



BAPTIST PRESS

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May 15, 1970

Foreign Board Appoints Six,
Closes School, Sells Hospital

RICHMOND (BP)--Three couples were appointed to overseas careers in the Middle East, South America and Africa by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board here.

The board also approved recommendations to divest itself of two institutions, a hospital in Kontagora, Nigeria, and a girls' school in Rome.

In making the six appointments, the board assigned Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth R. Mullican of Fort Worth, to Gaza. Mullican, a medical technologist, will work in the Gaza Baptist Hospital, which serves a largely Muslim population. Mrs. Mullican, the former Lenore Lindsey, grew up in Isreal, where her parents have been missionaries for 25 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Roaten of Oxford, Miss., will go to Uruguay for evangelism and church development, and Mr. and Mrs. Allen N. Stickney of Sylvester, Ga., were assigned to work among students in Nairobi, Kenya.

Before moving overseas the new appointees and their children will go through 12 weeks of intensive training at the board's orientation center near Pine Mountain, Ga.

Their appointments bring the total Southern Baptist foreign missionary force to 2,476 in 71 countries.

The Kontagora Baptist Hospital will be sold to the government of North-Western State, in which it is located. Because the board has been unable recently to staff the hospital with missionary medical personnel, the government has moved to purchase the facilities and furnish a staff to continue medical services.

Expressing regret for the loss of "this strategic institution," H. Cornell Goerner, secretary for Africa for the board, said that Southern Baptists could have continued to operate the hospital if there had been "adequate medical personnel."

Meanwhile, definite progress is being made toward the "Nigerianization" of Baptist medical work, Goerner told the board. Two Nigerian doctors are on the staff of the Baptist hospitals in Shaki and Eku, and two others are in surgical residency at the hospital in Ogbomosho.

Also, four Nigerian medical students are interning at Ogbomosho, he reported. The internship program is expected to produce excellent Nigerian doctors within the next few years to carry much of the load at the Baptist hospitals, Goerner said.

The organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Italy has decided to close the Armstrong Memorial Training School in Rome at the end of the current school year, according to John D. Hughey, the board's secretary for Europe and the Middle East.

The missionaries are "grateful for what has been accomplished during the past 20 years," Hughey said, "but they believe that the school has served its day." He added that coeducation is now common in Italy, and attendance at the Baptist Girls' School has been poor in recent years.

The board also approved the decision of the missionaries to end legal, financial and administrative responsibility for the Baptist Theological Seminary at Rivoli at the close of the 1970-71 session. The decision whether or not to continue operating the seminary, which has a very small enrollment, rests with Italian Baptists, Hughey said.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Patterson, missionaries assigned to the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Tex., were given a special assignment by the board, effective Sept. 21, to promote Baptist literature in Spanish-speaking America. They are being asked to serve in this capacity for a period of at least 21 months.

To carry out their assignment the Pattersons will survey current usage of Baptist literature, inform the constituency of what is available, and train church and institutional workers in the effective use of the literature, according to Charles W. Bryan, the board's secretary for Middle East and the Caribbean.

Baker James Cauthen, executive secretary of the board, told the members that Broadman Press has just completed publication of a 329-page book detailing the 125-year history of the Foreign Mission Board. The book is titled, *Advance: A History of Southern Baptist Foreign Missions*. First copies for sale will be available at the Southern Baptist Convention in Denver, June 1-4, Cauthen said.

A supplementary volume listing all the missionaries of the board from its founding in 1845 to the end of 1969 has also been published, Cauthen said.

Winston Crawley, director of the board's Overseas Division, presented a paper on "Strategy for the Seventies," in which he noted that the number of missionaries and countries have approximately quadrupled in the past 22 years.

A staff of 3,500-4,000 by the end of the decade is a "realistic projection," under a long-range goal of 5,000, Crawley pointed out. The entering of new countries, especially in Africa and the Middle East, will continue but at a decreased rate, he predicted.

Crawley's paper lists "indigenous church strength as the central objective" of the board's philosophy of missions. This calls for increased local or indigenous, development of autonomous congregations and national Baptist bodies.

"The greatest ultimate effect is achieved as the missionaries work indirectly through the generating of local Christian forces and resources," Crawley explained. "Therefore the mission has primarily a generative and enabling role."

While the major thrust of Southern Baptist missions in the decade ahead will continue to major on career involvement, special features may include increased lay activity in overseas missions, international exchange which will bring Baptist leaders of other countries to the U.S. for special purposes, and an expanded program of emergency relief, Crawley said.

The board's strategy for the '70s will confront the realities of such world problems as economic disparity, population explosion, nutrition and health, science and technology, conservation of the natural environment, land distribution and urbanization, he noted.

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New U.S. Supreme Court
Justice Is Methodist

5/15/70

WASHINGTON (BP)--The new U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Judge Harry A. Blackmun, is an active member of the United Methodist Church, according to pastor Winfield Haycock of Christ Church in Rochester, Minn.

The pastor said Blackmun "is really a superb Christian layman in terms of thoughtfulness and in terms of his desire to be an ethical person in all his relationships, community, family, church and country."

Since 1953 Blackmun has been a member and regular attendant of the Rochester church. He has served as chairman of the board of trustees and on several other committees of the congregation, as well as a member of the Board of Publication for the United Methodist Church.

The religious affiliation of the other members of the Supreme Court are: Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, Presbyterian; Hugo L. Black, Baptist; William O. Douglas, Presbyterian; John M. Harlan, Presbyterian; William J. Brennan, Jr., Catholic; Potter Stewart, Episcopalian; Byron R. White, Episcopalian; and Thurgood Marshall, Episcopalian.

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Panel Hears Conflicting
Views On Problem of Smut

5/15/70

WASHINGTON (BP)--The U.S. Commission on Obscenity and Pornography concluded its public hearings here with a mixture of conflicting testimonies on what should be done about the problems of pornography.

One testimony asked for removal of the pornographic burden from the postman's back. Others said they did not know the answer but that something must be done. Some said leave it to the local communities. A representative for publishers decried any hint of censorship.

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A Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission staff member, in testimony before the commission, called for a positive approach to pornography, urging a concerted effort in communicating the values of a healthy, common-sense view of sexuality as one of the best ways to combat the perverted view of sex communicated through pornography.

The president of the National Association of Letter Carriers, James H. Rademacher, said his men wanted some kind of legal relief from the burden of delivering unsolicited, obscene mail. Describing the letter carriers as church-going, family men with children of their own, Rademacher said postmen "feel personally contaminated" when they must deliver smut mail to households, especially to youth.

Citing references in the Gospel of Luke regarding offending children, the spokesman for the letter carriers said postmen often have the bitter feeling that they have become the instruments through whom such evil is accomplished.

"At times they feel the satchel on their back has become the biblical millstone," the letter carriers' president declared.

The postal spokesman begged for "a strong anti-pornography act which will frighten these pornographers out of the mails, and which will make the dissemination of their poison more difficult, more restricted and more dangerous. "

Another strong plea for legislation to restrict traffic in smut came from the president of the United States Conference of Mayors. Jack D. Maltester, Mayor of San Leandro, Calif., told the commission of a strongly-worded resolution adopted last year by the mayors in their annual meeting.

The resolution urged the Congress "to adopt strong, effective laws designed to suppress the traffic in obscene materials." It further asked that the President be asked "to use the full power and strength of the federal government in an all out effort to stop publication and distribution" of such materials.

The spokesman for the mayors also said that the matter was too big for local leaders to handle. However, he said that the moral challenge can and must be met by "the building of a family, community and national climate" against pornography.

"Our educational system probably has the lead role outside the home in this effort," Mayor Maltester declared.

Maltester's statement echoed a suggestion made earlier in the week by Harry N. Hollis, a staff member of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

Hollis asked that government funds be used to train school teachers to teach sex education "in a positive, healthy and effective manner" to help offset the influence of pornography, and called for a strong effort on the part of the home, church and school to combat obscenity with education on sexuality.

The President of the General Federation of Women's Club, Mrs. Walter Varney Magee, testified that the 15,000 clubs in that organization did not know how to most effectively deal with "this moral menace," but that they had concluded "the best way...is through action in the community and state rather than on a national level.

She urged the commission to devise a set of guidelines which a community might follow in a program to control the smut traffic.

A different kind of argument came from the editor-in-chief and vice president of Doubleday Publishing Co., Ken McCormick, who staunchly opposed censorship on the grounds it would increase curiosity.

McCormick, speaking on behalf of the American Book Publishers Council, defended a publisher's right to make all kinds of books available for people to buy if they want them. In areas where books, magazines and movies general labeled obscene are prevalent, they have not been enormous commercial successes, he added.

The executive director of Siccus (Sex Information and Education Council of the U.S.) argued that the attempt to limit the effects of pornography by legislation is not the solution and "may verywell prove counterproductive."

Dr. Mary Calderone said that "historical experience suggests that the lure of the forbidden is part of the lure of pornography." Since we are dealing with questions of private moral values and personal tastes, she concluded, "it is not legislation which is needed so much as education, and that for every age level, including adults."

The report of the commission, which was established in 1967, is due in September of this year. Congress has asked the group of 13 to analyze existing laws, determine distribution methods, study the effects of pornography and obscenity on the public, and particularly minors, and make legislative or administrative proposals for controlling smut "without in any way interfering with constitutional rights."

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Senators Launch New
Attack On Alcoholism

5/15/70

WASHINGTON (BP)--Three U.S. Senators have proposed legislation "for an unprecedented, massive, across-the-board federal attack on the problem of alcoholism," according to a report from the Senate Special Subcommittee on Alcoholism and Narcotics.

Sen. Harold E. Hughes (D., Iowa), chairman of the committee, introduced the "Federal Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation Act of 1970" in the U.S. Senate. He was joined by Sens. Jacob K. Javits (R., N.Y.) and Frank E. Moss (D., Utah).

Some 25 other Senators have added their names as co-sponsors of the bill.

Sen. Hughes told the Senate that alcoholism is "a killing illness that is as widespread and familiar as the common cold," yet it is "the nation's most neglect and costly illness."

He continued: "The latest estimates indicate that 9 million Americans suffer from the compulsive over-use of alcohol. I personally believe the number is much greater than that. It is also estimated that alcoholism costs our society from four to seven billion dollars in economic waste annually."

Pointing out that alcoholism is now the fourth major killing disease, Sen. Hughes added that "its impact in terms of wasted lives, broken homes, destruction of youth, and general misery is beyond any calculation."

The senator appealed for people to stop their "prevailing attitude of condemnation of alcoholics." He said that "we do not condemn epileptics, diabetics, or cancer victims; we do not speak of a 'reformed' diabetic."

Sen. Moss, who has introduced other anti-alcohol legislation in the past, says that the new proposal goes beyond anything yet attempted by the Congress toward the cure of alcoholism.

Moss continued that passage of the new bill, "would place the federal government at the helm of a coordinated, high priority drive to strike at alcoholism in all of its aspects--through research as to causes, financial assistance to prevent and treat the disease, and full-scale education program to acquaint the public of its dangers."

In summary the proposed law would:

1. Establish a National Institution for the Prevention and Control of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism;
2. Require the establishment of programs of prevention and the recognition and encouragement of treatment and rehabilitation programs for all federal employees and members of the armed forces;
3. Require the recognition of alcohol abuse and alcoholism as a significant health problem in a broad range of programs affecting health matters;
4. Authorize federal grants to and contracts with state and local organizations, agencies, institutions and individuals to carry out a broad range of activities in alcohol abuse, alcoholism prevention, treatment and rehabilitation; and
5. Establish an independent advisory committee to consult with and advise the secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, whose responsibility it would be to carry out the purposes of the act.

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