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**Volunteers in Renewal
Pledge Two-Year Effort**

TOCCOA, Ga. (BP)--Plans for a two-year period of concentrated effort in renewal evangelism were outlined at the Georgia Baptist Retreat Center here before 38 new associates enlisted by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board as volunteers in renewal.

Reid Hardin, a layman who became associate director of the Home Mission Board's Division of Evangelism last May to specialize in renewal evangelism, said the 38 are among 100 people committed to be equipped as associates starting in January.

Hardin said he expects the 100 to be the nucleus for the training of 50,000 others in the field of renewal evangelism.

The 100 associates will be trained and equipped through quarterly meetings in 1973 and 1974 led by Hardin, Findley Edge of Louisville, Leonard Sanderson of Alexandria, La., and Bill Clemmons of Nashville.

The associates will commit themselves to equip 10 others in renewal evangelism, and these in turn will consult with local churches in experiencing renewal initially through lay renewal weekends, lay-led revivals, and church renewal conferences, Hardin said. They will also encourage continuing efforts with churches for a 12 to 24-month period.

"We think we can see not only the laity alive, but churches and individuals developing a whole new life style," said Sanderson, secretary of evangelism for the Louisiana Baptist Convention. His major role in the equipping process will be the definition and development of a life style of evangelism.

Hardin said that Edge, director of the Vineyard Conference Center in Louisville and long-time leader in the Christian renewal movement, will lead in a special emphasis on overall renewal strategies.

Clemmons, a staff member of the Baptist Sunday School Board in vocational guidance, will encourage the use of personal disciples for continuing spiritual growth.

The 11 associates, who will be paying their own way and receiving no salary, grew out of a small group of 31 called together by Hardin last August at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. At that time they committed themselves to a two-year effort in renewal.

Edge, a member of the initial group, said at the Toccoa meeting that in the past renewal emphasis has been personal and mostly at meetings outside the churches, but now a new dimension has been added--that is the institutional, the role of the church itself.

"We see now that really the action is in the local church. In the past if you wanted to show courage you got out of the church. Now it is a mark of courage to stay in the church," Edge said.

"I have heard laymen say, 'If only we could get the pastor fired up.' Then on the other side, the pastor says, 'If we could get the people fired up.' God is trying to get through to a real spiritual awakening," Edge said.

Hardin added the associates will be a "hard core" group who will work with interested laymen and pastors. In addition to the core of associates are 15 catalysts, who will attend a yearly training session at the Vineyard and be "on call" to serve as leaders in renewal events.

"Most everyone at this conference has been involved in some type of lay renewal, either as a pastor or in their company or business; we don't want to 'piggy back' these, but to plug into these same areas. The associates will not be involved in lay ministries themselves, but in training individuals in their local areas," Hardin added.

A projected goal, Hardin said, is that the 10 people equipped by each of the associates will form a team of regional resource persons, who then will train and recommend to the churches 50,000 local resource people.

The ultimate team of 50,000, Hardin said will facilitate renewal evangelism through training lay teams; orientation and consultation for associations, churches, and state convention agencies; resource for state and local renewal evangelism strategies; and grass roots ministry of experimentation and evaluation.

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BP PHOTO mailed to Baptist state papers.

International Film Festival
Honors Two Baptist TV Shows

11/7/72

NEW YORK (BP)--The International Film and Television Festival here presented two medals--one gold, one silver--to the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

The gold medal went to the commission for "The Changing Image" in the festival's religious category. The commission's program, "Home," won the silver medal in the category of wild life and ecology.

Both films were originally shown on the American Broadcasting Co. "Directions" program and released through the commission's "The Human Dimension" series.

"The Changing Image" is a study of the image of Christ as depicted by artists in medieval times, the Middle Ages, the Byzantine period, the Renaissance and the present.

"Home," which won the first place ribbon in the American Film Festival, contrasts pollution with the 19th century Indian chief's poetic description of nature.

Six other films and television programs produced by the Radio-TV Commission in Fort Worth have won previous awards from the International Film Festival, the first and oldest such awards competition held in New York.

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