



-- FEATURES
produced by Baptist Press

SBC Executive Committee
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
(615) 244-2355
Wilmer C. Fields, Director
Dan Martin, News Editor
Craig Bird, Feature Editor

April 11, 1983

83-57

Tractor-Trailer Rig to Roll
In Ghana With Baptist Aid

By Mary Jane Welch

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Southern Baptist missionaries in Ghana are gearing up a food and fertilizer distribution program to help Ghanaians returning to a homeland where many eat only one meal a day.

With \$327,500 of Southern Baptist hunger relief funds, missionaries plan to provide a tractor-trailer rig and volunteer driver to deliver 400 tons of fertilizer and 7,000 machetes as well as food donations already sent to the country from around the world.

Funds for the project were only part of \$666,665 in hunger and relief funds released by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in March, bringing allocations for 1983 to almost \$2 million. Much of that money is set aside for helping those displaced or homeless because of political events, fighting or flooding.

The Baptist mission in Ghana adopted the distribution program after meeting with the government's relief task force to determine ways the mission could aid the one million Ghanaians recently expelled from Nigeria on short notice. Those returning to Ghana have swelled the country's population by 10 percent and strained what was already one of West Africa's weakest economies.

The task force told Baptist representatives their top priority in aiding the refugees is finding transportation to distribute large food donations from a number of countries. The government has been unable to distribute the food because the country lacks both trucks and spare parts, such as tires and batteries.

When the influx began, the Ghana government met returnees with transportation to their home villages. The task force placed a priority on projects which will keep them in the villages and out of already crowded cities and meet chronic needs which led people to leave the country in the first place. They expressed interest in seeds and tools for farming, establishment of cottage industries and irrigation and water development projects.

Southern Baptist hunger funds will enable missionaries to respond to the task force's top two priorities by distributing food, fertilizer and tools in villages and cities where Baptist churches meet.

Earlier, the Foreign Mission Board had provided \$78,000 of hunger and relief funds to missionaries in Benin, Togo and Ghana for aiding refugees. Although about half of the refugees were Ghanaians, smaller groups returned to Togo and Benin and other West African nations.

In Togo, where Baptists were the first group to aid the refugees, missionaries say publicity about their help made the government open to their plans for a community development project among the Ife people of the Ogou Prefecture. The Foreign Mission Board allocated \$6,800 in March for feasibility studies on the project, proposed to begin in January 1984, in partnership with North Carolina Baptists.

In addition, it resulted in Southern Baptist missionary Rex Holt being named to Togo's national committee for coordinating aid to Togolese expelled from Nigeria.

During March, the Foreign Mission Board also funded several other projects related to homeless or displaced persons. A \$70,000 allocation will provide food, clothing, medicine and literacy classes to people displaced by political unrest in El Salvador. Another \$40,000 will continue a feeding program among Rwandans expelled from Uganda last fall.

More than \$100,000 was allocated for flood relief in the Philippines, Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
 Twenty-Eighth Annual Session
 June 12-13, 1983
 The Marriott Hotel, Greentree
 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Theme: A Disciplined Ministry

Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 1983

- 12:30--Registration Open, Ballroom area, Clyde Hall, supervisor youth section, church training department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN, and Cecil Roenfeldt, associate Sunday school department, Florida Baptist Convention, Jacksonville, FL
- 2:00--Orientation of New Members, Andrew Carnegie Room, Gary Ellis, minister of education, Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown, TN; Charles Gwaltney, minister of education and administration, First Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, LA
- 2:30--Pre-meeting Reception, Grand Ballroom, provided by church programs and services, BSSB, Morton Rose, vice president, office of church programs and services, BSSB, host Spotlight- Denominational Emphasis on "Strengthening Families", Paul Thompson, director of church development division, Missouri Baptist Convention, Jefferson City, MO
 SBREA Coordinator

Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 1983

"A Disciplined Response to God's Call"

"A Disciplined Ministry", Elaine Dickson, manager sales department, BSSB, Nashville, TN

3:00--Pre-session music--orchestra, New Covenant Baptist Church, Billy Souther, director, Richmond, VA

3:15--Music, Malvie Lee Giles, Columbia County director of social services, Magnolia, AR; Vivian Conrad, First Baptist Church, Brooksville, FL, accompanist

Message, Richard Foster, associate professor of theology and writer-in-residence, Friends University, Wichita, KA

Call to purpose, Elaine Dickson

Prayer

Testimonies, "My Response to God's Call", Burdette Robinson, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Sylva, NC; Gary Ellis

Music, Malvie Lee Giles, accompanist Vivian Conrad

Message, "Disciplined Family Life; Support for Ministry", Robert and Mary F. Bailey, pastor and wife, Southside Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL

Reflections, Albert McClellan, author, seminary professor, former program planner, SBC Executive Committee

4:40--Adjourn

Sunday Evening, June 12, 1983

7:30--SBC Evangelistic Rally, Convention Center

Monday Morning, June 13, 1983 Part I

"Disciplined Church Growth Through Reaching and Discipling"

"A Disciplined Ministry", Lucien Colman, professor of religious education, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, KY, presiding

8:45--Music, Malvie Lee Giles; accompanist Vivian Conrad

Message, Richard Foster

Testimonies, "Our Church is Growing; I am Growing", Walter Jacobs, minister of education, Edwards Road Baptist Church, Greenville, SC; Judy Stamey, minister of education and administration, Ridglea West Baptist Church, Fort Worth, TX; Jere Wilson, associate pastor-education, First Baptist Church, Bartlesville, OK

Officer-Choice Recognitions, Outstanding Church Educators Selected by SBREA Officers, 1982-1983, Clyde Hall

Messages-"Continuing the Good Work", Harry Piland, administrative pastor and minister of education, First Baptist Church, Houston, TX; Roy Edgemon, director church training department, BSSB, Nashville, TN

Reflections, Albert McClellan

10:10--Break, Grand Ballroom, East and West, furnished by HMB, Robert Bingham, host, vice president services secretary, HMB, Atlanta, GA

-more-

Monday Morning, June 13, 1983, Part II

"Discipling Communications Technology in Servicing Growing Churches", Elaine Dickson, presiding

10:35--Message, Grady C. Cothen, president, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN
 Questions from Listening Panel, David Cunningham, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Orlando, FL, Robert C. Bailey, minister of education, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, KY; Tim Holcomb, minister of education, First Baptist Church, Denton, TX

Thank you, Grady Cothen! Gary Ellis

11:15--Business Session

Committee Reports
 Election of Officers
 Recognitions and Presentations
 Miscellaneous Business

12:15--Adjourn

12:00--Annual SBREA Luncheon, Paul Thompson presiding

12:30--"Celebration of Discipline", Grand Ballroom, North and South

Distinguished Leadership Awards, Lawrence Klemptner, vice president for student affairs, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX
 Entertainment, Jerry Clower, humorist, Grand Ole Opry star, Yazoo City, MS

Monday Afternoon, June 13, 1983

Enrichment Conferences, Lucien Coleman, coordinator

2:50--3:30 Conference Options, (see list below)

3:40--4:20 Conference Options Repeated

The Issue of Job Security in Educational Ministries, Will Beal, consultant church staff section, church administration department, BSSB, Nashville, TN
 Dialogue With Harry Piland on Sunday School Growth, Harry Piland
 Dialogue With Roy Edgemon on Growing Disciples, Roy Edgemon
 Film Preview, "Strangers No More," with Use Suggestions, Douglas Anderson, director family ministry department, BSSB, Nashville, TN
 How Your Church Can Use Video Tape Service, Lucien Coleman, Doug Day, coordinator video tape service, SBC Radio and Television Commission, Fort Worth, TX
 Idea Exchange: Enlisting and Training Workers, Charles Tidwell, professor church administration and chairman of denominational relations, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, TX
 Idea Exchange: Visitation Strategies, La Vern Plett, minister of administration/education, Oak Cliff Baptist Church, Dallas, TX
 Educational Missions: Opportunities for Your Church, Esther Burroughs, assistant special mission ministries department, HMB, Atlanta, GA
 Dialogue With the Baileys on Family Life, Robert and Mary F. Bailey
 How to Get the Most Out of Baptist TelNet Resources, Joe Denney, manager, telecommunications SBC

Monday Evening, June 13, 1983

"Disciplined For A World Witness"

"A Disciplined Ministry", Gary Ellis, presiding

7:15--Music, Malvie Lee Giles; Billy Souther, choir and orchestra

Message, Richard Foster

"Bold Mission Thrust Is Happening...A Report", Wilmer C. Fields, assistant to the executive secretary-treasurer, SBC Executive Committee

Music, Malvie Lee Giles; Vivian Conrad, accompanist

"Next Steps in World Witness": William Tanner, executive director-treasurer, HMB, Atlanta, GA; Keith Parks, president, FMB, Richmond, VA

Commitment, Albert McClellan

Music, Malvie Lee Giles; accompanist Vivian Conrad

Adjourn

Religious Education Association
Plans 28th Annual Meeting In June

PITTSBURGH, Pa.(BP)--The Southern Baptist Religious Education Association will hold its 28th annual session June 12-13 just prior to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh.

The theme for the meeting, which will be held in the Marriott Hotel, Greentree, is "A Disciplined Ministry."

Sunday afternoon will focus on "Strengthening Families" and "A Disciplined Response to God's Call." Robert and Mary F. Bailey, pastor and wife from Southside Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., and Paul Thompson, director of church development division, Missouri Baptist Convention, will be the main speakers.

Monday morning sessions will be built around "Disciplined Church Growth Through Reaching and Discipling" (with presentations by Richard Foster, associate professor and writer-in-residence at Friends University in Wichita, Kan.; Lucien Colman, professor of religious education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., and Harry Piland, minister of education at First Baptist Church, Houston) and "Discipling Communications Technology in Servicing Growing Churches" (featuring a speech by Grady Cothen, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board).

At the annual SBREA luncheon Monday, "Celebration of Discipline," the Distinguished Leadership Awards will be presented and humorist Jerry Clower will entertain.

Monday afternoon participants will get to select from 10 enrichment conferences. The closing session Monday night, "Disciplined For A World Witness" will include a report on Bold Mission Thrust by Wilmer C. Fields, assistant to the executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, and a joint presentation by R. Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and William Tanner, president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

At three of the sessions Albert McCellen, author, seminary professor and longtime program planner for the SBC Executive Committee until his retirement in 1980, will speak.

-30-

Cannatas: Make Disciples,
Don't Just Scatter Seeds

Baptist Press
4/11/83

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP)--When missionaries Sam and Virginia Cannata wrote a book about being thrown out of Ethiopia, they were forced to ask themselves what they really left behind.

The answer knocked the wind out of them when they realized they had only scattered seeds, not planted them.

Even more sobering was their realization Christians everywhere were making the same mistake: baptizing multitudes but not making disciples.

"We haven't made disciples," Cannata told a chapel audience at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. "We have made professions of faith. We have them sitting in pews all over America and all over the world.

"It's easy to go out and baptize folks. It's a different ballgame to make disciples."

Cannata said MasterLife, the intensive discipleship training method originated with missionaries in Indonesia, is the best thing that has happened to Southern Baptists.

It seems to Cannata, a medical doctor, the church and God have two different plans of operation. The church has speakers and listeners, he said, neither of which are the "doers" Jesus calls Christians to be.

-more-

He said God's plan is outlined in Matthew 25, the well-known but little heeded passage which explains a person who feeds the hungry, clothes the naked and gives drink to the thirsty does it as if to Jesus.

"The world gets tired of seeing our cars backing our of the driveways going to church," Cannata said. "Why do they get tired? They don't see anything they want.

"We're entertaining ourselves in church. That takes bigger and fancier buildings and programs and constantly more money.

"When we get to heaven, God is not going to ask us what translation of the Bible we used or ask us how conservative we or liberal we are. He's going to ask us how we ministered to a world in need and most of us are going to be empty handed.

"W think we can scatter seed by using television and radio and radio and all that and think that will grow disciples. It won't."

Cannata said Jesus actually laid down his life for his friends three years before he died, when he began an earthly ministry that denied even the menial luxuries of his day for life of a homeless, maligned, itinerant evangelist.

"We need to get in on God's program," he insisted.