

/2/ The Riley-Fosdick faceoff. It is ironic that in the early part of the twentieth century, some of the most potent spokesmen on both sides of the issue were in the northern baptist body.

/3/ Literature and missions

/4/ Polity and reaction among the members of the northern convention.

(c) The Southern Convention

/1/ A vital polity difference...not many even want to admit it but it is there in many cases.

/2/ Growth of the group and its outreach

/3/ the Cooperative program...typical of a lot of the conference works including the missions labors.

/4/ The Seminaries: the boards...the men in the trenches. It is one of the interesting factors that an awful lot of southern Baptist pastors never attended Seminary. These (in my experience) are, for the most part, strongly evangelical and wary of ecumenism and liberal ideas. They control the grassroots foundation and, due to soul winning often have by far the most vigorous churches. In past years they have rather regarded the convention itself as a sacrosanct institution that probably originated with the Apostle Paul but in more recent years they have been made aware of the liberal elements in the seminaries, etc., and from them is the anguished cry we have heard more of lately.

/5/ Modern Conservative resolve: interesting to watch and our comments must be oral and it must be contrasted with the modern liberal retrenchment and appeal for toleration.

/6/ The present question: The Southern Convention is the largest "protestant" denomination in the country and is growing. The question is how it will react to its own theological differences and whether it will continue allowing modern unbelief to work in its center or whether it will undergo the agonizing purge necessary for purity and refinement. We observe from a distance a very interesting conflict of forces.