



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
Telephone (615) 244-2355
W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

BUREAUS

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041
DALLAS Orville Scott, Chief, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996
NASHVILLE (Baptist Sunday School Board) Gomer Lesch, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203, Telephone (615) 254-5461
RICHMOND Jesse C. Fletcher, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (703) 353-0151
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

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**Church Literature Prices
Will Increase in April**

NASHVILLE (BP)--Increased cost of paper, postage, printing, binding, packaging and shipping will raise prices of most Southern Baptist Sunday School Board church literature materials about five per cent next April.

"We want to give churches an opportunity to prepare for this in their 1974 budgets so we are making this announcement well in advance," said board president, James L. Sullivan.

"In the past year we have been able to absorb a portion of cost increases," said Allen B. Comish, director of the board's church services and materials division. "Raising prices is never a pleasant experience.

"We had originally scheduled a price increase for October, 1973, but delayed six months," Comish explained. "As a result, we have absorbed more than half the calculated 11 per cent increase allowed by the current Phase IV program of the federal government."

All but three of the board's 111 church literature periodicals, (More, Bible Reader's Guide and Test Your Knowledge--Life and Work Series) will be affected by the price increase, with the majority receiving a one to four cent increase, Comish said.

A survey of sample publications shows that Outreach, Church Training, The Church Musician and Church Administration magazines will cost four cents more each quarter than previously.

Church Recreation and Media: Library Services Journal magazines and Advanced Bible Study will receive an increase of two cents quarterly. Home Life cost will increase three cents each quarter; Baptist Adults, one cent, and Collage, three cents.

Due to paper shortages, all major grades of paper used by the board have increased in cost by 18 to 21 per cent in the last year, said John O. Jackson, manager of the procurement department. At the same time, printing, binding, and typesetting costs have risen approximately seven per cent.

"Because of the shortage, paper mills are discontinuing less profitable and lightweight grades of paper," added Jackson. "In most cases, we have had to go to heavier paper at additional cost. However, the crisis is yet to come. This problem will be with us for quite some time."

Bulletin, a publication of the National Association of Purchasing Managers, reports that practically every paper mill in the country has announced increases.

The report, by Gerald Ward of the Kingsport (Tenn.) Press, said marginal grades of paper have either been withdrawn or are available in limited quantities.

While in a position to force the buyer to use more profitable grades, "paper mills are determined that profits will improve remarkably and now have the leverage to make it happen," Ward's article said.

"Some printers and publishers," the article said, will be "hard pressed to keep pace with the race already on."

Paper industry publications generally attribute increased costs to increased demand, shortage of pulp, pollution controls and increased costs of fuel, freight and labor.

Reportedly 66 paper manufacturing machines were closed in 1972 because of high costs of pollution abatement. Estimates indicate the industry will spend over \$500 million for pollution controls this year and a similar amount in 1974.

In addition to the paper crisis, postage increases have added to the Sunday School Board's publishing costs. "Second class postage has risen 12.5 per cent over last year," said H.S. Simpson, materials services department manager.

"The board mails approximately 14 million pounds of materials each year, of which 12 million pounds require second class postage.

"The cost of packaging materials has risen 25 per cent while other transportation costs of shipping materials have risen 10 per cent, Simpson said.

Increased prices of all church literature materials for the April, 1974, quarter will be listed on the Church Literature Order Form for the January, 1974, quarter.

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**Methodist Congregation Gets
Ex-SBC President "On Loan"**

9/27/73

WASHINGTON (BP)--Books Hays, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has accepted a part-time, unsalaried position as "lay minister in residence" at the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church here.

The 75-year-old former Arkansas Congressman said, "I will remain as a Baptist and work on loan in my own neighborhood to establish pilot projects to meet community needs.

"As one deeply concerned with neighborhood problems--and Washington has them because this is part of the inner city--I started helping James Archibald, the young pastor of the Methodist church, and he asked me to give more time," Hays told Baptist Press.

"My pastor, George W. Hill of Calvary Baptist Church, said he was glad to loan me for awhile to this neighborhood church, which is just around the corner from my home," Hays explained. "But I will continue to teach the Vaughn Men's Bible Class at Calvary once a month as I have for years, and I will continue to support Calvary and contribute to it financially."

Hays said his increased commitment to ministry in the neighborhood where he has lived for 27 years is in "response to SBC President Owen Cooper's appeal for more volunteerism. I think this will support his wholesome emphasis on volunteerism in church work," Hays said.

Expressing his gratitude for Hays' willingness to help, Archibald said Hays will "try out some of the innovative ideas for which he is so well known."

The Baptist layman, who still serves as a consultant for Wake Forest University, a Southern Baptist school in North Carolina, said he hasn't thought out all the aspects of his proposed pilot projects.

"But I will be involved in visitation, helping with the meals-on-wheels project for the aged and working with all age groups."

Hays said he will work with any church of any denomination which wants to channel resources into Christ-centered neighborhood ministries.

"Both my pastor and C. Wade Freeman, pastor of Capitol Hill Metropolitan Baptist Church, the nearest Baptist church to our neighborhood, have assured me of their cooperation," Hays said.

Hays, who continues to serve as president of Former Members of Congress, Inc., is a well-known speaker and has been a presidential advisor and on the faculty of several colleges since his "retirement" in 1958. He served as SBC president in 1958-59.

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The Capitol Hill United Methodist Church has another unsalaried associate, John P. Adams, of the staff of Methodist denomination's General Board of Church and Society. His assignment is community relations.

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Religious Hospital Group
Seeks New Phase IV Rules

9/27/73

WASHINGTON (BP)--A spokesman of the American Protestant Hospital Association charged here that the community hospital system is "in jeopardy of being dismantled by the administration of the Economic Stabilization Act."

"Existing price stabilization regulations are rapidly sapping the strength of America's hospitals," said Rush Jordan, chairman of the APHA committee on government relations and president of both the Alabama Hospital Association and the Birmingham Baptist Medical Centers.

Jordan and representatives of the American Hospital Association met here with John D. Twiname, administrator of the Office of Health of the Cost of Living Council to present to APHA's proposed Phase IV regulations for hospitals.

"Existing regulations on wages and prices cause hospitals to lose employees to industry, make it difficult to hire competent replacements and penalize those dedicated employees who remain," the Baptist hospital executive said.

Jordan charged that regulations which allow those who sell food, blood, oxygen, medical supplies and drugs to increase their prices to hospitals while hospitals cannot pass on such increases, force hospitals to consider purchasing less of the vitally needed supplies or to cut back in their services.

He said interpretation of existing regulations has also forced community hospitals to spend endowments and other funds accumulated to provide improved hospital services to communities.

In listing three APHA proposals, Jordan said, "The regulations we have proposed to the Cost of Living Council still subject hospitals to more stringent controls than the rest of the economy. However, they recognize the essential fairness of permitting hospitals to pass on certain costs over which hospitals have no control."

The proposed regulations would:

1. Allow hospitals to pass on costs increased by government mandate, such as increased social security cost, insurance and public utility rates and increases in the minimum wage.
2. Allow hospitals to compete with the rest of the labor force and treat their employes the same as all others in receiving wage increases under the general guidelines of the Cost of Living Council.
3. Allow hospitals to reflect increased prices in goods necessary to protect patients health and safety, such as in raw food, blood, oxygen, medical and surgical supplies and drugs.

"All other hospital costs would be strictly controlled at a two per cent per year increase," Jordan said.

He said, "Our proposed regulations provide for automatic price reduction by hospitals... if and when price controls work for the general economy, thus reducing costs hospitals pay."

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