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April 13, 1972

**FMB Creates Department
For Promotion of Missions**

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has approved a reorganization within its Mission Support Division creating a department of promotion and furlough ministries.

The action came during a meeting of the 67-member board here April 10-12.

The new department, to become operational in June, will encompass the "promotion" functions of the former department of missionary education and promotion.

The latter, to be called the department of missionary education, will keep responsibility for the audio-visuals and publications work, under the direction of Eugene L. Hill.

Samuel A. DeBord, formerly associate secretary for promotion on Hill's staff, will head the new department of promotion and furlough ministries.

The department will promote foreign missions with new and innovative ministries, according to DeBord.

This will be done through world missions conferences, camps, weekend mission emphases in churches, rallies, foreign mission fellowships, state convention offices, SBC offices, denominational assembly programs, "missionaries in residence," and stewardship and prayer, said DeBord.

Furloughing missionaries as well as staff members will perform the work of the department.

DeBord's staff will include three associate secretaries, Miss Edna Grances Dawkins, Roger G. Duck and Ralph L. West. They are being transferred from the department of missionary personnel.

Miss Dawkins was an associate secretary in that department. Duck and West were regional personnel representatives. Miss Dawkins will continue to reside in Richmond, Va., headquarters city of the board; Duck will move from Fort Worth to Dallas, and West will remain in Atlanta.

Other employees of the board in Richmond will complete the staff.

Their major "recruiting target groups" will be church staffs and denominational workers; young adults, especially former short-term missionaries and other overseas workers; and laymen, including medical personnel, social workers, educators, agriculturalists and other professionals.

DeBord said the department will be responsible for furlough missionary housing, "orientation patterns for ministries of furloughing missionaries," and briefings for Baptists going overseas as tourists.

Enlistment of missionary candidates among seminary and university students will continue to be the responsibility of the department of missionary personnel, primarily through four regional personnel representatives.

They are Don A. Reavis, who is being transferred from Kansas City, Mo., to Fort Worth; Robert C. Covington, remaining in New Orleans; and W. Dennis Hill, being transferred from Louisville to the Raleigh-Durham area of North Carolina

A fourth regional personnel representative is authorized but no one has been named for the post.

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In a separate action, the board made W. Dennis Hill a member of its elected staff, effective June 1. For nearly a year, he has been employed as a part-time regional personnel representative in Louisville.

Louis R. Cobbs remains as head of the department of missionary personnel.

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FMB Adds 20 to Overseas Staff;
Creates Promotion Department

4/13/72

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--Members of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, meeting here, appointed or reappointed 20 persons to overseas service, approved 74 young people for training to be missionary journeymen and voted to create a new department within its Mission Support Division.

The members also heard reports from several staff administrators, including Executive Secretary Baker J. Cauthen, who spoke prior to the appointment of new missionaries in the Jackson Municipal Auditorium.

Cauthen told an audience estimated at 2,600 that the work of Christian missions and the spread of the Gospel are becoming more imperative with the rapid growth of world population, which may double within the next two decades.

"We can't change the world with signs," Cauthen said, addressing himself mainly to young people in the audience. "We must get out there with the people in every land; we must walk with them, live with them, suffer with them and rejoice with them so that through us they can see Jesus Christ walking in their midst."

Calling this an "urgent mandate," Cauthen said that Christians everywhere must show other people that "the Lord I love is the Lord who loves you," and "the Lord Jesus Christ is going to accomplish what he is out to do."

Eight couples were appointed as new missionaries. They are Mr. and Mrs. Norman L. Coad of Fort Worth, formerly of Little Rock, Ark., appointed to Nigeria; Mr. and Mrs. Clifford H. Dane of Fort Worth, formerly of Tyrone, Okla., to Brazil; Mr. and Mrs. R. William Hollaway of Louisville, formerly of Flagstaff, Ariz., to Japan; Mr. and Mrs. J. Randall Jones of Louisville, to Paraguay.

Also, Mr. and Mrs. Michael H. Key of Fort Worth, to Togo; Mr. and Mrs. Jack W. Kinnison Jr. of Fort Worth, to Laos; Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Long of New Orleans, formerly of Picayune, Miss., to Belgium; and Mr. and Mrs. John V. Norwood of Lewistown, Mont., to Indonesia.

In addition, the board reappointed four former missionaries for work in Nigeria.

Dr. and Mrs. William C. Gaventa of Louisville, who served in Nigeria from 1949 to 1965, were reappointed under the board's special project program for physicians and dentists. They will serve for one year at the Baptist Medical Center in Ogbomosho, effective Aug. 1.

Miss Betty Larimer of Muncie, Ind., a special project nurse in Nigeria from 1969 to 1971, was reemployed as a missionary associate assigned to the Baptist Nursing School in Eku, effective June 1.

Miss Maxine Lockhart of San Antonio, Tex., was reappointed for educational work in Nigeria, effective July 1. She taught in Baptist schools in that country from 1955 to 1963.

Seventy-four young Baptist college graduates were approved for a seven-week training program this summer prior to being commissioned as missionary journeymen. Those commissioned will fill two-year terms of service assisting regular missionaries in special jobs overseas.

A department of promotion and furlough ministries will become functional in June within the board's Mission Support Division, as a result of the members' action here.

The new department will take over the promotional functions of the present department of missionary education and promotion. The latter will become the department of missionary education.

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Three employees are being transferred from the department of missionary personnel into the new promotion unit. They are Miss Edna Frances Dawkins, Roger G. Duck and Ralph L. West, who will be associate secretaries in the new promotion department, with Samuel A. DeBord as secretary.

In another action, the board elected W. Dennis Hill of Louisville to a staff position as a regional personnel representative, effective June 1.

Hill and his wife will relocate to the Raleigh-Durham area of North Carolina. He will be one of four regional personnel representatives in the board's department of missionary personnel.

Hill will counsel with persons and groups interested in foreign mission service. His assigned region includes North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

The board adopted a resolution of appreciation to Miss Genevieve Greer, who is retiring from the staff after 27 years of service. Since 1950 she has been the board's book editor.

Miss Greer was the guest of honor at a luncheon following the closing session of the board meeting.

Mississippi Baptists were hosts to the board members and a group of staff employees from the Richmond headquarters of the board.

Approximately 53 of the board's 67 members attended the meeting, many traveling from distant states to the Mississippi capital. This was the group's first meeting in the Magnolia state.

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Board Hears Reports On Bangladesh, China

4/13/72

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--Two administrators of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board reported on developments affecting Baptist work in Bangladesh and China during a business session of the board here.

In addition, two board members gave highlights of their tour of Baptist work in several Asian countries.

John D. Hughey, secretary for Europe and the Middle East for the board, said that Southern Baptist missionaries in Bangladesh now have more than \$170,000 at their disposal for relief work among people there.

The missionaries' main project involves rebuilding houses in villages destroyed during last year's conflict which led to an independent Bangladesh, Hughey reported.

"The best thing about our relief operation is that the missionaries are personally involved in it," said Hughey. "They are out there (in the villages) long hours working with the people."

Calling the missionaries "one of the greatest groups I know of anywhere," Hughey said they "have built up a great deposit of respect among some of the people and government officials."

"I put Bangladesh at the head of the list of our work in the Middle East so far as missionary evangelism is concerned," continued Hughey. He said that the new nation, though predominantly Muslim, is officially a neutral, secular state, allowing religious freedom and making no distinctions based on religion.

The secretary for East Asia, James D. Belote, told board members the opening of communication between our nation and China "may be the first step down a long road toward resumption of missionary work in China."

Although regular Christian worship services are unknown in China today, there is an "underground Christian witness there," Belote said, "and it results in people coming to know Jesus as Savior."

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Belote predicted that when and if China is again open to the Gospel, methods of evangelism and church work will be different from those of the past, "though the message will be the same."

Chinese Christians now living outside mainland China will be the vanguard of those returning to begin the new work, he continued.

Christians on Taiwan "have recovered from the initial shock" of President Nixon's overtures to Red China, and they are watching for opportunities to strengthen the Christian witness on the mainland, said Belote.

Two board members, Eldred M. Taylor of Somerset, Ky., and Robert L. Deneen of Columbia, S.C., related some impressions of the people and Baptist work in countries they visited during a 27-day tour in East and Southeast Asia.

"We were amazed at the wall-to-wall people," said Taylor, adding that the vast majority appeared to be young people. "We were equally struck by all the poverty, paganism and emptiness," he said.

The two board members and their wives met and talked with 200 missionaries during their Asian trip, according to Taylor, and they were impressed with the many types of work the missionaries are doing and with their "flexibility to meet needs."

Taylor added, "We were inspired by the commitment of the missionaries to their work."

Deneen, likewise, talked about "the overwhelming needs of the people" and "the dedication of the missionaries."

He said the things he saw in Asia have caused him to ask himself, "Why was I privileged to be brought up in a Christian home, to hear the Gospel, when so many in this world have not heard, have not been touched at all?"

Deneen said he has been moved to pray for the missionaries more personally. Then, speaking as a pastor with influence over potential mission volunteers, he added, "We as God's called ones have the great responsibility of calling out the called."

Both he and Taylor said they hope other board members will have opportunities to visit areas of the world and help "personalize the board to the missionaries" as well as get to know them personally.



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