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**Cancer Victim Orr
Died An Inspiration**

By Charles Willis

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Her fight is over, but Ruby Orr's ministry of inspiration did not end when she died July 11 after a five-year battle with cancer.

Orr, 58, a secretary at the Baptist Sunday School Board, was a model of determination, courage and faith as she battled the illness diagnosed in 1976.

An employee of the board since 1952, she continued her duties. In 1977 and 1978 she wrote articles for the board's employee magazine, detailing her emotional and physical battles with cancer.

"I have never lost hope," she said, despite the original prognosis that she would live only three months. "Incurable, yes. But not hopeless! Whether I have five days or five months if I can honor the Lord through my illness, this is my deep desire. If I can honor him by living, I want to live. Our Lord may feel I can honor him more in death. From the very beginning, I have said with Job, 'Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him.'

"But oh, how wonderful the Lord has been. I've felt his hand upon my body and I've come to know what it is to trust him for every day."

Of her physical condition, she wrote, "The days I am free of pain, I find myself like a race horse going as hard and as fast as possible to make each day count."

Cancer patients need help with recuperation and rehabilitation, she observed "because they experience depression, humiliation and fear. For want of help, cancer patients lose hope -- when they lose life .

"Hope is a necessity if I am to survive, and I shall continue to push my way through chemotherapy treatments, depression and fear and to stretch myself Godward. The will to live helps me to respond quickly to cancer."

Her articles, reprinted by other publications and circulated by readers to family and friends who have cancer, brought her letters and calls of encouragement from across the United States. Many people also contacted her seeking mutual support. Just a few weeks before her death, Orr continued to receive requests for reprints of her articles.

"Because of my sense of gratitude for life and for all the help I have received, I want to help others in return," she had said. "I want to share what the Lord has done for me."

Death did not end Orr's ministry of inspiration or her testimony to God's goodness. Today many of those with whom she corresponded can say as she did, "I place myself and all that concerns me lovingly in the hands of the Father, knowing that he is in charge and all is well."

Home Mission Board Honors
Association, Church Leaders

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)—Two associational directors of missions, a rural church in Missouri and a consultant from California who helped churches struggling with cultural transition were honored during Home Missions Week at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

J. Tom Elliff, retired director of missions for Capital Baptist Association, Oklahoma City, and Elliott Smith, director of missions for Bethel-Sequoia Baptist Association, Visalia, Calif., were named outstanding directors of missions for the year.

The Associational Missions Division of the Board also honored Phil Tilden, former pastor of First Baptist Church, Bell Gardens, Calif., as PACT consultant of the year for the western United States; and Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Pleasant Hill, Mo., as PACT church of the year.

PACT is an acronym for the Home Mission Board's "Project: Assistance for Churches in Transition." The project involves trained consultants who work with local Baptist churches who are struggling with change and transition.

Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Pleasant Hill, Mo., PACT church of the year for the west, is located on the rural-urban fringe about 40 miles from Kansas City, Mo. Norman Ennis, pastor of the small rural church, explained that the church has for the last several years been experiencing change as city-dwellers moved to the country and began coming to the church.

"The natural response of most rural churches is to shut out the newcomers," said Smith. He added, however, that the PACT program helped the church begin a mission committee that developed several ministries to these new people.

Tilden, the PACT Consultant of the Year for the West, was recognized by Home Mission Board president, William E. Tanner, for demonstrating "personal concern for churches in changing communities," and for serving as a consultant for 55 PACT projects in California during four years as a full-time consultant.

Tilden said the most effective PACT consultation he led was with First Baptist Church in Bell Gardens, Calif., which later called him as pastor. The church is located in what Tilden described as a "tough neighborhood" which is 70 percent Hispanic in the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

As a result of the consultation, the church reversed its decision against ministering to Hispanics, and started a Mexican Baptist mission which has now grown into full church status with a larger attendance than the Bell Gardens church. Tilden recently resigned as pastor of the church to become Southern California field representative for the Committee on Moral Concerns, and is now living in Rialto, Calif.

During a reception for directors of missions throughout the Southern Baptist Convention, Tanner presented plaques to Smith and Elliff as the outstanding associational missions leaders for the year.

Eliff was recognized because of the creative ministries he and his staff developed in Oklahoma City, the effective use of volunteers by the association, and for the unique blending of evangelism and social ministries in the association, said Don Hammer, director of the metropolitan missions department for the Board.

Smith, who recently resigned as directors of missions for Trinity Baptist Association in Indio, Calif., to become director of missions for Bethel-Sequoia Association, was recognized as the outstanding rural-urban director of missions because of his record of faithful service and the study and research he did in writing a history of the association, said Quentin Lockwood, director of the Board's rural-urban missions department.

All four of the recognitions were made by the associational missions division of the Home Mission Board.

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Persecution Strengthens
Nigerian Baptist Church

By Veda Locke

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AMURI, Nigeria (BP) — Two years after pagan worshippers stormed the Amuri (Nigeria) Baptist Church and attacked the worshipping Christians, the church is still preaching the gospel.

Masked Juju worshippers mingled with the crowd at a recent outdoor evangelistic service, but a young man beaten in the earlier attack said, "They cannot hurt us. We have the protection of God through Jesus Christ."

And each Sunday 50 to 60 people attend the church in spite of continuing harassment.

In April 1979, anti-Christian crusaders warned the four-year-old congregation to discontinue worship services or face the consequences, but Christians defied the order.

People wearing Juju masks and armed with clubs and knives disrupted a Sunday worship service and attacked church members. They took three young church leaders to a pagan shrine, where they stripped, beat and threatened to kill them.

But police, alerted by escaped church members, arrived in time to rescue the three.

A revival of traditional African religious culture in Nigeria set the stage for the attack on this church, as well as others, missionaries to Nigeria say. A few months earlier, the town chief had warned against religious persecution, reminding his people that freedom of worship was guaranteed in the constitution.

But the pagans of Amuri complained that the Baptists were trying to change their ancient customs. One charge was that "Baptists celebrate marriage with Coke instead of palm wine."

The culmination came after Baptist pastor Timothy Nwagwu participated in a forbidden burial. Pagans forbid burials during their festivals, creating a difficult situation for bereaved families because there are no embalming facilities in the area.

Nwagwu agreed to help a young Christian of another faith bury his father during a festival. They tried to do it quietly, but were reported, and the anti-Christians beat them severely, declaring that the Baptist church should be shut down immediately. When the church didn't comply, they attacked.

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One of the young men beaten then still has pain from his injuries, but he told Southern Baptist missionary Emogene Harris, "If my persecution and suffering have helped people in my town to know Jesus, it is worth it all."

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(Veda Locke is a Southern Baptist missionary to Nigeria.)

Nonprofit Postal Hike
Rejected By Conferees

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WASHINGTON (BP) — House and Senate conferees voted July 16 to keep intact a postal subsidy for second-class, nonprofit publications, such as state Baptist newspapers.

Such publications had been facing a possible doubling of their postal rates under the Reagan administration proposal approved by the Senate which would have eliminated the phasing subsidy. The House budget, since it retained the subsidy but reduced it by 10 percent, would have necessitated a much smaller increase.

Instead, the conferees gave the postal service \$696 million of the \$800 million it requested to continue the subsidy without cuts in fiscal 1982. They specified, according to a postal service spokesman, that third class rates bear the \$104 million difference.

"We can't just breathe a sigh of relief," said Lynn Clayton, editor of the Louisiana Baptist Message, who lobbied hard to retain the subsidy. "We did have an increase this year and it's going to continue for the next six years. To keep this allocation will be an annual battle."

Congress had earlier established a 16-year phasing subsidy to help nonprofit mailers move gradually toward paying rates that covered their full cost of mailing. Continuation of the phasing for second-class publications means they will remain at the 10th step of that 16-step process until it reaches the 11th phase next June.

Final action on the budget bill is expected before Congress adjourns for its August recess.

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Drummond Says Bold Mission
Thrust Part of Awakening

By Jim Newton

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GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — Bold Mission Thrust, Southern Baptists' plan to proclaim the gospel to the whole world by the year 2000, must be part of a greater world spiritual awakening if it is to succeed, says seminary professor Lewis A. Drummond.

Drummond, Billy Graham professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Louisville, Ky., wove his evaluation of Bold Mission Thrust into five messages during Home Missions Week at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center.

Amplifying his view in an interview, Drummond said he is not convinced that God ever intended for Southern Baptists alone to proclaim the gospel to the whole world. Instead, Southern Baptists' Bold Mission Thrust must be a part of a larger world spiritual awakening involving all evangelical Christians, Drummond said.

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"God's plan is to use his whole body, his whole church," Drummond said. "He has given Southern Baptists the vision and it may start with us but it must spread to all evangelicals if it is to succeed."

He encouraged denominational leaders to issue a call to other evangelical Christian denominations to become a part of a great spiritual awakening that would sweep the world.

"That hasn't happened yet with an overall local strategy," Drummond said. "There is no grand design, even though there are fine programs here and there."

Drummond observed that perhaps one of the most significant things now happening in Bold Mission Thrust is the Home Mission Board's promotion of prayer for spiritual awakening.

Under the program, more than 250 spiritual awakening prayer seminars have been held in local Southern Baptist churches and a national conference on "Prayer for Spiritual Awakening" was held at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in April. The second national conference is planned at Glorieta, April 26-29, 1982.

In one of his five major addresses, Drummond said that if Bold Mission Thrust ever gets off the ground, it will be "because God drives us to our knees to pray for spiritual awakening in our world."

Drummond traced the history of previous spiritual awakenings, pointing out that in every case, a few committed people started the movement through agonizing, fervent prayer of confession and intercession for those who do not know Christ.

Drummond observed that he thinks this kind of commitment for prayer for spiritual awakening is growing among Baptists.

"As Baptists have become more sophisticated the denomination seems to have lost its commitment to missions and evangelism, and the feeling that the lost are doomed and going to hell if we don't win them to Christ," Drummond said.

In a major Sunday morning address, HMB president William G. Tanner warned against the attitude that Christ is irrelevant in today's sophisticated, scientific world.

"Even in the starburst of science and technology, in an age when man can hurl a new star into the heavens, Christ is still relevant, for he is the only true hope for our ultimate survival," Tanner said.