

(BP)**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

NATIONAL OFFICESBC Executive Committee
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
(615) 244-2355W. C. Fields, Director
Robert J. O'Brien, News Editor
James Lee Young, Feature Editor**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) 272-2461**NASHVILLE** (Baptist Sunday School Board) Gomer Lesch, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 254-5461**RICHMOND** Richard M. Styles, Acting 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) 544-4226

October 20, 1975

75-161

**BWA Launches
Development Campaign**

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) has launched a fund raising campaign among individuals and foundations to finance a new worldwide program of evangelism, and to undergird expansion of other aspects of its work.

W. A. Criswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas and former Southern Baptist Convention president, was installed as chairman of a "Friends of the Alliance" development committee.

Robert S. Denny, BWA general secretary, said that the committee eventually will total 100 members from various parts of the world. Members thus far enlisted include evangelist Billy Graham; Liberian resident William R. Tolbert P. V. Carney Hargroves; and Theodore F. Adams, past presidents of the BWA; Sir Cyril Black, member of the British Parliament; Stephen Steeves of Canada, BWA Men's Department chairman; James L. Sullivan, past president of the Sunday School Board, Southern Baptist Convention; and M. L. Wilson, pastor of Convent Avenue Baptist Church, New York. Sullivan and Wilson are BWA vice presidents.

The BWA will begin the campaign to raise funds and BWA's "visibility" at a meeting at Dallas, and continue with other major cities in North America and beyond.

Denny explained that the Alliance's main financial support comes from its 106 member conventions and unions in 79 countries. These groups contributed \$174,000 of the BWA's 1974 income of \$236,000. Gifts from individuals, churches, and foundations totalled \$26,000 for the year.

The Baptist World Congress at Stockholm, Sweden, in July voted for the addition of a division of evangelism and education to the BWA's multi-faceted program, and adopted constitutional revisions that call for regional offices to better serve Baptists in various areas of the world.

A finance committee report at Stockholm indicated that as much as \$250,000 in additional money would be required to implement the additions to the program. The need for a headquarters building program was also noted.

Criswell emphasized the significance of the BWA's international fellowship to Baptists in lands where their numbers are small and their work difficult. Of the 106 conventions and unions holding membership in the Alliance, 11 are in "socialist" countries and 56 are in "developing" countries.

"The greatest appeal that we have for the support of the Alliance lies not in what it does for Baptists in North America, but what it means to the Baptists in lands where they are a minority working under extremely difficult situations," Criswell observed.

Jack R. Jones, Arlington, Va., businessman who helped coordinate a "Friends of the Alliance" luncheon at the Stockholm congress, said many people there were surprised to learn that the BWA, which sponsored the congress for 9,612 Baptists from 92 nations, operates on a budget smaller than many churches.

Immediate efforts of the new development campaign include personal visits by committee members and the assignment of a full time BWA staff member, Linda T. Brown, to the development work.

Book Stores Open Mail
Order Center; 10 to Come

NASHVILLE (BP)--The first Book Store Mail Order Center for Southern Baptists has been opened in Greensboro, N. C., with 10 more to be built during the next three years, according to William S. Graham, director of the Sunday School Board's book store division.

The Greensboro Mail Order Center is the first of 11 regional centers to be located throughout the Southern Baptist Convention. All the centers are scheduled to be opened by 1978. The other centers will be located at Arlington, Tex.; St. Louis, Mo.; Memphis and Nashville, Tenn.; Fresno, Calif.; Denver, Colo.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Atlanta, Ga.; Cincinnati, Ohio; and Lutherville, Md.

The regional centers result from the U. S. Postal Service's change to a new National Bulk Mail System, according to Graham. Under this system, bulk mail will be processed separately from first class, air mail and special delivery mail in a special network of Bulk Mail Centers.

Bulk mail includes publications and advertising material sent in sacks or bundles. It also includes parcel post. Packages mailed from Baptist Book Stores are bulk mail.

"All bulk mail must go to the nearest Postal Service Bulk Mail Center to be processed," adds Graham. "By placing the Mail Order Centers near these Bulk Mail Centers, we feel that book store customers will receive the best possible service."

-30-

Black Police Association
Honors California Pastor

Baptist Press
10/20/75

BOSTON (BP)--A black Baptist pastor from California was honored here by the Region Five National Black Police Association (NBPA) for his work in establishing a coalition on police racism in Oakland.

J. Alfred Smith, pastor of Allen Temple Baptist Church, Oakland, and a recent graduate of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, received the Region Five NBPA "Person of the Year" award at a banquet here.

He was cited for his "meticulous and diligent work on many pressing issues related to police and community problems" in a letter from Ronald Banks, chairman of Region Five NBPA.

"Your effort in establishing the coalition on police racism has undoubtedly exposed a unique type of racism within a complex occupation that represents an enormous amount of power and authority," the letter said. "Your efforts have stimulated and encouraged many of your colleagues to pursue the cancerous disease of racism from a broader spectrum that includes all forms where it inhabits."

Smith, 44, has been an instructor in black studies and urban studies at Merritt College, Laney College and California Concordia College, all in Oakland.

Active in community, religious, political and interracial affairs, he appeared on the program with President Gerald Ford at the National Urban League Convention in San Francisco in 1974.

He holds a doctor of ministry degree from Golden Gate Seminary, a bachelor of science degree from Western Baptist College and bachelor and master of divinity degrees from Missouri School of Religion, Kansas City.

-30-

'Sparrow' Wins Award for
SBC Radio-TV Commission

FORT WORTH (BP)--"Sparrow," a television documentary depicting the continuing beauty of music and life in a rural setting despite increasing urbanization, will receive the second annual Eudora Welty Americana Award for the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, Nov. 24.

The award will be presented by Mississippians for Educational Television at the 1,200-member volunteer group's annual meeting in Jackson, Miss. National in scope, the award was created to recognize excellence and to encourage production of programs dealing with American life, to focus attention on America and to pay tribute to Miss Welty, a Pulitzer Prize winning author.

The Radio and Television Commission received the first annual award in 1974 for "Glen Rose, Texas," a documentary about small towns. Both films were produced by John C. Stevens for the Radio and Television Commission's "The Human Dimension" television series.

The only other entry cited was one from Mayles Films, Inc., a New York firm which won honorable mention for "Cristos Valley Curtain."

"Sparrow" features the lifestyle of a country fiddler and violin maker and shares his philosophy of music. "To me, there's a song in the woods," he said. "Everything that makes a sound is music to God. Music has always been a part of the creation. I think we could go to the Bible and find out that God liked it himself."

Judging for the award was based on excellence in content, presentation, and technical quality. Nationally prominent judges, selected by Miss Welty, made the decision.

-30-

BWA Representative Says
Baptist Work Alive in Cuba

Baptist Press
10/20/75

MONCTON, N. B., Canada (BP)--Baptist work in Cuba "is very much alive and the work is certainly centered on the Lord and his word," reports Baptist World Alliance (BWA) representative Stephen Steeves who has returned from a Baptist men's conference in Santa Clara, Cuba.

Steeves, chairman of the BWA Men's Department, was invited to join 360 registrants at the conference in mid September. It was sponsored by the Baptist Convention of Western Cuba (Asociacion Convencion Bautista de Cuba Occidental) and the Baptist Convention of Eastern Cuba (Convencion Bautista de Cuba Oriental). Both are BWA member bodies.

During his visit, Steeves, a layman who owns an automobile company in Moncton, met with Rafael Gregorich, president of the Eastern convention; Heberto Becerra Matos, president of the Western convention; and others. He also visited a Baptist camp, seminary, senior citizens home and Calvary Temple of the Western convention.

Nine Cuban Baptists attended the BWA's Baptist World Congress in July in Stockholm. BWA statistics indicate 14,924 members of 192 Baptist churches in Cuba.

-30-

Australian Baptist Group
Names Woman President

Baptist Press
10/20/75

ADELAIDE, Australia (BP)--Edith McKay has been elected here as the first woman to serve as president of the South Australian Baptist Union.

A mother of five and grandmother of five, Mrs. McKay has served as president of the Baptist Women's Fellowship in Australia, incorporating the former Baptist Women's Missionary Union, according to reports.

Her late husband, Wilfred McKay, was a Baptist minister, as was her father.

-30-