

**(BP)****BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

**NATIONAL OFFICE**

SBC Executive Committee  
 460 James Robertson Parkway  
 Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
 (615) 244-2355  
 W. 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

April 13, 1977

77-67

**Storm Victims Helped By  
 Home Mission Board**

ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board has made \$25,000 available to help victims of tornadoes and flooding in Alabama.

Tornadoes hit four cities in Alabama, April 4, causing death, injury and destruction.

"The extent of the damage is unbelievable," said George E. Bagley, executive secretary-treasurer of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, adding that officials estimate requests for aid will exceed \$150,000. Alabama Baptists have made \$75,999, available, he said.

According to Bagley, tornadoes caused damage in Birmingham, Pell City, Gadsden and Fort Payne. The twisters were coupled with heavy rains which caused flooding and water damage.

The Birmingham tornado killed 21 persons, injured another 200 and left some 1,000 families homeless. Bagley said some 200 homes were destroyed, another 100 badly damaged and some 200 slightly damaged.

In Pell City, two persons were killed, one was injured and 400 persons left homeless. Five homes were destroyed, 376 sustained major damage and 17 slightly damaged. In Gadsden, flooding affected 200 families. Ten homes were destroyed, 40 badly damaged and 170 slightly damaged. A number of homes were damaged in Fort Payne.

Paul Adkins, the Home Mission Board's coordinator of disaster relief, lauded Alabama Baptists for their response to the disaster. He noted that the board works with and through state conventions in relief operations.

So far this year (1977), the board has provided \$56,000 in aid to seven state conventions: West Virginia flood relief, \$3,000; New England, cold weather aid, \$1,000; New York, cold weather aid, \$10,000; Ohio, cold weather aid, \$2,000; Pennsylvania-South Jersey, cold weather aid, \$5,000; Florida, aid for migrants hurt by the cold weather, \$10,000; and Alabama, tornado aid, \$25,000.

-30-

R. G. Lee Transferred  
 To Memphis Hospital

Baptist Press  
 4/13/77

MEMPHIS (BP)--Robert G. Lee, 90-year-old former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has been transferred to Methodist Hospital here by ambulance airplane from Oklahoma City, where he had been hospitalized for about a week.

Lee, in Oklahoma City to preach a revival meeting, suffered two heart attacks and had been listed in critical to grave condition.

But a Methodist Hospital spokesman here said the well-known pastor emeritus of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, was in satisfactory condition as of April 13.

A daughter, Mrs. E. R. King of Shelbyville, Tenn., said her father needs rest and will not be allowed visitors or telephone calls. As for the return to Memphis, she said "he was fretting so much about getting home they were afraid he would have another heart attack."

He had been scheduled to speak at the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, June 12-13, Kansas City, Mo. He still travels hundreds of miles each year for preaching engagements.

-30-

More Medical Missionaries  
Urgently Needed, Says Fowler

RICHMOND (BP)--Baptist hospitals in Gaza, India and Yemen critically need medical missionary personnel, and urgent requests have also come from other areas for medical reinforcement.

In Gaza, the need for a missionary surgeon is so severe that the work faces a definite crisis, said Dr. Franklin T. Fowler, medical consultant for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board. Gaza has only one missionary physician, and the hospital is staffed for one-to two-month periods by volunteers.

Gaza also has an urgent need for a missionary nurse, Dr. Fowler said.

(The medical consultant's office defines "critical" needs as those that adversely affect the medical work. "Urgent" needs are those that will have adverse effects on work unless met soon.)

The hospital in Bangalore, India, has critical needs for a nursing administrator, a community health nurse, and a public health worker. The hospital in Jibla, Yemen, critically needs a medical technologist and urgently needs a nursing supervisor.

"Here in Yemen there is still an overwhelming need for a hospital ministry because the government is as yet unable to furnish enough care," said Dr. James M. Young, missionary doctor in Yemen.

Acute needs for additional medical personnel also exist in other parts of the world.

In Africa, nurses for various assignments are urgently needed in Tanzania and Rhodesia. Tanzania also has an urgent need for a medical technologist, and Ghana for a physician for hospital and out-patient clinic work.

Other medical personnel needed: a doctor, general practitioner or internist, for Tanzania; a dentist, a physician and a male nurse for Ethiopia; doctors and nurses in Rhodesia; a doctor in Togo; and dentists in Benin and Botswana.

Thailand has an urgent request for general practice physicians and Indonesia for a pediatrician. Korea is in urgent need of a public health or community health missionary. Other needs in Asia include physicians of almost any specialty and nurses.

Colombia needs an internist or family-practice physician and nurses; Honduras, a dentist; and Mexico, two nurses.

In several cases, resignation of medical missionary personnel have caused the critical situations.

Despite the need for missionary doctors, Southern Baptist medical ministries overseas have continued to increase, Dr. Fowler reports. This growth is possible, he said, because of utilization of a greater number of national doctors and nurses.

Much of the growth in medical missions has been in preventive medicine, Dr. Fowler said. The need for doctors and nurses interested in this approach continues to be real.

Medical missionaries now teach in government schools. Two new rural clinical works have started and patient loads continue to increase.

At the present time, Southern Baptists have 20 hospitals overseas. Some of the hospitals are heavily subsidized, but at some the only subsidy is through missionary salaries.

There are four dental clinics and 12 rural clinic systems. These systems may have one central clinic and several clinics involved.

Personnel requests from each area include doctors, nurses, dentists and medical technicians. If the personnel aren't found, either national help must increase or the scope of the ministries must decrease, according to the Foreign Mission Board.

"Missions is people. Without committed, dedicated, called people of God the message cannot be taken," said Dr. Fowler, who expressed hope that God will lead more medical workers "to the ministry of compassion."

-30-

Ohio Board Withdraws  
Church's Privileges

Baptist Press  
4/13/77

COLUMBUS, Ohio (BP)--Participation in annuity and state Baptist executive board privileges has been withdrawn from Oak Hills Baptist Church in Cincinnati because it is "out of fellowship in practice or doctrine."

The executive board of the State Convention of Baptists in Ohio took unanimous action here on this recommendation from a study committee headed by Arthur L. Patterson, pastor, First Baptist Church, Mason, Ohio, in the Cincinnati area.

Patterson said the committee had a cordial meeting with Oak Hills Pastor Allen Falls and one of the church deacons but discovered through the conference there is "too much divergence of doctrine between us." The discussion closed with a prayer, he added.

Oak Hills Baptist Church, he reported, engages in tongue speaking, and has practiced alien immersion and foot washing as church ordinances.

The church had previously been voted out of membership in Cincinnati Baptist Association at its 1975 annual meeting.

Asked about another Cincinnati church dismissed from the association at the same time, Patterson, said, "Sayler Park Church has withdrawn from us" (the state convention).

By contrast Oak Hills Church hoped it could remain a part of the state convention despite its divergent practices, Patterson indicated.

The executive board, by adopting its committee recommendation, will also propose to the state convention that messengers from the church in question "not be seated until conditions have been corrected."

This action by the Ohio convention executive board should not be confused with a constitutional amendment pending before the state convention. The amendment offered last fall by outgoing convention president, Paul Payne of Huber Heights (Dayton), pertains to the same issue.

Payne's amendment would have the convention refuse to seat messengers to the annual meeting if they come from a church which has been voted out of membership in an association. The extension of other state benefits and privileges would be barred.

In effect, state participation would hinge on associational participation, according to wording of the Payne amendment, which would have to be approved at the next session of the convention to become effective.

However, the executive board decision on Oak Hills Church makes state convention action independent of the action of the association.

Annuity privileges apply to the denominational retirement and insurance programs maintained by the Southern Baptist Convention Annuity Board. State convention contributes up to \$200 per year on the funding of the basic retirement plan for pastors.

-30-

SBC Evangelists  
Set Conference

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Evangelists Conference, here June 15 in the Music Hall in the Kansas City convention complex, will feature a variety of evangelists and evangelistic singers.

The annual meeting will come during a break in the schedule of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting, June 14-16, in H. Roe Bartle building in the complex.

After an 8:30 a.m. breakfast and business meeting in the Holiday Inn (Downtown), the conference will convene in the Music Hall for a 1 p.m. concert by music evangelists, followed at 2 p.m. by a series of speakers and musicians. It will adjourn at 4:30 p.m.

Speakers include Wayne Bristow, an evangelist from Lubbock, Tex.; Bob Kendig, evangelist from Memphis, Tenn.; Angel Martinez, evangelist from Ft. Smith, Ark., and Billie Hanks Jr., president of International Evangelism Association, Ft. Worth.

Hanks has led a series of Christian discipleship seminars in the U. S. and abroad which emphasize one on one multiplication evangelism and personal training and conservation of young, growing converts to equip them for their ministry and service in the local churches.

He has led them at the request of evangelism directors of several state Baptist conventions, and many churches, and he has been asked by Billy Graham to lead them prior to Graham crusades as one of the preparatory phases. A chair of discipleship at California Baptist College, Riverside, has resulted from the seminars, as well as a course Hanks will teach this summer at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

Other program features include special music by evangelistic singers Bette Stalnecker, Jamall Badry and Steve Taylor and a musical group called "Truth." C. B. Hogue, director of evangelism for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta, will welcome participants.