

(BP)---FEATURES

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

produced by Baptist Press

460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
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February 6, 1970

Foreign Mission Programs
Aim At Plight of Hungry

by Susan S. Cahen

RICHMOND (BP)--About 20 Southern Baptist missionaries are working in 16 countries to prevent millions of deaths from starvation and malnutrition, and at least four new missionaries are preparing to join them in jobs related to agriculture and nutrition.

Missionaries in the field operate demonstration farms, teach agriculture to high school students and raise rabbits to offset protein deficiencies and poultry, cattle, hogs and other livestock to upgrade existing breeds.

Some grow hybrid grains to determine which kinds grow best and which are utilized best by the people of an area. For example, Mexican wheats were accepted in Pakistan in recent years, offsetting severe grain shortages there.

As world population grows at an unprecedented rate, technologists seek to prevent mass starvation and its attendant horrors. Some experts are already resigned to the inevitability of widespread famine, however.

A 1967 publication, *Famine--1975! America's Decision: Who Will Survive? Resounds This Theme*. It was authored by two brothers, one an agronomist and plant pathologist, the other a U.S. Foreign Service officer for 21 years, mostly in underdeveloped countries.

The main premise of Authors William and Paul Paddock is that the world may face in 1975 a disaster greater than it has ever known. They say that famines will ravage the underdeveloped nations whose swelling populations will have blotted up the earth's food supply.

The United States will be unable to help because its food surplus will be gone; birth control programs will have failed and technology will not have kept up with the increasing need for food. Millions will starve, they say.

India, often visualized as the epitome of the poor and hungry nation is "potentially one of the wealthiest nations," say some researchers. They attribute India's problem to caste, language and religious barriers and an unwillingness to institute technological advances over custom.

William and Paul Paddock say that all the world will live as India does now if a solution to the hunger problem is not reached.

Jesse C. Fletcher, director of the mission support division on the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said that "with escalating population in developing countries raising a spectre of famine, the agricultural missionary finds a new urgency about his work, though he knows it will only be a drop in the bucket."

Agriculture as an approach to missions was not projected in the face of famine, Fletcher added, but in response to a need the same as education or medicine. "It shows we care about the people and at the same time opens a door for evangelical witness," he said.

An unusual project was begun by Dr. Frances Greenway, Southern Baptist missionary to Rhodesia who is a staff physician at the Baptist Hospital in Sanyati Reserve.

For several years Dr. Greenway has kept malnourished African children in her home and fed them a high protein diet. Her purpose is both to improve the children's health and to demonstrate proper child care to the local people.

"Malnutrition in all age groups, but especially in children, is our biggest medical problem here," Dr. Greenway said. "Kwashiorkor, protein deficiency in children is all about us."

Her project includes raising rabbits as a high-protein meat source for the people at Sanyati. Some have started their own rabbitries. Dr. Greenway's original stock of rabbits was a gift of First Baptist Church, Shelbyville, Tenn.

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Various agricultural projects are carried on by Southern Baptist missionaries in other parts of Africa.

In Tanzania, Douglas M. Knapp operates a demonstration farm where he teaches the rudiments of growing vegetables. At follow-up demonstrations on how to cook the vegetables, he distributes samples of the prepared food along with seed packets.

Knapp also raises seed and fruit trees for distribution and he experiments to learn about local growing conditions. He shows coffee growers the advantages of modern agricultural methods, an activity suggested by Tanzania's agriculture department.

Knapp wants to start a project at Makete, the government leper colony, about 15 miles south of Tukuyu. He is waiting for government permission to utilize idle acreage at the colony for beef cattle. He plans to upgrade local stock through artificial insemination.

In the meantime Knapp plans to buy hay grown by the lepers for his dairy cows in Tukuyu. This will give the lepers experience for the future beef cattle project. He has also led in the organization of a Baptist church at Makete.

In Limuru, Kenya, Dallas L. Bateman operates a demonstration farm at the Baptist encampment. Bateman grows improved seeds, including hybrid corn, and produces fertilizers. He also has a small dairy herd and broiler chicken project.

W. Glenn Henderson, missionary associate in Liberia, teaches agriculture to boys at Ricks Institute, a Baptist school near Monrovia. The students at Ricks raise rice, rabbits, chickens and hogs, among other things.

Missionary Betty Jane Even teaches home economics and is the dietician at the Baptist Women's College in Abeokuta, Nigeria. She also directs a home management cottage where students can gain practical homemaking experience.

Wiley B. Fav and Robert M. Parham Jr., work with students on an experimental farm near Jos, Nigeria. Fav has also helped Baptists start demonstration farms and has demonstrated food preservation techniques. Dewey E. Merritt directs a chicken farm run by students at the Baptist pastors' school in Kaduna, Nigeria.

Dr. Louis E. Carlin, who was Southern Baptists' first missionary veterinarian, is stationed in Ghana, and Dr. Jerry P. Bedsole, another veterinarian, will begin work in Ethiopia in June.

V. Lynn Groce, former Missionary Journeyman and now the son-in-law of Douglas M. Knapp, was to begin agricultural work in Ethiopia in January. Darrell E. Garner expects to work in Malawi in a program similar to Knapp's and Paul D. Eaton, also an agriculturalist, is going to Uganda.

R. Lee Bivins operates a farm in Israel where he raises citrus fruits and cattle. The farm is part of a community center. It is not an experimental farm nor a teaching facility but a project conceived as a contribution to the development of Israel, says John D. Hughey, Foreign Mission Board secretary for Europe and the Middle East.

Carl F. Ryther is the superintendent of the mission industrial school in Faridpur, Pakistan. He began by giving advice to the local residents on vegetable and flower raising and a farm evolved out of his work with the school.

James M. Philpot, the only Southern Baptist Agricultural missionary in Mexico, operates a demonstration farm in the State of Oaxaca. He gives information to pastors, and they pass it on to more people than Philpot alone could reach.

In 1968, livestock valued at \$15,000 was donated by Christians in the United States and flown to the Baptist Agricultural Center near Chone, Ecuador, where Samuel L. Simpson operates a 75-acre demonstration-experimentation farm.

In addition to demonstrating farming techniques, Simpson upgrades livestock through artificial insemination. He plans to train men in agricultural clubs while his wife teaches homemaking to women. More than 200,000 people live around Chone.

At the Baptist Industrial Institute in Corrente, Brazil, J. Dale Carter manages farming and ranching on a 75,000 acre spread with numerous cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats and hogs. This project helps to supply food for the institute.

Horace W. Fite Jr., directs the Baptist agricultural school, which he helped establish in 1960, in Ceres, Brazil. The students divide their time between study and work.

Similarly, Fred L. Hawkins Jr., oversees work on 1,800 acres of farmland at the Brazilian Baptist encampment. Farm proceeds help support the encampment.

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Hawkins is also business manager of a high school and supervisor of the school's farm, which helps feed the students and finance their education.

Dale C. Lindstrom, a missionary appointee now in orientation, has been assigned to the state of Portuguesa, Venezuela. He will give farmers technical assistance, and will also develop Baptist churches. Lindstrom and his wife were the first Southern Baptist couple to be appointed for agricultural work in Venezuela.

Southern Baptist missionaries have done little agricultural work in Asia. But an agricultural ministry was begun by Harold R. Watson, who teaches agriculture at the Southern Baptist College in M'lang, Catabato, Philippines. He is also planning a demonstration farm at the Baptist encampment in Mindanao.

Agricultural missionaries are helping to educate people, to increase crop yields, and to bring modern technological advancements to the people where there is still a chance for help.

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BP PHOTOS mailed to Baptist state papers from Richmond bureau.

NOTE TO EDITORS: Susan S. Cahen is a staff writer in the press relations office of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond.



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**Negative Reaction Reported
On Sex Education Training Units**

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Sunday School Board here has received "larger than normal" negative reaction to a sex education study unit for teenagers, and has suggested alternative studies already available for those requesting other materials.

The action came in response to study curricula in dated Training Union quarterlies prepared for 13 and 14 year-olds, and for 15 and 16 years olds.

"As of this date, we have received 74 letters from individuals, churches, and associations in 11 states," said Philip B. Harris, secretary of the board's church training department.

Harris said that 30 churches have returned the quarterlies, some have asked for other materials, and his department has suggested alternate study material for them.

The units appear in Baptist Intermediate Union Quarterly I (13-14 year olds), and Baptist Intermediate Union Quarterly II (15-16 year olds), and are dated for use on Feb. 22, March 1, and March 8. Circulation of each quarterly is about 200,000.

The units are entitled, "Youth Faces Attitudes Toward Sex," and are in the context of a quarter's study of Christian answers to current problems and concerns of youth, he said.

Harris stated that the lessons were planned more than 18 months ago. "We honestly felt led of God to provide Intermediates with Bible-based sex education materials," he said.

"Surveys had been made which indicated that Intermediates wanted and needed help in dealing with personal problems of this nature. We wanted to provide them with study materials which help them make decisions and solve problems in the spirit of Christ," Harris added.

The church training leader noted that his department has been delegated responsibility in providing sex education materials that stem from biblical teachings. "We believe that we must provide materials of this nature for our churches in order to counterbalance the numerous other materials that do not speak from the Christian standpoint," said Harris.

He noted also that the Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans passed a resolution encouraging "individuals, groups and churches to make fuller use of the limited family life and sex education materials now available from the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, Sunday School Board, and Southern Baptist Seminaries."

The resolution also encouraged agencies "to give increasing attention to basic and special resource materials on family life and sex education" in accordance with their program assignments.

"We appreciate the fact that all churches will not want to study the same lessons," Harris stated. "For several years we have been providing an increasing amount of optional material."

He said that the May issue of the Training Union Magazine contains unit outlines for the entire year beginning the following October. Churches desiring to do advance planning and ordering of alternate materials may do so many months before the study dates."

Units such as "Intermediates Learning to Witness" and "Intermediates Training in Family Living" may be ordered from the Sunday School Board's Church Literature Department to substitute for materials not desired by churches, according to Harris.

"Also, undated materials are contained in the quarterlies. Alternate suggestions are made in the Training Union Magazine and in leadership quarterlies," he said.

W. L. Howse, director of the Education Division of the Sunday School Board, stated that in the future, studies on the biblical approach to relationships between the sexes will probably be in undated and alternate materials, providing churches with options geared to their wants and needs.

Annuity Board Actions
Boost Plan Benefits

DALLAS (BP)--The Southern Baptist Annuity Board here took several actions designed to increase benefits for most active members of its protection programs.

Trustees endorsed allocation of a "good experience credit" during 1970, which will provide two per cent of the retirement credits accrued to date for each member participating in two specific plans (Plans A-10 and A-11).

Trustees also approved issuance of the fourth consecutive "13th check," endorsed recommendations of its long-range planning committee, authorized by-law changes to correspond with organizational objectives of its planning committee, and adopted the report of the executive secretary, and elected officers.

E. Alton Reed, executive secretary of the Annuity Board, said that the "13th check," for 1969 will amount to 13 per cent of the annual benefit paid to annuitants. It is the highest percentage ever given. The previous high was 12 per cent.

The extra check will be mailed to all persons currently receiving monthly checks (hence the name "13th check"), except those which apply to education, fixed period, and variable benefits, Reed said.

The long range study, presented to the trustees by Donald Bowles, chairman of the planning committee, called for a complete re-organization through the directors level and places all work of the Annuity Board under three major categories--marketing, investments, and administration. Position titles will also be changed as approved in the new by-laws. The organizational changes are expected to be completed by October 1, although the Annuity Board has until the next meeting of trustees, set for February 2-3, 1971 to implement them.

Bowles said a comprehensive survey was made of all areas of the board with special emphasis being given to benefits of the plans and investments.

Reed praised the conclusions of the committee's 17-month study. "From these recommendations, the Annuity Board hopes to do any even more effective job of providing financial security for Southern Baptist ministers, and church and denominational employees both in investments and benefits.

He said the "good experience credit" like the "13th check" has been made possible by interest earnings in excess of those required by the various plans the board administers for Southern Baptists.

Reed said the "good experience credit" will be applied to the accounts of some 18,000 participants. New members enlisting in 1970 will get the credit in 1971 if one is given.

He pointed out that the amount to be credited in the future may vary just as the percentage for the "13th check" has.

"The 'good experience credit' could be for more than two per cent in the future, or it may be less, but whatever it is, the members will get their share," Reed said.

He said the "good experience credit" can build rapidly since it works exactly like compound interest. "If the credit of two per cent or better is allowed each year for the young man just joining the plan, the amount would be the equivalent of changing the benefit credit from the current 1½ per cent, guaranteed in the certificate, to two per cent."

He said the long range committee felt the "good experience credit" idea is more equitable to members than changing the guaranteed amount to a fixed percentage.

For example, Reed said a man born in 1929 who joined the plan in 1954 on the maximum salary allowed would have an annual retirement benefit of \$2,400. If the 'good experience credit' can continue to be paid on a two per cent basis, his retirement benefit at age 65 would be \$3,436 a year. Reed added, "If the fixed period were increased to a flat two per cent, the retirement benefit for this member would amount to \$3,200 a year."

"The 'good experience credit' allows each member to share in the total increment the plan realizes instead of a fixed amount," Reed said.

The trustees also received for future study a resolution asking the finance committee "to investigate the wisdom and feasibility" of investing funds in the re-development plans and programs of urban areas in American cities.

The resolution was presented by Walter G. Gummelt, pastor of Parkway Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. Gummelt said the motion was not to suggest that the Annuity Board waive its policy of seeking the best return at the least amount of risk on its investments, but rather to find out if new doors of investments may be opening to the board.

In his annual report for 1969, Reed said that 24,256 persons were currently participating in Plan A; 9,756 in Plan B; and 3,358 in Plan C; all of which are retirement plans in the Southern Baptist Protection Program.

He added that another 14,871 persons were participating in the health benefit plan and 9,336 in the life benefit plan, now closed to new members.

The group insurance plan, which replaced the life benefit plan on October 1, 1969, has 1,130 members; the long term disability plan, 1,028 members, and agency insurance plan, 2,228 members.

Reed said benefits paid to annuitants reached \$7,263,851, showing an increase of \$720,682 more than in 1968.

Funds held in trust for persons participating in the Protection Program reached an all-time high of \$230,049,236, representing an increase of \$21,830,530 over 1968, Reed added.

He said persons who began receiving benefits included: 339 for age retirement; 139 for widow benefits and 51 for disability. Child benefits were paid to 105 children; education benefits to 100; and variable benefits to 21.

Darold Morgan, pastor of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Dallas, was re-elected president.

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Bookstore Suffers \$10,000
Water Damage As Pipe Breaks

2/6/70

ATLANTA (BP)--A broken water pipe on the second floor of the Atlanta Baptist Book Store caused an estimated \$10,000 damage to stock and fixtures.

According to the store's manager, Robert H. Mendenhall, the broken pipe resulted from freezing during the eight degree temperature here recently.

The Atlanta store closed two hours early on the day the pipe broke and opened the next morning an hour late.

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WMU Promotes One, Names
Administration Consultant

2/6/70

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--A new staff member, and the promotion of an editor already on the staff, has been announced by the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Miss Adrienne Bonham, editor of More and Adventure magazines published by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, will become WMU consultant in general administration, research and program design, effective February 15.

Mrs. Jesse A. Tucker, who has been an editorial assistant at the WMU office here, has now become editor of children's materials.

A native of Texas, Miss Bonham has been with the Sunday School Board of the SBC since 1967, and previously was an editorial assistant at the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

She is a graduate of Mary-Hardin Baylor College, Belton, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, and also attended Scarritt College (Methodist), Nashville.

Mrs. Tucker, an Alabamian, has been editorial assistant for Sunbeam Band materials for five years. She will edit Sunbeam Band materials, including Sunbeam Activities, until they cease publication in September. Under the new grouping-grading plan to take effect in October, she will edit Girls in Action materials, including Discovery, a monthly magazine for girls age six through eleven, and Aware, a quarterly for Girls in Action leaders. She and Mr. Tucker are parents of three children.

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SBC Mission Gifts Start
1970 At Record Level

NASHVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptists started the year 1970 with a record level of giving to world missions.

Contributions through the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program unified budget for January of 1970 increased 4.6 per cent, or \$114,997 over last year's record high for January, 1969.

Designated gifts to world missions likewise reached a record level, with an increase of 13.8 per cent, or \$447,548.

Cooperative Program contributions for January totalled \$2,613,571, compared to \$2,498,574 last year.

Designated gifts were \$3,939,062, compared to \$3,461,514 in January of 1969.

Grand total Cooperative Program and designated gifts for the month reached \$6½ million an increase of 9.94 per cent.

Of the \$3.9 million in designated gifts, \$3.8 million went to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission. During the month of January, foreign missions received \$5.2 million of the \$6.5 million total received.

Most of this was attributed to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering foreign mission in December.

The totals would have been even higher, but three of the 31 state conventions did not send in their monthly contribution checks to the Cooperative Program.

The monthly financial report, prepared by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee here which receives and distributes the funds, does not include amounts given to local and state mission programs.

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Re-Evaluate Values, Speaker
Urges Missions Conference

2/6/70

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--Because society's basic institutions are under fire and their very existence is being questioned, "...we must come to the recognition of the fact that our value system must be re-evaluated," more than 600 students were told here.

W. Hazaiiah Williams, director of the Center for urban black studies and professor at Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, Calif., made the statements in the keynote address at the 10th annual missions conference at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, here.

Williams told the students that the "critical issues of life are in actuality resolved deep within the individual" rather than by society, and "values can be derived only from a point of involvement."

Another major speaker at the conference, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Ethics Professor William M. Pinson, urged the students to launch out on a "Journey for Justice."

"Justice is basically a corporate effort, not an individual effort," Pinson said. "If we want to do anything about justice we must be willing to do it through group action."

Pinson discussed some of the "hangups" some Christians must get rid of in order to effectively accomplish justice through group action. He concluded with an appeal for students to "get involved in changing...because you are God's people."

"Students," Pinson said, "the world is depending on the hope that you won't cop out, you won't leave...that you will get involved in...the journey for justice."

A third major speaker, Ed Seabough, executive personnel secretary, for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, urged the students to become sensitive to persons in need, not just "talk and have dialogue...protest and demonstrate."

Seabough closed the conference with an address on "The Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with a Single Step." Theme for the conference was "ODYSSEY: Journey Into Mission."

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FEB 9 1970

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