



# BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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July 11, 1979

79-116

Duke McCall Nominated  
For BWA Presidency

BRIGHTON, England (BP)--The General Council of the Baptist World Alliance will nominate Duke K. McCall of Louisville, Ky., for a five-year term as BWA president and Gerhard Claas of Hamburg, West Germany, as the BWA's fulltime chief executive officer.

Both men will be recommended to the Alliance's 14th Baptist World Congress, July 8-13, 1980, in Toronto, Canada.

If elected, McCall, 64, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary since 1951, would become the first Southern Baptist in 20 years to hold the highest elective office of the BWA, comprised of 115 national conventions and unions with 29.6 million members.

Theodore Adams, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Richmond, Va., served 1955-60. Adams, now pastor emeritus, was pastor of the Southern Baptist congregation, 1936-68, before retiring and teaching at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Claas, 50, would succeed Robert S. Denny as the BWA's general secretary. Denny has spent 24 years on the BWA staff and has been general secretary since 1969.

If elected, Claas would move to Washington to assume the position in September 1980 in the BWA's international office. The BWA has regional offices in Hamburg and Sydney, Australia.

Claas, the BWA's associate secretary for Europe since 1975, has served as general secretary of the European Baptist Federation for the past five years. He was general secretary of the Baptist Union of West Germany (the Union of Evangelical Free Churches), 1967-76, and was youth secretary of that union, 1959-64. He served pastor of the Duesseldorf Baptist Church, 1954-59, and the Johann Gerhard Oncken Church in Hamburg, 1964-67.

McCall, who would succeed David Y. K. Wong of Hong Kong, was executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, Nashville, and president of what is now New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary before joining Southern Seminary.

Claas was recommended by an international personnel committee chaired by Paul Madsen of the staff of the American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A., Valley Forge, Pa., and McCall by an international search committee, chaired by James L. Sullivan, a BWA vice president. He is retired president of the SBC Sunday School Board and former SBC president.

The council also nominated Fred B. Rhodes, a Southern Baptist from Arlington, Va., to be re-elected as treasurer and a slate of 12 persons from seven countries for BWA vice presidencies. They will be presented in July in Toronto.

They are A. S. Clement, London, England; Rolf Dammann, German Democratic Republic, Berlin, East Germany; Mandole Molima Koli, Kinshasa, Zaire; Mrs. R. G. Codrington, Johannesburg, South Africa; Imotoemjen Aier, Gauhita, Assam, India; Victor San Lone, Rangoon, Burma; Jose dos Reis Pereira, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Librado Ramos Luzano, Mexico City, Mexico; Roy Bell, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada; Mrs. Fannie Thompson, Tucson, Ariz.; E. A. Freeman, Kansas City, Kans.; and Chester Jump, Valley Forge, Pa.

BWA Body Majors On Relief,  
Evangelism and Planning

By C. E. Bryant

BRIGHTON, England (BP)--The Baptist World Alliance General Council and related committees spent five days here in planning cooperation in world evangelism, relief, and human rights, and other matters of mutual concern.

Some 290 Baptist leaders from 40 countries nominated officers to be voted on in July 1980 at the 14th Baptist World Congress in Toronto, but also gave serious study to a variety of programs of cooperative action.

Duke K. McCall, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., was nominated by the council for election as BWA president at the organization's 75th anniversary congress in Toronto, July 8-13, 1980. If elected he will succeed a Hong Kong layman, David Y. K. Wong, in the top elective office. Wong was elected in Stockholm in 1975.

Gerhard Claas of Hamburg, West Germany, was nominated for the office of general secretary. Claas has served since 1975 as the BWA associate secretary for Europe. If elected at the congress in Toronto, he will move to the Alliance headquarters office in Washington. Robert S. Denny, general secretary since 1969, will retire in 1980, after 24 years on the BWA staff.

Joan Parajon, a physician's wife, flew from war-torn Managua, Nicaragua, to bring the first night's message. "War is many times worse than the earthquake that hit our country three years ago," she said with deep emotion. "Our own citizens are killing their fellow citizens. There is not food enough to eat.

"The country is in chaos, and women and children are walking the highways with cloth bags on their backs trying to find a place to sleep."

Before the week was over, the council approved a relief and development budget with goals of \$1,268,000 for 1979 and \$1,275,000 for 1980. The goals cover specific relief assistance in 21 countries and emergency funds for disasters wherever they occur.

Large gains were noted in evangelism. James L. Sullivan, chairman of the division committee on evangelism and education, said in his report.

"In places like India, Burma, and the Philippines, the moving of God's spirit is felt in great measure," he said. "Growth is phenomenal. It is our hope that similar victories shall be in evidence in every part of the world."

Denny said that the council also adopted resolutions on world hunger, the energy crisis, international year of the child, the plight of dispossessed and homeless people, and religious liberty and human rights.

Looking toward the future, the council also proposed changes in the BWA's constitution and bylaws to make the world fellowship more responsive to the programs of its 115 affiliated national conventions and unions in 120 countries. The affiliated unions are comprised of 115,000 churches with 29.6 million members.

A long range planning committee headed by 81-year-old Theodore F. Adams of Richmond, Va., a former BWA president, laid expansion plans through the year 2005.

Four new denominational bodies--in the Philippines, Ecuador, Sierra Leone, and the USA--were admitted to Alliance membership. The American group is the Union of Latvian Baptists in the USA.

Advertus Hoff of Monrovia, Liberia, reported on plans for an organizational meeting next October to form a Pan-African Baptist Fellowship. This will be the sixth such regional fellowship working as a part of the world organization.

In other business, the council approved an operating budget of \$561,000 for 1980 and heard treasurer Fred B. Rhodes project a budget of \$633,000 for 1981 operations.

All 12 vice presidents and two past presidents were present for the sessions. However, President Wong was absent because of a respiratory illness that struck him in New York enroute to England.

Attendance of three representatives from Burma marked the first time in 16 years that delegates had been permitted to leave that socialist nation to participate in a world Baptist gathering.

In addition to General Council sessions, the week was filled with meetings of related committees. These included the Conference of International Mission Secretaries; four study commissions on church life, doctrine and inter-church cooperation, Christian ethics, and freedom, justice and peace; and the Alliance's division committees on communications, evangelism and education, relief and development, and study and research.

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Food Development Projects  
Head \$488,964 In Relief

Baptist Press  
7/11/79

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has appropriated \$488,964 for relief ministries, including an additional \$10,000 to aid Nicaraguans fleeing into Honduras.

The bulk of the money, \$359,464, will go to developmental aid projects in Brazil, including farming, agriculture schools, good will centers and urban hunger alleviation efforts in four areas.

Remaining funds appropriated, which include \$18,000 in general relief and \$111,500 in hunger relief money, will go to 13 smaller projects such as flood relief in Paraguay, Argentina, Brazil, Jamaica and Indonesia.

In addition to the \$10,000 for Nicaraguan refugees in Honduras, the board has voted to replace \$20,000 drawn from its emergency relief fund to aid war victims still within Nicaragua. Southeast Asian refugee work received \$5,000 to be used through Southern Baptist missionaries in Hong Kong.

Brazilian projects include total development efforts in both rural and urban settings.

In Corrente, Brazil, \$125,000 will be used to help 60 landless families clear 600 acres of land and build pond irrigation systems. In a second phase of the project, these farmers will receive training through an agricultural school in animal science, crop production, agricultural economics and farm mechanics.

The third phase will help an additional 25 families per year get started farming on government-provided property.

A similar project in Jaguaquara, Brazil, received \$92,953 for a three-part development project involving agriculture co-operatives, beans for planting and an irrigation system. The co-operatives are part of an effort to organize farmers so they can take advantage of government land grants for groups who will work together.

The Tamandua Goodwill Center in North Brazil will receive \$75,111 to provide clean water, seeds and proper sanitation facilities to local families. The project includes construction of 40 cisterns and 40 outdoor bathrooms using Southern Baptist funds and the labor of persons being helped. By improving sanitation, missionaries hope to improve the medical standard of the community. Four different kinds of parasites have infected residents, robbing them of energy and nutrition.

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Both the Tamandua and Jaguaquara projects will provide bean seeds to families to plant and harvest. Part of their harvest will be returned to the project to be used as seed for other farmers. They will use the remainder for food and replanting so that the project becomes self-perpetuating after the initial seed investment.

The Tamandua project also includes paying fees for people to receive birth and marriage certificates. Without these documents no work permits can be obtained and without work permits residents cannot find jobs.

The fourth major project is the continuation of an urban hunger alleviation project begun two years ago. A good will center in Recife will receive \$66,400 for its third year of providing school fees, uniforms and books for children and food aid to families.

In addition to the \$488,964 allocated for these projects, \$5,000 was reallocated from money provided for a well in Koudougou, Upper Volta, to be used for fencing in the same project.

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38 New Foreign Missionaries,  
\$488,964 in Relief Approved

Baptist Press  
7/11/79

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Thirty-eight new missionaries and almost a half million dollars in relief ministries projects received approval from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in its July meeting.

Board members also were urged to support U. S. Senate Bill S. 1372, introduced by Sen. Thad Cochran of Mississippi, which would restore a \$20,000 U. S. income tax exemption for missionaries and other qualified employees of public charities and religious organizations serving overseas.

Elimination of this exemption, which occurred under the Foreign Earned Income Act of 1978, stands to cost either Southern Baptists' 2,900 missionaries or the Foreign Mission Board about \$1 million this year alone if the exemption is not restored.

The 38 missionaries, plus two reappointments approved in July, bring the year's total to 96, with 123 missionary journeymen scheduled for commissioning July 20 in Richmond and another relatively large appointment group planned at the board's August meeting in Glorieta, N. M. The 96 include 20 reappointments of missionaries who have had to resign in the past for various reasons. Last year's record 350 new missionary personnel included 30 such reappointments.

On the basis of these figures, personnel department secretary Louis Cobbs said he believes the 1979 appointment pace is almost paralleling, or perhaps slightly exceeding, that of 1978.

The July appointees included 25 in the career missionary categories, nine missionary associates, who serve renewable four-year terms in English-language work overseas, and employment of four special project personnel. The special project workers are two dentists and their wives, one of whom is a nurse, who will spend a year in the Windward Islands in the Caribbean.

The latest relief appropriations placed heavy emphasis on food development projects, but also included an additional \$10,000 to aid Nicaraguan refugees fleeing into Honduras and \$5,000 for work with Indochinese refugees in Hong Kong.

Developmental aid projects in Brazil, including farming, agricultural schools, good will centers and urban hunger alleviation efforts in four areas, received \$359,464.

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Only \$18,000 of the relief appropriations came from the board's general relief fund, since that fund has been exhausted. W. Eugene Grubbs, consultant for relief ministries, said additional general relief contributions are desperately needed to meet the housing, clothing and medical needs of refugees.

Much of the board's attention was focused on the problems created by changes in the U. S. income tax laws. Sidney C. Reber, director of the management services division, urged board members and other Southern Baptists to write their congressmen expressing support for Sen. Cochran's bill to restore the \$20,000 exemption for missionaries.

The letters should point out that Southern Baptist missionaries are on a minimum support basis, Reber emphasized. "In order to offset inflation and dollar devaluation," Reber said, "it is necessary to add cost-of-living supplements to protect even that minimum support level from erosion."

In other actions, the board approved 11 long-term volunteers and six Mission Service Corps personnel. The service of two other Mission Service Corps workers was extended to a second year. The two programs differ in terms of financing. Mission Service Corps personnel either pay their own way or have their way paid by sponsors. The other volunteers have at least a portion of their way paid by the Foreign Mission Board.

The latest Mission Service Corps additions bring to 94 the total who have served or are now serving overseas. At this point, 43 Mission Service Corps workers are in 25 countries. A total of 48 persons has been approved this year for the other program, in which volunteers also serve a year overseas.

Executive Director Baker J. Cauthen reported that Evangelist Billy Graham will be unable to speak at the Dec. 11 appointment service, scheduled in Hampton (Va.) Coliseum. This service, expected to draw a large crowd from Virginia and North Carolina, will include special recognition for Cauthen, who retires at the end of this year after 26 years as the board's chief executive officer.

Board President John W. Patterson of Richmond urged board members to pray for the 15-member search committee seeking Cauthen's successor. The committee, named last October, has been meeting regularly since that time but has not yet announced when it hopes to have its recommendation ready.

Those appointed career missionaries were Mr. and Mrs. R. Lamon Brown of Alabama, assigned to India; Mr. and Mrs. H. R. (Hal) Hostetler Jr., South Dakota and Virginia, respectively, to Panama; Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Johnson, Virginia and Texas, to South Brazil; Mr. and Mrs. R. Patton McFadden, South Carolina and Alabama, to Dominican Republic; Mr. and Mrs. H. Reginald Quimby, Florida and Texas, to Spain; and Mr. and Mrs. H. Douglas Rayburn, Alabama, to Mexico.

Also appointed were Mr. and Mrs. Gene R. Roach, New Mexico and Alabama, to Tanzania; Mr. and Mrs. G. James Simpkins IV, Alabama, to Argentina; Mr. and Mrs. Stanly B. Smith, South Carolina and Wisconsin, to Philippines; Janis Sumerlin, Texas, to South Brazil; Mr. and Mrs. G. J. (Jack) Vandenhengel Jr., Pennsylvania and Virginia, to Argentina; Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Walker, Illinois and Massachusetts, to Ghana, and Mr. and Mrs. David R. Young, Oklahoma and Mississippi, to Austria.

Nine missionary associates were appointed: Mr. and Mrs. W. Amis Daniel, North Carolina, to Kenya; Mary Fink, North Carolina, to Jordan; Mr. and Mrs. J. G. (Jack) Green, Alabama, to Korea; Dr. and Mrs. Charles R. Hook, South Carolina, to Windward Islands, and Mr. and Mrs. R. Victor Watts, North Carolina and Virginia, to Bophuthatswana.

Two couples were employed as special project dental workers for the Windward Islands: Dr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Cable, Texas and New Mexico, and Dr. and Mrs. John B. Ross V, Illinois and Texas.



# --FEATURES

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July 11, 1979

79-116

Young Baptist Magistrate  
Wants to Change World

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. (BP)--Benny Mossburg Fagan is the kind of college junior who doesn't get lost in a crowd. A mature 20 years old, he stands six feet tall and weighs 230.

Fagan stands apart too with his election as the youngest magistrate in South Carolina history. He was 18 when the voters of Spartanburg County picked him as one of their 13 primary representatives of justice.

He is a political science major at Gardner-Webb College, a Southern Baptist school 14 miles from his hometown of Chesnee, S.C. His office is in Chesnee and he works two or three nights a week at the county courthouse.

As a magistrate, Fagan handles misdemeanors--family squabbles, assault, drunkenness, traffic violations. "I've seen a lot of things since I've been magistrate that I didn't even know existed before," says the son of Chesnee's mayor.

He put one vagrant lady in jail for her own protection when she appeared before him during last winter's snow in bare feet with a cup of water in one hand and half an egg in the other. He said the detoxification center stays full nearly all the time and jail is the only alternative for some alcoholics.

Family squabbles are the frequent instigators of arrest warrants he writes up. But Fagan says he always tries to talk a person out of seeking a warrant against his or her spouse "because invariably they wake up the next morning and want to take it down."

Fagan writes up warrants himself, which are part of the duties covered by his \$3,500 annual salary since he doesn't have secretarial help. He's issued as many as 27 in a single night and fully supports the theory that more crimes happen during a full moon than at any other time.

"I try to help the people solve their problems," Fagan says. "At first, I had some difficulty in coming to grips with the realities of some of the cases I handled. I had to learn to look at an argument from both sides."

"The only thing I can do is study the law as it is and hope God instills in me some way I can do it," he explains about his role as a judge without the extensive training normally associated with such duties.

Magistrates have a week-long training school. But Fagan spent six months after the election with his uncle, an attorney, studying law and its interpretation. He's proud of the fact that in a year, he's never had a decision appealed.

"I want to help people during my lifetime," Fagan says. "I want to run for the Senate or House of Representatives, but I'm not interested in the power as such. I would like to do something about corruption in government and politics. Politicians are not corrupt; the system is corrupt. I believe if the system can be changed the judicial rules can be followed as they were meant to be."

What are some of the things he sees wrong with our system he'd like to change? "We need to control spending in election campaigns and minimize the cost of elections somehow," Fagan thinks. "Most people don't realize it, but magistrates handle about 81 percent of all judicial cases heard in South Carolina. There's no way for a person to make a living being a magistrate. Consequently, magistrates for the most part aren't in the law profession. Most come from all walks of life, from barbers to people like myself, who do know something more about law."

Peruvian Home Missionary  
Led To Christ Through Tract

By Jennifer Hall Anderson

PUIRA, Peru (BP)--A stranger amidst strangers. No one knew his face or his name. The town he claimed as home was unfamiliar.

Decisively he stood and asked to be baptized. Stunned, the congregation of First Baptist Church in Puira sat as Jose Eleutorio Huancas of Succha recounted his story.

Two years before he had been in the crowd that gathered as a car pulled off the narrow road leading to the Andes. Jose watched the "gringo" step from the car, dust off and wash up in the river. The traveler, a Christian and a missionary, was on his way to visit a congregation in Amazonas. Although the missionary knew most of the people he saw along the way could not read, he passed out tracts to those who gathered around.

But Jose could read and write. He took the tracts and during his four-hour walk home, he thought of his belief that all people passed through purgatory for cleansing, before possibly making it into God's presence. But the tract told how Jesus Christ paid the price of redemption and opened the door to heaven for all who open their hearts to him.

When he came to the part suggesting a "sinner's prayer," Jose decided to make it his own prayer. Alone, beside the trail, he knelt and read his prayer to God. He was clean inside--happy.

At home he related his story and read the tract to his unconvinced family. Jose would return to "normal" by morning, they said. Instead he awoke happier; again he told his experience to his family.

In time Jose acquired a New Testament. With the scriptures, a dictionary and a lamp, he began to study. Now, two years later, he had come to the Puira church asking to be baptized.

The congregation watched silently as Jose pulled from his pocket the New Testament, carefully wrapped in plastic to keep it clean. "For two years, I've been reading this and teaching it to those who wanted to listen. And now there are 28 adults in my village who have given themselves to Jesus."

Jose continued, telling them his village Christians wanted to form a Baptist church. They had sent him to Puira because the address of the church was on the tract. The story began to fall together. The "gringo" was Southern Baptist missionary Steve Ditmore. Jose Huancas now was standing in the church where Steve and his wife Shirley worked.

Ditmore and the Puira church pastor went to Succha a month later. "We spent a week there and learned much more than we taught," relates Ditmore. "I was convinced that what we saw was the work of God's Holy Spirit, using his written inspired Word, to transform a people and form them into a church."

From the pueblo of Succha, the people took the message to nearby towns. Several other mission points have since been founded, and one day these also may become churches.

Nine years have passed since Jose Huancas stood before the church and related his astounding story. During part of that time, the Peruvian Baptist Convention had been taking a national mission offering, but only one had volunteered for missionary work--only one until Jose stood before the convention and gave his testimony. He was willing to be Peruvian Baptists' second home missionary.

Jose will work in the mountains near his home. It's a rough life in the Andes. But Jose Eleutorio Huancas, the stranger who met God through a tract, is prepared to go.