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March 19, 1982

82-45

CO

Troutt President  
Of Belmont College

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) -- William E. Troutt has been elected president of Belmont College.

Troutt will become the college's chief executive officer June 1, succeeding Herbert C. Gabhart, president since 1959, who will become chancellor, a post created for him in December.

Troutt is the third president in the 31-year history of Belmont, a four-year, liberal arts college, owned and operated by the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Present enrollment is approximately 1,800 students.

Troutt, 32, joined Belmont in January 1981 as executive vice president, coming to the school from Washington, D.C., where he was a senior associate with McManis Associates, Inc., a nation-wide management and research consulting firm.

Previously, Troutt was assistant director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. He holds the Ph.D. in higher education from George Peabody College for Teachers of Vanderbilt University and a masters degree in higher education from the University of Louisville.

Troutt graduated with honors from Union University, Jackson, Tenn. He is a graduate of Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management and has completed additional studies at Vanderbilt University, the University of Michigan and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He is a native of Bolivar, Tenn., and is married to the former Carole Pearson. They have two children: Carole Ann, 6, and Jack, 4.

Commenting on his appointment, Troutt said, "I am deeply honored by the board's action and look forward to leading Belmont at this strategic time in its history....Belmont is a college with tremendous potential, and I am confident we will be able to achieve our vision for the future."

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Belmont College.

Former RTVC Head  
Has Bypass Surgery

DB

Baptist Press  
3/19/82

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) -- Paul M. Stevens, former president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, is reported in good condition after heart surgery, March 15.

Stevens was admitted to Medical Plaza Hospital in Fort Worth after repeated attacks of angina. The 5-hour quadruple bypass was termed a success by doctors. Stevens was to remain in cardiac intensive care for several days.

The Mississippi native directed the work of the RTVC from 1953 to his retirement in 1979.

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Two RTVC Projects  
Emphasize Families

DB

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) -- Two upcoming projects of the Radio and Television Commission--a series of public service spots and a network TV special--will support the Southern Baptist Convention-wide emphasis on strengthening families.

The RTVC is distributing four 30-second public service announcements to all television stations in the United States. The theme of the spot announcements is "Your Family...It's Worth the Effort." The first two will be sent out in May, with two more planned for distribution in the fall.

The spots take common family situations, like a shopping trip and a house-painting project, to show the importance of relationships in the home. Each announcement closes with the theme and identification of Southern Baptists as the sponsor.

The public service spots, which will be shown on air time donated by the stations, are provided by the RTVC in cooperation with the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

On April 4, the NBC television network will rebroadcast "What Shall We do About the Children?"--an hour-long special on runaway children, produced jointly by NBC and the Radio and Television Commission. It was first aired last September.

The special examines the causes, results and possible solutions to the problem of runaway children, estimated to occur 1 million times each year. Both runaways and their families are interviewed, but the program also surveys the organizations that are trying to help, including Baptist children's homes.

Several Baptist authorities on the subject of runaways appear on the program, including Gene Bolin, pastor of Metro Chapel, New York City; R. C. Campbell, president, Buckner Baptist Benevolences, Dallas; and Walter Delamarter, executive director, Florida Baptist Children's Homes, Lakeland, Fla.

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New Operations Director  
Named At Annuity Board

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Baptist Pr ss  
3/19/82

DALLAS (BP) -- Ruth K. Pankiw will become director of the operations division of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, beginning May 10.

Pankiw, a widow, replaces Harvey H. Kennedy, who left the board March 1 to enter private business.

She is a member of Crawford Avenue Southern Baptist Church in Wilmette, Ill., and has been with the General Board of Pensions of the United Methodist Church for the past 31 years. Her new responsibilities at the Annuity Board will include supervision of three departments -- insurance services, information services, (the board's data processing area) and member services.

The Dallas-based board administers retirement and insurance programs for Southern Baptists.

Of the 31 years Pankiw has worked with the Methodist pension board, 20 of them have been in data processing, with more than five years as the director of that area. While Pankiw was director, the Methodist pension board redesigned the entire data processing system.

"I am personally committed to Southern Baptist life," said Pankiw. "This is a great opportunity to become directly involved in Southern Baptist work."

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New Reagan Budget Further  
Endangers Postal Subsidy

WB  
By Larry Chesser

WASHINGTON (BP)-- After seeing postal rates double in January, Southern Baptist editors and the rest of the nation's non-profit mailers may be facing further postage hikes if Congress goes along with President Reagan's proposal to cut postal subsidies further in fiscal 1983.

The administration's \$500 million request for the "revenue foregone" subsidy is \$115 million short of what the postal service estimates it needs to avoid new increases in non-profit rates. But opposition looms in Congress to further rate hikes.

At issue is the "revenue foregone" subsidy which has reimbursed the postal service for giving preferential rates to non-profit mailers in two ways. Until this year, it made up the difference between the full cost directly attributable to handling non-profit mail and the reduced rates charged. Second, it paid the non-profit mailers' share of institutional costs and overhead expenses that were not attributable to actual handling of the mail.

When Congress established the postal service as an independent government agency in 1970, it required each class of mail to recover its "attributable" cost. At the same time, it allowed non-profit rates to be phased upward over 16 years toward full attributable cost. These rates had reached step 10 of the 16-year phasing process when Congress abruptly reduced funding of the revenue foregone subsidy in December 1981, forcing the postal service to leap to step 16. Some Southern Baptist state newspapers saw their mailing costs jump 150 percent.

When Congress established the postal service, it decided that non-profit mailers would not pay for "institutional" costs as long as Congress subsidized the lost revenue. The stop-gap measure Congress approved last December provided less funding for the subsidy than necessary to avoid a rate increase, thereby eliminating the phasing process except for two categories. Congress' action did not affect the subsidy for non-profit mail institutional costs.

Rejecting the administration's proposal to require non-profit mailers to pay some "institutional costs," the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee has recommended full restoration of the entire revenue foregone subsidy.

The committee's recommendation to authorize \$913 million for the subsidy in fiscal 1983 is now pending before the House Budget Committee which is supposed to present a budget resolution setting 1983 government spending limits by April 15, a date not likely to be met, according to a committee spokesman. That amount, if approved, would have the effect of returning non-profit rates to step 11 as of Oct. 1, 1982.

In light of the administration's "steadfast opposition," a House Post Office and Civil Service Committee spokesman said chances of getting the full \$913 million through Congress "are not great." But he called an increase beyond the administration request possible "if enough support develops within Congress.

Committee Chairman William D. Ford, D-Mich., said the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee "finds it ironic that the same administration that is urging private charities to pick up the slack caused by cuts in social programs is now depriving these organizations of the wherewithall to do the job.

He also emphasized that subsidized rates are not provided "as a special favor" to non-profit organizations, but "in furtherance of the national good."

Restoration of the revenue foregone subsidy faces a tougher challenge in the Senate where the Governmental Affairs Committee has recommended that the Senate Budget Committee go along with the president's proposal to limit the subsidy to \$500 million.

On a completely different front, an effort to roll back part of the 1982 rate increase is expected in the Senate in March. Sen. Quentin N. Burdick, D-N.D., plans to offer an amendment to the continuing appropriations resolution Congress must pass by March 31 to keep the government operating that would add \$77 million to the "revenue foregone" subsidy for the remainder of fiscal 1982. That amount, according to a Burdick aide, would roll back non-profit rates to approximately step 13.

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Southern Baptist Relief  
Moves Into Fort Wayne

CO

Baptist Press  
3/19/82

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (BP) -- Southern Baptists began moving manpower and other aid into Fort Wayne March 19 after flood waters drove thousands from their homes.

According to news reports, the city's three major rivers crested at near record levels, threatening already water-soaked dikes which protect the city from flooding.

The Tennessee Baptist Convention disaster relief unit arrived at the Allen County Memorial Coliseum early Friday, and began feeding volunteer workers who were filling sandbags to use in fighting the floodwaters.

"Thanks to the Southern Baptists and some other people who came to help, all of the volunteers at the coliseum are being fed," said Michael Snyder, a Red Cross public information officer.

In addition to the Tennessee unit, Baptists were at work across the city. Several of the Southern Baptist churches opened their doors to house those made homeless by the floodwaters.

Jo Ann Cook, wife of Jeff Cook, director of missions for the Northeast Baptist Association, said the pastors of the five Southern Baptist churches in Fort Wayne were meeting Friday to coordinate relief efforts. In addition, staff members of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana were on hand to assess the situation and to determine the needs.

Also, disaster relief coordinators in Memphis -- at the Brotherhood Commission -- and in Atlanta -- at the Home Mission Board -- were standing by to provide assistance.

In Fort Wayne, Mrs. Cook said it was raining at midafternoon Friday. "Another inch and a half to two inches (of rain) is predicted and estimates are that the rivers will rise at least six inches for each half inch of rain."

"If we get what is predicted, we could be in real trouble. One of the dikes is about to go, now," she said.

Snyder told Baptist Press the biggest needs in Fort Wayne are "for prayers and money."

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