



# BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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June 15, 1978

78-96

Bold Missions Translated  
Into People Terms

By Debbie Stewart and Catherine Allen

ATLANTA (BP)--An interview with an 81-year-old woman who cooks for a missions camp in New York and a film of a computer specialist who uses theatrics in missions, translated Bold Missions into people terms during the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting.

Messages during the program nailed down a hard point for 22,000 Baptists, and to the greater community of 13 million in the Southern Baptist Convention.

All talk and little action in Bold Mission Thrust could cost Baptists their own souls and the souls of non-Christians, executives of the Foreign Mission Board told the audience in the Georgia World Congress Center.

"Each minute that passes, there are more persons who do not know Jesus. World population will grow by perhaps 20,000 while we are meeting here tonight," said Winston Crawley of Richmond, Va., overseas division director of the board.

R. Keith Parks of Richmond, missions support director of the board, suggested that Baptists respond to the need and want for the Gospel by saying to the world: "Yes, we'll come--even though it costs us our lives--we'll come. Because to fail to do so would cost us our soul.

If the session on Wednesday night, June 14, made its point, Southern Baptists will dash out to volunteer for the Mission Service Corps, line up a vacation on missions, dish out food for the hungry, scrape up money to send more career missionaries, and step out as missionaries themselves.

Bold Mission Thrust, Southern Baptists' proclaimed goal to present Christianity to all people within 25 years, demands "great chunks" of each Christian's time and money, Parks said. "But our own personal losses to inflation and taxes cause us to sit like a grumpy Jonah over our shriveled gourd vines of personal comfort while God seeks to embolden us with visions of the winable Ninevah's of our day."

Parks then nailed pastors and laymen with accountability for their performance in missions. "No man of God can preach with power and freedom calling others to unreservedly follow God's will if he has doubts about his own commitment," Parks said. His point prompted applause from the capacity audience in Southern Baptists' best-attended annual session.

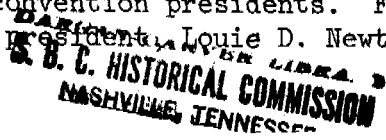
Two lay leaders of the denomination, Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, and Glendon McCullough, executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, anchored interviews with people who are on bold mission.

Ethel Price, an 81-year-old widow who lives in a trailer court in Jacksonville, Fla., reluctantly took a day off from helping home missionaries as a camp cook in Buffalo, N.Y., to stir Baptists elsewhere to do what they can. This time last summer, she was a housemother for student summer missionaries in the Grand Canyon.

U.S. Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, well known for political action to relieve world hunger, spoke with fellow Baptists via film on huge screens in the World Congress Center. He told them not to wait for government action to propel their Christian convictions into action. He urged them to have their "whole life habits and relationship change, transformed with the compassion of the love of Jesus Christ."

Also on the platform for live interviews Wednesday night were Jim and Betty McKinley, missionaries on furlough from Bangladesh. As photographers took his picture for convention news coverage, McKinley said that he once took about 15 pictures in rapid succession of a woman and her sick child in Bangladesh. The baby died in its mother's arms as the missionary photographed. The McKinleys are returning to their ministries in Bangladesh in three weeks.

Jimmy R. Allen of San Antonio, Tex., re-elected as SBC president, began the Wednesday night interview-film-music feature by introducing 10 former convention presidents. First to greet the 121st annual session of the convention was 1947-48 president Louie D. Newton of



Atlanta. Now 92, Newton attended his first annual meeting of Southern Baptists in 1909 as a 16-year-old page.

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81-Year-Old Grandmother  
Steals Show at SBC

By Bracey Campbell

Baptist Press  
6/15/78

ATLANTA (BP)--An 81-year-old great grandmother told messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention that there's a role for everyone in Bold Mission Thrust.

Several key Baptist personnel and missionaries discussed their tasks in the plan to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with the world by the year 2000.

But the silver-haired little lady from Jacksonville, Fla., stole the show.

"Retire? I'm not old enough to retire," Mrs. Ethel Price told Carolyn Weatherford, Woman's Missionary Union executive secretary, to the delight of the 20,000 attending an evening inspirational session.

"And besides, you don't ever retire from the Lord's work," she added without pause.

Mrs. Price took time away from her summer job as a cook and bottle washer for missionaries at a children's camp near Buffalo, New York. Last year she did the same type of work for summer missionaries in the Grand Canyon.

"I just love those young people. All of them call me grandmother."

She said her work with young people keeps a spring in her step and happiness in her heart. "Without those summer missionaries, there are a lot of boys and girls who would never hear about Jesus."

A native of Kentucky, Mrs. Price said she was "proud" to be at her first Southern Baptist Convention. "Why should I have been nervous?" she asked when someone commended her composure in front of the throng. "There were nothing but Baptists out there watching me.

"The only thing I was worried about was that it would be too hot. But it was just fine... real nice."

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Elizabeth Newby: A  
Migrant of Hope

By Jennifer Bryon

Baptist Press  
6/15/78

ATLANTA (BP)--The worst thing a Christian church can do for migrants is to go to their camps with soap and clothes.

"Don't offend us by telling us we're dirty. We know that," said Elizabeth Newby, author of "A Migrant with Hope" (Broadman) and speaker at the Woman's Missionary Union meeting in Atlanta.

Migrants do want help from Christian churches. But she believes the mission work should be wholistic, ministering to both spiritual needs and physical needs, and that the best change comes through education.

"Southern Baptists are doing a good job of ministering both to the spiritual and physical needs of people," said Mrs. Newby who became a Christian through the ministry of a Southern Baptist mission in Kansas. "If they hadn't done their job, I might never have made it."

Her mother, who has been a Southern Baptist as long as Mrs. Newby can remember, is a "beautiful example" of Southern Baptist missions. "My mother was a battered, abused wife," she continued. "My father was an alcoholic Catholic. Our house was like a little Ireland. I had never been to church, read a Bible, or heard of Christ until I was 16 years old," she said. "From that moment on, my strength came from that exposure."

Mrs. Newby remembers a childhood of constant traveling from harvest to harvest and sleeping in the back of a car. But she did not realize people lived any differently until she went to school. Through her contact with people who were not migrants and through reading came the awareness that there was a better way of life. She said she encountered inspiring teachers who made her believe she could change her life if she wanted to.

"Latin people are very clanish and they protect their families. It would have been much easier to stay with my family and accept my female role in continuing the family," explained Mrs. Newby. "There was constant conflict with my father and he finally disowned me for stepping out of my role. By doing this, I had disgraced him in front of his peers."

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It's not commendable for a woman in the Latin culture to step out of her role, she said. "But, my mother encouraged me. She encouraged me to marry for love. She pushed me into a world she never allowed herself to visit," Mrs. Newby said. "Mother was dissatisfied with her life but was too far into her role to change."

There were many times in her struggle to change when she felt like giving up, Mrs. Newby said, but her mother had warned her about some of the situations she would face.

"I had to work my way through college and if I didn't accept the advances of some of my employers, I lost my job. I had lots of jobs." She was stereotyped as the hotblooded Latin woman, an easy person.

"There were times I doubted God's existence because of the overwhelming world I faced," she continued. "But mother had a strong faith and had taught me to pray. She also told me to be strong and proud, to remember where I came from, and to not cheapen myself."

The members of that little Baptist mission in Kansas were also a source of strength to Mrs. Newby. "They were aware of my circumstances and they wrote prayerful, loving letters and they kept me informed about my family since I had no contact with them."

Mrs. Newby finished her college education, another step which further separated her from her family. Reconciliation became even less hopeful when she married a man who became a Quaker minister.

"I am just an ordinary middle class struggling author," said Mrs. Newby, "but to my family I really have it made."

Because she is so different from her people Mrs. Newby cannot minister directly to them. She believes her ministry is to awaken others to the needs of migrants and to encourage others to minister.

"I wrote my book to show how migrants live and to offer migrants hope."

She acknowledges that in her book, her father comes out like a very hard character. "But, he is. He's culture bound and that was very hard for me to understand as a child," she explained. "Now, I do understand his problems. But, my story is that you don't have to be culture bound."

Proud of her Spanish background, Mrs. Newby says she will never forget her roots.

"I treasure the things which are of value in my culture, but I want to change those that stifle."

For this, she is a migrant of hope.

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Group Urges Church/State  
Education, Honors Newton

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6/15/78

ATLANTA (BP)--A major campaign is needed to educate Christians about the issue of separation of church and state, the executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State told 120 persons attending an awards banquet.

Louie Newton, one of the founders of Americans United and pastor of Druid Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta for 40 years, was presented a special religious liberty award during the meeting.

Americans United Director Andrew Leigh Gunn said, "I must confess I'm disturbed about how little the average churchman knows of religious liberty and separation of church and state."

He cited the U.S. Supreme Court decision on prayer in public schools as one of the most blatant examples of some Christian groups not understanding the church/state issue. "They didn't understand that prayer is a private, not public, matter and that private prayer still is in the public schools. They didn't read the decision," Gunn said.

He said Americans United is currently fighting a bill on tuition tax credits for persons with children in private and parochial schools. "We've not been successful in arousing the American people to the point of influencing Congress to stand up to the parochial aid forces," Gunn said. "We are confronted with tremendous forces seeking to get public funds for their sectarian institutions."

However, Gunn said Vice President Mondale, who opposes the bill, has assured him that President Carter would veto the bill if it passes the Senate.

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Newton was lauded by Americans United as an "undaunted champion of church/state separation... (who) richly deserves this religious liberty award for his staunch defense of separation of church and state and freedom of the pulpit."

Newton, who served for 16 years as president of Americans United, "stood strong during the years when the organization was fighting a lonely battle for separation of church and state," said Gunn. Newton also is a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, said Newton "like Abraham Lincoln has been a man of the people and has exercised his leadership responsibly for many decades."

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Ken Medema: 'Blindness'  
Is A State of Mind

By Judy Touchton

Baptist Press  
6/15/78

ATLANTA (BP)--Following a Ken Medema concert one night, a child asked, "Mother, is he really blind?"

For some it may seem hard to believe about the Southern Baptist composer and performer.

His eyes show expression through furrowed brows; his face carries the emotion of the moment. He even has learned to glance down at his hands occasionally as they move across the piano keyboard.

"I've learned to simulate eye contact with one person," explained the 34-year-old Medema. "I cannot do that with an audience, but I can sense the audience and look in their direction."

"I'm not really out to fool people, but I do the best I can to look in their general direction," he says.

Medema, blind since birth, first envisioned a career as a concert pianist. "Blindness has perhaps been some of the motive in my doing what I'm doing. One of the reasons is that as a kid since I couldn't play football, I would practice piano instead, he says, his smile making a dimple in the left side of his thin, almost gaunt face.

"But I was told not to try to be a concert pianist...not if I wanted a job...if I wanted to eat," he said. So Medema put his interest in psychology and his musical training together in a job as a musical therapist, working with retarded and emotionally disturbed children.

"It's almost like I had to give up my dream of being a performer before it could come true," he said.

While still working as a therapist, he made a recording with Word, Inc., and soon after began receiving requests for bookings...so many that he could not work and fill the requests, too.

So, in 1972, he quit his job and went full-time performing--with 75 to 80 percent of his bookings in local churches for expenses and whatever the church wants to pay. He has no set fee.

Medema considers himself more of a teacher than a musician, though many at his concerts would dispute him.

His most recent song--"Don't Tell Me I've Got a Friend in Jesus Without Showing Me I've Got a Friend in You"--illustrates his style of writing lyrics. "Music can serve as a teaching guide to help the Scriptures come alive," Medema says. "Music is my vehicle; music is only my method, not the goal of my work."

Before he became a Christian it was different. He was won to Christ while a student at Michigan State University by Jane Smith, now his wife.

Medema was riddled with insecurities. "I felt like I always had to prove myself... feeling always like the underdog," he said. "Knowing God loved me enough to want to change me...to redeem me...that began the process of becoming an okay person."

"Part of the problem with a lot of blind people is they have no sense of self," he said. "Unfortunately most blind persons must determine what sense of self they do have from others. If people are coy and cautious and turn away from me, that says something to me about myself. But if they obviously want to be with me, say a friend wants to hug me, that says something too."

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"To a great extent, my self worth is determined by others' observations of me," he said. "I wish it were not so...I wish ideally that one's self-worth were a matter between one and God, but then that's kind of anti-social too," Medema mused.

Medema seems secure in himself. He does not wear dark glasses because he has been told his eyes look all right. He travels without a companion, though he's come to depend on the airlines.

"An agent meets me at the plane and somebody from the church where I will perform usually picks me up. It's ridiculous for me to pay a person to go with me when I am perfectly capable of going alone."

Medema's wife, Jane travels with him occasionally, but is limited by her career and their 10-year-old son, Aron and a baby due soon. "I've now come to recognize blindness as one of those characteristics--like tallness, shortness, tendency to overweight--that ridicules human beings. Whether a person lets that characteristic become a handicap is based on what a person does with it," Medema insists. His life proves he doesn't consider his blindness a handicap.

Some people probably come to his concerts to see a blind person perform, Medema says. Whatever the audiences' reason for coming, Medema has specific reasons for continuing as a composer and performer.

"God has ordained me to it and has uniquely outfitted me for it," he explains. He also admits needing the "ego support, the strokes, the acceptance and recognition that thousands of others don't get from living an ordinary life."

"I'd like for that last motive eventually to be subjected to the other, but I'm human and weak and full of foibles and motives that are always mixed. But I really feel like blindness assumes a smaller and smaller role in my life everyday. It's just no big deal," he says.

"When you think of those people in worse shape...those people I write about in my songs... the poor, the distraught, the hungry, the unloved.... Big deal, what's blindness...? Nothing."

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Song Borrows Phrase  
From SBC Committee

By Linda Lawson

Baptist Press  
6/15/78

ATLANTA (BP)--While Southern Baptist Convention messengers often are not tuned in to the myriad of committee reports given during the three-day meeting, one became the basis for this year's convention theme song.

The concluding line of a report given at the 1976 convention in Norfolk, Va., became the basis for "It's Up to Me" and, in the opinion of the composer, describes what individual Southern Baptists must believe if the goals of Bold Mission Thrust are to be accomplished.

William J. Reynolds of Nashville was in the 1976 session when Warren Hultgran, pastor of First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Okla., reported to the convention on the work of the Mission Challenge Committee. "If it is to be, it's up to me," Hultgren concluded.

Hultgren's phrase stuck and the 1978 Committee on Order of Business decided to use it to keynote the evening sessions, built around the theme of Bold Mission Thrust. Reynolds was asked to write a song incorporating the phrase. Reynolds is secretary of the SBC Sunday School Board's church music department and annually serves as director of music for the convention.

Reynolds, who wrote the song in one evening and 'polished it over a period of a couple of days," said he finds that writing music on request and on a given subject channels rather than limits his creativity.

"The key words I began with were 'bold' and 'world.' Then I tried to blend the concepts that God's love motivates and the Holy Spirit leads," Reynolds said.

His ideas translated into lyrics read, "'Tis the time to be bold, there's a world to be told, it's up to me, it's up to me. The Lord up above sends us forth with his love, Let the Holy Spirit lead. If it is to be, if it is to be, it's up to me."

Describing the song's purpose, Reynolds said, "It is an attempt to personalize Bold Mission Thrust. If we're going to accomplish it, the work has got to be done by individuals."

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Baptists Urged To Take  
Action on TV Programming

By Bonita Sparrow

ATLANTA (BP)--Network television programmers were warned sharply that Christians are angry because the industry is not listening to the American people in the matter of programming and "we're not going to take it any more."

Harry N. Hollis Jr., director of family and special moral concerns for the Christian Life Commission, Nashville, Tenn., declared that Baptists are against sexploitation, violence, and "obscene" giveaway shows.

He urged "pocketbook power" as a method of diplomacy saying that's nothing wrong in objecting to the sponsors of such shows about programming.

"It's utter nonsense for television executives to say that television does not affect moral behavior when they are where they are because they have convinced sponsors that television does affect moral behavior," Hollis declared.

In an address punctuated by applause and concluding with a standing ovation from the messengers attending the 121st gathering of the Southern Baptist Convention at Georgia World Congress Center, Hollis called television harmful to the nation's moral health and presented a plan of action to deal with the industry's hazards.

Listing a litany of evils of television programming, Hollis also scored Christians' failure to become actively involved in positive efforts to counteract bad programming. "The impact of television on American society is profound and that impact is primarily negative," Hollis declared, saying if programming doesn't change, every set should be labeled 'Warning, television may be dangerous to your moral health'."

He said the most essential element in a plan to shape television morality comes from communicating the gospel of Christ. "For some viewers, watching television seems to be a religion," Hollis said. "But watching 'Charlie's Angels' won't make them saints, 'Soap' won't wash them clean, and true happiness does not await viewers of 'Happy Days'."

He was applauded when he declared, "For Christians, the quality of a show is to be rated not by the Neilsens but by the Bible's standard of morality. "The Christian's TV Guide is not a magazine," he said. "Our TV guide is the Word of God."

Noting that television values frequently clash with those of Christ, Hollis said, "We firmly resist those religious programs that simply baptize show business values and dress them up in religious garb.

"We also resist shows that turn the crucified Christ, God's suffering servant, into the pop celebrity of Christ," he declared.

The first step to transform television programming is to communicate the Gospel and transform television viewers," Hollis said. "As believers are changed by Christ and taught the mind of Christ they look for morally wholesome programs to watch on television."

Noting that the moral values of viewers also shape television programming Hollis said one reason for sexual abuse, violence, and obscenity on television is because "Christians have failed to communicate" a better alternative.

"We have failed to spend as much energy proclaiming God's good news about the joys of responsible sex as we have spent proclaiming God's judgment about the misuse of sex," he charged. "We have not been energetic enough to find creative ways to share the good news that will transform drab lives into exciting ones and we have not taken responsible attitudes toward possessions," he said.

Hollis' list of television's negative qualities included stereotyping and dehumanizing people, generating a grasping materialism, contributing to the alcohol and drug culture, providing sexual misinformation, contributing to family instability, and precipitating violence.

"People who want Christian freedom for women oppose television's mistreatment of women," he said. "Unless a change takes place, television will make today's children tomorrow's male chauvinists.

"The purpose of commercial television is to push commercials, and at the same time it suggests alcohol is the best way to cope with life's problems," he said. "Television also frequently fails to show the consequences of sexual freedom divorced from sexual responsibility. It pictures a steady stream of morally warped family models without depicting the joys of marriage."

Reminding that immoral television is not a program problem but a viewer problem, Hollis urged Christians to be "empowered by God's spirit to control our television viewing so television will not control us.

"Our best hope for changing television is communication with the sponsors pocketbook power," he said. "There's no question but that sponsors will listen to people about what programs to sponsor. They want to sell their products and they do not want to waste their money sponsoring shows that will hurt them."

Noting that many television producers object to the power of pressure groups to force the industry to change, Hollis declared:

"There's a pressure group the industry must hear--the American people. We're angry about television's immorality, and we're determined to bring about a change.

"We're hopeful about television's moral possibilities and we're determined to help television live up to its potential for good. With the help of God we're determined to see that the medium gets this message."

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Seminaries Elect Officers  
Honor Distinguished Alumni

Baptist Press  
6/15/78

ATLANTA (BP)--Alumni associations of the six Southern Baptist theological seminaries met in Atlanta to elect new officers and honor distinguished alumni.

Meeting at Druid Hills Baptist Church, Golden Gate Seminary alumni elected Stephen P. Carleton, academic dean, California Baptist College, Riverside, Calif., as president. Elected president-elect was James M. Morton, pastor, Trinity Southern Baptist Church, Livermore, Calif.; vice president, Windell H. Gibbs, pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Merced, Calif.; and P. Wayne Powers, minister of education and youth, Park Victoria Baptist Church, Milpitas, Calif., as treasurer.

Honored by Golden Gate as alumni of the year were Donald H. Ledbetter, pastor of First Baptist Church, Elko, Nev., and James R. Winchester, minister of music and education, Trinity Baptist Church, Fresno, Calif. Outgoing president Max Kell, pastor, El Camino Baptist Church, Sacramento, Calif., presided. He was honored for his service as president. William M. Pinson Jr. is seminary president.

Midwestern alumni met to elect Jim Martin, an Omaha, Neb., pastor for 17 years, as president. Also elected were Gerald Young, pastor of Northside Baptist Church, Florissant, Mo., as vice president, and Phil Hall, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Winterset, Iowa, as secretary.

The meeting was highlighted by a multi-media presentation and address by Seminary President Milton Ferguson. State charters were presented by outgoing president Jerry Scruggs to Colorado and Kentucky.

The Alumni Association of New Orleans Seminary met at Omni International Hotel and elected Lionel Crowell as president of the national group. Crowell is pastor, First Baptist Church, Nacogdoches, Tex. Perry Sanders, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lafayette, La., was named president-elect; Gayle Alexander, pastor, First Baptist Church, Alamo, Tenn., was elected secretary; and John Gibson, pastor of Wesleyan Drive Baptist Church, Macon, Ga., as treasurer.

Outstanding alumni awards were presented to Clarence Cecil Randall and Jack Hanberry. Randall is pastor of First Baptist Church, Tuscaloosa, Ala., and Hanberry is warden of the United States Penitentiary in Atlanta.

Crowell succeeds Nelson Price, pastor of Roswell Street Baptist Church, Marietta, Ga., as president. President of New Orleans Seminary is Landrum P. Leavell, II.

The Alumni Association of Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville, Ky., elected author and pastor, John R. Claypool at its meeting in Peachtree Plaza Hotel as president. Claypool succeeds W. C. Fields, SBC Executive Committee assistant to the executive secretary and director of public relations, as the national alumni president. Claypool is pastor of Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss. Charles Ashcraft, executive-secretary, Arkansas Baptist Convention, was named president-elect.

Seminary President Duke K. McCall announced a new total of more than \$4 million in cash and pledges in Southern Seminary's financial campaign.

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Also three persons were named as Southern Seminary's alumni of the year. Honored were D. Swan Haworth, director in the School of Pastoral Care, North Carolina Baptist Hospital, Winston-Salem, N.C. and a former Southern faculty member; Sarah Frances Anders, professor and chairperson of the Department of Sociology at Louisiana College, Pineville; and John Allen Moore, former foreign missionary and founder of the European Baptist Press Service.

Elected alumni president for Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., was Dale O. Steele, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Burlington, N.C. Other officers elected were Truett Gannon, pastor, Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Ga., vice president; Robert (Jack) Burns, pastor, First Baptist Church, Powell, Tenn., secretary; and Clint Hopkins, director of the department of social ministries, Virginia Baptist General Board, Richmond, Va., secretary.

Southeastern Seminary President W. Randall Lolley presented Sue Fitzgerald as the recipient of the seminary's first citation for excellence in Christian ministry. She is director of the seminary's first citation for excellence in Christian ministry. She is director of the Center for Christian Education Ministries at Mars Hills (N.C.) College.

Robert Naylor, retiring July 31 as president of Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Tex., was honored at the alumni meeting held at the Atlanta Hilton. Officers elected were president, Frank Pollard, pastor, First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.; president-elect, Richard Jackson, pastor, North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church; and secretary, John Seelig, vice president of administrative affairs at Southwestern Seminary.

In addition to the election and the honor program, distinguished alumni awards were presented to Jesse C. Fletcher, president, Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas; Cecil Ray, executive secretary, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and Mrs. Helen Bagby Harrison, retired foreign missionary.

Outgoing alumni president, Cecil Sherman, presided over the honor program which also recognized the seminary's president-elect, Russell H. Dilday, and his family.

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Messengers Hear  
SBC Agency Reports

Baptist Press  
6/15/78

ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission programs have the largest audience of any religious programs in the nation, messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention were told.

Paul M. Stevens, president of the Fort Worth-based commission, told messengers to the 121st annual SBC in the Georgia World Congress Center that the 41 programs of the commission are broadcast on more than 5,000 stations across the nation.

Steven's report was one of eight presented to messengers during the Thursday morning session. Also included were reports from the six seminaries and the Stewardship Commission.

Stevens made his audience remarks after noting that the Radio-Television Commission is attempting to compete with commercial broadcasting and wealthy religious broadcasters with a \$2.7 million annual budget.

The six Southern Baptist theological seminaries reported on their philosophy and activities to messengers. Reporting were Landrum Leavell II, president of New Orleans Seminary; Robert E. Naylor of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth; Duke McCall of Southern Seminary, Louisville; William Pinson of Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.; Milton Ferguson of Midwestern Seminary, Kansas City, and Randall Lolley of Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Naylor, who will retire July 31, after 20 years as president of the Fort Worth seminary, was given a standing ovation by messengers. His successor, Russell Dilday, was recognized.

In his report to messengers A. R. Fagan, executive director of the Stewardship Commission, reminded messengers of the vote of Kansas City in 1977 to double Cooperative Program giving by 1982.

That requires an annual percentage increase of 15 percent per year. As of May, we are running 9.66 percent ahead of last year. That tells us what we must do if we are to fund Bold Mission Thrust.

Messengers approved the reports of the eight agencies by voice vote.

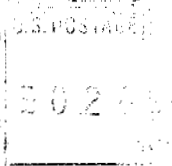
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elected pres. of Golden Gate  
alumni assoc.*

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