

**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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February 2, 1970

Russian Baptist Cites
Upsurge In Evangelism

RICHMOND (BP)--A Russian Baptist leader reported an upsurge of evangelical Christianity in his country when he spoke at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board headquarters here.

To support his claim, Sergei Timchenko, first vice-president of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians--Baptists, cited the 13,000 Baptisms recorded by the All-Union Council during the past three years.

Timchenko, also a pastor of Moscow Baptist Church, pointed out that his church alone baptized 182 persons in 1969.

Timchenko first spoke to an audience in the chapel of the Foreign Mission Board. He later answered questions in an interview.

In Moscow there are 13 newly registered Baptist congregations, each with 2,000 to 3,000 members, but only the main church where Timchenko serves has its own building, he said.

Government permission can be obtained for Christians to meet in private homes when they do not rent or build places for worship, Timchenko said. Holidays offer many occasions for Christians to gather informally in their homes for worship, he added.

Pastor Timchenko said that Russian Baptists emphasize religious training in the home for their children, many of whom participate in the Young Pioneers and Komsomol (Communist Youth organizations). His own six children, for example, were members of the state youth groups and all but one are church members.

Although there are no Baptist schools in the U.S.S.R., Timchenko said that many young men are studying theology through a two-year Baptist-sponsored correspondence course. Only those who have completed their secondary education are able to enroll in the course of instruction, he added.

Timchenko also discussed the position of dissidents within the Russian Baptist movement. Some Baptists left the All-Union Council to form what they called the Council of Churches because they objected to a Soviet law requiring congregations to register with the government.

Some dissenters were welcomed back into the All-Union Council during the 40th Congress of Russian Baptists held recently in Moscow.

Traveling with Timchenko were Ilia Orlov and Mrs. Klaudia Pillipuk, who have responsibilities in foreign relations for the All-Union Council. Both are members of the Moscow church.

Adolf Klaupiks, former relief coordinator for the Baptist World Alliance (BWA), interpreted for Timchenko, who spoke in Russian. The group is traveling under the auspices of the BWA. They will go to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and Chicago, also.

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Southern Seminary Gives
Allen "E.Y. Mullins" Award

2/2/70

LOUISVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here presented its E.Y. Mullins Denominational Service Award to Clifton J. Allen, retired editorial secretary of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Since 1965, Allen has also been recording secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention. He is the editor of the Broadman Bible Commentary now being published.

The award, given annually to an outstanding Southern Baptist leader, is named for the fourth president of Southern seminary, E. Y. Mullins, who was considered one of the most influential Baptist leaders of the early twentieth century.

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A 1928 graduate of Southern Seminary, Allen served as a pastor in North Carolina from 1932 to 1937 before moving to the Sunday School Board as Associate Editorial Secretary. In 1945 he was named Editorial Secretary.

Allen has also served as a member of the Baptist World Alliance Commission on Christian Teaching and Training since 1957, and he is currently serving as chairman of the commission.

Southern Seminary President Duke K. McCall said "it would be presumptuous to attempt to detail the articles and lesson materials which he has provided through numerous publications." He has written The Gospel According to Paul and, since 1953, "Points for Emphasis."

When he was making the presentation to Allen, McCall said, "This is the highest award made by this institution and is designed to focus attention upon the contribution the recipient has made and particularly in this case, the contribution he is currently making through the Broadman Bible Commentary as well as other avenues of Christian service."

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BP Photo to be mailed to state Baptist papers.

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Students Provide Ministry
For 53 Mexican Orphans

2/2/70

BELTON, Tex. (BP)--Twenty-seven Mary Hardin-Baylor College students paid their own way during their January exam break to minister to 53 Mexican orphan boys at El Rancho del Rey, Mexico.

Designated as Mission 53, the project was planned by William Jan Deahnert, Baptist student director at the college.

The group of 27 students was accompanied by eight sponsors including Romero Rodriguez, pastor, First Mexican Baptist Church, Belton. Rodriguez preached in Spanish during worship services.

The structure and types of activities were designed to meet needs as they arose, Deahnert related. The most prevalent need was for personal recognition for the boys. Activities included music, all types of recreation, hand crafts, Bible study and personal conversation.

"Many of us went with the intention of teaching and we were taught, of loving and we were loved, of giving and we received so very much," Miss Debbie Craig, freshman said.

"My concern is that we relate this project to the campus. Already some of the students have expressed a desire to serve in the local Mexican Baptist church. The trip has given us a unity and desire to be involved in mission," Deahnert said.

"We have already made plans to go back during spring vacation."

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Bolin Named Consultant
For Student Department

2/2/70

NASHVILLE (BP)--Gene Bolin, director, department of student work, Oregon-Washington Baptist Convention, has been named consultant for new work development for the student department of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

It will be the second time that Bolin has joined the staff of the student department of the Sunday School Board, and the second time he has resigned as director of the Oregon-Washington student work post to accept the national office position.

Bolin was first named Oregon-Washington's student director in 1965, but he resigned in 1966 to go to the Sunday School Board's student department. He returned to Oregon-Washington to his former position in 1967.

He is the author of the book, Christian Witness on Campus, published by Broadman Press.

A graduate of the University of Washington, Seattle, Bolin earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology. He has also done graduate study in psychology at the University of Washington while serving as a graduate assistant.

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Southern Seminary Slates
Five Spring Lecturers

LOUISVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here has scheduled five lecturers to speak on the campus this spring.

Yigael Yadin, archaeology professor at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel, and visiting professor at Brown University, Providence, R.I., will speak on his work as an archaeologist in Israel on March 10.

Gordon Chamberlin, professor at Pittsburg, (Pa.) Theological Seminary, will deliver the annual Gheens Lectures in religious education, March 10-11.

James T. Cleland, dean of the chapel at Duke Divinity School, Durham, N.C., and professor of preaching at Duke, will present the Gheens Lectures in practical studies, April 9-10.

G. W. Anderson, professor at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, will give the Gheens Lectures in biblical studies, March 31-April 3.

Donald MacLeod, professor at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, N.J., will deliver the annual E. Y. Mullins Lectures on preaching, March 3-6.

The Yadin Lecture on archaeology is being co-sponsored by seven participating institutions and is by ticket only. All the other lectures are free and open to the public.

Besides Southern Seminary, those participating in the Yadin lecture are the Jewish Community Center, Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Bellarmine-Ursaline College, Jefferson Community College, the University of Louisville, and the Long Run (Louisville area) Baptist Association.



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