

October 2, 1964

**Necessity Invents
'Manna In Morning'**

FORT WORTH (BP)--Necessity, says the old proverb, is the mother of invention.

The truth of it was demonstrated here when the Southern Baptist Convention Radio and Television Commission received a plea from the public relations office of the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

Alabama Public Relations Director David K. Morris of Montgomery asked, "Do you have any daily 'sign on' programs? I have a request from a local station."

Matter of fact, the Radio-TV Commission didn't have, but neither does it like to give "No" for an answer. Ted Lott of Fort Worth, the agency's radio department head, said instead, "Give me a few days and I'll come up with one."

On the strength of this, Morris contacted other Alabama radio stations to determine their interest in having a program to start their broadcasting day. He got affirmative answers from 12 stations.

Within five days, Lott had produced a 4-1/2 minute daily program he called "Manna in the Morning." It included organ music, scripture and a choir hymn.

Alabama's plea will be manna for consumption in other states soon, according to plans of the commission to make it available more widely.

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**High Church Membership
Found In Pierre, S. D.**

(10-2-64)

PIERRE, S. D. (BP)--Three-quarters of the residents of the capital city area of South Dakota, Pierre and Fort Pierre, claim church membership, but only two-thirds of them are members of local churches.

The findings came from an area religious survey conducted by more than 200 members of 19 cooperating churches representing most denominations.

Directing the survey was Don Mabry of Cheyenne, Wyo., an approved worker for the department of survey and special studies of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Mabry said though church membership was high, one out of nine local members does not attend church as often as once a month. The surveyors contacted 11,907 individuals in the canvas, 85 per cent of the population.

This indicates, he noted, only slightly more than half of the population is active as church members.

He also said the survey found more than 2,000 with no church membership, and 40 per cent of the children under nine years of age were not being reached by churches.

Breakdown of the church membership by denominations showed 27.7 per cent are Catholic, 20.4 per cent are Lutheran, 18.4 per cent are Methodist, 10.2 are Congregational, 5.8 per cent are Episcopalian, 4.8 are Baptist, 2 per cent are Presbyterian and 1.8 are Church of Christ.

Canvassers failed to contact only 190 families who were not at home, and only one in 500 refused to answer survey questions.

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Criswell Observes 20th
Anniversary At Dallas

DALLAS (BP)-- W. A. Criswell has begun his third decade as pastor of the largest Southern Baptist congregation, First Baptist Church of Dallas.

A reception at Dallas Memorial Auditorium was held in honor of Criswell's 20th anniversary as pastor of the 13,350-member church.

"God has richly blessed us," he says, as he reminisces back to his first sermon at the Dallas church.

"How do you replace a preacher like George W. Truett?" Criswell had to answer when he stepped in the famous preacher's place in 1944.

The square-jawed Criswell faced the issue as he has done on so many occasions since--head on.

He told the congregation the church would live on even though it had lost the leadership of Truett.

"We'll go on and up with various works. We'll give the missions more money than they have ever been given before. We'll have a Sunday school with 5,000 in attendance," he said.

The church's record today reveals his words were not mere idle talk.

First Baptist Church of Dallas has experienced continuous growth when many downtown churches had to move due to loss of members.

More than 13,350 persons are now members, almost doubling the 1944 roster. A total of 4,853 converts have been baptized, and Sunday school attendance averages up to 5,000.

Total gifts have exceeded \$21.5 million. Since 1953 the church has pledged more than \$1 million a year to a budget which has been called the largest in all Christendom.

Criswell, 54 years old, still thinks of himself as a preacher only, although he has been quoted in secular news media as a Southern Baptist spokesman.

"Why, I don't feel any different in my pulpit than I did in Pulltight" (a community in central Texas where Criswell served while at Baylor University.)

"God called me to preach. That is all I can do," he says.

Criswell's wife said the genius of his success has been "a mind that is tremendous and a heart that is so humble and so completely dependent on God."

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Ground Broken For
Girls' Dormitory

(10-2-64)

BELTON, Tex. (BP)--Mary Hardin-Baylor College (Baptist) here has held ground-breaking ceremonies for Gettys Memorial Dormitory with facilities for 84 girls.

The dormitory is named for A. C. Gettys, long-time member of the religion department and once acting president of the Baptist woman's college. The two-story, air-conditioned dormitory will cost about \$277,000.

Mary Hardin-Baylor is also renovating the basement of Presser Hall to add six classrooms and several offices. The facilities are needed to replace those lost in a fire which destroyed the Wilson Administration Building earlier this year.

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New York-New Jersey
Convention Planned

By Lynn M. Davis Jr.

ENDICOTT, N. Y. (BP)--The New York-New Jersey Area Fellowship of Southern Baptists, meeting here, reaffirmed its intention to form a state Baptist convention effective in January, 1967.

The 60 people present for the fellowship meeting came from all of the 28 churches located in New York state and in New Jersey adjacent to New York City. In addition, the pastor of a church in Connecticut attended.

Churches now cooperate with existing state conventions in Maryland and Ohio. They are located in three district associations--Frontier, covering Niagara Falls, Buffalo and Rochester; Central, covering Syracuse, Elmira and Binghamton, N. Y., and Metropolitan New York City, covering that city and neighboring areas on Long Island and in New Jersey.

Except for Frontier Association, the churches are affiliated with the Baptist Convention of Maryland.

It was reported there are over 5300 members of the 28 churches and 20 chapels or missions. Six churches and four chapels are located in Frontier Association, with a membership of 600. Central Association, with five churches and an equal number of chapels, reported 1210 members.

Metropolitan New York City Association, with 16 churches and 10 chapels, reported 3500 members. A church in Plattsburgh, N. Y., and a mission in Albany, N. Y., are not affiliated with any district association at present.

Although adopting a name with the states of New York and New Jersey in it, the fellowship did not rule out the possibility of including churches in the New England states in its proposed state convention.

Some division is still evident over a policy on New England churches.

Those favoring them as part of the state convention say the new convention will need them for strength. Opponents wish to make it more geographically exclusive.

The New York-New Jersey Fellowship elected a layman, Ira Adams of Bergen Baptist Church, Westwood, N. J., as chairman for the coming year, succeeding Roger Knapton, pastor at Endicott.

A steering committee will plan the 1965 fellowship meeting, set for Sept. 24-25 in Rome, N. Y. This committee will also plan population surveys, schedule simultaneous revivals, and recommend how to set up, finance and staff a state convention.

This state convention presumably would be the 30th within the Southern Baptist Convention. There are 28 already organized. One in Utah and Idaho has been scheduled for organization in the immediate future, making it the 29th.

Executive Secretary Roy D. Gresham of the Baptist Convention of Maryland and his counterpart from the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio, Ray E. Roberts, took part in the 1964 fellowship meeting here as did A. B. Cash, Atlanta, representing the SBC Home Mission Board.

It was reported the Home Mission Board now contributes about \$100,000 a year for Southern Baptist work in New York and upper New Jersey. This is used as salary supplements for pastors, rent for buildings, salary of board personnel and real estate purchases.

Baptist leaders in the area pointed out the state convention would probably have to have a budget of \$225,000 a year at the start.

The history of Southern Baptist work in New York state showed that it started from a lost-and-found effort 10 years ago by a Baptist church in Gantt, Ala. The Gantt church had 40 non-resident members.

Gantt Pastor R. Z. (Zeke) Boroughs, after learning most or all of the non-residents had moved to the Buffalo-Niagara Falls area, went there to visit them.

The organization of LaSalle Baptist Church of Niagara Falls followed, and Boroughs moved from Alabama to be its pastor.

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Plea For Churches
Closes 30,000 Meeting

(10-2-64)

NASHVILLE (BP)--The final meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention 30,000 Movement Committee closed here like the first meeting of the group began eight years ago.

Down to the final minutes, the committee was asking Southern Baptists for a continued emphasis on church extension. The request was not only for the remainder of 1964 but for the years to follow.

The 30,000 Movement, a drive to start that number of missions and churches between 1956 and 1964, was initiated by C. C. Warren of Charlotte, N. C., when he was president of the SBC.

Warren, named director of the movement in 1956, reported to the committee that 22,960 churches and missions had been started July 1 of this year.

Like the committee, Warren plans to continue to stress church extension. He will assist in constituting a church on Dec. 31, the final day he will serve as director of the movement.

"Guide for Establishing Missions and Churches," a publication sponsored by the committee, will be continued, according to M. Wendell Belew, Atlanta, secretary of church extension for the denomination's Home Mission Board.

Belew also told the committee his office would continue special promotion of church extension, asking for continued reports of the starting of new missions and churches.

Arthur B. Rutledge of Atlanta, chairman of the committee and executive secretary-elect of the Home Mission Board, said home mission conferences at Southern Baptist assemblies in 1965 would major on church extension.

Other workers from the Home Mission Board told of plans for continued church extension through surveys to find areas needing churches, the emphasis in pioneer work, city missions, and an all-out effort to promote church extension beyond 1964.

The SBC Sunday School Board indicated it will continue to promote new Sunday schools and Bible extension classes.

The committee asked the story of the work of the 30,000 Movement be collected and given to the denomination's Historical Commission.

A taped interview by Warren on the "Home Stretch in the 30,000 Movement" is being used by associational superintendents of missions. Copies are available free from the Home Mission Board.

The final act of the committee was a tribute luncheon for Warren, at which representatives from SBC agencies expressed thanks for what had been done in the movement.

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Home Board Announces
'65 Assembly Leaders

ATLANTA (BP)--Leaders for the worship and Bible study periods during 1965 Home Mission Weeks at the two Southern Baptist assemblies have been announced.

Theme for the weeks, Aug. 5-11 at Glorieta, N. M., and Aug. 19-25 at Ridgecrest, N. C., will be "Witnessing to Our Dynamic America."

These weeks in 1964 attracted 4,398 Southern Baptists, and the attendance at each was one of the highest in recent years.

For the week at Glorieta Assembly, Paul Brooks Leath, pastor of First Baptist Church of Fresno, Calif., will preach; Gray Allison, professor at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will teach the Bible, and W. Hines Sims, music secretary for the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, will lead the music.

For the week at the Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, H. Franklin Paschall, pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville, will preach; Jesse Northcutt, professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, will teach the Bible, and J. N. McFadden, evangelistic singer of Lyman, S. C., will lead the music.

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SBC Receipts Could
Hit \$20.7 Million

(10-2-64)

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention entered the final quarter of its budget and calendar year, having collected \$15,324,697 on its Cooperative Program goal.

The Convention's objective this year is \$19,187,355. This target includes operating expenses and capital needs for SBC agencies supported by the Cooperative Program. Treasurer Porter Routh here believes Cooperative Program income for the year will reach \$20.7 million if final quarter receipts match earlier quarters.

Receipts from state Baptist offices in September amounted to \$1,581,630 through this undesignated plan of supporting national and world activities.

By surpassing the year's target, the Convention's "advance phase" will go into operation. Foreign and home missions will share the overage exclusively. For several years, collections have not been enough to enter this advance.

Through Sept. 30, the SBC Cooperative Program receipts ran 8.27 per cent, or \$1,170,918, higher than for the like period of 1963.

Designations to SBC agencies in September were \$215,863, running this January-September total to \$15,379,013. This is 5.91 per cent over the nine month mark in 1963.

Disbursements of Cooperative Program funds and designations to the Convention's Foreign Mission Board neared \$20 million this year at the end of September. This agency is far and away the leader in money received.

The Home Mission Board, next highest, had passed the \$6 million mark in disbursements so far this year.

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Tennessee To Vote
On \$4,025,000 Goal

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Tennessee Baptist Convention next month will vote on the largest annual budget ever before it for adoption--\$4,025,000 for the 1965 fiscal year.

Recommended by the convention's executive board, the budget is \$175,000 more than the 1964 goal.

One-third of Cooperative Program receipts would be forwarded to the Southern Baptist Convention under the proposed 1965 budget. This is the same percentage distribution as in the 1964 budget.

If the \$4,025,000 budget is oversubscribed, collections beyond that amount will be divided equally between Tennessee state objectives and national and worldwide causes through the SBC.

The executive board also approved a recommendation to allow East Tennessee Baptist Hospital, Knoxville, to borrow \$4 million for expansion. No fund-raising campaign is involved.

A committee was appointed to study, long-range, possible relocation of state convention offices. The state convention offices here are on the campus of Belmont College (Baptist) at present.

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Arizonan Resigns

(10-2-64)

PHOENIX (BP)--James L. McNett, director of public relations at Grand Canyon College (Baptist) here since 1956, has resigned to accept pastorate of College View Baptist Church in Phoenix.

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Mississippi Board
'Deplores' Violence

(10-2-64)

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board has gone on record to "deplore all acts of violence and all expressions of anarchy" in connection with burning of Negro churches in the state.

The board, which handles convention business between annual sessions, also commended the work of a statewide Committee of Concern formed by 23 Mississippi religious leaders. The committee is accepting funds to help rebuild the burned churches.

The 77-member Baptist board's resolution stated:

"We, the members of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, express our concern about, and deplore all acts of violence and all expressions of anarchy, and . . . commend the work of the Committee of Concern and wish to assure the committee our support in helping to rebuild the burned churches and the planned investigation."

The investigation referred to is the committee's announcement it would make a thorough investigation before aiding any church.

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NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
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Report From Rome

Talking Together Helps Better Understanding

By W. Barry Garrett

One of the delightful experiences of the flight from New York to Rome to report on the third session of the Vatican Council II was a two hour visit with Auxiliary Bishop Warren L. Boudreaux of New Iberia, La. We talked among other things about Christian unity, which is one of the themes of the council.

The ultimate goal of the "ecumenical movement," whether of the World Council of Churches brand or that of the Roman Catholic Church, is the union of all the churches into one. Bishop Boudreaux readily recognized that this possibility is in the unforeseen future. "All we can expect to do now is to talk to one another," he said.

The two hour candid talk with the Louisiana bishop did much to clarify to me some of the problems the Roman Church faces in its 'reform' efforts. Many of the mysteries of the Catholic Church were seen to be less mysterious. And, incidentally, equal opportunity was found to help toward a better understanding of Baptist views.

Another chat with a nun who was passing through Rome for a few weeks was quite interesting. In response to my inquiry about how she felt about the status of women in the church she made a surprising response.

"We women are getting impatient over the fact that we are accepted everywhere else in the world except in our own church," she exploded. And quickly she cautioned, "Don't quote me on that!"

Upon asking what she thought about the fact that women auditors would be admitted to the council for the first time she seemed a little irked. "The pope has already extended greetings to the women auditors," she said, "but no one yet knows who they are. They have not been appointed, much less been present for the meeting." (Their names have since been announced.)

Commenting on the fact that the women auditors would be allowed to listen but not to speak, the nun told of a joke circulating among the convents. Gleefully she said, "We are wondering if the bishops are so afraid we might try to talk once we get in that they might be preparing mouth gags for us!"

I asked what she thought about the long black robes the nuns are required to wear. Evidently I touched on a sore point. She quickly retorted, "We women just don't like for our dress styles to be dictated by the men." She indicated that reform discussions are underway to restyle the nuns' garb to make them less cumbersome and more modern. I have since learned, however, that some of the nuns' orders would fight any change in their styles.

Some of the priests who come from other countries to Italy are in favor of "garb" reforms. The standard clothing (outwardly speaking) for a priest in Italy is the "cassock"—a long, ankle-length robe, variously designed and variously colored depending on the order to which the priest belongs. One hears considerable desire for this reform, and not a little humor and irritation.

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Talks with innumerable Catholics at the council make one realize that these are people just like the rest of us. Though their garb sets them apart, they laugh and play and joke. They develop strong ties of friendship and loyalty as well as bitter jealousies and deep feelings of impatience with the slowness of their church to adjust itself to the needs of the present world.

They criticize and argue with one another, even with the pope. They explain that some of their number are die-hard traditionalists, and that others are far-out progressives. There are all shades of views among them. The one thing, however, that makes a Catholic a Catholic and which gives coherence to the Roman Catholic Church is his regard for the pope. To a Catholic he is the head of the church, the successor to Peter, exercising primacy in his rule and infallibility when he speaks "ex cathedra" (from his throne of authority) on matters of faith and morals.

This talking together has revealed that, although poles apart on matters of doctrine and church practices, underneath all these exteriors, all Christians are pretty much the same, as people. Some of them have as crazy ideas about Protestants as some Protestants have about them.

Who knows! If the "reform" movement in Catholicism really takes hold, and if the Biblical movement reaches massive proportions, sometime during the next millennium we might wake up to find that the Roman Catholic Church has moved much closer to the simple New Testament position. At least this is a goal toward which we can all pray, for them and for us, and toward which we should give every encouragement.

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President Puts Religious
Liberty In Proclamation

(10-2-64)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Complying with the regulation that the President must proclaim a national day of prayer, President Lyndon B. Johnson issued a proclamation which placed emphasis on the free exercise of religion.

The proclamation set October 21 as the National Day of Prayer for 1964. Speaking of religious freedom in this country, the President said:

"Under our laws, --every man has the right to pray; --no man can be told how he must pray; --each man prays as his own conscience dictates."

A resolution by Congress in 1952 states that the President "shall set aside and proclaim" a national day of prayer, other than a Sunday, each year.

President Johnson's proclamation called for all people to turn to God "each in his own way and in his own faith...acknowledging that our country continues, as it was founded, 'with a firm reliance upon the protection of divine Providence.'"

It urged the people to thank God for the blessings to this country, beg forgiveness for shortcomings, and ask for the patience, wisdom, understanding and courage "we need to carry on His work."

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U. S. Congress Votes
Broad NDEA Expansion

(10-2-64)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- A compromise version of Senate and House passed bills to expand the National Defense Education Act (NDEA) of 1958 won approval in both houses of Congress. The measure now awaits the President's signature.

The bill extends NDEA for three years and aid to federally impacted areas for one year. It shifts the emphasis from the categorical aid for mathematics, science and modern foreign languages to a more general education aid. Most provisions include both public and private schools.

The student loan forgiveness feature is extended to teachers in nonprofit private elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education. Current provisions allow up to 50 per cent of the loan to be canceled only for public school teachers. Under the loan program institutions of higher education include public and other nonprofit collegiate and associate degree schools of nursing.

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Presently NDEA provides institutes for guidance and counseling personnel and teachers of modern foreign languages. These would be expanded to include teachers of reading, English, history and geography, school librarians, educational media specialists, and teachers of "disadvantaged youth." Both public and private school personnel would be eligible for stipends.

The measure further expands eligible categories for purchasing of equipment. To the present science, mathematics and modern foreign languages, would be added English, reading, history, geography, and civics. It provides the computation of the rate of interest on loans to nonprofit private schools for each fiscal year rather than for each month.

The bill would write into law the existing policy that graduate fellowships may not be granted for study at a school or department of divinity.

Guidance and counseling programs, now limited to public junior and senior high schools, would be extended to public elementary schools and to public junior colleges and technical institutes. In states that do not permit the use of public funds in non-public schools, the U. S. Commissioner of Education is instructed to arrange for the testing of the pupils through private organizations at the cost of the government.

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Louisiana Board
Sets 1965 Budget

(10-2 64)

ALEXANDRIA, La. (BP)--The Louisiana Baptist Convention executive board here has approved a 1965 state convention Cooperative Program budget of \$2,850,000. On top of this is a \$100,000 advance goal.

The budget will be submitted to the convention next month in New Orleans for adoption. The percentage of the budget going to the Southern Baptist Convention for Baptist work outside Louisiana will remain at 31.4. The SBC will get one-fourth of any funds in the \$100,000 advance.

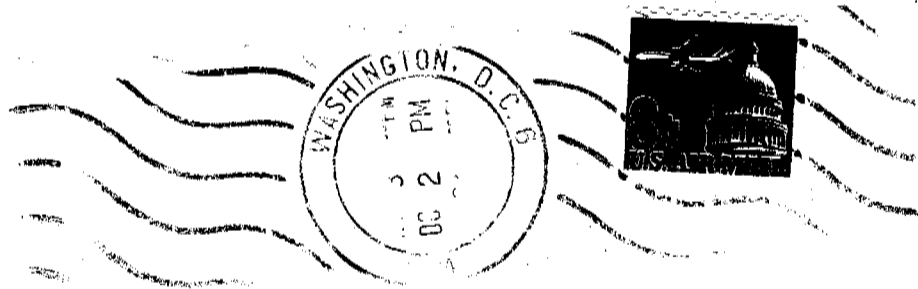
The convention will be asked to increase to \$60,000 next year the amount the budget provides to help publish the Baptist Message, weekly Baptist magazine. This is an increase of \$16,500 over the amount the convention budget has provided the magazine in 1964.

The executive board also voted to recommend to the convention a statewide campaign for special gifts to aid Louisiana College (Baptist) at Pineville. It would be directed at individuals, not at churches. No figure was set for the campaign which will help build up the college's endowment and provide for capital needs.

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