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August 2, 1976

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Baptist Missionaries Leave Uganda Safely

LIMURU, Kenya (BP) -- Two Southern Baptist missionary couples who temporarily evacuated Uganda in mid-July have said they will stay in Kenya indefinitely. All Southern Baptist missionaries are now out of Uganda.

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Rice and Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Garvin left Uganda due to the increased tension in the political situation. They hope to return to Uganda as soon as it is advisable.

A third missionary family assigned to Uganda was not in the country at the time of the evacuation. The G. Webster Carrolls were returning to Uganda from furlough but stopped in Kenya to join the Rices and Garvins.

With the Garvins were their two youngest children. Three older children were already in Kenya attending school and another is in the United States. The Garvins are Texans. He is from Jones County, and she, from Callahan County. The Rices are from Christiansburg, Va. Carroll is from Bluefield, W. Va., and his wife is from Lakeland, Fla. They have two children.

In Uganda the Garvins were engaged in evangelism, working in a Baptist Bible School. Rice was business manager and treasurer of the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries. Carroll has served as a missionary advisor working with evangelism and membership training in local churches.

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Gardner-Webb Names Williams New President

Baptist Press 8/2/76

BOILING SPRINGS, N. C. (BP)--Craven Edward Williams, vice president of Davidson (N. C.) College, has been named the ninth president of Gardner-Webb College here, succeeding E. Eugene Poston, who resigned in February to seek the nomination as a Democratic candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Thomas J. McGraw, executive vice president and dean of the college, has served as acting president of the Baptist school in the interim.

Before joining Davidson last year, the 36-year-old Williams was a vice president at Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, Va., and had previously served as assistant director of development and alumni affairs at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N. C.

Williams earned a bachelor of arts degree from Wake Forest University, a master of divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C., and a doctor of ministries degree from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. He has done additional graduate study at Wake Forest.

A former varsity football player at Wake Forest University, Williams has had experience as a teacher and pastor. He is active in civic, religious and educational organizations and is the father of two children.

Baylor Gets \$500,000 Mabee Foundation Grant

WACO, Tex.(BP)--A \$500,000 grant to Baylor University here has been approved by the trustees of The J. E. and L. E. Mabee Foundation, Inc. of Tulsa, Okla.

Foundation Secretary C. D. Forrest informed Baylor President Abner V. McCall of the trustees' action to assist Baylor financially in its current restoration of Burleson Quadrangle and construction of a new academic facility on the Baptist university's Waco, campus.

McCall said restoration of the Burleson Quadrangle and construction of the W. Guy Draper Academic Building is a \$6 million project that was begun two years ago. Construction and financing will be completed this fall.

Financing of the project is part of the university's current Heritage Campaign, the largest official fund-raising campaign in Baylor history. Purpose of the campaign is to raise \$22.5 million for Baylor's current and future needs for a stable enrollment of about 8,000 students.

McCall said the campaign has received more than \$5 million in pledges or in hand for the renovation-construction project.

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Choral Work Honors
Arthur B. Rutledge

Baptist Press 8/2/76

GLORIETA, N. M. (BP)--Arthur B. Rutledge, executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board (HMB), was honored here with the premier performance of a musical presentation written as a tribute to him.

"Go In and Be a Witness," a 30-minute choral work was created by lyricist Ed Seabough of Atlanta and composer Buryl Red of New York, N. Y., from scriptures selected by Rutledge. He will retire Dec. 31, after 11 years as the board's chief executive and will be succeeded by William G. Tanner, president of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee.

The 93-voice sanctuary choir of the First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, directed by Jim VanHemert, received a standing ovation from more than 1,600 persons at the opening session of Home Missions Week at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

Seabough explained the tribute to Rutledge: "We wanted something that would live on after Dr. Rutledge retires, just as we feel his ministry will live on. Through the scriptures he has chosen we sensed the very heartbeat of a man concerned for persons who need the gospel of Christ and the ministry of love."

The musical's eight songs are tied together with narrations that directly quote scripture. Seabough said he and Red sought to depart from the upbeat music they have created in the past to a more serious, complicated choral work. It weaves text and music to create a missions message, likened by several listeners to Rutledge's character in its depth and missions concern.

"This is a choral work which creates its own urgency for fulfilling the missions task," James Sapp, director of the HMB's communications division, told the audience.

Dr. and Mrs. Rutledge were presented to the audience at the musical's close, and he indicated his pleasure. "The choral work makes a strong presentation of missions, and I fully believe many of these songs will live for years." The musical will be published in January by BR Productions Co., New York City.

Red and Seabough have had longtime associations with Baptist home missions. Seabough, the HMB's director of personnel recruitment services, wrote the lyrics for two previous missions musical--"Joy" and "Fabric of Freedom."

Red, head of BR Productions, was formerly director of music at Manhattan Baptist Church and choral director of the television program, "Spring Street, USA, produced by the HMB's evangelism section in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. Red also directs The Centurymen, 100 Southern Baptist ministers of music widely known as a concert and recording group.

Miss Nude Universe '71-72 Now Speaks for Jesus Christ

By Laura Deni

WESTMINSTER, Calif. (BP)--Miss Nude Universe of 1971-72 and former stripper Susanne Harris, 29, now makes public appearances to share Jesus Christ instead of shedding her clothes.

Now Mrs. Tom Register, she made news in 1969 in her native Sacramento when she and other "bottomless" dancers demonstrated go-go styles in municipal court. She was acquitted of charges of lewdness and indecency.

In a recent address at First Baptist Church here, she said it was after narrowly escaping a grand larceny charge in Oklahoma City that she became a Christian.

After winning the Miss Nude Universe title and prior to her accepting Jesus Christ, the brown-eyed brunette said, she performed in various small towns as a stripper for about three years.

"I must have been arrested about 25 times on nudity charges, but I was also making about \$1,000 a week," she said.

Following her conversion, Ms. Harris married her Jacksonville, Fla., boyfriend, Tom Register. The couple attended First Baptist Church, Jacksonville--where they are members-- for about a year without drawing attention, she said.

When she told the church's pastor Homer G. Lindsay Jr., of her past and conversion experience he suggested she tell her story to church groups—which she now does.

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Laura Deni is a free lance writer from Las Vegas, Nev.

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Cooperative Program Runs 14.34% Ahead After 10 Months

Baptist Press 8/2/76

NASHVILLE (BP)--With two months to go in the 1975-76 fiscal year, the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program unified budget has reached the \$39,217,028 level--14.34 percent,or more than \$4.9 million, ahead of the same point in the 1974-75 year.

Total contributions from some 34,902 churches across 50 states amounted to \$77,671,460. That figure, which is 12.8 percent ahead of last year, includes the \$39,217,028 Cooperative Program figure and another \$38,454,432 in designated contributions.

According to projections by Billy D. Malesovas, director of financial planning and assistant to the treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, the 14.34 percent pace would result in about \$47 million in Cooperative Program contributions by the end of the fiscal year.

That amount would exceed needs of the Cooperative Program's basic operating and capital needs budgets of \$42,080,000, but fall short of the total \$51 million goal for 1975-76. The total goal includes \$8,920,000 in challenge funds to meet worldwide missions needs of Southern Baptists above basic operating and capital needs.

For the month of July alone, the Cooperative Program collected \$4,090,000--a 20.62 percent increase over July of 1975. Total contributions in July amounted to \$5,136,686, a 24.29 percent increase over last July. The total contributions figure includes the \$4,090,000 Cooperative Program figure and \$1,046,686 in designated contributions.