



BAPTIST PRESS

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81-60

House, Senate Consider
Non-Profit Postal Hike

By Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP)--A Reagan administration budget proposal which would double postage costs for non-profit mailers—including denominational publications and Baptist state newspapers—has cleared its first hurdle in the Senate, but faces an uncertain future in the House where key committee members are opposed.

The Reagan administration has proposed that governmental subsidies for the non-profit mailers be eliminated, forcing the organizations to pay full price to mail their publications.

Currently, non-profit mailers pay only a portion of the full rate for mailing their publications.

When the Postal Service was formed in 1970, Congress decided that each class and subclass of mailer should pay full cost, but set up graduated steps to soften the blow, a post office spokesman said. Originally, the steps covered 10 years but were extended to 16 years.

The Reagan administration budget proposal is that the subsidy be eliminated, forcing non-profit religious, educational, scientific, philanthropic, agricultural, labor, veterans and fraternal organizations to pay full cost.

The administration proposal has been approved in principal in the Senate in a process called budget reconciliation, which allocates funds available for each segment of government. The Senate governmental affairs committee is expected to spell out the cuts when it sets the postal service budget.

The proposal, however, faces tougher going in the House, where the post office and civil service committee has voted to reject the postal service cuts. Additionally, the House budget committee chairman, James R. Jones, D-Okla., has announced a plan to restore \$150 million of Reagan's proposed reduction in postal subsidies.

A Baptist Press sampling of editors of Baptist state newspapers and denominational publications revealed the proposal would be costly to Baptist and all other non-profit publications.

"If the phased rates for non-profits are eliminated Oct. 1, the Baptist Standard's weekly mailing cost will jump from \$11,000 to \$25,000," said Presnall H. Wood, editor of the Texas newspaper with a circulation approaching 400,000.

Putting the proposal's possible impact in perspective, Wood said the postage bill for the Texas weekly was \$59,000 in 1975. If the proposal takes effect, the paper's annual postage bill will jump to \$1.3 million.

Papers with average and smaller circulations would also feel the crunch.

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Editor Lynn P. Clayton of the Louisiana Baptist Convention's Baptist Message said the administration proposal would more than double the postage bill for his paper which has a circulation of 69,000.

Clayton said the paper's postage costs have risen from \$4,500 to \$130,000 in the past 10 years and added: "If Reagan's proposals are accepted, in 11 years, we will have gone from \$3,500 to \$260,000.

James Lee Young, editor of Colorado's Rocky Mountain Baptist, which has a circulation of 9,800, said the proposal would send his postage expense from \$15,000 annually to \$30,000.

"A \$30,000 postage bill for such a small paper staggers my mind," Young said.

The sharp increase in postage costs would leave non-profit publications facing such choices as subscription rate hikes and cutbacks in the number of issues, the editors indicated.

The Commission, published by the SBC Foreign Mission Board, had already moved from 12 issues to nine this year and raised subscription prices from \$3.50 to \$5 annually, leaving Editor Leland F. Webb uncertain how his publication would deal with a large postage increase.

"At this point, I'm already wondering how we can stay within our budget and still deliver the product we need to deliver," Webb said.

Wood said the Baptist Standard would be forced to pass on the higher postage costs by raising subscription rates, a move he is hopeful Texas Baptists would receive with understanding.

"I do not see how our Baptist process can operate efficiently and effectively without the state Baptist paper—or something in its place—whatever the cost," said Wood, who called the Baptist Standard a "valuable and viable part" of the Texas convention.

Clayton said that unless the Louisiana convention picked up the extra postage costs, the Baptist Message would have to choose between "tripling subscriptions or going to a bi-monthly publication."

Young said his paper would "definitely have to raise" its rates and "conceivably cut back on the number of issues," a choice he and his board hope to avoid.

Clayton said approval of the proposal would mean that "the heart of the Baptist rapid communication system would be drastically downgraded."

And the overall impact of the proposal would be much broader.

"When educational, charitable and fraternal publications are put out of business because of rising postal costs, the public will suffer by being a less informed citizenry," Wood said.

Contending that the postal service would suffer because of the loss of revenue from non-profit mailers, Wood said the proposal is a "serious matter not just for the religious publications, but for the postal service and the people of the nation.

Smith Weeps During Story of Kenyan Woman

TAMPA, Fla. (BP)--Southern Baptist Convention President Bailey Smith wept as he told a story about his recent visit to Kenya.

Using John 3:16 as his text for a Foreign Mission Board luncheon speech in Tampa, Fla., Smith was illustrating his last point, the escape that God offers to the people of the world ("...that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life").

He said Southern Baptist missionary Webster Carroll and one of the Oklahoma visitors, John Majors, were returning to Kenya from Uganda after spending the day in the hot sun distributing medicine.

When a woman carrying a sick baby knocked on the window, Carroll knew what she wanted. He shook his head, saying "no, mama." ("Mama" is the term used in addressing women in that area.)

When the woman persisted, Smith recounted, Carroll opened the window and told her they had no more medicine they could give her. They all knew that the child, critically ill with malaria, would be dead by night, "all because they did not have a pill from America costing 3 cents."

Smith said Majors told him he would never forget that mother as she walked away, tears coursing down her face and knowing there would be a burial in the morning.

At this point Smith, his eyes filling with tears, could not go on.

After composing himself he came back to his theme verse, "For God so loved the world... (long pause) ...that He gave...and so must we."

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HMB Approves 42 Persons
For U.S. Mission Service

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4/9/81

ATLANTA (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board named 42 persons to mission service during their April meeting in Atlanta.

Included in the appointments were 14 missionaries, six missionary associates, four mission pastor interns, eight persons granted church pastoral assistance and 10 people approved for language pastoral assistance.

Named missionaries were David and Karen Arp of Dallas, Texas; Luther and Marie Berry of Miami, Okla.; Sheila Dolores Deweese of Tulsa, Okla.; Tom and Anne Donaldson of Morgantown, W.Va.; Jay Harvey and Fayma Lois Humphreys of Elysian, Minn.; Lillian Mitchell and Charles Louis Mitchell Jr. of Louisville, Ky.; Maxine Robinson of Medford, Ore.; and Thomas J. and Sherrye Lorraine Smith of New Orleans, La.

Appointed missionary associates were Timothy and Jeannie Marie Gramly of Kansas City, Mo.; Dave and Terry Marie Hankins of Mill Valley, Calif.; and Mike and Debbie Lee of Fort Worth, Texas.

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The Arps will move to Alaska, where he will be director of missions for Chugach Baptist Association. A graduate of North Georgia College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he has been a field artillery officer in the U.S. Army and a church extension intern and church extension consultant for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The Berrys will relocate in Kansas, and he will be director of missions for Central Baptist Association. He is a graduate of Oklahoma State University and Southwestern Seminary and has been pastor of churches in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas.

Deweese will remain in Tulsa, where she is director of the women's unit of the Baptist Rescue Mission. She is a graduate of Meridian Junior College, William Carey College and Southwestern Seminary, and has been a social worker and substitute teacher in Mississippi and a summer missionary in Maryland.

The Donaldsons will stay in Morgantown, where he is campus minister at West Virginia University. He was campus minister at the school as a US-2 missionary and has been Baptist Student Union director at two schools in Oklahoma. Donaldson is a graduate of North Texas State University and Southwestern Seminary.

The Humphreys will live in Waseca, Minn., and he will be a church planter in Pioneer Baptist Association. He has been pastor of churches in Texas, Colorado and Wisconsin and has been a vocational evangelist in Wisconsin. He is a graduate of Howard Payne University and Southwestern Seminary.

The Mitchells will move to New Orleans, La. She will become assistant director of Carver Baptist Center. She has been a summer missionary in Alabama and Kentucky and has been a youth director for churches in Kentucky. She is a graduate of Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Robinson will remain in Medford with her husband, Gordon, director of missions for Douglas and Siskiyou Baptist Associations in Oregon, who was appointed earlier. She is a former SBC foreign missionary to Nigeria and a graduate of Howard Payne University and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Smiths will remain in New Orleans, where he will be a regional missionary dealing with black church relations. He has been a pastor, school teacher and university instructor in Louisiana, and he is a graduate of Xavier University, Union Baptist Theological Seminary and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Gramlys will relocate in Onawa, Iowa, and he will become a church planter apprentice. A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he has been a summer missionary in Ohio.

The Hankins will move to Stockton, Calif. He will become a church planter apprentice. A graduate of Wright State University and Golden Gate Seminary, he has been an announcer for a Christian radio station in Ohio and a minister of youth in California.

The Lees will live in Southfield, Mich., where he will be an evangelism intern. A graduate of Cumberland College and Southwestern Seminary, he has been a pastor in Texas.

Elected mission pastor interns were Mike and Trina Crescenzi of Weiner, Ark.; Rick Love of Broomfield, Colo.; and Dave Tidwell of Ten Sleep, Wyo.

Approved for church pastoral assistance were David and Betty Berryhill of Onida, S.D.; Leon Freeman Jr. and Lori Freeman of Carolina, Puerto Rico; Al and Jerry Sims of Torrington, Wyo.; and Robert and Glenda Wilson of Webster Springs, W.Va.

Granted language pastoral assistance were Ruben and Emilia Casanova of Chicago, Ill.; Isabel and Olivia Chavarria of Stockton, Calif.; Chi Choon and Grace Lee of San Mateo, Calif.; Binh and Thien Phan of El Cajon, Calif.; and Omar and Marisol Ramirez of Rochester, N.Y.

In other action, the directors voted to approve the early retirement of William H. Slagle, 57, associate director of the board's church extension division, effective May 31. He has been associated with the board since 1956. He will be a bivocational pastor in Gainesville, Ga.

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Lottie Moon Tops \$41.4 Million,
Record Southern Baptist Giving

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TAMPA, Fla. (BP)--Receipts from the 1980 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering reached a record \$41,467,719 with more than six weeks remaining before books are closed on Southern Baptists' annual special offering for foreign missions.

The figure represents 92.2 percent of the \$45 million goal.

Late totals, revised even during the board meeting as later word was received from Nashville, Tenn., were reported as the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board concluded its three-day April meeting. At this same time last year, 92.4 percent of 1979's \$40.5 million goal had been received. The 1979 offering topped its goal by reaching \$40,597,113.

Shortly before getting the late report, the board had allocated almost \$4.3 million of this offering for capital needs overseas, with another \$700,000 expected to be voted at a later meeting. More than \$750,000 of the funds had been released early in the year for projects so urgent they couldn't wait until the normal release time.

Because of increasing financial pressures, the board this year budgeted the entire \$45 million Lottie Moon goal with \$38 million of it designated for overseas operating needs. The other \$7 million was budgeted for overseas capital needs, such as churches, missionary homes and cars, and other special projects.

In past years, less than the full amount of the Lottie Moon goal had been budgeted in case receipts fell short.

Board members also:

--Appointed 24 new career missionaries to serve in 11 countries at a special service in the Lakeland (Fla.) Civic Center attended by an estimated 5,000 Florida Baptists;

--Elected Travis Berry, pastor of First Baptist Church, Plano, Texas, who served eight years as a Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil, as chairman, succeeding John W. (Jack) Patterson of Virginia;

--Took steps toward transferring a large number of properties in Spain to Spanish Baptists and authorized missionaries in Zimbabwe to negotiate the transfer of title to the Sanyati Baptist Hospital into the name of the Baptist Convention of Zimbabwe.

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Under the authoritarian regime of Gen. Francisco Franco in Spain, titles to church buildings, a camp and conference center, and seminary property in Madrid all had to be held in the name of Baptist Mission, the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in that country.

A 1980 law eased restrictions and now church properties can be turned over to congregations. Other properties will go to the Spanish Baptist Union or another appropriate nonprofit organization. Properties held for mission business and missionary residences will be retained by the mission. Churches have one year to complete title transfers without paying real estate taxes.

The Sanyati hospital, where missionary Archie Dunaway Jr. was murdered by guerrillas in June 1978, was kept open by loyal national staff members during the final period of the seven-year war in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). Missionaries were advised to leave their homes in the hospital compound after Dunaway's murder, but a missionary medical team continued to fly in to treat patients.

Missionary staff members now have returned to the hospital, which for many years has been the symbol of Baptist work in the strife-torn country in southern Africa.

Medical consultant Franklin T. Fowler said the agreement with the Zimbabwe convention is expected to call for a hospital board of governors that will include representatives of both the convention and the mission.

The 80-bed hospital, opened in 1953 on land leased from the government, recently has been caught in the financial bind of government plans to offer free medicine to Zimbabwe citizens. The government's minister of health has offered subsidies to help offset the policy change, but the Southern Baptist heritage of separation of church and state makes it difficult to accept such government subsidy, Fowler said.

As an institution operated by the Zimbabwe convention, the hospital board can make its own decision on such matters consistent with needs and customs of the culture.

The Zimbabwe hospital is not the first to be placed under national Baptist leadership. Fowler estimated that more than half of the 20 hospitals related to Southern Baptist work overseas are operated under national Baptist boards.

The Foreign Mission Board also voted \$60,000 as part of its allocation of Lottie Moon funds to help meet a financial emergency at the Baptist Hospital in Gaza. New regulations require greater personnel expense, and area director J.D. Hughey and others will visit Gaza later in April to determine the future course of Baptist medical work in this Middle East area administered by Israel.

Outgoing chairman Patterson said the Foreign Mission Board "still remains among Southern Baptists as the engine that pulls the Cooperative Program train, and this fact in no way diminishes in the least the importance and the strategic significance of every aspect of the Cooperative Program on the state level and on the conventionwide level."

Florida Baptists hosted the meeting for the first time since 1969. Dan C. Stringer, executive director-treasurer of the Florida convention, told a dinner meeting that the involvement of some 350 Florida volunteers in major city evangelism efforts in Korea had helped increase the tempo of witnessing in their own churches. He said more than 21,000 decisions were reported in the 1980 Korean crusades.

The board also approved reappointment of two former missionary couples, the James Moorheads for the Philippines and the Lorne Browns for Kenya, and approved employment of 92 missionary journeymen pending satisfactory completion of their training and their commissioning on July 9. Journeymen are young college graduates who go for two-year assignments to assist career personnel overseas.

The Charles Tabors, former missionaries to Korea, were employed as special project medical workers to Hong Kong-Macao, where he will be a physician.

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Relief Funds Aid Salvadorans;
Also Go to Kenya, Philippines

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TAMPA, Fla. (BP)--People displaced by fighting in El Salvador, drought and flood victims in Kenya and the Philippines, and development projects in Bangladesh received most of the \$225,500 of relief funds released by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in March.

March releases brought the total released in 1981 to \$583,236, a 59 percent increase over the amount appropriated during the same period in 1980, said John Cheyne, the board's relief ministries consultant. The increased spending is a direct result of increased giving in 1980 which allowed the Foreign Mission Board to plan more long-term relief projects, he said.

Missionaries in El Salvador will work through Baptist churches there in cooperation with other evangelicals to distribute \$10,000 worth of food to people displaced by civil unrest. Missionaries in Kenya will use \$67,000 for famine relief in the Turkana area which adjoins the Karamajoa area of northeastern Uganda. The Turkana tribe has suffered many of the same drought problems as their relatives, the Karamajoa, who were featured recently on CBS News.

A \$40,000 release to the Philippines will supplement an earlier release to provide food and animal feed in several areas hit by massive floods.

The largest appropriation to a single country, \$98,000, will go to Bangladesh. Of that, \$50,000 will be used to purchase and develop a new resource center, similar to one already developed in Feni, for fish farming, goat and cattle breeding and silkworm projects. Another \$30,000 will buy tools for a vocational training program in Faridpur, and \$18,000 will enable the handicapped to receive vocational training in Tungi.

The Tungi work, said Cheyne, is significant because this is the international year of the handicapped. The work in Bangladesh, he added, represents only one of several Southern Baptist projects around the world which aid the handicapped.

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Jimmy Allen Testifies Against
Alcohol Rehab Budget Slash

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FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--Jimmy Allen, concerned that President Reagan's budget trimming would hamper alcohol research, education and treatment, has urged a House budget committee to "resist a stampede toward indiscriminate lumping of human assistance programs."

Allen, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, testified at a hearing in Fort Worth. Though he is ready for some austerity and economizing to deal with

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inflation. Allen said research into the causes and treatment of alcoholism needs to be done nationally and shared with states. A clearing house of information on drug abuse, he said, should not be duplicated 50 times.

Allen said 350,000 alcoholics are treated through federal programs with a good recovery record at a fraction of former costs and that local governments do not give priority to alcoholic recovery. "In the community in which I formerly served as pastor, for instance, it took a federal level grant to stimulate a treatment center rather than a drunk tank for alcohol-related driving problems," he said.

Citing the dramatic payoff in restored lives, Allen said one of the major results of matching fund grants is unclogging court systems and placing non-criminal problem drinkers into rehabilitation programs rather than jails. This would be largely lost in a block grant system.

Citing the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Allen said in the past decade NIAAA has opened initiatives on a national level that could be devastated by a strategy of block grants and cuts.

"There is nothing magic about a state line in the national problem of alcohol abuse," he declared. "It is only from a national level that information can be gathered to help identify trends and assess the status of alcohol problems and drinking patterns across the country."

Allen said NIAAA proposals to use radio and television to inform the public of the health consequences of drinking would be wiped out by current proposed block grants to states.

"Fifty different efforts in market research, program development of effective educational programs and spot announcements would be a waste of money," he said. "In fact, the effort would likely die before being born. So far only two states, California and New York, have made such efforts. Creation of material at a national level to be shared by the states in a cooperative use of them simply makes good sense."

Allen urged that budget cuts be made selectively and wisely. "Recovery of initiative destroyed by indiscriminate slashing of budget in simplified ways of block grants could be difficult and costly to the nation in the long run," he said.

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Deacon Learns Pressures
On Professional Golf Tour

By Adon Taft

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MIAMI (BP)—Richie Adham thought he knew what pressure was.

After all, his father had been an international lawyer connected with the Iraqi delegation to the United Nations before he became an American citizen.

And Adham had negotiated million-dollar contracts for chemicals in tense situations in the Mideast, Africa and Europe as a marketing specialist in Greece for more than three years.

But it wasn't until this spring when he became a pro golf tour rookie that he learned what pressure really is.

"There is no comparison. Golf is harder," said the self-taught athlete who took up the game while he was in high school in Beirut, Lebanon.

"When I was selling for Velsicol (the Chicago-based chemical company he r presented overseas), there was always somebody who wanted to buy our product," he recalls.

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But as one of 27 rookies on the golf tour, Adham has found there is not much demand for a golfer unless he is a consistent finisher and an occasional winner of big tournaments.

He hopes to be both. In fact he believes he will be, since it was his faith that took him out of business and put him on the golf course. He made the change after he and his wife, Kay, spent four years praying about it. So Adham brings a positive attitude to the game.

He brings other things. One is his ability to play from the sand traps. "The only grass on the small, nine-hole course I learned to play on in Beirut was on the fairways and greens. The rest of the course, which snaked around among a bunch of radio transmitting towers at the end of the airport runway, was sand dunes," Adham explains.

Adham realizes he still has to prove himself despite the fact that he earned his card by tying for second in the eastern regional qualifying tournament last October in Fredricksburg, Va., and then squeaked into the pro ranks by one stroke in the finals at Fresno. Only 360 men—about 300 of them active—hold cards that permit them to play professional golf.

Adham graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in business administration and a major in insurance. He took the job with Velsicol and he and Kay moved to Athens where he won the Greek International Amateur Championship twice and was a runner up in a third one. Then in 1979, he was low amateur in the Swiss Open, one of the European tour events in Crans, Switzerland.

So when his company moved him back to the States last year, Adham decided to chuck his \$35,000-a-year job, with promise of moving up to double that salary in a year or two, and make his move for the pro ranks.

The decision came after he and Kay prayed a lot. That was one of the things he had learned at college where he became a Christian through the influence of his roommate, a baseball player who was active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and who took Adham to a Baptist church.

At 27, Adham is older than most of the rookies on the circuit. He also is one of the few who is paying his own way. Most are financed through groups of sponsors. But he and Kay have invested their life savings in an effort that costs about \$1,000 a week.

Another thing that is different about Adham is that he is broadly read, articulate in three languages—English, Arabic and French (he also knows some Greek), and outspoken about the game he is in and national and international issues. And he may be the only Baptist deacon on the pro golf tour. He was ordained a deacon in Athens, Greece and is currently a member of First Baptist Church, Valdosta, Ga.

Wives are about the only fans the rookies have, Adham said. And Kay is one of the best.

A 25-year-old, willowy blonde, Kay walks even the practice rounds with Adham. "It's very difficult for a wife," she says. "You suffer as much as he does and see him suffering within himself and can't do anything about it. You can't let him know you're down, too."

Win or lose, the Adhams can accept it.

"We've learned that we really have to let the Lord lead our lives," Adham said. "And everything has just sort of fallen into place."

Richie and Kay Adham both believe that place soon will be on the leader board.