

**FEATURES**  
produced by Baptist Press

January 6, 1975

JAN 7 1975

75-03

Help for Africa Group  
Brings 1,200% GrowthBy C. E. Bryant  
For Baptist Press

Members of the Rwanda Baptist Union's executive committee laughed in 1964 when Mrs. Nina Larsen, a Danish Baptist missionary, read them a letter from Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance.

Nordenhaug was inviting Rwanda to send a representative to the 1965 Baptist World Congress in Miami Beach, Fla. Mrs. Larsen wrote Nordenhaug of the Rwandan's desire to be represented, but cited the Central African country's total Baptist membership of less than 1,500 and the average pastor's salary of 1,200 Rwanda francs (US \$12).

"They could even as well try to take down the moon," Mrs. Larsen wrote in citing the impossibility of such a trip. She observed also that Rwanda might not be alone; there were other Baptist bodies in the BWA membership just as small and just as economically distressed.

More than \$5,000 flowed into the Baptist World Alliance offices when the letter was published in The Baptist World. The contributions ranged from a great many one dollar bills to one \$1,000 gift.

Nordenhaug sent money to Rwanda to pay the transportation of one delegate. The remainder of the contributions were distributed to similarly needy areas to help pay travel costs to Miami Beach.

That is how Festo Nyamakaza, a youthful Rwandan school teacher, came to the Baptist World Congress in Miami Beach. It was his first time out of Central Africa. It was his first contact with his Baptist brethren in other lands. He gained an inspiration at the meetings in Miami Beach.

Nyamakaza stopped in Switzerland before going back to Rwanda and studied at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon. Then he went back to Rwanda to become executive secretary of the Rwanda Baptist Union.

How effective has he been, applying the inspiration of Miami Beach to Baptist work in his African country? We had never thought particularly about it until we were looking at a chart of Baptist membership statistics of the last ten years.

Baptists throughout the world increased from 25.3 million in 1964 to 33.5 million in 1974-- a gain of 32 per cent.

But the Rwanda figures are awe-inspiring. There were, as we said, 1491 Baptists in Rwanda in 1964. The 1974 figure is 19,515--a gain of 1200 per cent!

Baptists of the world will be coming together in another Baptist World Congress in 1975--- July 8-13 in Stockholm, Sweden. There will be thousands of people from the affluent countries.

But in our prayers and concern for the meeting, let us remember yet unidentified people like Festo Nyamakaza from lands where Christianity has only the barest of footholds.

God can work wonders. (BP)

# (BP)

## BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICE

2825 ...

...

...

...

...

### 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, Tex. 75201, Telephone (214) 741-1996

**MEMPHIS** Roy Jennings, Chief, 1548 Poplar Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38104, Telephone (901) 272-2481

**NASHVILLE** (Baptist Sunday School Board) Gomer Lesch, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 254-5461

**RICHMOND** Jesse C. Fletcher, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151

**WASHINGTON** W. Barry Garrett, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4228

January 6, 1975

75-03

### Texas Pastor Killed In Light Plane Crash

**FORT DAVIS, Tex. (BP)**--William McGregor, 39, pastor of University Baptist Church in Clear Lake, Tex., and his wife and two daughters died in a plane crash near here.

McGregor and his wife, Shirley, 40, and two daughters Kathleen, 17, and Colleen, 12, were enroute from Houston to Riverside, Calif., when their light plane crashed in the mountains 30 miles northwest of Fort Davis in remote Jeff Davis County. They were last heard from Dec. 30. The wreckage was found Jan. 1.

McGregor was pastor of Westbury Baptist Church in Houston from August 1965 to October 1972. He was in the construction business when he became pastor of the newly-formed University Church.

Memorial services were conducted in Clear Lake and at First Baptist Church, Corpus Christi, Tex.

-30-

### Six Named Managers In Book Store Division Reorganization

**NASHVILLE (BP)**--Trustees of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board have elected six board employes as managers of the recently organized Baptist Book Store regions, according to William S. Graham, director of the board's book store division.

Elected to serve as regional managers are Al Crawford, Southern stores; Jimmy D. Edwards, East Central stores; Robert Mendenhall, Western stores; Miss Fran McCroskey, Northeastern stores; Jay O. Turner, Southeastern stores; and Paul Webb, Southwestern stores.

The book store division's four departments, in existence since its formation in 1962, have been reorganized into six regions to take advantage of the bulk-mail centers being operated by the U. S. Post Office.

"Since all packages mailed go through the nearest bulk-mail center, faster service can be given by locating near those centers," said Graham. "This should improve the mail-order service."

In addition to the 56 existing book stores, new mail-order centers will be located near the post office's bulk-mail centers, Graham said. One or more mail-order centers will be opened in each of the six regions. The first one will open in Greensboro, N. C., this summer with the last center scheduled to open in 1978.

According to Graham, the regional managers' responsibility includes seeing that the necessary products are in the stores and mail-order centers. With this increased control of the merchandise and with the locations near the post office bulk-mailing points, the service to Southern Baptists will be improved.

Crawford, formerly manager of the Western and seminary stores department, will manage the newly-created Southern stores region. This region includes book stores in Mobile, Ala.; Memphis and Nashville, Tenn.; Little Rock, Ark.; Alexandria and New Orleans, La.; and Jackson, Miss.

A native of Virginia, Crawford earned the bachelor of arts degree from Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn., and master of arts degree from George Peabody College in Nashville. He came to the board in 1957 as direct mail supervisor in the merchandise selection department. In 1961, he was named supervisor of the sales promotion section in

-more-

DARGAN  
S. B. C. HISTORICAL COMMISSION

the book store division. He became manager of the campus stores department in 1972, and manager of the Western and seminary stores department in 1973.

Edwards, former manager of the Broadman trade sales department, will manage the East Central stores region, including stores in Raleigh, Charlotte, Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Asheville, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, and the new mail-order center to open this year in Greensboro, all in North Carolina; Columbia and Greenville, S. C.; and Roanoke, Va.

A native of Roanoke, Edwards is a graduate of the University of Richmond and holds the bachelor of divinity degree from Southeastern seminary. Before coming to the board in 1969, he was pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Roanoke. Earlier, he worked for Humble Oil Company and served as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Collinsville, Va.

As manager of the Western stores region, Mendenhall will be responsible for the stores in Phoenix, Ariz.; Fresno, Calif.; Denver, Colo.; Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; Carterville, Ill.; Owensboro, Ky.; Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.; Albuquerque and Glorieta Baptist Conference Center, both in New Mexico; El Paso, Tex.; Kansas City and St. Louis, Mo.; and Vancouver, Wash.

A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and Golden Gate seminary, Mendenhall was employed by the board in 1958 as a sales coordinator in the book store department. In 1962, he was named manager of the Nashville book store and became manager of the Atlanta book store in 1965.

Miss McCroskey, marketing methods consultant in the book store division, will manage the Northeastern stores region, including stores in Indianapolis, Ind.; Louisville, Ky.; Lutherville, Md.; Norfolk and Richmond, Va.; Columbus, Ohio; and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

A native of North Carolina, was graduated from Mars Hill College. After graduation, she went to Oregon to work in the Tentmaker program for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and worked in the Baptist Book Store in Portland. She was transferred to the Raleigh store and later to the Nashville store. Later, she was office supervisor in the book store division's operations department before being named manager of the Roanoke store.

Paul Webb, former manager of the Birmingham (Ala.) book store, will manage the Southwestern region, which includes stores in Shreveport, La.; Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Okla.; and Arlington, Fort Worth, Houston, Lubbock and San Antonio, Tex.

Webb was graduated from Baylor University, Waco, Tex., with a degree in business administration. While attending Southwestern Seminary, he served as minister of education at Handley Baptist Church, Fort Worth, and later served as pastor of two Texas churches. In addition to the Birmingham store, he has managed stores in Carbondale, Ill., and Richmond.

Former manager of the Central stores department, Turner will manage the Southeastern stores region. Stores included in this region are those in Birmingham; Atlanta and Savannah, Ga.; Chattanooga and Knoxville, Tenn.; and Jacksonville, Miami and Tampa, Fla.

A native of Kansas, Turner received the bachelor of arts degree from William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo. As the first full-time Broadman sales representative, Turner joined the board's sales and advertising department in 1946. In 1952, he became assistant director of administration and promotional work in the book store department. He was named manager of the merchandise sales department in 1960 and of central stores department in 1962.

"The regional managers will reside in their territories," Graham stated. "This will put them closer to the people being served. By supervising fewer stores in each region, they can give closer attention to the stores and customers."

13 Assigned To  
Semester Missions

ATLANTA (BP)--Thirteen college students have been assigned to Semester Missions Projects in eight states by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's department of special mission ministries.

Semester Missions Projects are for college students interested in devoting a semester's time to Southern Baptist mission efforts across the United States.

The students will serve in resort missions, student ministries, church extension and in Christian social ministries in Baptist centers.

The 13 include Darrel and Jeanette Adams, who are finishing a Home Mission Board US-2 assignment as student workers at the University of West Virginia; Jeff and Diane Ashton, who are continuing a Semester Missions Project at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas;

Susan Dossy, an elementary education major at Oklahoma State University, assigned to weekday ministries in the Milwaukee Baptist Center; Wanda Durham of West Georgia College, who will work with pre-schoolers and teenagers in weekday and language ministries at Crownpoint, N. Mex.;

Anita Morris of Oklahoma Baptist University, who will work in the crisis concern center in Salt Lake City; Edward Smith of Ouachita Baptist University, and Janet Sublette of Arkansas State College, who will work in a special ministry to the ski resorts in Vermont and then in church extension;

Sharon Rouppett, a recent graduate of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, who will do student work at the University of Michigan at Flint, Mich.; Carol Lynn Goodson of Ouachita Baptist University, who will work in Kansas;

Timothy Adrian of Baylor University, who will work in church extension in Harrisburg, Pa.; and Henry Magee of Mississippi College, who will work in church extension in Utah-Idaho Baptist Convention.

Applications for the Semester Missions Projects are accepted anytime and assignments made by the department of special mission ministries.

**(BP)**

**BAPTIST PRESS**

**460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219**

LYNN MAY  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
127 9TH AVE. NO.  
NASHVILLE TN 37203

HO