



FEATURES

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75-25

Only God Can Save
Carlos' Life Now

By Dan Martin

SAN ANTONIO (BP)--A year ago, Carlos Castillo Beltran, 10, was bright, active and alert. Now he weighs 20-pounds. He cannot speak, eat or understand.

His eyes are large and dark but they do not comprehend. The bones show bleakly through the flesh of his arms and legs.

One of eight children, Carlos lives in a poverty stricken and hunger-ridden section of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, just across the Rio Grande River from Laredo, Tex.

His illness began 18-months ago when he went on an errand for his mother. He hitched a ride with a friend. Somehow, in the irony of accidents, he was struck by the car in which he had ridden--driven by his friend.

Carlos' right side was paralyzed in the accident, and he underwent extensive treatment at a hospital in Monterey, Mexico and in Civil Hospital in his hometown.

But Carlos had an unquenchable spirit--he began to improve.

"He was treated at Ruth Powell Rehabilitation Center in Laredo. He was making use of his hands and fingers," said Mike Mojica, missionary to Los Dos Laredoes (the Two Laredoes).

Last summer, just after school was let out for vacation, he became ill again.

Doctors said it was spinal meningitis.

Carlos' condition grew worse as the doctors struggled to stem the infection that inflamed his brain. A lung collapsed. The boy lapsed into a coma from which he has not emerged.

Friends stood by the little Mexican boy. His next door neighbors, members of Primera Bautista Iglesia (First Baptist Church) in Nuevo Laredo, had seen to it that Carlos, his brothers and sisters attended a Baptist mission near their home.

His Baptist friends prayed for him and did whatever else they could to help, as they continue to do.

By January, 1975, however, the doctors in Nuevo Laredo had done all they could for Carlos. The people of Primera Iglesia called Mojica, who in turn called Baptist Memorial Hospital System in San Antonio.

The hospital is supported by the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

On January 23, an orthopedic surgeon was in Laredo working with the Christian Medical Society and checked on Carlos. The boy was rushed to Baptist Memorial Hospital via an air ambulance from the 507th Air Ambulance Company at Fort Sam Houston, a U.S. Army base in San Antonio.

The orthopedic surgeon, a neurosurgeon and thoracic surgeon donated their skills to help Carlos, as did other medically trained professionals.

The boy was given a full battery of tests including use of the hospital's new \$382,900 EMI scanner, a computerized machine recently installed to determine extent of tissue damage, one of four such devices in Texas.

The physicians worked over Carlos for a week. Nurses in the pediatrics ward wept and prayed over the frail little boy.

But, it simply may have been too late.

Carlos--a year ago a bright and happy boy -- went home, shrunken and unconscious. The doctors and hospital staff did their best. The meningitis has severely damaged the boy's brain and deterioration is continuing, reports say.

The future does not look bright for Carlos.

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SBC Continues to Show Statistical Increases

NASHVILLE (BP)- The nationwide Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) reported 12.5 million church members, 1.3 billion dollars in total receipts, and the fifth highest number of baptisms in SBC history during 1974, according to statistics released by the Sunday School Board's research services department.

The 1974 SBC statistics, compiled from reports of 34,275 churches (459 others did not report) in America's largest Protestant-evangelical body, showed increases in several areas. They are church membership, Sunday School enrolment, church music enrolment, mission expenditures, Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) enrolment, total financial receipts, and the total number of churches.

Churches reported decreases in the number of baptisms and Training Union enrolment.

The 410,482 baptisms recorded in 1974 rank behind the record number of 445,725 in 1972; 429,063 in 1959; 416,857 in 1955; and 413,990 in 1973. This marks the fourth year in succession that the number of baptisms have exceeded 400,000.

For several years, church membership has been increasing at approximately one to two percent per year. In 1974, the increase was 1.8 percent or 218,496 persons over the 1973 membership.

The 1974 total membership increased to 12,515,842 in 34,734 churches across 50 states, compared to 12,297,346 members in 34,665 churches in 50 states in 1973.

The statistics indicate an 11.4 percent increase in the denomination's total receipts, resulting in a total of \$1,342,997,051 for 1974. This is an increase of nearly \$138 million dollars.

Mission gifts continued to increase in 1974, gaining almost \$26 million dollars (13.4 percent) for a total of \$219,389,030. This is the first time mission expenditures have exceeded \$200 million. It is the first time since 1966 that the percentage change of mission expenditures was greater than the percentage change of total receipts.

Sunday School enrolment increased 8,279 members in 1974 for a total of 7,190,829. In 1972, Sunday School enrolment experienced its first gain in eight years and has continued to increase the past two years.

Church music enrolment continued to climb in 1974. Statistics indicate a 4.1 percent increase or 51,440 members for a total of 1,304,068.

During 1974, WMU's missions education program for women and girls increased for the first time in 10 years, rising 12,717 for a total enrolment of 1,115,149.

The Brotherhood program of missions education for men and boys remained stable in 1974, for a total enrolment of 460,713.

The 1974 Training Union enrolment statistics, which do not include new member or leader training registration, showed a 2.3 percent decrease as compared with a 4.6 percent decrease in 1973. Enrolment totaled 1,904,986.

These statistical figures were compiled from the "Uniform Church Letters" received and were compared with the 1973 denominational figures.

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Summary of 1974 Southern Baptist Convention Statistics

	<u>1974</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>Numerical Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Churches	34,734	34,665	69	0.2
Baptisms	410,482	413,990	-3,508	-0.8
Church Membership	12,515,842	12,297,346	218,496	1.8
Ongoing Sunday School Enrolment	7,190,829	7,182,550	8,279	0.1
Ongoing Training Union Enrolment	1,904,986	1,949,640	-44,654	-2.3
Ongoing Church Music Enrolment	1,304,068	1,252,628	51,440	4.1
Ongoing WMU Enrolment	1,115,149	1,102,432	12,717	1.2
Ongoing Brotherhood Enrolment	460,713	461,080	-367	-0.1
Total Receipts	\$1,342,997,051	\$1,205,330,781	\$137,666,270	11.4
Total Mission Gifts	\$219,389,030	\$193,549,922	\$25,839,108	13.4

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Charles King, SBC VP
Hospitalized in Kentucky

Baptist Press
2/18/75

LEXINGTON, Ky. (BP)--Charles King, second vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, is reportedly in critical but stable condition in St. Joseph Hospital here suffering from a stroke.

King, 79, pastor of Corinthian Baptist Church, Frankfort, Ky., and former first vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, is the first black person elected as a national officer in the 130-year history of the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Two Broadcasters Share
Abe Lincoln Awards

Baptist Press
2/18/75

FORT WORTH (BP)--Robert E. Rice of WRAU-TV in Creve Coeur, Ill., and Herbert W. Hobler, of WHWH in Princeton, N. J., have each received a 1975 Abe Lincoln Award from the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

For the second year, two top awards for outstanding service to the industry and their communities were given--one each in radio and television categories.

The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission is the world's largest producer of religious programming for public service broadcasting.

Rice, executive vice president and general manager of WRAU-TV, and Hobler, president of Nassau Broadcasting Co., received their awards at the Sixth National Abe Lincoln Award ceremonies in Fort Worth's Tarrant County Convention Center.

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Richard E. Wiley of Washington, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, was keynote speaker at the awards banquet. The American Broadcasting Company filmed the event for presentation February 23 on the network's "Directions" program.

Rice and Hobler were among 10 broadcasters nominated for the award. An eleventh, Charles H. Crutchfield, president, Jefferson-Pilot Broadcasting Co., Charlotte, N. C., received the first Abe Lincoln Railsplitter Award for industry pioneers.

Rice was cited by Paul M. Stevens, president of the Radio and Television Commission, for recognizing the problem of drinking and driving in Illinois and for spearheading a program to do something about it.

"The station's outstanding public affairs programs and timely editorials have been highlighted by a 'Dri-Roads Rehabilitation Program' to re-educate people about alcohol and driving safety," said Stevens. "The program is so successful that 98 percent of the people charged with DWI in Illinois have elected to participate in it."

Hobler was lauded for an aggressive use of radio editorials exposing what he considered unfair and impractical governmental regulations on the broadcast industry.

"Mr. Hobler has shown how one man's courageous stand for what he believes can achieve action for problem areas in the industry or community," said Stevens.

Hobler was cited for a demonstration--during a state governor's election--that, in truth, it is almost impossible for a radio or television station to be journalistically responsible while adhering to the Fairness Doctrine and Equal Time Law.

His station's experiences were documented in a 100-page report, mailed to broadcasters and U. S. Senators across the country. It has been responsible for setting up an on-going relationship between Hobler, his company, and members of the FCC.

A committee of broadcasters from across the nation assisted the Radio and Television Commission in selecting the Abe Lincoln Award nominees. The other eight nominees won Abe Lincoln Merit Awards, all of equal importance for outstanding achievement in specialized areas.

Merit award winners were Julia Hare, director of community affairs, KSFO Radio, San Francisco; Charles M. McAbee Jr., vice president-general manager, KCMO-TV, Kansas City, Mo.; Gilbert Payton (Gil) Lamb, partner-manager, KMUL Radio, Muleshoe, Texas; Richard P. Kale, vice president-general manager, KEX Radio, Portland, Ore.; Wally Mullinax, station manager, WESC Radio, Greenville, S. C.; William C. O'Donnell, vice president-general manager, WBBM Radio, Chicago; Donald A. Thurston, president-general manager, Berkshire Broadcasting Co., North Adams, Mass.; and Margaret Tucker, director, in-school television, WBGU-TV, Northwest Ohio ETV Foundation, Bowling Green, Ohio.

Among the broadcasting notables on hand for the event were Vincent Wasilewski of Washington, president of the National Association of Broadcasters; Elmer W. Lower of New York, vice president, Corporate Affairs, ABC, (Lower received the Commission's Distinguished Communications Medal in 1972); Thomas J. Swafford of New York, vice president, Columbia Broadcasting System, and Robert D. Kasmire, vice president, National Broadcasting Company.

The Abe Lincoln Awards program began in 1970 to honor broadcasters and pay tribute to an industry that yearly gives millions of dollars of public service time to Radio and Television Commission programs.

In 1974, the industry gave Commission programs public service air time totaling \$9,500,000

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Home Mission Board Names
Ethnic Evangelism Consultant

Baptist Press
2/18/75

ATLANTA (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board have named a consultant in evangelism with ethnics and accepted the resignation of an associate director of the department of missionary personnel. -more-

Bobby Sena of Sante Fe., New Mex., will serve as resource person for the full scope of evangelism among ethnics in the United States, and Don Rhymes will leave the board staff to become pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii.

Formerly a pastor in Ropesville, Halfway, Hamlin and Fort Worth, Tex., Sena has been regional missionary in language missions for northern New Mexico since 1972. He will remain on missionary status.

Sena will develop procedures for assisting ethnic congregations in implementing strategies of evangelism for effective outreach. He will work cooperatively with the department of language missions, which supports and directs nearly half the Home Mission Board's missionary force of 2,200.

A native of Roswell, N.M., Sena has a masters degree in religious education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

Rhymes, a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, served pastorates in El Dorado, Kans., Monahans, Martins Mill, and Sadler, Tex., before becoming a home missionary. With the Home Mission Board, he served along with his wife, the former Goldie Jewell, in multiple ministries at a highrise complex in New York City and as minister to the hippie community in Atlanta, Ga., he has been associate director of the board's department of missionary personnel since 1972.

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(BP) Photos of Sena will be sent to state Baptist papers.

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Home Board Appoints
33 Missionary Personnel

Baptist Press
2/18/75

ATLANTA (BP)--Fourteen missionaries and 19 missionary associates were appointed in February by the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board for service in 10 states.

Samuel and Donna Jean Beene were appointed as missionaries. He will direct resort ministries at Lake Tahoe, Calif. A native of Georgetown, Tex., Beene received his bachelor of arts degree from Fresno State College in California. Mrs. Beene, the former Donna Jean Roy of Miami, Okla., has attended Bakersfield Junior College in California.

Missionaries James and Ann Cravens were appointed to serve the Greater Pittsburgh Association in Pennsylvania. A native of Scranton, Ark., he will serve as superintendent of missions. Mrs. Cravens is the former Ann Tressa Thomas of Cadiz, Ky.

James and Mary Virginia Griffin were appointed to serve in the Kansas association, while he will serve as director of missions. A native of Albany, Ga., Griffin received his bachelor of religious education degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Mrs. Griffin is the former Mary Virginia Faircloth of Swainsboro, Ga.,

James and Rose Ann Lowder were also appointed missionary status. Lowder will serve as pastor/director of Canton Baptist Center in Baltimore. He received his bachelor of arts degree from Duke University in Durham, N. C., and his master of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. The former Rose Ann Warth, Mrs. Lowder is a native of Heyti, Mo.

Paul and Frances Vandercook will serve in Pascagoula, Miss., as state director of work with internationals. The Vandercooks, both mississippi natives, received their bachelor of arts degrees from Mississippi College in Clinton. Mrs. Vandercook is the former Frances Stokes.

Tom and Ona Mae Wenig were appointed to serve as missionaries to Nebraska. Wenig, a native of Iowa, will serve as superintendent of missions for Western Nebraska. He has attended Bob Jones University in Greenville, S. C., Furman University, Greenville, and the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Mrs. Wenig, the former Ona Mae Spurgin, is a native of Nebraska.

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Fred and Arleen Garvin were also appointed missionaries. Garvin, a graduate of Hardin Simmons University in Abilene, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, will serve as director of missions in Winfield, Kan., Mrs. Garvin, the former Arleen Alford of Texarkana, Ark., has attended both Hardin Simmons and Southwestern Seminary. He is a native of Weatherford, Tex.

Appointed missionary associates were Francisco and Juana Eris Bilbao, natives of Valparaiso, Chile, to serve as pastor to Emmanuel Baptist Church, Corpus Christi, Tex.; Terralyn Barfield of Sacramento, Calif., to serve as a nurse to Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Agency in New Orleans; Billy Jim and Mary Clarke of Austin, Tex., to Burnet, Tex., where he will serve as director of Christian social ministries;

Also, Jerry Evermon of San Antonio, Tex., to serve as student intern at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; Danny Finley of Cleveland, Ohio, as student intern at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Elida Garivey of Refugio, Tex., to serve as a kindergarten teacher in Victoria, Tex.

Peter and Mary Kim, natives of Korea, to serve as Korean language missionaries in San Diego, Calif.; David Langerfeld of Starkville, Miss., to serve as a student intern at Southern Seminary, Louisville; Dewey and Phyllis Mayfield of Birmingham, Ala., to Huntsville, Ala., where he will serve as director of Christian social ministries;

Willie McPherson of Mississippi, serving as a student intern, Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; Jesus Perales, a native of Mexico, to serve as a Spanish language pastor to Mission Bautista Emmanuel, Harlingen, Tex.; Conrado and Lupita Romero of Lyford, Tex., to serve as a Spanish language pastor to Temple Bautista, Lyford, Tex., and Don and Nell Wilson of Mississippi to New Orleans, where he will serve as assistant director, rescue mission.

In many instances, Home Mission Board appointments are joint appointments with state conventions and in some cases the appointees are already at work.

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Belmont College Tightens
Dorm Security After Rape

Baptist Press
2/18/75

NASHVILLE (BP)--Belmont College, a Baptist school here, is taking steps to tighten up women's dormitory security in the wake of the daytime rape of a 23-year-old woman student in her room.

The student, a senior, was asleep in her first-floor dormitory when the assailant, armed with a knife, entered and repeatedly assaulted her. She was not seriously injured, although she reportedly had a cut on the neck. She was taken to the hospital and later released.

Kenneth Sidwell, dean of students, said faculty and staff met with representatives of students, who had protested dorm security, and will develop security measures.

The assailant, reportedly a black man between the ages of 30 and 40, was believed to have entered a ground floor window at the rear of the dorm and have walked up the steps to the first floor. Students believe he may have tried several rooms before finding one unlocked and occupied by one victim.

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CORRECTION

In Baptist Press story mailed 2/11/75, entitled "Criswell Slated for SBC Ministers' Wives Conference," change dateline from MIAMI BEACH (BP)-- to MIAMI (BP), insert the words: at a luncheon at the beginning of line two of graph 1.

(BP)

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