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September 2, 1971

**Glendon McCullough Named
SBC Brotherhood Executive**

MEMPHIS (BP)--The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, during annual session here, elected SBC Home Mission Board personnel director Glendon McCullough as the new executive to lead the denomination's organization for laymen and boys.

Since 1959, McCullough has been secretary of the personnel department for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta. Last year, in a reorganization, the department was made a division and McCullough was named director.

Effective Nov. 1, McCullough will become executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Brotherhood Commission. He will succeed the late George W. Schroeder, who died May 29 after a long illness.

In accepting the position as executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission, McCullough told the commission he was challenged by the "formidable" task ahead of him.

"A fresh breeze of Christian renewal and involvement among Baptist laymen is blowing, and this decade could be the most exciting and fruitful in the history of Southern Baptists," he said. "The Baptist Brotherhood is in a unique position to lead the way."

McCullough told the commission he would be determined to set a new pace for the laymen's program in the SBC. He added he wanted to work for increased involvement of the commission's staff, the commission members and the state Brotherhood leaders, as well as closer cooperation with other agencies of the SBC.

Both McCullough and Solon Freeman, a Memphis businessman who is chairman of the commission, recommended that the commission recess until January, 1972, when it will reconvene at a date to be determined "for a more definite setting of new directions."

A five-member committee appointed earlier by the commission nominated McCullough for the position. He was elected unanimously by the full commission.

The action was taken despite a mild heart attack which McCullough suffered in Atlanta on Aug. 2 while preparing to attend the Home Mission Board annual trustee meeting in Glorieta, N.M.

McCullough told the commission members that "the fact that you would have the faith and courage to elect me in spite of my recent heart attack, and that I have the faith and guts to accept what would be a demanding job are examples of the kind of faith, courage and work which will be necessary for everybody concerned if laymen are to meet the needs of this decade."

"My physician," continued McCullough, "has reported to me as he has in writing to you (commission members) that it is reasonable to expect that I will be able to return to work at the Home Mission Board on Oct. 1 and he sees no reason why I should not be able to assume the responsibility (here) in November."

As executive secretary of the commission, McCullough will be responsible for coordinating nationally the organization comprised of 422,000 men and boys in Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador units in Southern Baptist churches.

A native of Georgia, McCullough was a state Royal Ambassador secretary for the Georgia Baptist Convention for about ten years following World War II.

He was associate pastor of Druid Hills Baptist Church, Atlanta, from 1955-59 and was a professor at Seinan University, Fukuoka, Japan, for one year. He also is a former pastor of First Baptist Church, Hazelhurst, Ga.

A graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., he was de n of men at Baylor and has done graduate study at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and the University of California, Berkeley. He also is a graduate of Brewton-Parker Junior College, Mt. Vernon, Ga.

Since 1959 he has directed the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's division (department) responsible for working with mission volunteers, screening all applicants and recommending those who qualify for appointment as missionaries, employing workers in the board's national office in Atlanta; and maintaining a continuing relationship, including counseling with missionaries of the board after their appointment.

As secretary of the board's personnel office, McCullough led in the creation of the US-2 missionary program, organized the orientation program for new missionaries and led in public commissioning services for missionaries of the Home Mission Board.

He will become the fourth executive secretary for the Brotherhood Commission in 43 years.

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Fingerprints May Hold Key To Murder of Missionaries

9/2/71

RICHMOND (BP)--Authorities in the Dominican Republic are continuing their investigation into the slaying of two Southern Baptist missionaries who were found beaten and stabbed to death July 7 in their home in Santiago, a SBC Foreign Mission Board spokesman said.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Potter, 38 and 36, both natives of Marshfield, Mo., were found dead in bed by their 10-year-old son after their maid noticed a door had been forced open during the night.

At least three men currently are being held by police in Santiago, according to Charles W. Bryan, the board's secretary for Middle America and the Caribbean. Bryan visited missionaries in the Dominican Republic during August.

Police are concentrating on matching the fingerprints found at the scene with those of suspects, Bryan said. The motive for the killings is still unknown, he added.

"Since it would be difficult if not impossible for only one person to break through the iron gate in back of the Potters' house, evidence points to at least two, perhaps three, persons involved in the crime," said Bryan.

Potter cashed a large check the previous day to purchase a motorcycle for his work on the day he was killed, but police have not affirmed robbery as a motive.

National police brought suspects into custody immediately after the crime and others were questioned later and released, Bryan said.

The Potter children, David, 10, and Susan, 12, are now living with their grand parents and legal guardians, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Roper in Marshfield, Mo.

The children receive financial support through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. The board took steps to provide each of the Potter children with a monthly income of \$90.40. They also are eligible for Margaret Fund scholarships and child supplements during college years from the Foreign Mission Board. It is expected that David and Susan each will receive a monthly benefit from Social Security.

The board also appropriated funds to defray costs of returning the bodies from the Dominican Republic and the burial in Missouri.

Baker J. Cauthen, executive secretary of the SBC Foreign Mission Board, urged that Baptists pray earnestly for the full solution of this crime and for all the missionaries in the Dominican Republic as they continue their witness for Christ.

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**Brazilian Baptists Accept
Challenge of New Highway**

by Roberta Hampton

RECIFE, Brazil (BP)--The challenge of Brazil's new Trans-Amazonic Highway is being taken seriously by Brazilian Baptists as an opportunity for mission outreach and expansion.

Director of the Home Mission Board for the Brazilian Baptist Convention, Samuel Mitt said that the "millions of people settling along the Trans-Amazonic (Highway) represent an unprecedented opportunity for evangelization."

The highway, begun September 1, 1970, is to bisect Brazil from East to West. More than half of its 3,100 miles will cut through unexplored tropical forests.

Why this gigantic undertaking? Two primary factors: Economic integration of the Amazon valley into the national program and colonization of the region by people from drought-stricken, overpopulated northeast Brazil.

For a long time the northeast has been plagued by drought in 10 to 15-year cycles. Rains do not come, crops die. Farmers, having money to buy neither food nor seed to replant, invade nearby cities in search of better economic conditions.

Baptist work in the northeast suffers when church members join in the exodus, Mitt said. Churches in the south profit when these members join their ranks, but it takes months or even years for the northeastern churches to recoup their losses. Sometimes pastors must go three or four months without pay.

The most recent drought hit in 1970. For the first time in history, the nation's president went to the region to see firsthand the parched earth and the misery and hunger of the people.

Shortly afterward the decision was made: work on the Trans-Amazonic would begin immediately. The drought-stricken northeasterners would populate villages to be created along its margins. Groups of settlers have already left their homes in the northeast to begin life anew along the Trans-Amazonic.

It is in this context that Mitt sees the new highway as an "unprecedented opportunity for evangelization."

The board is already securing strategic properties; it plans to place workers at these points, not only to preach the gospel but also to teach and train new converts. These in turn can evangelize the region in which they live.

The board also plans to expand existing work in towns located along the Highway's route. In Estreito, where work on the Trans-Amazonic began, a small congregation and school were begun in 1968 by a Brazilian missionary. Now the school has 173 students, and the Estreito Baptist Church has grown to a membership of 94. Its pastor was the first missionary appointed specifically to work along the Trans-Amazonic.

A missionary couple was recently transferred to Maraba, where a jeep is needed for the pastor to work effectively. Last March a church was organized in Jacareacanga by missionaries who work with the Mundurucu Indians in Sai Cinza.

The director of Brazil's National Highway System has called the Trans-Amazonic "a pioneer road, an opening in the jungle, preparing for its penetration." Brazilian Baptists plan to penetrate the region with the gospel, taking advantage of the churches which the new highway will bring.

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