 1954 thrust, "A Million More In '54," not only the Sunday school gained enrolment, but Training Union enrolment jumped and the number of converts rose too, he pointed out.

The "million more" effort was a nationwide Sunday school enlargement effort.

Sullivan said the emphasis of the Sunday school is Bible teaching. "You can't have a program of stewardship ahead of Bible teaching. You can't have a program of evangelism ahead of Bible teaching," he declared.

"It's not a matter of priority," he said. "It's a matter of strategy and sequence. You don't run a military convoy down the highway with every vehicle on a line even with each other. You couldn't find a highway wide enough for it. You put one in the lead and the others follow it."

He said this problem of dealing with people outranked the doctrinal problem in importance among Southern Baptists today.

Preliminary data--the final figures will not be available until early next year--also indicates that Training Union enrolment increased during 1961-62, but that it too failed to make an annual increase similar to previous years.

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California, Texas
Tell How They Do It

(12-16-62)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Detailed organizational charts for their state convention offices do not hamper interoffice cooperation, Baptist leaders from California and Texas reported here.

Instead, they said, the organizational lines help their conventions to reach the needs of Baptist churches in those states.

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Richard Kay, Fresno, director of church services division for the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, and T. A. Patterson, Dallas, executive secretary, Baptist General Convention of Texas, made the two presentations.

They outlined their organizational work to 200 fellow secretaries from other state Baptist conventions cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention. All were in Nashville for conferences sponsored by the SBC Sunday School Board.

Kay and department heads of California work said they seek to hold sessions in every section of California on a rotating basis to help district associations of churches see the full picture of Baptist activity.

"We take the initiative," they reported. "We ask to be invited to conduct these meetings. We pay a part of the expenses of holding them."

Persons holding major associational offices are invited to take part in two-day sessions on Sunday school, Training Union, church music, student and campus, Brotherhood and Woman's Missionary Union work and on evangelism.

Patterson and his aids said four commissions--Christian life, Christian education, human welfare and state missions--carry out Texas convention programs.

Staff conferences enable those involved in special fields to share their knowledge, and to learn from their associates developments in the other areas of Baptist convention work. Thus, no matter what field a Baptist leader may specialize in, he has up-to-date facts on all phases of work of the Texas convention, these Baptist officials reported.

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Baptist Newspaperman
Covers Vatican Council

(12-16-62)

DETROIT (BP)--Religious liberty, the participation of Catholic laymen and the problems of interfaith marriages are high on the list of interests of Protestant observers attending the Second Vatican Council.

This was reported by Hiley E. Ward, religion writer for the Detroit Free Press, who attended opening sessions of the council still under way at the Vatican.

Ward, a Baptist by personal preference, was quoted by the news service of the American Baptist Convention.

Through a series of questionnaires and personal interviews with the 35 observer delegates, Ward learned the topics in which these observers were most interested.

The Protestant group expressed keen interest in the sources of revelation, which was debated at some length before the council. Basically, this question revolves around the use of the Bible and tradition as a basis for religious belief. Liberal forces at the council pressed for a greater awareness of Protestant dependence on the Bible, while conservative forces preferred to make clear the dual sources of revelation.

The emphasis on the Bible by Catholics was surprising to the non-Roman Catholics. On the other hand the catholic inclinations of non-Roman Catholics surprised the Catholics.

After the opening ceremony, an ornate Bible, with more than a thousand gold markings inscribed in the Middle Ages, was placed on the central table of the basilica, the same portable altar that had been used during the great opening mass and ceremony.

The Roman Catholics even sounded like Billy Graham at times. For example, this excerpt, replete with Bible book and chapter and verse, was given by the Secretary General of the Council on behalf of the Council presidency, and approved by the pope. Said Archbishop Pericle Felici in the special message:

"We believe that the Father loved the world so much that he gave his Son to save it; and that he freed us from the slavery of sin through this same Son 'reconciling all things in him and through him, re-establishing peace through the blood of his cross' (Col. 1:20) that we might be called and truly be his sons."

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Not a Baptist evangelist, but a top executive of the Second Vatican Council said this. The whole communique abounded in scripture references.

Catholic prelates, among them Archbishop Eduardo Tonna, of the St. John Lateran Church, expressed to Reporter Ward a keen interest in Protestant things. He called Ward's Baptist baptism valid as long as it was trinitarian; the archbishop thought it terrible, though, to let a child be a "pagan" up to and until a rational acceptance of baptism.

The St. John Lateran Church, the pope's own church, is one of the two main basilicas in Rome.

Protestants expressed their interest in Scriptures through Professor Edmund Schlink, of the University of Heidelberg. The professor gave a response to Augustin Cardinal Bea, of the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity, at a reception in honor of the observers given by the Vatican.

Professor Schlink told of Protestant interest in the "pre-eminence" of the Bible and hoped much could be gained by future joint Bible study and development of a common Bible.

In the matter of religious liberty, Ward reported a "new cordial climate between Roman Catholics and Protestants exists in Italy among the local churches, as it does in the United States and other spots around the world."

Ward stopped in Spain to do a series of articles on developments in Spanish religious life and to see if the new heart throb in Catholic-Protestant relations was being reflected in a country where Protestants would like to see some change.

In Spain, Ward found Spanish Protestants are still restricted. There can be no public promotion by Protestants such as the use of a church sign or advertising; permission for new church buildings is not granted; Protestant day schools are not allowed; Catholic bishops must be consulted on the legality of a Protestant marriage; Protestants cannot teach in a public school; all chaplains are Roman Catholic; and only a Catholic can be head of state.

Bishop Santa Molina, of the Spanish Reformed Church (Episcopal) said that he does not have much hope of a change in restrictions on Protestants in Spain resulting from any action at the Second Vatican Council. Change is more likely to come about by world pressure.

Ward, a Baptist layman, is a member of the First Baptist Church, Royal Oak, Mich.

He is a graduate of William Jewell College (Baptist), Liberty, Mo.; Berkeley Baptist Divinity School (American Convention), Berkeley, Calif., and McCormick Theological Seminary (Presbyterian), Chicago.

He studied journalism at Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

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Warren Challenges
State Mission Leaders

(12-16-62)

ATLANTA (BP)--C. C. Warren of Charlotte, N. C., told superintendents of missions in state Baptist conventions meeting here that he expects the number of missions and churches started by Southern Baptists in the 30,000 Movement to reach 18,000 by the end of 1962.

Warren, director of the 30,000 Movement, and the men responsible for leading in church extension in the various state Baptist conventions considered goals the states will work toward in 1963.

Southern Baptists must start 12,000 additional missions and churches by the end of 1964 if they are to reach the goal of 30,000 set in 1956.

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Twelve state Baptist conventions have already reached the goals they set for the entire period of the movement.

Warren, who challenged the Convention to double the number of preaching places and then resigned his pastorate in Charlotte to become director of the movement, said, "I am confident that we can start 6,000 new missions and churches during each of the two remaining years and reach the goal."

A church extension guidebook to accelerate and aid in starting new missions and churches will be produced, announced Chairman Arthur B. Rutledge of Atlanta, of the 30,000 committee.

Information on how to start new missions; types of missions, surveying the field, and biblical basis will be included in the booklet. "Ministerial and lay leaders who have materials and methods which have proved successful are asked to send these to L. O. Griffith, 161 Spring St., N. W., Atlanta, for inclusion in the guidebook," according to Rutledge, staff member of the Convention's Home Mission Board here.

The state missions superintendents and mission board personnel discussed other mission work which they do cooperatively.

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Executives Hear Reid,
Cuban Refugee Report

(12-16-62)

ATLANTA (BP)--"Baptists on the West Coast, on the East Coast, in the country and in the city need to keep in mind that we have one common task--winning to the Lord," said A. Hamilton Reid of Montgomery, Ala.

Reid, executive secretary of the Alabama Baptist Convention, spoke here in the closing session of a meeting of executive secretaries of state Baptist conventions.

"We speak of Southern Baptists as being a great democratic body," Reid continued. "We speak of the freedom of the individual Baptist, the freedom of each church and each association. We would not claim we have a perfect democracy--there cannot be a perfect democracy when you have people."

Expressing his reliance on fellowship in the denomination, Reid said, "Where there isn't fellowship, there will not be fruitfulness; there will be lack of service."

Of dissension, Reid said, "We've had waves of dissension but they don't disturb me as much as they might. I've seen dissension come and go--and we'll have more. But the vast majority of Southern Baptists are moving forward with a common faith and a common concern."

During the two-day meeting of executive secretaries and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, the two groups discussed their cooperative mission endeavors.

Language mission leaders told the men Southern Baptists' Cuban resettlement efforts have been successful and urged support of a major denominational emphasis on language missions in 1963.

More than 300 Cuban refugees, representing 111 families, have been relocated outside Miami by Southern Baptist churches, said Loyd Corder of Atlanta, secretary of language groups ministries for the mission board.

Southern Baptists help supply food and other aid to the more than 100,000 Cubans remaining in the Miami area through their Cuban relief center.

The state convention executives commended the work already done and agreed that efforts in resettlement should be increased.

"The problem we face is one of motivation interest on the part of the churches," said Bernard King of Atlanta, state resettlement chairman for Georgia Baptists. Eleven churches in Georgia have sponsored Cuban families (provided housing, clothing, food and suitable employment), King reported.

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Corder revealed the mission board's plans to produce a filmstrip and a brochure on the needs and procedures in refugee resettlement in response to the request of men responsible for Baptist efforts in 14 states who journeyed to Miami to see the situation first hand.

"We can't be sincere about world missions and neglect the language groups in our midst," Corder told the state leaders, as he related plans for major emphasis on this phase of mission work in 1963.

Corder and other mission leaders expressed confidence the 1963 denominational emphasis on world missions will be greatly augmented by prayer retreats held in the states. These are "studiedly informal," said Corder, majoring on prayer periods for specific endeavors.

Chester L. Quarles of Jackson called the prayer retreat in his state "the most beneficial thing we've had in Mississippi in my 12 years as executive secretary."

"We (Southern Baptists) must focus our attention outside ourselves if we are to live and if God is to bless us," said Corder.

M. Wendell Belew of Atlanta discussed plans for a meeting of all Southern Baptist associational missionaries with representatives of agencies of the Southern Baptist Convention at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly in Mississippi, Feb. 11-15.

Belew, secretary of associational missions with the mission board, expects about 700 men to attend the conference at the expense of the Home Mission Board, to examine association structure, missions philosophy and responsibility.

Other areas of work discussed during the two-day meeting included surveys, city and pioneer missions.

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Biblical Recorder
Has Staff Change

(12-16-62)

RALEIGH, N. C. (BP)--Roger Branch of Ailey, Ga., has been appointed associate to the editor of the Biblical Recorder here, succeeding Miss Kate Matthews.

Miss Matthews' retirement on Jan. 1 follows 20 years of service on the staff of the North Carolina Baptist weekly newspaper, Editor J. Marse Grant of Raleigh reported.

Branch, no kin to the executive secretary of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, has been teaching at Brewton-Parker (Junior) College (Baptist), Mount Vernon, Ga.

He is a journalism graduate of the University of Georgia, Athens, and received the bachelor of divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. He is an ordained minister.

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Baptists Draw Bead
On 1964 Birthday

(12-16-62)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Baptists across North America have drawn a bead on the same target--the year 1964.

That year, the climaxing one for the Baptist Jubilee Advance, will bring thousands of representatives from seven separate Baptist groups into a three-day celebration in Atlantic City, N. J.

Developments on the 1964 sesquicentennial were outlined to Baptist leaders here by W. C. Fields, public relations secretary for the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, Nashville.

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The Baptist Jubilee Advance marks 150 years of organized Baptist work on a national scale in North America. In the year 1814, North American Baptists founded a convention to promote foreign missions.

Fields told the 350 Baptist state executive secretaries, their associates in special field work and staff members of the sponsoring SBC Sunday School Board the celebration will occur in May, 1964.

The joint Atlantic City meetings will start on Friday night and run through Sunday afternoon, he said. Each church will be urged to send its pastor and at least one layman to Atlantic City.

During 1963, several things will be released to help commemorate the 150th birthday. These include films, books, a statement on Baptist ideals (not to be confused with the statement on Baptist faith and message within only the SBC), and other material.

The theme of the 1963 Southern Baptist Convention--"To Make Men Free"--will reflect the six-year theme of the Baptist Jubilee Advance, which is "For Liberty and Light," Fields added.

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Search Started For Boy
To Address Congress

(12-16-62)

MEMPHIS (BP)--Would you like to address a gathering of 6,000 boys in a national meeting at Washington, D. C.?

A Royal Ambassador between ages 15 and 17 will get that opportunity at the Third National Royal Ambassador Congress next Aug. 13-15.

The featured speaker will be chosen in competition among state representatives at Washington Aug. 11.

Plans for the competition were approved at a meeting of state Brotherhood and Brotherhood Commission personnel of the Southern Baptist Convention here.

The boy selected as the best speaker will give his eight-minute address at the opening session of the Congress.

State Brotherhood leaders have agreed to oversee competition to select their state representative and to arrange for an expense-paid trip to Washington for the national contest. They also have contest rules for interested boys.

Boys will choose from four topics: "Christ and Me in the 20th Century," "My Place in Today's World," "My Responsibilities to Christ" and "Sharing Christ in the Space Age."

The address by a Royal Ambassador is one of a dozen features planned at the three-day Congress for boys 12 through 17.

The boys also will be challenged through music, testimonies, dramatic presentations, dedications and addresses by outstanding Christian leaders, Edward Hurt, Congress director here, said.

Purpose of the Congress, he said, is to deepen boys' concepts of Christianity, show them how they can relate their lives daily to Christ and to provide the boys opportunities to associate with Christian youths from other parts of the country.

The Congress is sponsored by the SBC Brotherhood Commission and state Brotherhood departments.

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Interest Said High
In Missions Schools

ATLANTA (BP)--Interest in missions caused one and a half out of every 10 Southern Baptists to attend a special school of missions in their local church or association this year.

Lewis W. Martin of Atlanta gave this information to men who serve as directors of schools of missions in state Baptist conventions meeting here.

Martin, secretary of missionary education with the denomination's Home Mission Board, works with representatives of the Foreign Mission Board and the mission boards in the states to coordinate schools of missions held throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

The schools of missions leaders praised a new reporting method which reveals progress in such things as the number of churches participating in schools and the number of graded mission study classes taught.

J. Edward Cunningham of Lexington, Ky., suggested that each director produce a monthly schools of missions bulletin sharing progress and plans with each other. He reported that 67 per cent of the schools in Kentucky had mission study classes this year as compared to 36 per cent last year.

"We're aiming for 73 per cent next year," said Cunningham, associate superintendent of missions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Martin considers his major responsibility "giving guidance to directors of schools of missions and associational leaders (on the local level) in having better programs." He participated in 72 planning conferences during this year alone. Martin also promotes the schools of missions idea and provides missionary speakers for the schools.

Approximately 1-1/2 million Southern Baptists attended schools of missions during 1962, in which 8,572 mission study classes were taught. There were 1,100 volunteers for Christian service.

The group elected C. W. Caldwell of Little Rock, Ark., president; Roland P. Hood of Portland, Ore., vice-president, and George E. Ricker of Montgomery, Ala., secretary. Each of these men serves as superintendents of missions in his state Baptist convention, and director of schools of missions.

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Evangelism Leaders
Look At Effectiveness

(12-16-62)

ATLANTA (BP)--"Our program of evangelism is not being communicated to the pastors and the people."

So said the director of evangelism with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, C. E. Autrey of Dallas, to men who work with him as directors of evangelism in state Baptist conventions.

"But this can be overcome by realizing our purposes," continued Autrey.

The evangelism leader continued by drafting the solution to the problem--namely, to intensify a spirit of evangelistic urgency, to build a spiritual atmosphere, to keep evangelism alive and vigorous, to keep the program unified and to keep a solid emphasis on the gospel.

"We must think big," said Autrey. "We must do some old fashioned things such as reading the Bible and developing deeper conviction about basic scriptural truths.

"We must change our methods, but not our message," he continued.

During the two-day meeting, the evangelism leaders considered the framework for the program of evangelism after 1964. This is a period in which they indicated they will have greater emphasis on laymen, personal evangelism, deepening spiritual life,

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evangelism on college campuses and evangelism on foreign fields.

The year 1964 is the 150th anniversary of Baptists in North America.

Commenting on lack of interest in evangelism on college campuses, Cecil E. Sherman, Dallas, staff associate of the campus and clinics evangelism staff of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, said, "Theology is the issue--we must deal with the problem theologically."

Sherman suggested campus evangelistic conferences for students and faculty.