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Pastors, Laymen Urged
To Attend Conference

MEMPHIS--(BP)--Pastors, both you and your laymen are wanted at the first National Conference of Southern Baptist Men in Oklahoma City Sept. 18-20.

James M. Sapp, Memphis, associate secretary of the sponsoring Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, reports "This is not a layman's meeting only!"

In fact, the Commission is urging pastors to go with laymen from their churches and share the experience together.

Your state Brotherhood secretary can give you further information about reservations, transportation, expenses, and the lake. The Brotherhood Commission is expecting about 8000 laymen and pastors at the conference.

Advance registration has already reached 3000. Oklahoma leads the states with number of advance registrants. Texas is next. Some states are chartering buses and planes for the trip.

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Ben L. Bridges Resigns
Arkansas Secretaryship

LITTLE ROCK--(BP)--Ben L. Bridges, who for the past 26 years has been executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention here, has announced he will resign on Aug. 31.

He said he will remain active in Baptist work as a pastor or evangelist. Bridges was pastor of Little Rock's First Baptist Church when he was elected state executive secretary.

A native of Pine Bluff, Ark., Bridges attended Ouachita College, the state's four-year Baptist school. Pastorates at Crossett and Paragould, Ark., and service as the state convention's superintendent of evangelism preceded his becoming pastor of First Church, Little Rock.

During his more than a quarter-century of leading Baptists in the state, they have paid off a debt exceeding \$1 million and have expanded their schools, state offices, and other services.

Rel Gray, pastor of First Baptist Church, Helena, Ark., president of the state convention, said the executive board will ask Bridges to continue serving through Nov. 30. The board called a meeting to make plans for electing a successor.

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Brewton-Parker Elects
J. Theodore Phillips

MOUNT VERNON, Ga.--(BP)--Brewton-Parker Junior College here will have a new president this fall.

J. Theodore Phillips, pastor of First Baptist Church, Alma, Ga., has been elected to head the school. The college is operated by Georgia Baptists.

Phillips succeeds M. A. Murray, who resigned effective at the close of summer school.

Phillips is a native of Georgia and has served as a trustee of Brewton-Parker and also as a trustee of Norman College, another Baptist junior college operated by Georgia Baptists.

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Illinois Proposes Work
With Negroes In 1958

CARBONDALE, Ill.--(BP)--The proposed 1958 budget for the Illinois Baptist State Association includes funds for work with Negroes, the first time state Baptists have done such work on a denomination-wide basis.

The directors of the state association approved a proposed total budget for next year of \$575,000 to be split 65-35 between state and Southern Baptist missionary and benevolent work.

The goal is \$25,000 higher than the amount for the current year and the 35 percent for SBC does not include deducted or preferred items.

The budget will be submitted to the annual association meeting later this year for final approval.

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Book About Illinois
History Being Printed

CARBONDALE, Ill.--(BP)--A book on the history of Southern Baptist Convention work in Illinois has been sent to the printer. It will be entitled "Southern Baptists in Illinois."

Author of the book is L. H. Moore, Carbondale, editor of the Illinois Baptist, state denominational weekly.

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