

**BAPTIST PRESS**

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August 21, 1968

Balance Between Spiritual,  
Physical Needed, WMU Told

RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP)--A professor of missions and world religions at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville has urged Baptists to strike a reasonable balance between ministering to physical needs and spiritual needs.

W. Bryant Hicks, speaking during the Woman's Missionary Union Conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, declared: "In missions we must not think only of men's souls. People consist of soul and body. Missions must try to meet all a person's needs."

Hicks spoke to about 3,600 persons registered for the conference, making the Woman's Missionary Union Conference the largest ever at Ridgecrest.

Calling for a greater emphasis on the work of the Holy Spirit, Hicks said that Southern Baptists "have a great machine, but there's not enough motive power to run it to capacity."

He commended Southern Baptist mission boards for expanding their concepts of missions and praised recent changes in age limits for missionary appointees, expansion of types of mission work, and more adequate financial support of missionaries.

Criticizing the trend toward using the term "mission" instead of "missions", Hicks said, "mission is a long-term goal and task of the church; missions is what we do to fulfill the mission."

He also said that modern concepts of missions should retain the idea of crossing a spiritual or national boundary.

Turning to the Woman's Missionary Union organization which he addressed, Hicks warned that women's missionary organizations should not be absorbed in superstructure organizations.

"You must never allow the Woman's Missionary Union to be swallowed up by some ecclesiastical behemoth," he said. "Missionary education should be totally within the core of the church, but it can't be if the missionary spirit is to survive."

"In many cases it was the creativity of women and their willingness to drop traditions that made women the innovators in missions," he said.

Hicks pointed to the fact that the separate missionary organization education affords more direct interest within denominations which have curtailed separate missions organizations and said, "this is the generation in which people are interested only in the things they are involved in."

Missions should be taught through other church programs, he said. "By whatever cooperative means you have, see that Sunday and the Sunday worship services offer at least a minimum of missions."

During a panel discussion featuring home missionaries, Niel L. Jones of Fort Worth said he believed that the Woman's Missionary Union has a place in child rehabilitation as well as other mission-action work.

"It is a shame that the Baptist people who have so much love do not use this love in their interpersonal relationships with people of other races, economics, and behavior classes and groups," he said.

McReynolds Joins Board  
Public Relations Staff

NASHVILLE (BP)--James Evans McReynolds, a native of Kingsport, Tenn., has been named an information specialist in the office of public relations, for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

He will gather and prepare information relating to the work of the board for release through the news media, public relations director Gomer R. Lesch said.

McReynolds has been sports editor of the Huntsville (Ala.) News, religion editor of the Columbia (Mo.) Missourian, and newswriter for the public relations department at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

He received his bachelor of arts degree, cum laude, from Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn.; the bachelor of journalism degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Journalism, Columbia, Mo.; and the master of religious education degree from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City. He has also studied at Baylor University, Waco, Tex.

McReynolds has served as associate pastor-youth director at Woodlawn Baptist Church, Bristol, Tenn.; pastor of the First Baptist Church, Hallsville, Mo., and Kingsville Baptist Church near Kansas City, Mo.

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Newsman Named Managing  
Editor of Arkansas Baptist

8/21/68

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP)--Franklin I. Presson, 49, of Camden, Ark., has been named managing editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, and as director of public relations for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

Presson, a native of Oklahoma, will work under Erwin L. McDonald, editor of the news-magazine, and under Convention Executive Secretary S. A. Whitlow in his dual responsibilities.

In the editorial position, Presson succeeds Mrs. Fred Ashcraft, who resigned recently to move with her family to Bloomington, Ind., where her husband has become managing editor of the Bloomington Courier-Tribune.

A former information officer for Army Reserve units, Presson currently holds the rank of major in the Ordinance Corps., U. S. Army Reserve.

He was assistant vice president of the First National Bank in Camden, Ark., where he wrote a weekly column on scouting for the Camden News, and conducted a weekly radio program on scouting for KAMD Radio.

He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas and will be a candidate for the master of arts degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma next June.

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Baptists Help  
Stranded Sailors

8/21/68

NEW YORK (BP)--Members of the Highland Avenue Baptist Church in Queens, N. Y., and 27 Korean crewmen of the Indonesian Star held a thanksgiving service to celebrate the end of a seven-month's separation of the Koreans from their families here recently.

Chul Ho Awe, a Korean Baptist minister who is marine chaplain for the New York Bible Society, noticed the plight of the sailors while on a routine visit to the ships in the harbor.

The men had been stranded on board since Feb. 26, when creditors of the ship's owners refused to let the ship sail. The owner provided only \$1.50 per sailor per day for subsistence, which meant that the crew ate no lunch. They were unable to pay for anything on shore, and so led a prison-like existence on board ship, although they were allowed to leave.

Awe invited the sailors to Highland Avenue Baptist Church, where he has been interpreting services for Korean families for more than a year. The church provided lunch every Sunday for the sailors who were free to leave ship.

Frequently, Awe would borrow the church's micro-bus and take as many as 20 sailors on a tour of the city. The church also arranged soccer games between the church team and the sailors. The church team won three, lost none.

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According to Awe, none of the sailors have made decisions for Christ. "But it would be hard for them to do so," he said, "because they have been trained in a Communistic or Buddhist way of thinking."

And now, after negotiations on the part of a Korean-American lawyer, the crew is being returned home by plane. Awe contacted the Baptist Hospital in Pusan, Korea, so the staff there could inform the families of the sailors of their return.

"We were always trying to help they feel better things about American people," he said.

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Arkansas Board Recommends  
\$2.6 Million Baptist Budget

8/21/68

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP)--The Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention voted to recommend a budget of \$2,667,207 for the 1969 year, an increase of more than six per cent over the current budget.

Subject to the approval of the convention at its annual session here next November, \$883,897 (nearly 39 per cent) of the budget total would go to Southern Baptist Convention missions causes in the United States and abroad, and \$1,783,310 will go to institutions, agencies and programs of the state convention in Arkansas.

Largest item in the proposed state-wide budget is \$524,196 for Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, Ark., would get \$95,788.

The budget would be the largest in the history of the Arkansas convention, said S. A. Whitlow, executive secretary-treasurer of the convention.

In other action, the board voted to ask Clyde Hart, head of the convention's race relations department who was scheduled to retire this year, to serve another year to train a successor.

The board also postponed plans to recommend setting up a separate board for the operation of the Baptist Student Union, delaying any such recommendation until the outcome of a Southern Baptist Convention-wide study of the Baptist Student Union being conducted by the SBC Executive Committee.

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Rutledge Urges Cooperative  
Efforts To Help Needy People

8/21/68

By Lewis Moore

RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP)--The executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board speaking here asked Southern Baptists to cooperate with governmental and community programs reaching out to serve people in need.

"We must shift from this attitude of marking off a program of human betterment because it is a governmental program that we have been afraid of too often," said Arthur B. Rutledge of Atlanta.

Speaking at one of the Home Missions Conference worship services at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly here, Rutledge called for an end to Baptist refusal to cooperate with government and community groups concerned with meeting human needs.

"Our individualism and our commitment to the separation of church and state sometimes have made us give an automatic negative answer; but I would like to ask that when you go back home you see what is going on in your community and see if you can help," Rutledge said.

"So many times our churches and even sometimes we who are directly involved in missions give the impression that we don't care what happens in the community so long as we can meet our budgets, so long as we can have a growth in membership, and so long as we can maintain order in our household of faith," he added.

The Baptist missions official said that some churches and missionaries have found ways to work in these community and government programs without compromising. "They are helping to understand these public programs and to help people find a better way of life," he explained.

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"People need better housing, better job opportunities, and better education," Rutledge declared. "Southern Baptists can help them to get these through our cooperation with programs that seek to help mankind."

"Working with these programs may cause us to work with fellow Christians of other denominations, and why not?" Rutledge asked. "There is much to be gained from working with individuals for other people."

Criticizing inadequate efforts in the past, Rutledge said that giving a quarter to the beggar on the street or a basket of groceries to the family in poverty "is like putting a bandaid on a broken leg."

Instead of giving the poor and needy something that will only soothe the problem for a short time, Baptists need to reach the basis of their problems and give them purpose for life and living, the missions executive said.

"Sometimes what we call help is not really help at all," he said. "Sometimes our help degrades the dignity of the people we think we are helping."

He called for seeing these needy people as individuals made in the image of God, and for Baptists to help them in their need with Christian compassion.

Rutledge cited as a "very significant statement" the phrase in the Statement on Crisis in the Nation adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston which asked Baptists to "respect every individual as a person possessing inherent dignity and worth growing out of his creation in the image of God."

He also commended another phrase from the statement asking Baptists to "strive to insure for all persons the full opportunity for achievement according to the endowments given by God."

"Baptists have a heavy responsibility," he concluded, "and what we are and what we do will have something to say about what America is about and what America does in the days ahead."

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