



BAPTIST PRESS

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October 19, 1979

79-176

Directors Elect Lockwood,
Approve 37 Mission Workers

ATLANTA (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board named Quentin Lockwood to direct the board's department of rural-urban missions and approved 37 other persons for mission service during the board's fall meeting.

Lockwood, a home missionary since 1961, will supervise Home Mission Board work with rural churches and churches in cities with populations under 50,000 persons.

He has been pastor of churches in Kentucky and Georgia and served as a director of missions in Nebraska, 1961-68. He was named assistant secretary of the board's pioneer missions department in 1968, and became associate director of church extension in 1971.

Lockwood is a graduate of Georgetown (Ky.) College Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Among those approved for missions were two missionaries, four missionary associates and 31 persons who will receive pastoral aid.

Appointed missionaries were Morris and Twyla Jean Vickers of Baltimore, Md. Vickers will direct associational missions for the Arundel Association of the Baptist Convention of Maryland.

He has been minister of Christian education at University Baptist Church, Baltimore, Md., and has served as pastor of churches in Maryland and Texas. He is a graduate of California Baptist College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and currently is studying at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Mrs. Vickers, the former Twyla Jean Judy, is a graduate of William Jennings Bryan College in Dayton, Tenn.

Approved as missionary associates were Michael and Diana Hogue of Las Vegas, Nev., and Jose and Ines Rivas of San Antonio, Texas.

The Hagues will continue to live in Las Vegas, where he will serve as a pastoral missionary, working in church extension. He has been minister of music at Bethany Baptist Church, Pacifica, Calif., and is a graduate of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. Mrs. Hogue is the former Diana Jean Ballew.

Rivas, for 24 years a professor at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas, is an instructor at Mexican Baptist Bible Institute in San Antonio. He is a native of Mexico and was educated at Seminario Mexicano, Howard Payne and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been pastor of churches in Mexico and Texas. Mrs. Rivas is the former Inez Pinzon.

Injured Children
Improving Steadily

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) --Two teen-age children of murdered Baptist pastor Richard Douglass are in "improved" condition and full recovery is anticipated, according to officials at Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City.

Leslie and Brooks Douglass were shot by two intruders who entered their home and killed their parents, Oct. 15. Leslie, 13, was shot in the upper torso and arm with two bullets from a handgun. Brooks, 16, was shot in the neck and the bullet nicked his heart.

Douglass, pastor of Putnam City Baptist Church, and his wife, Marilyn, were both shot in the head and killed.

Police have the identifications of two suspects, both drifters with criminal records. The two had borrowed a car from an oil field worker and robbed the residents of a home in Hennessey, Okla., about 25 miles north of the Douglass residence, of \$2,000. They locked that family in a closet but left them unharmed.

The borrowed car has been found in a motel parking lot in Fort Smith, Ark., but the Douglass car, stolen at the time of the murders, is still missing.

The Douglass funeral was attended by 2,000 Oct. 18, including Oklahoma Governor George High, a personal friend of the family.

The Douglass children, filling in details of the incident previously unavailable, told police one of the men came to the door asking to use the telephone to locate a house in this rural area. He then toyed with the telephone until a second intruder came through the front door with a shotgun. The first man broke the telephone cord and helped bind the whole family.

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Stevens, R-TV Trustees
Report 'Healing Experience'

Baptist Press
10/19/79

FORT WORTH (BP)--Paul M. Stevens said here he and the members of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission trustees have "had an experience of healing."

And Frederick W. Isaacs Jr., trustee chairman from Cosby, Tenn., said the commission is moving toward naming a new president of the agency, that the list of prospects has been narrowed from "about 60 to fewer than 10" and that a person may be named by Jan. 1.

Stevens said Isaacs made the observations at an Oct. 18 news conference in Ft. Worth after the fall meeting of the commission's trustees.

According to the commission's public relations staff, the conference was held at the request of Jack Tinsley, editor of the Fort Worth-Star Telegram. Isaacs said he had no knowledge of the conference before that morning. Stevens came to the conference with a prepared hand-written statement.

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Stevens, who had headed the commission 26 years, was forced to retire as president by the trustees last February. They made the retirement effective Oct. 31, but relieved Stevens as chief administrative officer.

Among reasons cited for the trustees actions were unhappiness with commission management and programming and Stevens' retirement package. Estimated to be worth \$50,000 to \$60,000 a year, the package includes \$27,000 a year from a special nonparticipatory annuity initiated for 16 key commission executives in 1966, another \$13,000 from an annuity participated in jointly by Stevens and the commission, and use of a commission-owned house.

Isaacs said at the press conference that the special nonparticipatory annuity, which drew much criticism, has been terminated and will receive no further commission funds.

Stevens said he met with a trustee retirement committee Oct. 16 and was told that his retirement package would remain intact. He subsequently invited the commission members to his home for coffee and then he and Mrs. Stevens attended a dinner with the trustees Oct. 17.

In his statement at the press conference, Stevens referred to the events as "miraculous," noting they probably could not occur anywhere "except in a Christian world where men and women of proper and Christian spirit can disagree and at the same time be mature enough to find a common ground."

Harold E. Martin, then executive vice president, assumed the role of acting chief administrator after Stevens stepped down. Martin resigned in September to take a teaching post.

During Martin's tenure, many long-time commission employees were terminated or left the commission and others had their responsibilities changed.

Charles Roden, a long-time commission employee, has succeeded Martin as acting chief administrative officer of the commission, pending the election of a new president. Both Martin and Roden were praised by Isaacs.

Stevens alluded to the actions involving the employees in his statement. "I am not unmindful of the damage done to the Radio and Television Commission or to the lives and careers of many fine, dedicated former staff people," he said. "No one knows to what extent that damage is, but time will tell."

He thanked "the people of Fort Worth" for their support during the last few months and pledged his support to the new commission president.

Isaacs also expressed his appreciation to the people of Fort Worth for their support of the commission and emphasized the need to look to the future. He further emphasized, however, in remarks after the press conference, that he stands by the actions of the commission over the past year.

"The commission has been going through a transitional period because of a difference of opinion, not a lack of respect," said Isaacs. "We are Christians and mature enough in our concept of our duties to forget hurt feelings and carry on our responsibility in our ministry to the world."

Since last February, Stevens said he has been sending \$100 a month to the commission as a "gift of love" which the board of trustees knew nothing about. He will now begin sending \$200 a month, he said.

In other action at their fall meeting, Radio and Television Commission trustees:

--Voted to change their usual board meeting times from February and October to March and September.

--Adopted a \$3,810,000 operating budget for the 1979-80 fiscal year.

--Commended Charles Roden, interim chief operating officer, for what he and the staff have done in continuing the day-to-day operations of the commission during the transition period.

--Reemphasized the trustees' position as a policy-making group with no intent of operational duties.

--Heard the report from the transition committee chaired by John Roberts of South Carolina, which brought the board up-to-date on past and present commission personnel, and heard a report from an ad hoc committee, also headed by Roberts, which reported on the direction the commission needs to go in future programming.

As a result of the latter report, the chairman named a special committee to study and bring recommendations for the commission and its future in television programming.

Members of this committee are Clyde Fant, Richardson, Texas, chairman; Jess Odom, Maumelle, Ark.; John Roberts, Greenville, S.C.; Albert Sanders, Macon, Ga.; Frank Morris, Opelika, Ala.; John Wood, Paducah, Ky.; Gary Jossa, Newburg, Ind.; and John Hughes, Independence, Mo.

A nominating committee was appointed to suggest new officers for the board of trustees. That report will be presented and voted on at the March meeting. The new officers will go into office at the June, 1980 meeting in St. Louis.

The nominating committee is composed of Joseph Edmonds, District of Columbia, chairman; Frank Morris, Opelika, Ala.; and Verdis Keller, Glendale, Ariz.

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Tanner Gives Directors
HMB Summary, Projection

Baptist Press
10/19/79

ATLANTA (BP)--"Every activity of our programs shall have as its ultimate goal making contribution to the evangelizing of our nation," William G. Tanner told directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board at their annual fall meeting.

Tanner, executive director-treasurer, also emphasized the key concerns of congregationalizing and ministry in his report to the directors.

"It is my desire that our agency highlights evangelizing and congregationalizing in the ensuing years. We must view congregationalizing as a biblical and practical necessity," he said. "The local church is still God's primary instrument in missions and evangelism."

In his report, Tanner alluded to the goals of Bold Mission Thrust, the Southern Baptist Convention's plan to preach the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000 (evangelizing) and to provide every person a New Testament fellowship of believers in which to worship (congregationalizing).

Tanner expanded the two-objective goal to include another: ministry. "Just as evangelizing and congregationalizing form essential components of our strategy, so ministry to persons will continue to be a major concern of the Home Mission Board," he said.

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"The Master never attempted to separate persons' spiritual needs from their physical needs. Rather he majored on ministering to the whole person. Ministry done in Jesus' name makes a vital and viable contribution to the total thrust of the emphasis of the agency," he added.

Tanner called the last 12 months a time of "planning and inspiration." He noted that the board was reorganized to upgrade church extension and language missions to division status, division status was given to evangelism section structure, and the associational missions division has been restructured to provide a more cohesive approach to work with the Baptist associations.

Touching some of the highlights of the year, Tanner said an incomplete report--the board works on a calendar year reporting schedule--indicates about 800 church-type missions have been started in 1979, and more than half of them will constitute into new churches.

"At least 51 new points of witness have been established this summer by 102 seminarians, working as 51 teams across the country," he said.

He also reported that Southern Baptist language missionaries work among persons representing 77 ethnic groups, speaking 70 languages. "Approximately 300 new units were established in 1979 and new work was established among a new ethnic group, the Hmongs," he said.

The Hmongs are a group closely akin to Laotians, but possessing their own language. A work is in progress among them in the Northern Plains Baptist Convention.

Among other programs highlighted by Tanner:

--Christian social ministry is working to develop a model for meeting the hunger needs of America and is involved in a major effort relating to domestic hunger;

--Special missions ministries assigned 1,530 student summer missionaries, the largest group ever assigned; placed more than 800 Christian Service Corps volunteers, and facilitated missions projects for 691 church mission groups; and

--Mission Service Corps, the Southern Baptist Convention program of pacing 5,000 volunteers to serve alongside career missionaries at home and abroad is "alive and healthy" after 28 months of existence. Recently the 200th home missions volunteer was assigned and is on the field.

In completing his report, Tanner spoke of the spiritual dimension of work at the board.

"As we move into the decade of the 80s, there is excitement and opportunity in the challenge we face as an agency," he said. "I do not believe there has ever been a more critical time in this century in the life of our nation than today. The spiritual needs of our land are evident and in Jesus Christ we have the answer.

"Planning and preparation alone are not sufficient. There are spiritual dimensions which must be met if goals are to be met and realized."

Tanner called on mission personnel, staff and directors to have faith. "The kind of faith we need is not only to believe in God," he said, "but to believe he will do what he said he will do. He promised if we will go, he will go with us."

Tanner called for "old fashioned prayer and personal commitment," and said **prayer is** more than asking for God's blessing on our work, **it is** a recognition of his ownership of us and relating our lives to his task.