

March 21, 1964

Board Appoints Two For Home Missions

ATLANTA (BP)--The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention commissioned F. Milton Gage of Oklahoma and Thomas E. Sykes of New York to serve as missionaries in Arizona and Indiana.

A total of 2,299 missionaries are now serving under this agency, most in cooperation with state mission boards.

Gage, a native of Roosevelt, Okla., was appointed as a superintendent of missions in Las Vegas, Nev. He received degrees from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth. In addition, he served 17 years as a pastor in Oklahoma and Arizona.

Sykes, to serve as an area missionary in Marion, Ind., is a native of Rochester, N. Y. He was previously elected by the state executive board in Indiana.

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3 Alumni Among 4 To Get Jewell Doctor's

(3-21-64)

LIBERTY, Mo. (BP)--A United Nations representative, a Southern Baptist Convention educator, an American Baptist Convention state executive and a scientist in the textile field will receive honorary doctors' degrees from a local Baptist college.

The four have been selected by William Jewell College for honors at commencement May 25.

Three will receive the doctor of laws degree. They are Frank Graham, former senator from North Carolina now United Nations representative for India and Pakistan; G. Raymond Cuthbertson, Columbia, S. C., technical director, textile division, United States Rubber Co., and Rollin S. Burhans, Louisville, president, Kentucky Southern College (Baptist).

The fourth will receive the doctor of divinity degree. He is Hale Thornberry, Providence, executive secretary, Rhode Island Baptist State Convention, affiliated with the American Baptist Convention.

Cuthbertson, Burhans and Thornberry are alumni of William Jewell College.

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Bethel, Hopkinsville School, Closes Soon

(3-21-64)

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Trustees of Bethel College here have voted unanimously to close the junior college this year.

Although the formal closing date was set July 31, the 110-year-old Baptist school will close its doors to students after the present semester ends May 31.

The trustees' action was a recommendation to the Kentucky Baptist Convention, which operates Bethel. The Kentucky convention executive board will take up the matter May 4.

H. Curtis Erwin, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greenville, Ky., and trustee chairman, said trustees had been in contact with the executive board on disposition of Bethel.

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Several possibilities to keep the school alive were explored without success. Trustees voted last December to move the school or to close it because of the expected opening of a Hopkinsville branch of the University of Kentucky in 1965.

Assets of the college would be used to pay existing obligations and those incurred before the school closes. The balance will be applied to Christian education in Kentucky, but Erwin made clear Bethel intends to live up to its pledge to make any refunds requested by those who contributed to the college's 1963 fund drive in the Hopkinsville area.

Bethel raised about \$207,000 in that drive, assuming this would assure the school's future in Hopkinsville.

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Foundation Trust
Funds Top \$7 Million

(3-21-64)

NASHVILLE (BP)--At the close of 1963 business, trust funds held by the Southern Baptist Foundation amounted to \$7,055,000, Executive Secretary J. W. Storer of Nashville told the members of the Foundation at their annual meeting here.

He said the \$4.7 million in the general fund brought a rate of return of 5.17 per cent last year. The \$286,000 in the annuity fund had a yield of 5.94 per cent.

In addition, the Foundation holds \$1 million from other Southern Baptist Convention agencies for which it acts as custodian and \$1 million more in other types of funds.

Approximately \$750,000 was received during the year for investment, including more than \$200,000 from the settlement of estates, the largest type of source, Storer continued.

The rest of the estate of a Chicago railroad official came in during 1963. It amounted to \$194,000, and income off this trust goes to Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

This does not include \$14,000 previously reported in an insurance trust from the same person.

Storer said stock and bond appreciation amounted to more than \$700,000 at year's end.

Oil was struck on 640 acres in New Mexico to which the Foundation has one-sixteenth oil, gas and mineral rights. The first revenue from this arrived in December, Storer said. Foreign missions is beneficiary.

An insurance policy made out to the Foundation, worth \$100,000, was received. The donor pays the premiums.

During 1963, the Foundation distributed \$300,000 to Southern Baptist causes from income off investments, the executive secretary noted. More than \$32,000 was channeled to the SBC Education Commission for scholarships.

Stirton Oman, Nashville contractor, was elected to his ninth term as president of the Foundation and his sixth term in a row. Walton N. Smith of Clarksville, Tenn., a realtor, was reelected vice-president and Noble C. Caudill of Nashville, business executive, continues as recording secretary.

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White House Favoring
Special Children's Aid

ATLANTA (BP)--President Johnson is described by a White House assistant as favoring "special aids, which do not pertain to religious instruction" for children in his "war on poverty" program.

The statement was made in a letter by Brooks Hays, consultant to the President, addressed to Louie D. Newton of Atlanta as president of Protestants and Other Americans United. Newton has appealed for separation of church and state in the \$962.5 million economic opportunity act.

Hays said in his letter:

"The President favors appropriate aid (on the principle of equalizing educational opportunities) to public elementary and secondary schools, but would not recommend the inclusion of private or parochial schools because this would violate the constitutional provisions with reference to separation of church and state. He hopes that in poverty situations some special aids, which do not pertain to religious instructions, for health and nutrition of individual children may be authorized without infringing upon the Constitution.

"The President believes that parents who desire to do so should have the right, without government aid, to send their children to church and private schools and that this freedom to choose private instruction should never be impaired."