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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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June 12, 1978

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Urban Evangelism Missionary  
Appointed By Home Board

ATLANTA (BP) --Southern Baptists' first urban evangelism missionary has been appointed by directors of the Home Mission Board.

Robert M. Saul, director of personal evangelism for the board, resigned his staff position to accept appointment to work in urban evangelism in Manhattan.

Saul's resignation and appointment was one of three staff matters which came before directors during the June meeting of the executive committee. Directors also elected William Barker Lee of Knoxville, Tenn., as assistant director of the department of special ministries, and Ramon Martinez of Nashville, Tenn., as assistant director of the department of language missions.

Directors appointed 26 people to mission service, including six missionaries, 10 missionary associates and eight mission pastors to receive financial assistance.

Saul, who has been on the board's staff since 1974, will assume his new duties in New York City, Sept. 1. He will work in cooperation with the Baptist Convention of New York and the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association.

"He will develop strategy in Manhattan to evangelize that type of city setting," said C. B. Hogue, director of the evangelism section. "He will seek fresh innovations to reach urban dwellers."

Saul said: "We're going to be doing some experimentation, trying some new things. The urban situation is so layered and mobile that we have not been able to get a handle on it in most places."

A native of Plainview, Texas, Saul grew up in Quitaque, and is a graduate of Baylor University. He has been pastor of churches in Otto and Bruceville, Texas, has directed area evangelistic crusades, and has been a communications consultant, working with such organizations as CBS-TV and Word, Inc.

Lee, who will supervise and correlate student summer missions and semester missions, has been director of the Baptist Student Union at the University of Tennessee since 1969. Previously, he was BSU director in Memphis, pastor in Elm City, N.C., and Grant, Ala., and a teacher-coach in Grant. He is a graduate of Howard College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Martinez, a native of Colon, Cuba, has been field consultant on language materials at the Baptist Sunday School Board, serving under Home Mission Board appointment.

Prior to his current assignment, Martinez was language missions coordinator for the Miami Baptist Association. He also has been pastor of Spanish-speaking congregations in Fresno, Gilroy and Riverside, Calif. He is a graduate of California Baptist College and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

Directors also approved a new assignment for Hiram Duffer of Ponce, Puerto Rico. In the new assignment, he will be the first joint Home Mission Board-Baptist Sunday School Board employee in Puerto Rico.

Duffer, 56, who has been a catalytic missionary in Ponce, will become director of church development for Puerto Rico, serving under joint appointment. He has been serving under the language missions department. He has been in his current capacity since 1976. Previously, he was a teacher in Texas, and a missionary for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Mexico, serving as an editor-translator, seminary professor and BSU director.

Bryant Would Be VP of  
SBC Only If Honorary

By Dan Martin and Jim Newton

ATLANTA (BP)--Singer Anita Bryant said here she will accept the vice presidency of the Southern Baptist Convention only if it is an honorary thing.

The question of the nomination as an officer of the nation's largest Protestant denomination opened a press conference the day after her address to 20,000 attending the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference in Atlanta.

"There have been lots of rumors going on about that. We will just have to wait and see if it materializes. I am very honored to have my name considered," she said.

"I would accept only if it is an honorary thing. I don't feel I am qualified and don't have time to be involved with the Southern Baptist Convention. But I would be very honored to be nominated."

As Miss Bryant, of Miami, Fla., addressed cheering supporters Sunday night, June 11, some 2,000 gay rights activists paraded and demonstrated outside the Georgia World Congress Center.

"It was a thrill for me to see such a large crowd last night in support of us...I think we represent most Americans," she said.

Miss Bryant also took a shot at fellow Southern Baptist President Jimmy Carter when asked what support she had received from him.

"I don't know of any direct or indirect support I have received from Jimmy Carter," she said. "I was surprised when Midge Constanza, who is supposed to be the open door to the administration, came out very brazenly in support of the (gay rights) ordinance in Dade County. She supposedly was speaking for the administration.

"I think the majority of Americans are very perplexed as to why on a very basic moral issue the President has not come out more strongly," she said, noting however that she supports the president with daily prayer.

During the conference, Miss Bryant noted her battle against the gay rights ordinance in Dade County, calling it a very religiously bigoted ordinance.

"If I had to do it over, I would do the same thing," she said.

The singer noted that she has not always had the support of the religious leaders of the nation. "That is probably because it is a controversial issue. If we can't stand on God's Word we are in trouble," she said.

On her campaign to get prayer back in public schools, Miss Bryant declined to reveal her strategy, saying her efforts were in the "embryonic stage" and it was premature to say what she planned.

"In many respects, prayer in public schools is more controversial than the homosexual issue," she said. "But I believe there is a way to restore God back into the public schools, especially through legal aspects."

She said she planned to put her major emphasis in the next few months and year on establishing a network of counseling centers for homosexuals throughout the nation. "We want to show them we really care and that we love them," she said.

She confided that she had learned that "if I spread myself too thin, I am much less effective."

In further questioning by Baptist state paper editors, Miss Bryant confirmed that she did not know what the duties and responsibilities of the SBC's first vice president are, and reiterated that she would accept the position only on an "honorary" basis, not a "working basis."

She said that she would not be present when nominations are made for convention officers, and would be leaving for North Carolina and Miami. Asked if she would accept and use the position as "an endorsement of your position on homosexuality," Miss Bryant said she "did not worry about those things until they happen."

Her husband, Bob Green, said that the rumors about her possible nomination and election as a first vice president "was the biggest non-story" in the 17 years he has been handling media relations for her.

Green said that Miss Bryant's show business career had suffered financially because of her stand on the homosexual issue, and Miss Bryant said she had experienced "threats on my life and livelihood. But by the grace of God he has upheld us and strengthened us," she said.

There have been days when she wanted to give up, but she has been sustained through the strength of daily prayer and Bible study, she said.

Green said that Miss Bryant in the past has held 100 secular concerts a year, but last year held only three or four.

Miss Bryant came to the press conference flanked by at least four security guards, including two uniformed Georgia State troopers. Her husband said Miss Bryant has no security people of her own, but protection is "up to people who bring her to speak."

The Southern Baptist Convention did not provide security because, according to Convention Manager Tim Hedquist, "we did not invite her." The invitation came from the Pastors' Conference.

One bodyguard was provided by the Pastors' Conference, and other officers were provided by the World Congress Center, which is owned by the state of Georgia.

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Broadway Plan  
Tops \$75 Million

By Judy Touchton

ATLANTA (BP)--The Broadway church bond plan will pass the \$75 million mark in bonds issued before the end of 1978, Broadway President Noel Taylor told the luncheon meeting of the Association of Baptist State Convention Church Bond Plans.

In his last official appearance before the fellowship group of state Baptist convention leaders involved in church bonds programs, Taylor praised the efforts of Broadway's founder J. S. Bracewell.

Taylor will retire the end of 1978. He will attend the 1979 meeting of the association during the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston to be honored by the association for his years of service.

The 26 members of the association present, representing the 11 states active in the Broadway Plan, received a Broadway Plan report for the first half of 1978.

Robert Kilgore, director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's church loans division, reported on the progress of the board in setting up a denomination-backed church bond plan through the church loans division.

The board of directors of the Home Mission Board will vote in the July meeting on the proposed plan for the servicing of church bonds through the division. Kilgore predicted approval of the plans but said it would be September before all the steps necessary for the operation had been taken.

The church loans division was asked to consider implementing a church bond plan when the Broadway Plan, Inc., tentatively announced last year its plans to phase out its service of church bond programs.

At this year's luncheon, however, Searcy Bracewell, a Houston attorney and spokesman for the Bracewell family which owns the Broadway Corporation, announced the Broadway plan would continue in operation and that the "Bracewell family has been dedicated to it (the bond plan) for so long that we have rededicated ourselves to serving churches."

Bracewell said he did not expect competition between the denominations' plan and the Broadway plan to be an issue. "We've never viewed ourselves in competition with other bond programs and even though the Home Mission Board is considering a bond plan, we still feel it should be our posture to encourage them."

Kilgore agreed. "With more than 10.75 million churches putting \$250 million into construction in fiscal year 1977, neither of us can handle it all."

The church loans staff has moved slowly in implementing the church bond plan, to be operated under the name of the HMB Service Corporation, for several reasons, Kilgore said, including a hesitancy of the SBC to have the federal Securities and Exchange Commission involved in denominational activities. "We have checked with the SEC every step of the way and so far we perceive that our activities will not fall under the range of their jurisdiction."

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Kilgore thanked the Broadway plan's leaders for full cooperation in preventing and overcoming problems anticipated in beginning the new program.

The association re-elected the present slate of officers to another one year term. They are president, Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention; vice-president, Arthur Farmer, director of special ministries for the Illinois Baptist State Association; and secretary-treasurer, Rheubin South, executive secretary-treasurer of the Missouri Baptist Convention.

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Spaniard's Research  
Freedom at the SBC

By Judy Touchton

ATLANTA (BP)--The religious affairs director for King Juan Carlos of Spain came to Atlanta to observe the Southern Baptist Convention because "it's one of the most important religious meetings in the United States."

Eduardo Zulueta, an attorney and diplomat for Spain's government of the monarchy, as he described the rule of Carlos, traveled to the United States as an official representative of the government to gather information and suggestions for Spain's religious freedom law.

Zulueta said he expects the religious freedom law to be the first one passed by Spain's Congress shortly after the new constitution is approved by public referendum and the Congress.

Traveling with Zulueta was his close associate in drafting the new law, Jose Cardona, pastor of the Second Baptist Church in Madrid, which belongs to the Baptist World Alliance, an organization which also includes the Southern Baptist Convention. Cardona is executive secretary of the Evangelical Commission of Churches for Religious Liberty, a group of churches banded together for mutual support.

According to Zulueta, "each time the government needs to deal with something concerning protestant religions," he contacts Cardona. In essence, Cardona represents every religion except Roman Catholic. Prior to January, 1976, Cardona reflected, Roman Catholics were the official and only accepted religion in Spain.

In broken English, Cardona explained that the cooperation of Zulueta marked a radical change in the country's policy. More changes will be reflected in the new constitution, if approved.

Zulueta said he studied the United States Constitution and amendments extensively from a legal viewpoint before helping draft article 15 of Spain's constitution.

"We feel that our country cannot have a democracy if we don't have freedom of religion... especially in Spain where that question has always been a hot issue," said Zulueta, who has served in the U. S. embassy, the United Nations and in the Spain's embassy in the Vatican.

The law to be drafted on religious liberty will draw guidelines to establish what is a religion and what is not. "We don't want to leave that question open so as to permit the government to decide," Zulueta said.

In addition to observing the convention Tuesday through Thursday in Atlanta, Zulueta and Cardona, whose trip was financed by Campus Crusade for Christ, is meeting with other religious leaders.

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#### Wrapup

Missions Directors Urged  
To Be Versatile Resources

By Bonita Sparrow

Baptist Press  
6/12/78

DECATUR, Ga. (BP)-- More than 200 Southern Baptist associational directors of missions touched on a variety of subjects dealing with boldness in missions at a two-day meeting at Rainbow Park Baptist Church in this Atlanta suburb.

The topics included challenges to recruit and use volunteers, broadening of efforts to provide pastoral support to pastors, encouraging churches to embark on a ministry of family as a method of reaching the unchurched, and utilizing the resources of the denomination's laity.

The conference preceded the 121st annual meeting of the 133-year-old Southern Baptist Convention.

The group elected Herman Wooten of Orange, Calif., as their new president. He succeeds Tom Roote of Birmingham, Ala. Eddie Gilstrap of Atlanta, the new president-elect, is expected to succeed Wooten next year.

Other new officers include George Arthur of Dexter, Mo., secretary Robert Helmich of Muskogee, Okla., treasurer, and Harold Blackburn of Silverhill, Ala., editor of the conference newsletter. Wilson Brumley of Houston, Texas, was elected host director.

In an address urging directors of associational missions to take seriously their role as pastor to pastors, Bruce Grubbs of Nashville warned that pastors are hard to pastor. They are better at giving help than they are at receiving help. He said one of the reasons pastors may be difficult to minister to may be because many of them have had no experience with associational missionaries and those who have found such experiences unpleasant.

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But he encouraged missionaries to persist. I have come to believe that the renewal of the ministry in the person of the pastor is the key to the renewal of the church," he said. "It is a recognition that God has chosen to work through human instruments and the key to that is the pastor."

Grubbs, a pastoral ministry consultant for the Baptist Sunday School Board, said associational missionaries could assist pastors through several phases of their ministries. "The first phase is the start-up phase," he said. This lasts from 12 to 18 months and is the time during which the pastor really becomes the pastor."

Grubbs outlined three phases a pastor goes through during this period when the associational missionary can help.

"His personal strength and personal faith is being challenged, the question of his personal ability with the people in the church is tested, and he needs support in these areas. Also, you need to help him avoid trying to effect too many significant changes immediately."

Russell Bennett, director of supervised ministry studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., urged associational missionaries to encourage their churches to serve as extended families to people who have not been reached with the gospel.

Bennett said when Jesus came to interpret the will of God he set the normal pattern for the ways Christians are to relate to each other-- as brothers and sisters with God as a loving father.

"My ultimate concern is that people are not won by individuals, they are won by churches," he said. "The churches that are winning people to Christ and keeping them in their fellowship are probably those with the greatest sense of family."

At a luncheon, Glendon McCullough of Memphis, Tenn., executive director of the SBC's Brotherhood Commission, reminded the group of the resources of the denomination's laity.

Nothing that the lay movement in all mainline denominations has been developing rapidly, McCullough said. Some of us are not ready for a strong lay movement in Southern Baptist life, but we are reaching the point that we will never appoint enough missionaries, ordain enough pastors, or train enough workers to reach the world with the Gospel.

"Only when every believer becomes involved in witnessing will we be able to make a dent in winning the world for the Lord," he said. "We have a responsibility to equip people and motivate them to spread the word."

In utilizing the skills of the laity, McCullough urged his audience to relate to people least like themselves. "In our world, the Christian movement is a minority movement and we must relate to those who are not like we are," he said. "Perhaps the greatest day in the church will begin when we start moving out from where we have been stopping."

McCullough said the laity offers expertise that often denominational agencies cannot buy. "One of the greatest needs is for us to find a way to utilize these strengths and make their weaknesses irrelevant," he said.

Next to the local church, you are at the place where Baptists have found their leaders, McCullough declared. "You are capable of moving the power in the denomination that needs to be moved."

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#### Wrapup

Church Musicians Provide

Sharp Focus on New Approaches

By Larry Crisman

Baptist Press

6/12/78

ATLANTA (BP)-- When President James McKinney said the theme of the 1978 Southern Baptist Music Conference at Wieuca Road Baptist Church was "Worship and New Developments, he wasn't just whistlin' Dixie.

A variety of music focusing on worship and two speeches which could be considered controversial in part by Southern Baptist standards, lent credence to McKinney's stated theme.

The criteria for deciding a woman's role in the ministry should be the same as those used for men, said John Claypool, pastor of the Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss. "I don't think gender should even be a determining factor in deciding woman's role in the ministry," he said.

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Gladys Lewis, free lance writer from Midwest City, Okla., also spoke of the woman's role in the ministry, entitling her remarks, "The Problems of Women in Church Leadership Positions."

"A woman's 'reproach' among men and women in the religious community, where many of us live today, is to sense a call from the Lord to be a leader of men and women and to do ministry in the same robes, vestments and titles that our men use," she said.

Such a call, Lewis explained, can become a "reproach" to a woman when it is accompanied by three frustrating disadvantages.

She identified the disadvantages as "withstanding negativism, winning acceptance and working in symbolism."

Both Claypool and Lewis spoke during sessions of the 22nd conference, held annually in connection with the Southern Baptist Convention.

In his speech, Claypool prefaced his remarks by explaining that what he was about to say would be considered controversial by many of those attending.

He said he believes the criteria for deciding the role of women in the ministry should be limited to the two he explained previously because of the way Christ dealt with women he encountered in his ministry.

"He gave to every woman he encountered exactly what he would give any man," Claypool said. "He also expected from every woman exactly what he expected from every man." According to Claypool, Christ bucked the tradition of his day by refusing to "buy into the idea that women were inherently inferior.

"We must follow Christ's example in deciding on the role of women," he emphasized. Southern Baptists have come a long way in dealing with the role of women but, "The night is dark, and we're a long, long way from home," he added.

Lewis received several rounds of applause, including a standing ovation at the end.

"Negativism is overt or subtle opposition and devaluation of a woman as a leader," she said in explaining the first of the three disadvantages women often face in church leadership positions.

"When a woman exercises aggressive behavior and positive action in doing her work, this negativism manifests itself."

Referring to the struggle for acceptance that women often endure, Lewis said, "It seems to me that there's inherent distrust and disbelief that a woman can head a group successfully, to say nothing of leading it to adequate and appropriate work. "To the woman in a non-traditional position who says she has never had an acceptance problem, I say she is either non-perceptive, ineffective, lying or dumb."

Lewis said women in leadership roles are confronted by "structural symbolism" which she described as a process men traditionally use. As an example of "structural symbolism," Lewis pointed to parliamentary jockeying which often occurs at conventions and meetings.

"If there's a floor fight going on over parliamentary procedure, the men in the group know instinctively it is symbolic of a power struggle. The women are bored with the wrangling over nothing!

McKinney's keynote speech dealt with "The Church Musician's Dilemma."

A primary part of the dilemma relates to the decision church musicians must make in determining whether to pacify their peers and church staff or to glorify God. This dilemma presents itself not only when a church musician is trying to select the music to be presented, but also when he decides how it will be projected.

"Much of the dilemma faced by the church musician can be resolved if he remembers that the purpose of his music and ministry is to glorify God, not men," McKinney said.

Cooper spiced his speech with humor. "Worship is a lot like kissing your wife," he said. "It's a lot more fun to do it than to talk about it."

In a more serious moment, he described worship as "the highest and most important activity in which human life can participate.. The chief end of man is still to give glory to God. Worship is primary."



Three persons were named vice-presidents to serve two years--Polly Riddle of Liberty, Mo., VP for education; Charles Gatwood of Raleigh, N.C., denominational; and Bill Pearson of Fort Worth, local church.

Attendance at both the night sessions numbered about 2,500. A total of 500 new members registered for the conference, increasing the organization's entire membership to about 1,000.

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10 Cities Meet  
SBC Criteria

By Dan Martin

Baptist Press  
6/12/78

ATLANTA (BP)--Only 10 cities in the United States meet requirements to host the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Actually, we list 13 cities, but it's questionable if three of those cities really meet the standards," said Tim Hedquist, convention manager for the SBC Executive Committee.

The list of acceptable cities surfaced during a discussion by the Executive Committee of the site of the 1983 SBC. Pittsburgh was selected after Hedquist revealed the list of acceptable cities and told committee members that Pittsburgh is on the elite list.

Other cities which meet the criteria are Houston, Dallas, Kansas City, St. Louis, New Orleans, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Chicago and New York City.

The three which are questionable are Portland, Ore., and San Francisco, because of limited facilities, and Miami, which reportedly may approve casino gambling, thus eliminating it as a meeting site, Hedquist said.

The guidelines are that a city must have a meeting hall which seats at least 16,500; have 6,500 motel/hotel rooms, half of which must be within a "reasonable" distance, and have an exhibit hall which is separated from the meeting hall both to sight and sound.

"There are no space guidelines for the exhibit hall, but we consider 30,000 square feet the minimum," Hedquist said. "The requirements are not unreasonable. They, in fact, are very good, despite the fact they were all passed in anger."

The latest guideline was established in 1976, by messengers to the Norfolk convention, and requires that the SRC meet in a hall which seats at least 16,500. It was passed after large numbers of messengers were refused admission to Scope Arena when then President Ford addressed the convention. The arena seats only 12,500, and the Secret Service limited that even further for security reasons.

That convention drew an all-time record number of messengers: 18,637. The Atlanta Convention may top that.

As the guidelines become more limiting, options for meeting places for the growing SBC become scarcer. The 1978 convention is expected to top 30,000 messengers and other visitors, and Hedquist expects the 1979 Houston convention to eclipse that.

"There just aren't many conventions our size that are sit-down business-type meetings. Cities are not building facilities to meet our needs," he said, adding that the convention is forced to either go to a "flat-floor" hall or a sports arena.

Both have drawbacks, Hedquist said. "Sports arenas generally have no exhibit space or meeting halls and flat-floor halls usually have poor acoustics."

And, he pointed out, pastors are "very aware of sound, eye contact, echo, dead spots. He lives with that sort of thing every Sunday. He is very sensitive to sound."

Among other problems Hedquist cited in finding sites for the SBC is the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) militants.

Some organizations are boycotting states which have not ratified the ERA, and the unions and some of the big conventions are not going to states which have not passed it.

"Dallas, for instance is getting heavy convention business because Texas passed ERA. Dallas already is booked for 1983 and 1984. We can't get in. We have been working five years ahead in getting sites, but with the ERA problems, we may have to go to 10 years to be competitive with the other conventions."

Hedquist also noted that statisticians estimate a maximum potential of 85,000 to 100,000 messengers based on membership and giving the measures of the number of messengers a church gets.

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"Some of the convention bureau people wonder why we don't send out flyers and brochures, attempting to attract messengers to the convention. They have a hard time believing it when we tell them we can't really take care of what we've got."

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Women Face Major  
Issues In Atlanta

By Orville Scott

Baptist Press  
6/12/78

ATLANTA (BP)--Lay involvement in missions, world hunger and women's rights were among major issues treated at the annual Woman's Missionary Union Convention in Atlanta.

Keying on the WMU theme of Bold Mission, denominational leaders, pastors, lay persons and a seminary professor challenged the women to volunteer as short-term and career missionaries.

Much of the emphasis was on Bold Mission Thrust, the SBC plan to share Christ with every person on earth by the year 2000. Among other goals, Baptists will seek to recruit a Mission Service Corps of 5,000 lay volunteers for short-term mission service by 1982 to supplement career missionaries.

More than 1,000 requests for volunteers have come from mission fields, but less than 100 people have applied for the Mission Service Corps, said Beverly Hammack of Atlanta, assistant director for the Home Mission Board's department of Christian social ministries.

Helen E. Falls, professor of missions at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, told the 3,600 women that "for lack of laborers, the world grows more and more sinful each day."

Falls, who spoke at each of the four sessions, said that missions no longer means just preachers, teachers or doctors. "Now there are more than 50 job descriptions needing representatives of the Lord around the world," she said. "More than 1,300 personnel requests have come this year from the 90 fields overseas."

Falls said half the world's people will go to bed hungry tonight; half the population is sick; and three fourths don't know Christ. "Sometimes we live behind mountains of indifference and preoccupation and fail to see the vastness of the earth and the needs of its people," she said.

The world hunger problem was discussed by John Cheyne of Richmond, Va., the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's coordinator for world hunger and disaster relief. Calling attention to Southern Baptist World Hunger Day the first Wednesday in August, Cheyne said some people are giving up a meal a day and giving the money for world hunger. "But the real issue" is what you can do personally through such avenues as Mission Service Corps," he said.

Cheyne said Southern Baptist lay volunteers have helped to rebuild and feed people after hurricanes and other disasters in Central America, Asia and Africa. The world hunger battle calls for teaching better agricultural methods, sanitation, family planning and other avenues to a better life, he added.

Christians also must become involved in government policies "which have reduced our foreign aid so drastically that we have moved from third place in the world to tenth place in helping needy nations," Cheyne said, in calling for a concept of missions addressed to "the whole man."

Grady Cothen, president of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, said agencies and boards are gearing up for Bold Mission as never before, but he said the real issue is "What will you and I do?"

"Will my church and I be comfortable simply to melt into the society and culture while America struggles, gasps and dies and while the world stands on the brink of an unparalleled holocaust?"

A picture of conditions among migrants in this country was painted by Mrs. Elizabeth Newby, Cincinnati, Ohio, author of "A Migrant With Hope." She grew up in a migrant family, found Christ in a Southern Baptist mission and went on to get an education. But she said she dares not rejoice in her own release while others are in chains.

"In the dark perspiring faces of my people, one can read a lifetime of discrimination, poverty and poor health," she said.

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Several Mission Service Corps volunteers were presented to the women during a series of on-stage interviews. They included the first MSC volunteers, Pastor Miles Elgin Lee and his wife, Jean, who are serving the River Heights Baptist Church, Menomonie, Wis.

William R. Wakefield of Richmond, foreign mission secretary for Southeast Asia, said people in many parts of Southeast Asia are tremendously responsive to the gospel but are like the 140 million Indonesians--a vast potential on a time bomb.

Davis Saunders of Richmond, foreign mission secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa said efforts are underway to get President Idi Amin to lift the ban on Baptist missionaries in Uganda.

Baptist were among the 27 Christian groups banned by Amin last September, but Saunders said Missionary Webster Carroll and his wife continue to serve in Uganda by restricting their ministry to meeting people's physical needs and by distributing scriptures for the Uganda Bible Society.

Saunders also said a missionary couple, the Lynn Groces, are maintaining a missionary presence in Ethiopia where Sam Cannata and other missionaries were imprisoned or placed in detention last year.

Women's rights shared the focus with the rights of men, aging and underprivileged people in a message by author and counselor Elizabeth O'Connor of Washington, D. C. Ms. O'Connor, who's books include The New Community and Our Many Selves said the woman's movement is a struggle to develop the gift of intellect but there's also a movement among men insisting on their right to express emotions.

"They (men) are claiming their right to tears, embraces and tender feelings," she said. "The real issue between men and women today is the development of the whole person," said Ms. O'Connor, who teaches in the School of Christian Living at the Church of the Saviour in Washington, D. C.

She said women are no longer willing for men to be the specialists in thought and to live out the intellectual side for them. "I believe we're moving toward a day when men and women can be fully themselves with each other," she said.

A Southern Baptist Convention spokesman said 19 women will be among the 216 persons recommended to serve full or partial terms on boards of the 19 national SBC organizations.

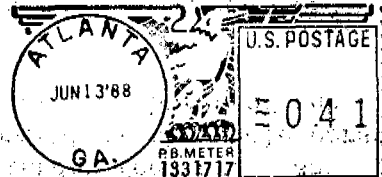
America's treatment of its aging people also drew Ms. O'Connor attention. "Only the wealthy, and not all of them, escape the severe deprivations that are the lot of the aged in the so-called advanced countries," she said.

She called old age the most precious time in life. It's the stage in which we draw upon the resources of a lifetime to do the difficult work of negotiating the passage into the presence of Him whom we say we love.

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