

(BP)**BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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Direct Sales, Two News VPs
Okayed for Sunday School Board

By Bracey Campbell

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--A direct sales department for some products and two new vice presidential positions were approved in the semiannual meeting of the trustees of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Trustees elected Morton F. Rose, director of the office of planning at the Sunday School Board since 1975, to fill the new post of vice president for church programs and services. His jurisdiction will include four divisions: Bible teaching, Christian development, church and staff support and conference centers.

A position of vice president for publishing and distribution was approved but no personnel recommendation for the post was made at the two-day meeting. Both new vice presidential slots will answer to James W. Clark, executive vice president of the Sunday School Board.

Also approved were a 1980 budget of \$96 million, rate increases at the conference centers, increases averaging seven percent in church literature and the introduction of several new products.

B. Elaine Dickson, coordinator of the board's church services and materials unit since 1977, was elected manager of the new direct sales department, which will be an arm of the book store division when implemented Oct. 1.

The sales department will use direct mail, telephone sales, display advertising and other methods to inform persons who do not have access to Baptist Book Stores of the availability of Broadman and Holman products.

The new department, according to book store division director Bill Graham, will deal directly with persons and not with Southern Baptist churches. It will major on products produced by the Sunday School Board, but will not sell church music, church supplies or church audiovisuals.

The trustees also approved Sunday School Board involvement in the planning of a center for the study of urban ministry, which would be a joint venture with the SBC Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board, Southern Baptist seminaries and other interested agencies.

If approved by the trustees of the other agencies, the center would be established to train members of Baptist churches in dealing with urban ministry opportunities in their areas.

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"Basically, this concept has been formulated to help our churches do a better job in the areas that need it so much--the inner cities," said Grady Cothen, president of the board.

Under the new schedule of conference center rates, the services fee will be increased by one dollar for children in the sixth grade and younger and by \$2 for others.

Food service will cost about \$3 per week more as will private bath/hotel rates at Ridgecrest and Glorieta. Under the new structure, apartment rates at both centers will be increased by about \$20 per week.

The pricing formula for church literature, based on a number of factors such as usage and basic price, was changed to offset the skyrocketing costs of paper and printing. It becomes effective in April 1980. The \$96 million operating budget is an increase of \$14 million over this year.

New products approved include: A new quarterly publication providing choral music and literary material particularly for the small church, "Glory Songs." Priced at 70 cents per copy, the projected circulation for the quarterly, to be available Oct. 1, 1980, is 40,000 units per quarter. A 7-inch stereo disc containing music from "Glory Songs" will sell for \$1.85 each quarter.

--A second line of children's Sunday School materials including weekly leaflets for younger and older children and a quarterly teacher's guide. The curriculum, "Children's Bible Study," is designed for use with multiple age groupings and will be available beginning October 1981.

--A quarterly periodical containing leadership helps for carrying on church training programs for youth, "Equipping Youth," to be available October 1981.

Items deleted included: The quarterly church training periodicals, "Come Alive for Leaders" and "Care for Leaders," effective October 1981. This material is being streamlined and will be available in "Equipping Youth" and in the leadership packets for "Youth Alive" and "Youth Disciple."

--The quarterly periodical "Children's Worship Resource Kit," effective October 1980, in order to market an undated kit through the Baptist Book Stores.

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(BP) photos mailed to state Baptist newspapers.

Carter Meets, Prays
With New SBC Leaders

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WASHINGTON (BP)--President Carter met with new Southern Baptist leaders and led them in prayer during a 15-minute meeting at the White House August 8.

The president invited new SBC officials Harold C. Bennett, Adrian Rogers, Abner V. McCall, and Don A. Touchton to the get-acquainted session. Also in attendance were Rosalynn Carter, the four SBC leaders' wives, and the Rogers' daughter, Janice.

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Besides meeting with Carter, the group received an extensive briefing on domestic issues by a presidential aide and were briefed on SALT II by a state department official.

After the meeting with Carter, SBC President Rogers told Baptist Press that no substantive issues were discussed. He said the group enjoyed "informal fellowship" and made a "mutual pledge of love and support."

Both Bennett, new executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, and SBC First Vice President McCall said the Southern Baptist group commended Carter for his effort to share his Christian faith with South Korean President Park Chung Hee during a recent visit to Korea. They also mentioned an incident recently in Bardstown, Ky., during a presidential political trip when Carter spoke of his faith in a public statement.

"President Carter is a very sincere Christian--that shines through," Bennett said.

SBC Second Vice President Touchton, commenting on the president's request to lead the group in prayer, said he was "very moved" by the experience. "I was very much impressed with him as a man," Touchton said, even though he said he does not always agree with the president on issues. The domestic briefing preceding the meeting with Carter "settled a lot of questions" he had, Touchton reported.

Mrs. Carter, who delayed her departure to Ecuador on an official visit long enough to put in an appearance at the oval office meeting, came in for special accolades by the Southern Baptist leaders.

In addition to the round of White House meetings, the group was also hosted at a luncheon by leaders of the District of Columbia Baptist Convention, to which representatives of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, the Mount Vernon (Va.) Baptist Association, the Baptist World Alliance, and the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs were also invited.

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Long's OK Helps Prospect
Of Missionary Tax Relief

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8/9/79

WASHINGTON (BP)--Chances for the success of legislative attempts to end double taxation for many missionaries and other charitable workers in foreign countries increased substantially with the introduction of a bill by Sen. John H. Chafee, R-R.I., which is co-sponsored by Sen. Russell B. Long, D-La., powerful chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Chafee's bill, S. 1703, is given a high probability of moving rapidly through the finance committee when Congress returns from its August recess. A spokesman for the SBC Foreign Mission Board said that Long has been receiving a heavy volume of mail on the subject from his home state. Some letters included a copy of an editorial written by Lynn Clayton of the Louisiana Baptist Message supporting such a measure.

A finance committee staffer said that no committee action has been scheduled on the bill since it was introduced the last day the Senate was in session before the summer recess. She also said, however, that Long's influence "would undoubtedly affect" the speed of the measure's movement through the sometimes lengthy hearing process.

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Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., who earlier introduced S. 1372 which is nearly identical to S. 1703, is also a co-sponsor of Chafee's bill.

Chafee said that he was introducing his bill to correct a "mistake" in last year's Foreign Earned Income Act. He said the law passed last year resolved some problems relating to Americans working abroad but "increased federal income taxes severely for the overseas employees of charitable organizations."

The Foreign Mission Board has endorsed efforts by Congress to allow employees of charitable organizations working overseas to claim the \$20,000 income tax exclusion now available only to corporate employees working in remote camps.

Identical legislation has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. David R. Bowen, D-Miss.

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Psychologist Suggests Churches
Take Lead in Sex Education

By Adon Taft

MIAMI (BP)--Sex education, according to psychotherapist John Thomas Trimble, is:

Best taught in the home, but it just isn't being done; difficult to do in school because of the nature of public institutions; something that should be done in churches where such subjects as masturbation and homosexuality can comfortably be confronted in a Christian context."

Trimble is coordinator of Christian Psychological and Family Services in Bridgeton, Mo., and former head of the behavioral sciences department of Belmont College, a Southern Baptist school in Nashville, Tenn.

"School administrators get it from both sides," says the family counseling specialist. "The churches oppose sex education in the schools because the kids get the plumbing and incentive in an atmosphere of humanistic values and the homosexuals and others pressure the schools to share their views."

Parents don't do the job at home because "they never got sex information themselves," he says. "So they're embarrassed because many of them still don't know the facts themselves."

When parents don't give the education and object to schools giving it, "what they're really saying is 'let sex education happen on the streets' because sex education is always going to go on--just like breathing," says the psychologist, who has taught at nine colleges and universities.

"The question is: who's going to control it--the church, the alley, or the school?" says Trimble, who also holds degrees in education, philosophy and theology. He believes, since the home is not doing the job, the church is the best alternative.

"But too often they shy away from it because churches are so politically sensitive to the loudest voice in the congregation," he says. That leaves it to the schools or the alleys.

Sexuality, spiritual relationships, and intimacy of family closeness are the subjects too often avoided in families because of the central problem in family relations--the lack of real communication, as Trimble sees it.

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The father of three children, Trimble says that good family relations are based on the recognition that each person is a unique creation of God, that each marriage is unique, and that each child of that marriage is unique.

"Each family has its own system of deciding the way the members will invest their energy and economics," he says. "It's a matter of getting in touch with where the other persons in the family are and then making adjustments to smooth out the differences. It's a matter of everybody giving a little bit instead of everybody getting hurt a lot."

"Churches are not a church family merely because they put it in the bulletin. They are a family only as they behave toward each other as family members. It is the New Testament concept of koinonia," says Trimble.