

(BP)---FEATURES

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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Licensed "Witch Doctor"
Proclaims Mission Message

by June P. Carter

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (BP)--The "witch doctor" glanced both ways, then crossed the street. Her purposeful stride was only slightly impeded by the swinging kudu horn fastened at her waist. Her crossbelt of python vertebrae jounced rhythmically, and a brisk autumn breeze ruffled the black ostrich feathers of her headdress.

Only the porcupine quill, which appeared to pass right through her nose, remained immobile, as she briskly entered the Maury Elementary School here.

Passersby in the residential district just across the Potomac River from the nation's capital, turned their heads in only mild astonishment, if at all. Most probably assumed there had to be a logical explanation.

There was: Dr. Frances Greenway is perhaps the only "witch doctor" in the state of Virginia with a license to practice medicine.

In fact, she is not a "witch" doctor at all, though in her practice at the Sanyati Baptist Hospital in Rhodesia, she sometimes must cope with the results of witch doctors' spells.

A missionary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board since 1959, Dr. Greenway has been in the states on furlough since March 1. Since March 11 she has been crisscrossing the country, giving her "sociology lesson" in schools and sounding the message of foreign missions in Baptist churches, universities and camps.

She refused to keep track of the number of miles she has traveled or the number of states she has been in, for fear the statistics will become a goal in themselves. But a glance at her schedule reveals that she will appear in 22 states and the District of Columbia before she returns to Rhodesia.

In order to carry her program aids she keeps her travel wardrobe to a minimum, relying on season-spanning knit dresses. The paraphernalia of the witch doctor nearly fill one large suitcase--the base of the kudu horn having been sawed off so that it fits if placed carefully.

In addition, she carries a slide projector and a tape recorder. The taped singing of Rhodesian Baptist high school students is a popular feature of her presentations. Boxes of slides and a Shona language dictionary slip into any available crannies.

Her friends, worried about her crowded schedule, sometimes accuse her of "wearing her halo too tightly." She counters that she is having an "absolutely wonderful time."

One Sunday she spoke at a Catholic home for delinquent girls, to juniors in a Baptist Sunday School and then to a congregation during morning worship. That evening she filled two more engagements.

Home base is her sister's home in Fort Worth, but Dr. Greenway seldom touches base. She explains that many furloughing missionaries settle in that area, and she feels a responsibility to churches who almost never hear a missionary.

The witch doctor's outfit is usually reserved for school engagements, but Dr. Greenway often has several appearances in a day. Occasionally the schedule has been so tight that there wasn't time to change clothes.

One day she appeared before a Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) group with the porcupine quill still taped securely under her nose, the kudu horn still swinging and the zebra mane anklets still bristling above her sandals. The WMU ladies, not at all fazed, went right ahead with the presentation they had planned: An orchid corsage.

Dr. Greenway recently left Alexandria after an evening engagement, traveled all night and the next day by bus and arrived in Lake Charles, La., the third day. She always travels by bus, refusing air fare whenever it is offered.

She uses travel and layover time to read her Bible and pray, further her study of the Shona language and carry on an extensive correspondence. Layovers are welcome, she says, because of the work she can accomplish. "Once I spent 12 hours in the ladies' room of a bus station writing letters," she adds.

Since her furlough tour began she has missed only two Sundays filling a church pulpit; and an accident almost brought the number to three. In Sequatchie Valley, Tenn., her head hit the car windshield when a truck ahead braked suddenly as she was being driven from Sunday School in one church to worship services in another. She was late, but a halo of glass splinters glittered in her hair as she brought the morning message.

Her pulpit messages often use exchanges of greetings of the Shona language of Rhodesia, and a crisp sense of humor usually keeps Dr. Greenway's audience alive to her message.

She has two presentations that especially appeal to youngsters. One makes use of taped sounds and projected slides. The doctor plays a sound and after the group has tried to identify it, she shows the slide that explains it. The sound often identified as a hammer turns out to be the sound of a Tonga greeting--the clapping of cupped palms by members of a primitive tribe that lives in the Zambezi River Valley. The clapping goes on and on, she explains; if someone of importance enters their church, these people clap the newcomer in, even when services are in progress.

The second presentation involves pictures of animals. After looking at each animal and establishing its principal characteristic, the group sees the slides again. This time the characteristic is recalled and a spiritual application drawn:

"The water buffalo cannot be trusted; he will circle and attack you from behind. But we have one Friend we can always trust."

"The giraffe in captivity needs tender, loving care. Our spiritual lives also need daily care--prayer and Bible study--to grow and be healthy."

One slide is a minor masterpiece. To photograph the chameleon the missionary had set him on a floral place mat. The poor creature was hard put to come up with a yellow background and then decorate himself with green flowers, but he had tried. His yellow background was correct; his green trim, though not really floral, was admirably done.

"The chameleon doesn't want to be different. He blends in with his environment. Dare to be different for Jesus," she urges.

People generally respond positively to this unusual woman who dares to be different for Jesus. She speaks on Spanish, but during a week of Spanish camp near Prescott, Ariz., an elderly Mexican woman who spoke no English removed a lovely gold pin from her own dress and pinned it on Dr. Greenway's. Then she kissed her cheek and walked away.

At receptions the doctor passes up punch and cookies to talk with individuals of all ages who express interest in her work. She invites them to add their names and addresses to a burgeoning mailing list. About 2,500 persons receive her form letter, and she corresponds personally with an unbelievable number.

She also corresponds with about 30 Rhodesian friends. "This correspondence, meant for language study," she confesses, "has cemented friendships and bound us closer in Christian love. Hence, I'll be a more fruitful missionary when I return." She has already been tentatively booked by some churches for her next furlough.

Whatever she does is preceded by an earnest seeking of God's will. Each appearance is approached "as if it were the only one," and a strong awareness of God's leadership after a period of prayer.

"This furlough includes no medical training because, through prayer, this work is what I felt led to do," she declares.

With confidence in God's leadership, she has foregone this one-year-in-five opportunity to be with her family and has taken to the road to proclaim the mission message.

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URGENT CORRECTION

On Baptist Press story mailed 10/22/70, headlined "Birmingham Church Accepts Resignation of 11 Staffers," a line of the copy was omitted when typed. Please change the third graph of page two of the mailing ro read as follows, splitting this graph into two graphs. Both paragraphs should read:

Also during the two month period, the church defeated a motion by a vote of 240-217 proposing that all membership applicants be considered without regard to race or color.

After the church finally voted to reject the two Negro membership applicants, Gilmore and Miss Bock submitted their resignations, and about 300 members walked out of the church in moral protest.

--Thanks, Baptist Press



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October 23, 1970

**Kansas Convention Board
Of Managers Dissolved**

WICHITA, Kan. (BP)--The board of managers for the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists, a five-man group appointed at the request of the state securities commissioner, has been dissolved and dismissed.

Officers and directors of the Kansas Convention and its Church Loan Association have now, once again, assumed operational control of their organizations.

More than a year ago, the Kansas Securities Commissioner, Michael Quinn, requested that the five-man management board be elected by the convention to assume management control of the financially floundering Church Loan Association, and in effect, the entire convention.

The board of managers, headed by state senator Lester C. Arvin of Wichita, an attorney and Baptist layman, outlined plans and procedures for helping to pull the convention out of its financial problems, and these programs were adopted by the full state convention and its Executive Board.

Pat McDaniel, who was elected executive secretary of the convention during the troubled times, said here that the "signed documents releasing the board of managers from their managerial responsibilities have been received in his office.

McDaniel said that although the convention is not yet financially out of the woods, the financial picture is bright and hopeful, and victory is in sight if pledges made in fund campaigns are fulfilled.

McDaniel said that a total of \$672,108 has been pledged by Baptist churches in Kansas and Nebraska in a "Strengthen Our Witness" fund campaign, and that \$141,916 has been received through September toward that goal.

In addition, ten Baptist state conventions have pledged to come to the aid of the Kansas convention, providing written commitments totalling \$435,000 over a five year period.

These amounts are over and above increased giving in the state Cooperative Program efforts in funding the sinking fund payments on church bonds underwritten by the convention and Church Loan Association.

In 1968, loans underwritten by these bonds were in arrears by 40 per cent, but this has been reduced to 14 per cent by the fall of 1970, McDaniel said. While the convention had expected income of about \$25,000 per month from the Church Loan Association, last month they received \$32,000 in payments, McDaniel added.

In November of 1968, the Kansas convention in annual session adopted a resolution asking the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board for help in the financial crisis, reporting an indebtedness of about \$1.6 million. The problem, simply put, was caused by making long-term loans to 115 churches backed by short-term church bonds which would mature before the loans could be paid off.

In July of 1969, Quinn appointed the five-man board of managers from 10 persons nominated by the convention's Church Loan Association, and asked the board to manage the affairs of the association and convention in finding a solution to the financial crisis.

Quinn said at the time that the management board would have final responsibility for budget controls, organizations, income or anything in the convention's program that would relate to solving the association's problems.

With the announcement from Quinn and Arvin dissolving the management board, all such authority now reverts back to the Kansas Convention of Southern Baptists' Executive Board and to the Church Loan Association.

In announcing the return of operational control from the board of managers to the respective officers and directors of the convention, Sen. Arvin paid tribute to the Baptist people of Kansas and Nebraska for their support, the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention for their aid in the fund campaign, the Southern Baptist Convention executive officers and especially the Home Mission Board for its help, the sister state conventions for their pledges, and to members of the board of managers.

Sen. Arvin expressed appreciation to Quinn, the state securities commissioner, for being "most cooperative." He further stated that "only through his "(Quinn's) advice and counsel were we able to move at all."

The board of managers was composed of one attorney, one accountant, one minister, and two businessmen. All were members of Southern Baptist churches in Wichita, where the state convention offices are located.

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Arkansas Justice Says Education
Is Key Tool For Peace, Prosperity

10/23/70

ARKADELPHIA, Ark. (BP)--A chief justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court, in the inauguration ceremonies for the new president of Ouachita Baptist University here, said that education is the key to peace, prosperity and love for others.

"IF we are to obtain peace, defeat poverty, cut out slum areas and fill human minds with tolerance rather than hate and animosity, we must use the weapon of education," said Chief Justice Carlton Harris.

He quickly added that denominational colleges are the only institutions in higher education today that are emphasizing the importance of being spiritual.

In a special word to students at the Baptist school, Justice Harris said that the faults and ills in society must be corrected within the framework of the Constitution, because "justice, liberty and equality of opportunity can never be achieved except within the framework of the law."

"Violence begets violence and only succeeds in driving a deeper wedge between people," the Supreme Court judge said. "You cannot build your own dreams by tearing down the dreams of another. One cannot teach love by practicing hate," he declared.

He made the statements in a major address during the inauguration of Daniel Grant as the 12th president of Ouachita Baptist University.

Grant, in his inaugural address, called for educational excellence, Christian excellence and for "creative concern for making classrooms relevant to the current problems of society."

On the matter of academic freedom, Grant said that ultimately Ouachita's faculty and students will have no more academic freedom than Arkansas Baptists understand and practice. He pledged to do "all that is within my power in coming months and years to lead our many publics, both on and off the campus, to a healthy support of both the rights and responsibilities of academic freedom."

Grant said that all of the institution's resources would be dedicated to helping the students to relate the results of their study and inquiry to the Christian faith. "This means on occasion hearing a speaker with whom we disagree, or reading a book or article diametrically opposed to our beliefs.

"The Christian college," he continued, "does not exclude Adolf Hitler or Karl Marx from the library simply because we disagree with them."

Referring to new approaches in intercollegiate cooperation, Grant said that plans are already underway for Ouachita to cooperate with nearby Henderson State College, a state institution, by expanding the present policy of student interchange.

Grant said that allowing students at one school to take courses not offered at their own institution at the other nearby school would be beneficial to both campuses.

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Former SBC President, UN
Delegate, Praises UN Role

10/23/70

LITTLE ROCK, (BP)--A former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and former delegate to the United Nations General Assembly compared the United Nations to a fire department during an address at a luncheon here celebrating the 25th anniversary of founding of the U.N.

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Brooks Hays, now director of Wake Forest University's Ecumenical Institute, Winston-Salem, N.C., said that like a good fire department, the United Nations is "rightly acclaimed" when it helps extinguish the fires of war.

Hays, who was a delegate to the U. N. General Assembly in 1955, added that the United Nation's educational and undramatic prevention procedures are unapplauded, however, generally because they are not known.

The former congressman from Arkansas conceded that the United Nations has not been able to accomplish many of the things its founders envisioned for it, but pointed out that the organization is still much alive and expanding.

"Let us remember that when the League of Nations was 25 years old, it lay in ashes," said Hays, president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1958-59.

He pointed out that there were only 60 member nations in the U.N. when he was a delegate in 1955, compared to the current 126 member nations.

Hays praised the U.N. for its role in the Korean War, and in the "brush-fire situations" in Pakistan, Cyprus, and the Congo. At the same time, he said, "we grieve over the inadequacies of the U.N. in efforts in Indo China, Nigeria, and the Middle East."

Hays was the featured speaker at a United Nations Day luncheon on the 25th anniversary of the organization's founding. The meeting was sponsored by the Arkansas Chapter of the United Nations Association.

In introducing Hays, Editor Erwin L. McDonald, of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, described the speaker as "one of the biggest diamonds ever to come out of Arkansas soil." McDonald praised his achievements in the fields of politics, government, education and religion.



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