

September 17, 1964

Arkansas Budget
Emphasizes Education

PARON, Ark. (BP)--Christian education will receive the greatest allocation of any work in Arkansas through the 1965 budget of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, if the budget is adopted by the convention in November.

As recommended by the executive board of the convention here, the \$2,151,169 budget will provide \$376,928 for Christian education. Of that, \$331,696 is earmarked for Ouachita College, convention-operated four year college in Arkadelphia.

Southern Baptist College, a junior college in Walnut Ridge, Ark., will receive \$45,231 from the proposed budget.

Other major items in the 1965 budget include \$75,000 for Arkansas Baptist Hospital in Little Rock; \$82,840 for the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children, Monticello; \$164,078 for the division of missions; \$145,000 for the division of religious education, and \$110,000 for annuity and retirement dues.

Capital expenditures of \$200,000 are also a part of the budget.

Outside the state, \$721,932 will be the Cooperative Program share for the Southern Baptist Convention, to support national and worldwide activities of its agencies.

The Arkansas convention also joins with Baptists in Mississippi and Tennessee in supporting Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis.

The executive board, at this meeting, voted to give its full backing to an organization of churches striving to defeat a gambling amendment. If adopted in the November general election, the amendment would permit legalized gambling through casinos in Hot Springs, and in Garland County, where Hot Springs is located.

Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, obtained preliminary approval to campaign statewide for \$1 million over a three-year period--half of the money to be used in capital expenditures and half for endowment. Final approval is up to the convention.

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History Agency Sets
April, 1965 Meeting

(9-17-64)

NASHVILLE (BP)--The 1965 meeting of the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention will be held here April 26, 27 and 28. The meeting time was set by the administrative committee of the Historical Commission.

Special emphasis in the 1965 meeting will be given to indexing Baptist periodicals and to preparing Baptist biographical materials.

The commission had tentatively set March 15, 16 and 17 as the meeting time, but had instructed its administrative committee to set a time which would not conflict with other denominational events. If possible it was to come after completion of a building project of the SBC Sunday School Board. The commission had anticipated occupying its new quarters in the Tower Building of the Sunday School Board here by April, Executive Secretary Davis C. Woolley said.

However, since the contract for remodeling the lower floors of the Tower Building calls for completion next Sept. 1, the meeting for next year will be held before it occupies its new quarters.

The Southern Baptist Historical Society, an auxiliary of the Historical Commission, will hold its 1965 meeting on April 28.

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Arizona's Budget
Stays At 1964 Sum

PHOENIX (BP)--The proposed budget for the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention for fiscal 1965 is \$392,000 through Cooperative Program gifts from cooperating churches. With supplements from Southern Baptist Convention boards for joint work, the total reaches \$729,604.

The state convention, in its fall session, will pass on the recommended budget. It was drawn up by the convention's executive board here.

The Cooperative Program budget is only \$1000 more than the 1964 budget. The division of funds is the same, with the SBC receiving 20 per cent of Cooperative Program collections and the rest being kept for use in Arizona.

The fiscal year runs from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.

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Study Sees Zoning Laws
No Church-State Problem

(9-17-64)

WASHINGTON (BP)--Laws designed for the safety and general welfare of the community, even though restricting churches, are no violation of separation of church and state, according to three Georgia Baptists in a study paper on "The Free Exercise of Religion in the Planned Community."

The group discussed whether church-state separation is compromised by safety and building codes applied to churches and by zoning laws restricting the location and design of churches. They also discussed whether the majority in a community has the right to safeguard "its" community by codes and by screening other religious groups.

The study paper was prepared by the Georgia seminar group for the 8th annual Religious Liberty Conference here. The conference is sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director.

Zoning and building restrictions may at first seem unreasonable to a new church but are actually a help in the future, the writers pointed out. One example cited was the lack of parking facilities at most city churches and the requirements for adequate parking provisions for new churches being built.

For the churches to try to remove such regulations would violate Baptist convictions and traditions, they said. They urged churches not to "carry a chip on their shoulders" regarding governments in this country which are "inclined to favor religious organizations." However, they also urged alertness and careful study when a government offers "special privileges to us as Baptists."

The church is a part of the community and shares its concerns and obligations, the group stated. In seeking exemptions from community regulations the church withdraws from the community, distorts its message and nature as the church, and puts the community or state in the position of granting favors to religious organizations as such, they said.

On the other hand, "the church is the servant of Christ in the community and he is its Lord, not the community," they said. Community planning must leave room for free action on the part of the church and the individual, the group pointed out.

They agreed that such zoning laws and city planning recommendations as church location, parking and traffic, designed for community safety and welfare, do not violate the principle of church-state separation.

However, they said "requirements based on loss of tax revenue, effect on property values, noise, size of congregation, making issuance of permit dependent upon consent of adjoining property owners, and ordinances which in effect exclude churches from an entire village" have been held unconstitutional.

Writers of the Georgia study paper were Judge Frank A. Hooper, United States District Court, Atlanta; F. Robert Otto, dean of the chapel, Mercer University (Baptist), Macon; and Raiford Hodges, Decatur. L. O. Griffith, director, division of education and promotion, Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Atlanta, served as convenor for the seminar.

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Pioneer San Blas
Missionary Dies

COLON, Panama (BP)--Lonnie Iglesias, 63, of the San Blas Island of Aligandi, and a pioneer in Baptist mission work among his own people, died here Sept. 14. Cause of death was brain cancer.

He left a legacy of mission work which permeates the pearl-like string of coral islands which ring the Caribbean coast of the Republic of Panama.

These island homes of the Cuna, or San Blas, Indians for years had little more than a token Protestant witness. Today Baptist churches, schools, and a yet unfinished medical clinic rise above the bamboo and thatch huts of the islands.

A Georgia university professor, Clyde Keeler, an authority on the San Blas people, has called the Baptist work on the islands one of the "outstanding mission accomplishments of this century."

Though Lonnie Iglesias would not want credit for all that has taken place, he and his wife, Marvel Ilya from Detroit, started and later directed the mission work.

Lonnie, the son of a tribal medicine man, became a Christian under the influence of an English missionary, who encouraged his education in three nations: Venezuela, Panama and the United States.

An older brother, Claudio, had sought politically to lead the San Blas people into the modern world, but he lost his life in the attempt.

Lonnie, who had planned to be an electrical engineer, said, "Claudio's influence mastered me, and I felt that I could not turn my back upon my people." But his way was the ministry, not politics.

He studied at Asbury College, Wilmore, Ky.; at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, and the Missionary Training Institute, Nyack, N. Y. It was at Nyack he met and married Marvel Ilya.

After this early education, they returned in 1933 to the islands. They taught school in order to have permission to live on the island of Aligandi, whose people wanted an education but no missionaries.

Lonnie remained the scholar throughout his life. In 1947 he graduated from Dubuque University, Dubuque, Iowa, and in 1953 the school gave him the doctor of letters degree.

One of his most lasting contributions has been the development, along with another Baptist missionary, Peter Miller, of a written Cuna language and the translation of much of the New Testament.

"There was little growth in our work until the Bible was written in the language of our people," Lonnie said many times.

One of his life's ambitions was to complete the translation of the New Testament before he died. This he was not allowed to do, but Peter Miller, himself not in the best of health, continues the task.

The greatest expansion of Baptist work among the San Blas people came after 1955, when Iglesias developed a friendship with R. G. Van Royen, then superintendent of Panama missions for Southern Baptists.

As a result, Southern Baptists took up support of the work on the islands and enlarged it.

Today there are five strong, organized churches and numerous preaching stations. Sunday school attendance exceeds 5,000. The San Blas Association is one of the five associations of churches included in the Panama Baptist Convention.

He is survived by Mrs. Iglesias and by their three adopted children.

Fresno Building
Plans Approved

FRESNO, Calif. (BP)--Plans for a new office building for the Southern Baptist General Convention of California here have been approved.

The convention's executive board has called for bids on the three-story structure which will have 30,000 square feet. It will be located in a northeast suburb of Fresno, near Fresno State College, eight miles from the present downtown site.

The anticipated construction cost is \$600,000. Target date to occupy the new building, which will house offices now scattered in four locations in Fresno, is next July 1.

The California convention, in its November session, will probably act on the bids received.

The office building for the convention was condemned because of its age and condition. Officials said extensive remodeling would have been required. They chose to build a new plant and put the present office site up for sale.

In addition to the present office building occupants, the new structure will house the state Baptist foundation, the printing plant owned by the convention and the Fresno branch of the Baptist Book Store. Each of these three occupies separate quarters in the city.

The board promoted Miss Eula Stotts of Fresno from associate secretary to secretary of Woman's Missionary Union work. She succeeds Miss Clara Lane, who resigned several months ago.

It passed a resolution calling on Democratic and Republican candidates for President to "take a firm stand" on such church-state issues as the Becker prayer amendment and government aid to church-related institutions.

The proposed 1965 state convention Cooperative Program goal is \$1,050,000. This compares with the current objective of \$990,000. The division of 75 per cent for state work and 25 per cent for activities of the Southern Baptist Convention remains the same.

The goal is subject to adoption at the November convention session.

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Illinois Planning
New Campgrounds

(9-17-64)

CARBONDALE, Ill. (BP)--Directors of the Illinois Baptist State Association approved here the use of \$38,000 to buy 153 acres south of Effingham, Ill., for a new statewide Baptist campground.

They said an assembly type facility will be developed. A master plan for locating buildings on the site will be drawn up. The association also hopes to buy adjacent land so the campground will ultimately cover 600 acres.

Illinois Southern Baptists now own a camp site near Pinckneyville, Ill. They will continue to use it while the new site at Effingham is developed. Later the Pinckneyville property will be offered for sale.

The Effingham location is near the intersection of two new interstate highways, 70 and 57.

In another action, the Illinois directors approved a proposed budget for 1965 state association operation. The \$1,092,080 total budget includes \$810,000 in expected Cooperative Program collections from churches, supplements from Southern Baptist Convention boards for joint work in education and home missions, and the children's home and Baptist student center ministries in the state.

The \$810,000 Cooperative Program goal exceeds by \$75,000 the current budget amount. During 1964, the association believes it will receive nearly \$800,000 from affiliated churches on its Cooperative Program goal of \$735,000.

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New or increased items in the 1965 budget include \$13,000 for language missions and \$37,000 for subsidies to new churches for pastoral salary aid and property rent or purchase.

The SBC share of Cooperative Program receipts will continue to be 35 per cent. The 1965 budget is subject to adoption by the full state association meeting in October.

Ernest R. Adams of Nashville was elected statewide secretary of Sunday school promotion for Illinois Baptists. He succeeds Wheeler Thompson, who has retired. Adams is a native of Centralia, Ill., who has been adult work consultant in the Sunday school department of SBC Sunday School Board.

Adams is a former associate Sunday school secretary for Arkansas Baptists.

Illinois directors also adopted a charter establishing a Baptist foundation. It will assume the work now handled by an endowment committee. State association approval of constitutional changes necessary to create the new agency is required before it comes into being.

H. C. Croslin, Carbondale, the association's secretary of stewardship promotion, will handle staff work for the foundation in addition to his present duties.

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Texas Board Approves
\$12 Million Budget

(9-17-64)

DALLAS (BP)--The Texas Baptist executive board voted here to recommend a \$12 million Cooperative Program missions budget for 1965, and filled four top positions on the staff of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The million-dollar-a-month budget for 1965 would be identical with the overall budget for 1964, provided the state convention approves the proposal when it meets in Corpus Christi, Tex., Nov. 3-5.

If adopted as expected, it would mark the first time in more than 20 years that the state budget has not increased to a new record.

In other action, the board promoted Charles P. McLaughlin, missions division director of the convention, to the high-ranking post of secretary of the state missions commission. He fills a vacancy created by the resignation of J. Woodrow Fuller, who became associate pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas.

The board elected two Southern Baptist foreign missionaries to fill staff vacancies.

W. L. Smith, missionary to Argentina for the past five years, was elected Brotherhood department secretary, and Theron V. Farris, missionary to Japan, was named associate in the evangelism division.

A Dallas church administrator, Jay L. Skaggs of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, was elected to fill vacancy as assistant treasurer and comptroller.

The proposed 1965 Texas Baptist budget would send a total of \$4,074,054 to worldwide causes through the Cooperative Program and \$7,925,946 to Texas Baptist causes.

Texas Baptist Executive Secretary T. A. Patterson explained mission gifts had increased each year rapidly, but the budget had increased at a faster rate as a result of children's homes being included in the budget in 1958. "The recommended budget for 1965 has been set up to eliminate the deficit, and at the same time to increase mission gifts," he said.

The \$12 million figure does not include additional missions gifts totaling \$4.2 million expected from special offerings for foreign, home and state missions in Texas.

Much of the board meeting here was spent in debate over several proposed constitutional changes to be recommended for consideration by the Texas convention meeting in Corpus Christi.

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Baptist Press

Debate erupted over a clause which might be interpreted to exclude Southern Baptist seminary professors and employees of Southern Baptist agencies in Texas as possible members of the 192-member board. The clause was referred back to committee for further study before the convention in November.

More debate centered around a proposal to prevent one person from serving on more than one board of trustees, excepting the executive board and appointed committees, but the proposal passed as submitted by the committee.

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**NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
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September 17, 1964

Report From Rome

Baptist Reporter Goes To Vatican Council

Editor's Note: The third session of Vatican Council II is in session Sept. 14 to Nov. 20 in Rome. W. Barry Garrett, Baptist news correspondent in Washington, D. C., is in Rome to give a Baptist's eye view of the Council. His reports go to Baptist publications in North America and Europe by Baptist Press (BP), Baptist Public Affairs (BPA), and European Baptist Press Service (EBPS).

By W. Barry Garrett

Reactions to a Baptist news reporter at the Vatican Council II are numerous and humorous. Last year when I was introduced to a Catholic priest-reporter at the Council he was startled and asked, "And what are you doing here?"

"I am here as a spy," I said with a sly grin. From that moment we were friends. He was most helpful in sharing information, furnishing leads for stories, and in explaining Catholic beliefs and practices.

Back home in good ole U.S.A. when friends learned of my assignment to Rome, reactions were just as interesting. Some said, "Well, it's about time the pope got help from a good Baptist to reform his church." Others warned, "Be sure you don't get converted over there and come back with your collar on backward."

Fortunately or unfortunately, depending on your viewpoint, neither of these took place. The pope is getting his help for reforming the Catholic Church from other sources. And I came back home more firmly convinced that true church reform is conformity to the New Testament.

Reactions of Baptist editors are just as varied. Although they expressed delight and approval of the idea of a Baptist reporter at the Council, their comments ranged all the way across the spectrum of opinion.

One wrote that he had not discovered any interest on the part of the Baptists in his state about what goes on in Rome. Another explained that if I kept my reports short, interesting and simple he could use most of them.

Another said that Catholics are Catholics and he expects no helpful changes to come from the Council. But he was glad I was getting to go anyway.

In contrast another wrote that he detected fresh winds blowing in the Catholic Church and that we should rejoice in every advance made by the "separated Catholic brethren."

Since the Council meets in Italy and the sessions are conducted in Latin, a question frequently asked is, "How do you go about finding out what is going on?"

An easy answer would be that many of the people there speak English and some of them are very talkative. But that wouldn't tell the story. The sources of information are abundant and a reporter's success depends on his own alertness and ingenuity.

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Baptist Press

The Vatican Council has a press building and press services that remind one very much of the same services at a Baptist convention. Full press briefings are held each day at 12:30 in a half dozen languages. From 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, the United States bishops conduct a "press panel." No question is prohibited and full discussion takes place.

For background information, both historic and current, there are about 20 books we have to read. Add to this the papers of the Dutch Documentation Center and the releases of the Divine Word News Service. We subscribe to both.

Then there are the side line sources of information which are often more helpful than the formal sessions. There is lunch or dinner with a Council expert. There is the "bull session" with other reporters. Tip-offs, leaks, rumor, planted news, "don't quote me but here are the facts," etc., are as abundant in Rome as on Capitol Hill or at the White House in Washington.

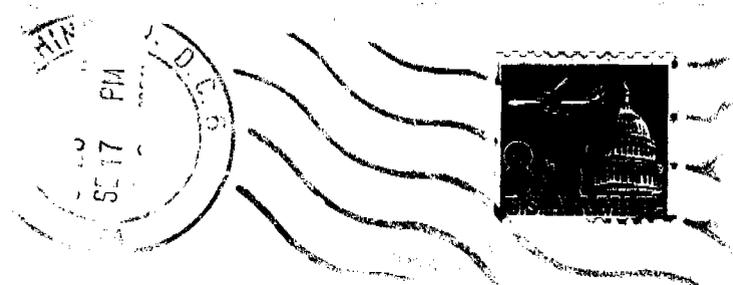
A person may or may not like what is taking place, but one thing is certain--a terrific struggle is taking place in Catholicism. It is this struggle that we are privileged to observe and report during the next several weeks in Rome.

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