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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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August 2, 1972

**18 New Foreign Missionaries
Named; Support Increased**

RICHMOND (BP)--The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board here appointed 18 persons to its overseas force, heard its top executive project a possible 175 new appointments by the end of 1972, and voted to bolster financial support for missionaries with 10 or more years of service.

The board also approved a reorganization of its department of missionary education into three new sections, with the present director of audio-visuals becoming head of a new program and product development section.

The new missionaries are Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Crockett of Azle, Tex., appointed to Argentina; Mr. and Mrs. William D. Curp of Turney, Mo., Ethiopia; Dr. and Mrs. John W. McFadden Jr., of Hattiesburg, Miss., Nigeria.

Also appointed were Miss Cheryl Ray of Dallas for work in Zambia; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest A. Sibley of Houston for Malawi; Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Smothers of Pelahatchis, Miss., Paraguay; and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Waddill of Marion, Va., Zambia.

Employed for four-year renewable terms as missionary associates were Mr. and Mrs. Delos D. Brown of Athens, Ga., for Zambia; Mrs. Charlton L. Cohen of Pooler, Ga., Taiwan; and Mr. and Mrs. W. Raymond Reynolds of Lexington, Ind., Belgium.

Executive Secretary Baker J. Cauthen, in his report to the board, noted that since the last meeting of the board in June, 66 missionary journeymen had been commissioned for two-year terms overseas.

Cauthen said that while the number of missionaries appointed this year is expected to be fewer than the 226 appointed in 1971, it is probable that about 175 will have been appointed or employed by the end of 1972. This includes the 66 journeymen.

Beginning next year, Southern Baptist missionaries will receive an allowance based on length of service, according to an action taken by the board.

The allowance, in the form of pay increments, will be \$300 at the end of 10 years of service by the missionary plus \$150 after every five years of additional service.

This means that a missionary couple with 20 years of service will receive an additional \$1,200 Jan. 1, 1973, when the allowance becomes effective.

In approving the longevity allowance, board members were acting on the latest recommendation of a special committee on missionary support.

Previous actions based on the committee's recommendations have dealt with the effects of dollar devaluation, increased Social Security taxation, and rising costs of college education for missionary children.

Money allowances for missionary children and benefits for emeritus missionaries were increased by board action in June, also effective Jan. 1.

Winston Crawley, director of the board's Overseas Division, explained the need for a length-of-service allowance in his report to the board.

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DARGAN-CARVER
S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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As missionary children grow up and assume responsibility for themselves the "child allowances" are no longer paid to the missionary family, Crawley said. Thus the family's income drops at a time when parents in other kinds of occupations might feel a letup in financial pressures. This is also a time when the need to save for retirement is a matter of growing concern.

"Arrangements for the support of our missionaries are now much improved," said Crawley. "Missionaries still must exercise care in personal finance, but the support provided does make it possible for them to work in security and with freedom from major anxieties."

In other actions, the board approved recommendations for the reorganization of its department of missionary education and the election of Fon H. Schofield Jr., of that department as associate secretary of one of three new sections.

The department, presently comprised of two sections for publications and audio-visuals, will be restructured into three sections: publications, program and product development, and resources and services.

Schofield, for 24 years director of the board's audio-visuals work, will become associate secretary for program and product development. These changes are to become effective on or around Sept. 15.

G. Norman Price will continue as associate secretary for publications, and another person will be recommended for the post of associate secretary for resources and services.

Eugene L. Hill remains as secretary for missionary education and director of the department.

R. Keith Parks, secretary for Southeast Asia, presented a report to the board based on his residency for the past year in Singapore. He and his family have returned to their home here.

Parks called the year in Singapore "an invaluable experience" which allowed him to be in close contact with the missionaries in his administrative area.

He told board members his year overseas had produced "a new depth of appreciation" for the missionaries in Southeast Asia.

"Their creativity in dealing with their tasks continues to amaze and surprise me," said Parks, adding that they are "deadly serious about their projections for advance in this decade."

A revitalization of spiritual awareness and sensitivity has been in progress and continues within the fellowship of missionaries in Southeast Asia, Parks affirmed. This same spiritual renewal is taking place among nationals as well, he added.

Parks told board members he is convinced that God's Holy Spirit is moving in Southeast Asia "in an intensity that has not been experienced in my generation."

"I am deeply grateful that he has allowed me to see something of the beginning of what I expect to be a great expression of his power," Parks said.

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Chute Joins PR Office
of Sunday School Board

8/2/72

NASHVILLE (BP)--Michael D. Chute, native of Waynesville, Mo., has joined the staff of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board as an information specialist in the public relations office.

In his work he will share responsibilities for interpreting the work of the Sunday School Board through news and feature writing.

Chute received the Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, where he was a member of the college's public relations staff. He also attended

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Missouri Baptist College, Hannibal-Lagrange.

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94 Baptist Bodies Join BWA
World Reconciliation Mission

8/2/72

KINGSTON, Jamaica (BP)--The Baptist World Alliance Executive Committee learned here that 94 Baptist conventions and unions in 83 countries--a number larger than the total Alliance membership--have voted to participate in the Alliance's emphasis known as the World Mission of Reconciliation.

Plans for the World Mission of Reconciliation captured the attention of the 220 representatives from 32 nations attending the BWA Executive Committee meeting here as one of the main items of business and concern.

It was the largest attendance and most widespread representation of any of the annual Executive Committee meetings in the BWA's 67 year history, according to Robert S. Denny, general secretary. Delegates from five countries in Eastern Europe attended.

In major business actions, the Executive Committee adopted a 1973 budget of \$217,500; set a goal of \$319,000 for world relief efforts; admitted the Baptist Convention of Tanzania to membership in the Alliance, and made plans for several international meetings in future years.

Joseph B. Underwood, general coordinator of the Alliance's World Mission of Reconciliation emphasis scheduled between 1973 and 1975, reported that response to the evangelism and social ministry program has exceeded expectations.

He explained that the 94 participating conventions and unions in 83 countries is more than the total membership of the Alliance, 92 member bodies in 74 countries, because only autonomous national bodies are eligible for Alliance membership, while many national groups still dependent on a foreign mission board have joined the 1973-75 effort.

Though the World Mission of Reconciliation is basically evangelistic in nature, it also majors on a "horizontal relationship emphasizing a ministry of man to man," Underwood said.

"Churches everywhere," he said, "are becoming engaged in a wide variety of ministries of service and outreach seeking to minister to the multiple needs of people and to minister redemptively at the same time."

A central planning and promotion committee of 51 persons from 32 countries is helping plan and promote the worldwide Baptist emphasis. Underwood, the chairman, is consultant in evangelism and church development for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Richmond.

Plans were outlined for several international Baptist conferences scheduled in future years.

Among the worldwide gatherings planned were: a World Conference of Baptist Men in Jerusalem, Israel, Nov. 4-10, 1973; the eighth Baptist World Youth Conference in Portland, Ore. July 31-Aug. 4, 1974; the 13th Baptist World Congress in Stockholm, Sweden, July 8-13, 1975; plus continental conferences for Baptist Women in Europe, Africa, and North America in 1972; and in Asia, Latin America and the Southwest Pacific in 1973.

The new budget adopted by the Executive Committee is an increase of \$18,000 over the 1972 budget. The \$217,500 budget does not include, however, the separate goal of \$319,600 for world relief in 1973.

The Alliance's relief committee voted to continue its relief effort toward rehabilitation of people unsettled by last year's war in Bangladesh. So far, \$72,240 has been spent in the relief effort, but more is needed, said Carl W. Tiller, BWA relief coordinator.

The committee also endorsed plans for further relief efforts in Burundi, Africa, where civil war has resulted in the massacre of thousands, including many Baptist leaders.

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So far this year, the Alliance has assisted in relief efforts in 14 countries, providing a total of \$176,887 during the first six months of the year. The relief budget is financed strictly by special gifts, Tiller said.

In another action, the Executive Committee elected Fred B. Rhodes, the deputy administrator of Veterans Administration in Washington, D. C., as western treasurer for the Alliance, succeeding Tiller who held the post before joining the BWA staff.

In admitting to membership the Baptist Convention of Tanzania, the Alliance brought its total membership to 92 conventions and unions in 74 countries, with a total of more than 27 million members. There are about 31 million Baptist in the world, though all are not members of the Alliance.

The Executive Committee also heard a progress report from a special committee studying structural changes and possible rewriting of the BWA constitution, and noted an invitation from the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (Presbyterian and Congregational) for talks with BWA officials. The committee authorized appointment of a representative to discuss a possible agenda for such discussions, with the stipulation that the agenda be approved by the full committee before such talks begin.

Approving reports from the youth, women's and men's department, the Alliance Executive Committee gave strong endorsement to training of lay leadership in churches. Such lay leadership training programs are underway in all 74 countries where BWA member unions or conventions are at work.

All three departments are planning conferences to assist in training youth, women and laymen for Christian service and witness.

In an address to the committee, Theo Patnaik, Indian-born associate secretary on the Alliance staff, told the international group that the youth of the world are "pursuing what seems to be an impossible dream."

"They want a world that is free from hunger and fear and war," he said. "They want a clean world, and one that does not live under a nuclear umbrella. They want human rights for all. They want to see spiritual realities in human relations. And they want to be part of a church that deals earnestly and realistically with the problems of society."

In another major address, an English judge warned that moral decay is undermining the whole social structure of western society.

Judge M. George Polson of the Queens Court, Exeter, England, pointed out that English common law, the basis of law in the English-speaking world, is grounded in Christian morality. The whole foundation will collapse, he predicted, when people no longer feel bound by Christian morals.

Such a collapse can be avoided, the justice said, by a revival of Christian religion which would guide citizens to a renewed respect of the moral code. "If there is no revival, there will of necessity be more laws to control every detail of life," he said.

Judge Polson spoke to the Alliance's Commission on Religious Liberty and Human Rights. Other study commissions meeting here dealt with doctrine, evangelism and missions, Christian teaching and training, and cooperative Christianity.

Next year the BWA Executive Committee will meet in a yet-to-be selected city in Switzerland, July 13-17, 1973.



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