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Smith Installed As Brotherhood Leader

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--James Hillman Smith was installed as executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention's Brotherhood Commission during a meeting of trustees of the agency for missions education of men and boys.

The installation service, featuring an address by Albert McClellan, associate executive secretary of the SBC Executive Committee, Nashville, highlighted a three-day meeting of trustees.

"Southern Baptist laymen are in revival," contended McClellan in his challenge. "I have seen more Bibles in the hands of laymen the last few years than during the rest of my life.

"Southern Baptist laymen are waiting for spiritual leadership that's authentic and will lay hold of their hearts. You have impressed a lot of people as a spiritual minded leader," McClellan told Smith.

Reminding that lay people are always looking for a challenge, McClellan said Smith's job is "to look, weep, pray and find the program in the Southern Baptist Convention that's fully dynamic."

In responding to the challenge, Smith paid tribute to the four chief administrative officers of the agency who preceded him, particularly George W. Schroeder, 1950-70, and Glendon McCullough, 1971-78.

The Bible says one person sows, another waters and another receives the increase, Smith recalled in emphasizing his desire to build upon the foundations his predecessors laid.

The new executive director said his three priorities are to develop a clear, sharp statement of purpose for his agency, involve more men in Christian ministries, and emphasize the value of deepening the spiritual quality of men.

Also speaking at the dinner which attracted almost 200 present and former trustees and employees of the agency and their spouses were W. Wayne Allen, moderator of the Shelby Baptist Association, and Robert Dixon, executive director of Texas Baptist Men, Dallas.

Mrs. Rogers Recommends
Wifely Role of Submission

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Mrs. Adrian Rogers, wife of the president of the Southern Baptist Convention, recommended the wifely role of submission to spouses of trustees and advisory members of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission.

Addressing the women at a luncheon, Mrs. Rogers said the secular and religious world misinterprets the role of biblical submission when they label it as inferior.

"Jesus Christ should be the role model for submissiveness," Mrs. Rogers said. "He was submissive, but was nobody's doormat."

"I have found the more I learn about being submissive, the more my husband understands my needs," recalled Mrs. Rogers, wife of the pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church.

"When I was younger and wanted to be myself and find my identity, he seemed to sit on me more. I am a different person today and could never go back to who I was before my husband and children. Without them I would never have known the fulfillment I know now."

Discussing adjustments she has made as a pastor's wife, Mrs. Rogers said, "I have had to learn to thank God for a silver tea service when I didn't really want one and I've learned to be a pastor's wife in a large church when at one time I didn't want that.

"As Christian women, we want fulfillment in life, and I'm busy finding it every day."

The women followed a separate program from their husbands who spent three days transacting business of the Southern Baptist agency.

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Missionary's Husband
Joins Family Service

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ATLANTA (BP)--Husbands and wives generally are jointly appointed missionaries of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, even though the husband usually does the primary missions work and the wife stays home or works elsewhere.

In November, a male spouse was appointed a missionary, though his wife will do the missions work and he will be employed elsewhere.

Durward Jones is a 33-year-old engineer. His wife, Frances, is director of a Christian social ministries center in Raleigh, N.C.

"For some time we have been appointing wives to missionary status who are working at something other than missions. The family and church category is a recognition of the spouse's contribution to missions," said Don Rhymes, director of missionary personnel at the Home Mission Board. "We believe missions service is a family affair, and the spouse of the primary missions worker is valuable to that service."

Though Jones will continue to work as an engineer in the bridge maintenance section of the North Carolina department of transportation, he went through the entire process for missionary appointment, including personal interview, psychological testing and group sessions.

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"All spouses are evaluated for appointment," Rhymes said. "We feel it's important for them to go through the whole process for appointment because of the impact they have on the work."

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Brotherhood Plans Regional
Laymen Missions Conferences

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11/9/79

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--Implementing a request from the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, trustees of the SBC Brotherhood Commission voted to organize and staff ten regional conferences to challenge laymen to become involved in Bold Mission Thrust.

The conferences will be modeled after a meeting in Tallahassee, Fla., in January 1979, by a group of laymen concerned about Bold Mission Thrust, the Southern Baptist plan to present the gospel to everyone in the world by the year 2000. That group was led by C.E. Price, a vice president for Westinghouse Corporation in Pittsburgh and J.T. Williams, president of a real estate firm in Tallahassee.

James H. Smith, new executive director of the Brotherhood Commission, said that the conferences would be designed to get input and suggestions from creative, aggressive laymen on how lay people can be effectively involved in Bold Mission Thrust.

Norman Godfrey, director of the commission's ministry section, said each of the 10 conferences would draw up a report on lay involvement in Bold Mission Thrust, and a final report summarizing all suggestions would be prepared for the SBC Executive Committee.

Godfrey said the 10 regional conferences have not yet been scheduled, but they will be held in the winter and spring of 1980, probably at Baptist conference centers in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Oklahoma, New Mexico and California.

In other action, the Brotherhood Commission re-elected Jack Deligans, of Livermore, Calif., as chairman; and elected Everett Lemay of Albion, Illinois, as vice chairman. Jack Knox of Germantown, Tenn., was elected recording secretary.

Deligans is a mechanical engineer at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory, and Lemay is pastor of First Baptist Church, Albion, Ill. Knox is president of QS Storage-North American Van Lines.

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Carter Hunger Panel Urges
Hastened Kampuchean Effort

By Stan Hastey

Baptist Press
11/9/79

WASHINGTON (BP)--As Rosalynn Carter arrived in Thailand to inspect Kampuchean refugee camps, the Presidential Commission on World Hunger urged the U.S. government to make food and medical assistance to starving Kampuchean "a top priority."

Specifically, the 20-member presidentially-appointed commission asked President Carter to designate a member of his cabinet "to have full authority to coordinate and implement its famine relief efforts."

In addition, the commission urged Congress to approve immediately the administration's supplemental request for food relief in Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia) and elsewhere and urged the government to make available food and other forms of humanitarian and relief aid "through all available channels, irrespective of existing legislative or foreign policy constraints."

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David Sapp, hunger spokesman for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, applauded the presidential commission's request and pointed out that Carter has called on churches to make a special effort to contribute to Kampuchean hunger relief in November.

"I urge Southern Baptists to respond to the president's call," Sapp said. "If everyone of us would miss one meal and give just one dollar to Kampuchean relief, we could make available \$13 million to help these suffering people."

"The mandate of the Bible is clear. Our ability to act is clear. The Foreign Mission Board has channels already open to aid the Kampucheans. What is desperately needed now is for every Southern Baptist to act, and to pray earnestly for the Kampuchean government to have compassion on its own people."

Sapp also pointed out that many members of the House of Representatives agreed to skip lunch Nov. 15 and donate the money they would have spent to OXFAM America, a non-profit, non-sectarian organization, for Kampuchean relief. During that lunch period, they were to have watched a film on the Cambodian situation.

The commission's challenge to the Carter administration came at a time when critics of the president, including his prime Democratic challenger for the 1980 nomination, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, have been sharply critical of the slowness of relief efforts in Kampuchea.

The presidential commission acknowledged the logistical problem of delivering food and medicine to the starving thousands of Kampucheans trapped in their own land. The so-called "land bridge" proposal which would enable desperately-needed supplies to reach the people has been rejected by the Kampuchean government, supported by the Communist regime in Vietnam.

Nevertheless, the commission urged the U.S. "to provide all necessary logistical assistance to the relief agencies, including sea, land, and air transport."

The commission, addressing further the political obstacles to providing relief, called on the U.S. to bring pressure on other governments, including the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, Kampuchea, and Vietnam, "to put their political differences aside and avert further starvation and suffering by facilitating international relief efforts."

In a particularly terse portion of the statement, the commission declared its determination that the United States "must not merely agonize over the death throes of a starving people, but take every possible action to reverse the current situation."

NOTE TO EDITORS: Baptist Press will mail on Monday, Nov. 12, a wrapup and photo of the Heart of America Bible Conference at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Ex-POW Says Faith
Preserved His Sanity

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP)--As Gen. Norman Gaddis drifted to the earth after ejecting from his crippled airplane over North Vietnam, May 12, 1967, he thought of three things.

Gaddis, speaking at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, said his primary thought was self-preservation. Then he remembered his wife would learn he was missing in action before she received the Mother's Day card he'd sent. Thirdly, he anticipated several years in prison and a ruined military career.

It was his faith in God which brought him through six years of imprisonment, Gaddis told his seminary audience.

Gaddis, now a retired Air Force brigadier general, said that before he was captured, he repeated the Lord's Prayer and the 23rd Psalm, and in those words he gained an inner sense of peace.

After his capture, he was abused and tortured. As a high-ranking officer, the North Vietnamese were sure he knew classified information. However, he refused to tell them anything, so they confined him in solitary in a small cell for a thousand days.

Gaddis was awakened at 5 a.m. every morning and to keep his sanity he spent his days meditating and thinking about what his family was doing back home.

Finally, Gaddis was moved to a prison camp in Hanoi where he was able to be with other prisoners. While there, they found they needed three things to survive in such a camp; to keep physically fit, to have an educational program, and to have a spiritual program.

While in the camp at Hanoi, the prisoners decided to start Sunday church services. The first time they tried, the North Vietnamese grabbed the leaders of the group and put them in solitary confinement.

The prisoners retaliated that night by singing in their cells, and the North Vietnamese put the senior officers in irons for five weeks and tried to make them apologize for their action. The officers refused to apologize and finally the North Vietnamese allowed the prisoners to have church services on Sunday.

Gaddis referred to the prisoner of war bracelets worn during that period by many Americans at home. He said, "the bond that existed between those who wore the bracelets and the prisoners is much like the bond that exists between us and our heavenly Father."