

**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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WMU Names Audrey
Cowley As Treasurer

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Audrey E. Cowley has been elected to succeed La Venia Neal as treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Miss Neal retired April 30 after 26 years in the position.

The new treasurer will take office June 8, just prior to the WMU national annual meeting in Houston. At that meeting she will work with Miss Neal, who is continuing to serve as a consultant.

Mrs. Cowley is a former Southern Baptist foreign missionary to Nigeria. She and her husband, William A. Cowley, established the Baptist High School in Jos, Nigeria, in 1959. She served as bookkeeper, librarian, and mathematics teacher at the school until 1973.

Then she taught mathematics and bookkeeping at Hillcrest School in Jos. Hillcrest School is operated by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and several other evangelical missions for internationals desiring an America-style education.

Mrs. Cowley has been serving as campus minister at Jefferson State Junior College in Birmingham. Prior to going to Nigeria, she was campus minister at the University of Florida and at Georgetown College in Kentucky.

Her husband is assistant professor in the departments of religion and speech at Samford University in Birmingham.

Mrs. Cowley is a cum laude graduate in mathematics from Florida State University and holds the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

At Florida State, she was president of Young Woman's Auxiliary (WMU's campus organization at that time), and she worked as summer business manager for Florida WMU's camps for girls.

She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi scholastic honor societies and Zeta Tau Alpha social sorority.

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Small Fargo Church's
Outreach Efforts Go Far

By Charles Willis

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FARGO, N. D. (BP)--An evangelistic crusade, sponsored by a 110-member church which already has made great impact in several states, resulted in 1,000 persons enrolled in home Bible study and 152 professions of faith.

Temple Baptist Church, which sponsored the crusade along with the Wyatt Tisdale Evangelistic Association, gained notice several months ago when word spread that the church had grown from 30 members to 80 members and started five missions under the leadership of pastor Chuck Wilkerson.

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But that's only part of the story for the church, which had enrolled 1,400 persons in Home Bible study last fall through a series of 300 television spots paid through donations.

Using the monthly Home Bible Study Guide, a free publication of the Sunday School Board, the small Southern Baptist congregation began planning more than a year ago for the three-day crusade at Fargo's civic center. Some 5,600 persons attended, and Southern Baptist evangelist Wyatt Tisdale preached.

Besides the 1,000 persons enrolled in Bible study and the professions of faith, the crusade also produced another Sunday School and mission at Thief River Falls, Minn. That brings Temple Church's total sponsorship to seven missions and five home Bible studies.

"God has given us a vision of 100 new churches," says Wilkerson. "We're involved in the planning of eight future crusades in the eight largest cities in North Dakota, and the Home Mission Board is helping us put together the evangelist and other platform personalities."

While Temple Baptist Church has shared its witness in 42 towns in North Dakota, Wilkerson isn't satisfied.

"There are 258 towns within a 100-mile radius of Fargo that have no evangelistic witness and 300 without a Southern Baptist witness," he said. "Through the Home Bible Study Guide, we have opened up 42 towns, but if we had the people, we could get in all of them."

PEOPLE, an evangelistic plan for which the Fargo church has gained recognition, has been a prominent tool in the outreach effort in North Dakota. The plan is designed so that each active member adopts an inactive member for eight weeks. During this period the active member visits in the home, teaches the person how to witness and goes with him to witness. Thus the name PEOPLE--Personally Educating Our People to a Lifestyle of Evangelism.

"Almost all of our growth has come from this program," says Wilkerson. "Now we have no inactive members."

Because of earlier publicity about the PEOPLE program, the church was deluged with requests for help in setting up similar campaigns across the country. Requests came from pastors, associational missionaries and state workers in Michigan, Pennsylvania, Washington-Oregon, Kansas, Mississippi, Alabama, and a number of other states.

Neither Wilkerson, Tisdale nor the congregation was prepared to respond to requests for help, particularly from churches larger than theirs. But that challenge has been met. Tisdale and Fargo layman Art Brottlund have organized a team to conduct PEOPLE campaigns wherever they are needed. Already 30 campaigns have been planned, following a period of time in which they had to turn down requests.

"We trust to God, and God has paid the bills," says Wilkerson. "We give up to 65 percent of our money to the seven missions, the Cooperative Program and to the association."

Enthusiasm among the congregation is high and the work continues in a spirit of dedication in spite of the sudden publicity about their endeavors.

"I've just got to tell you this," Wilkerson laughed. "One of our members says she's afraid to get angry at anybody now because she's afraid it will be published in the national press!"

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SBC Resolutions Committee Named

HOUSTON, Texas (BP)--Ten persons will serve on the resolutions committee appointed by SBC President Jimmy Allen for the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston, June 12-14.

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They are Charles Myers, chairman, pastor of Alta Woods Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.; Daniel Rivera, president, Mexican Baptist Bible Institute, San Antonio, Texas; C. Welton Gaddy, pastor, Broadway Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas; Marguerite Woodruff, professor, Mercer University, Macon, Ga.; Charlotte (Mrs. Weston) Ware, Dallas, Texas; Edgar Cooper, editor, Florida Baptist Witness, Jacksonville, Fla.; John Lewis, pastor, First Baptist Church, Raleigh, N. C.; E. Stanley Branch, pastor, Fourth Missionary Baptist Church, Houston, Texas; Paul Craven, pastor, First Baptist Church, Charleston, S. C.; and William Hillis, physician, Baltimore, Md.

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**Nigeria Missionary
Recovering From Surgery**

NEW YORK, N.Y. (BP)--Southern Baptist missionary Maxine (Mrs. Gordon E.) Robinson is doing well following surgery May 22 for a cerebral aneurysm, an enlarged area of a blood vessel.

Doctors at Presbyterian Hospital in New York City said Mrs. Robinson's vital signs were stable and she was doing as well as could be expected.

Her husband, who has been with her in New York since the cerebral aneurysm occurred in January, reported that she was looking around, showing responses and trying to talk. Prior to the surgery, she had talked but was difficult to understand.

With the aneurysm surgically clipped, Mrs. Robinson will be able to begin physical therapy and speech therapy without danger of the aneurysm bursting. The doctors hope to transfer her to Waco, Texas, to begin intensive physical therapy.

Mrs. Robinson is from Mullin, Texas, and her husband is from Klamath Falls, Ore. They have served in Nigeria since appointment in 1955. Their two children are in Nigeria in schools.

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**Southeastern Elects
Tolbert and Clemmons**

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WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--Malcolm O. Tolbert of Gainesville, Ga., and William Preston Clemmons of Memphis, Tenn., have been elected to the faculty of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Tolbert, pastor of First Baptist Church, Gainesville, since 1977, will become professor of New Testament in the fall semester of 1979. Clemmons, Baptist Men's consultant with the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission since 1976, will become associate professor of Christian education at the same time.

A Louisiana native, Tolbert, 54, and his wife, the former Nell Sills, also of Louisiana, were Southern Baptist missionaries, 1952-61, in Brazil. During that period, he served as executive secretary of the Baptist convention and professor at the Equatorial Brazil Baptist Seminary. He taught New Testament and Greek at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 1961-77.

Tolbert is a graduate of Louisiana College and holds bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from New Orleans Baptist Seminary. He is a frequent contributor to publications, including the section on Luke in the Broadman Bible Commentary and the section on Philippians and Philemon in the Layman's Bible Commentary to be published in 1980.

Clemmons, 46, a Nashville, Tenn., native, and his wife, the former Betty Louise Owens of South Carolina, were missionaries to Italy, 1959-69. He has also been pastor of Tusculum Hills Baptist Church, Nashville; director of the program of vocational guidance.

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for the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville; director of the Vineyard Conference Center, Louisville; visiting professor at the Instituto Filadelfia in Rivoli, Italy; Garrett Fellow, School of Religious Education, Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville; and instructor in psychology and American history, Jefferson Community College, Louisville.

An author of several books, Clemmons is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and holds master of divinity, master of religious education and doctor of education degrees from Southern Baptist Seminary, Louisville. He has attended the Universita degli Studi di Roma in Rome, Italy.

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South Carolina Layman
Elected Deacon At Age 100

By Mike Creswell

JEDBURG, S. C. (BP)--Baptist layman P. Y. Eadie is the epitome of spunk. At age 100, he's just been elected to a three-year term as deacon at Jedburg Baptist Church.

"I just wish some of our younger folk were so faithful," says pastor Thomas Mishoe.

On May 20, just a day before Eadie's 100th birthday, the church will honor him with a special observance--P. Y. Eadie Day. Eadie takes the whole business of aging in stride and would prefer to omit any such hub-bub. But he seems to realize a church needs to somehow express its awed reverence for a man who has seen so much life.

P. Y. Eadie, born in 1879, can remember his parents discussing the Civil War.

He remembers when people rode mules or oxcarts to church and he marvels most at advances in transportation. He has seen a mud-clogged dirt road near his home become a modern interstate highway.

He recalls when the Wright Brothers put together a winged contraption that launched the world into a new age of flight.

He felt the heady excitement of Lindburgh's flight over the Atlantic and has seen the arrival of telephones, radio and television.

And, perhaps with the wisdom that surely comes with so many years, he has come to see both the good and bad inherent in most of our modern luxuries.

Television, for example, he sees as both a force for good and for evil--good for the information it conveys, bad for giving people a chance to watch spectator sports on Sundays instead of worshipping in church.

Ask Eadie how he has managed to live so long, and he says that mystery is in the hands of God.

But he also says he has attended one Baptist church or another since he was 14. He became a Christian at 26, a life-changing decision he still follows 74 years later. Jedburg Baptist Church remains the rock that stabilizes his spiritual life, though he is not above teasing the preacher for his "short" 30-minute sermons that 80 years ago would have been over an hour long.

Eadie retired 30 years ago at age 70 from his work as carpenter, but keeps busy with projects around the house, such as the vegetable garden he still tills.

He often reads, leaning towards Christian magazines and the Bible, spurning more "worldly" material.

His first wife died when he was 29, his second when he was 54. And he married his surviving third wife when he was 93.

Asked whether the cold-water showers he takes winter and summer are really healthy, he smiles and responds, "Well, I'm still here."

You can't argue with spunk.