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460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Telephone (615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

REGIONAL OFFICES

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Editor, 161 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303, Telephone (404) 523-2593
DALLAS R. T. McCartney, Editor, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) RI 1-1996
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Editor, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

BUREAU

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD Lynn M. Davis Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,
Telephone (615) 254-1631

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The following story was adapted from The News, daily newspaper published in Frederick, Md., syndicated by the Baptist Press with permission.

Baptist Girl Passes Up
Piedmont Flight No. 22

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By Jim Fellows
Staff Writer, The News, Frederick, Md.

A \$3 youth fare card and a father's frantic prayer played a crucial role in the life of a 15-year-old Baptist girl from Louisville, Ky.

Margaret Kelley, the daughter of a professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, still has her ticket for Piedmont Airlines Flight No. 22 from Asheville, N.C., to Washington, D. C.

The ill-fated flight ended in a fiery collision over the Blue Ridge foothills of Western North Carolina near Hendersonville.

After attending Training Union youth week at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly in Ridgecrest, N.C., Margaret was scheduled to fly to National Airport in Washington where she would meet her father and then go by car to Hood College near Frederick, Md.

Her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Page H. Kelley, and the rest of the family was already at Hood College for the Maryland Baptist Assembly. Kelley is an associate professor at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

Young Margaret decided to forsake her reserved seat on Flight 22 and take a chance on using her new youth fare card which her father had recently purchased for her.

The card gave her a considerable discount on the cost of plane fare to Washington where she was to meet her father, but she would have to wait for a seat until there was an opening.

Margaret was lucky that morning. She managed to get a seat on a United Airlines flight to Washington. The young girl got a seat so quickly that she forgot to cancel her reservation on ill-fated Flight 22.

Kelley left Frederick that day after the noon proceedings of the assembly. He was driving along U.S. 70S, about halfway to Washington when the 2 p.m. news announced the mid-air collision, and that there were no survivors among the 82 persons in the two planes.

"I was so shaken at first I sort of just wandered," he said. "I got so lost that I didn't even get to the airport until about 4:30."

Mrs. Kelley added that later he told her that at the moment he prayed that he would give up "everything in the world, if only Margaret could somehow be saved."

"I knew there could be no mistake," he said. "I kept remembering that I had bought the ticket myself to assure her a quick trip here with no waiting."

One of Kelley's other two daughters, Judy, 11, was riding with her father. "She heard the news and she knew," he explained.

"I really didn't know what to do," he continued. "I went to the Piedmont ticket window, just to check." There he was politely told that his daughter's reservation had not been cancelled, and that it appeared that she had been on the jet.

The receptionist made several calls, just in case, and Kelley and his daughter were taken aside and offered refreshments.

Routine checks to several airlines brought no relief. Margaret had boarded under the "available space" plan and had not been registered in advance.

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Another call from the receptionist paged Margaret over the airport's loudspeaker system, just in case.

Kelley said he remembers the next moment distinctly. "The Piedmont receptionist's phone rang. She answered it and dropped the phone."

"Dr. Kelley, your daughter wasn't on the plane," she exclaimed.

At first he didn't know what the receptionist was saying. "I thought she meant that Margaret hadn't been on any other plane except the jet." She repeated her message, this time saying "She wasn't on our plane."

Then Margaret, in another part of the terminal, answered the page and talked to her father over a phone.

"I didn't know what was wrong," explained Margaret. "I was worried because I hadn't cancelled my ticket. I felt sort of funny when Dad said that the plane I should have been on had crashed."

Soon a call was made to Mrs. Kelley at Hood College, explaining there "had been a plane crash, but that Margaret was alright."

"I wasn't sure until she walked in the door. I thought they had prepared me for the worst," said Mrs. Kelley.

Margaret's little sisters, Judy, 11, and Mary, 7, added that "Later Daddy remembered it was his birthday and he said 'What a birthday present!'"

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BP Photo to be mailed to state Baptist papers.

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Indiana Baptists Approve
Budget, Foundation Charter

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INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (BP)--The Executive Board of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana voted to recommend a half-million dollar budget for 1968 and approved the charter for the Baptist Foundation of Indiana during its quarterly meeting here.

The board also approved the state convention's participation in the Crusade of the Americas and voted to purchase an additional 56 acres of land adjoining the present 280-acre convention encampment under development near Monrovia, Ind., 25 miles southwest of Indianapolis

The 1968 budget, which will be considered by the state convention in New Albany, Ind., on Nov. 2-4, totals \$533,053 including an anticipated \$329,000 from Indiana Baptist church Cooperative Program contributions. The remainder will come from Southern Baptist Convention agencies and miscellaneous items.

The budget committee had recommended a state Cooperative Program goal of \$309,000, but an additional \$20,000 was added to support the 1969 Crusade of the Americas after discussion and prayer.

The percentage of the state funds going to the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program was increased from 27 per cent to 27.4 per cent.

The charter and bylaws of the Baptist Foundation of Indiana was also approved for recommendation to the annual convention. The Foundation will be a subsidiary corporation to the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana.

The 30-member Executive Board received and referred to its executive committee a 105-page organizational and program study made by Albert McClellan, program planning secretary of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee. The study was authorized by the board two years ago.

The board accepted the resignation of Miss Martha Fellows as state Woman's Missionary Union secretary. The resignation is effective Nov. 15. She plans to marry Nov. 30.

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Metro Missions Staff
Gains Texas Native

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ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board here has elected a Dallas native as an associate secretary in the board's metropolitan missions department to assist in the continuation of mission emphases in U.S. cities.

Frank Russell Bennett Jr., 37, pastor of Latonia Baptist Church, Covington, Ky., will assume the new position Aug. 1.

Bennett was appointed in the July board of directors meeting.

He has a bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University (Baptist) in Waco, Tex. He also received his bachelor of divinity, master of theology and doctor of religious education degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

A former high school teacher and debate coach, he has held several Kentucky pastorates. He also has served as a minister of music.

According to J. N. Evans, department head, Bennett will concentrate on research of metropolitan life in planning the work and will prepare promotional material related to metropolitan missions.

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Georgia Foundation
Associate Named

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ATLANTA (BP)--Charles C. Duncan, pastor of the First Baptist Church, McCaysville, Ga., for the past 10 years, has been named an associate executive secretary of the Georgia Baptist Foundation, Inc.

The Georgia Baptist Foundation, chartered in 1941, as a non-profit organization, currently has a corpus in excess of \$7.9 million. As associate secretary, Duncan will assist Harry V. Smith Sr., executive secretary, in management of foundation properties, and will serve also in securing additional wills and grants.

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