



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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September 21, 1983

83-143

Income Projections \$20.8 Million
Lower Than 1984-85 Budget Requests

By Craig Bird

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Bold Mission Thrust has sent the aspirations of Southern Baptist Convention agencies soaring--and budget requests have sailed right along behind.

Initial 1984-85 budget requests from the national SBC agencies to the SBC Executive Committee totaled \$138,849,629, a stark contrast to the income projections for an operating budget of \$118 million.

"Bold Mission Thrust has created wonderful opportunities--and major problems," R. Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, said in making his presentation. But his logic applied to all the programs.

The effort of the SBC to present the message of Jesus Christ to everyone in the world by the year 2000 has produced record numbers of mission volunteers, seminary enrollments, and innovative programs using satellites, film production, new training techniques and massive outpourings of literature. All with start-up costs and increased funding needs.

As a result the 20 SBC agencies which receive Cooperative Program funding asked for more than \$24 million increase from the 1983-84 budget--20.91 percent.

The two mission boards accounted \$15 million of the increase as would be expected from the two agencies most directly affected by Bold Mission Thrust as well as the major recipients of Cooperative Program funds.

The Foreign Mission Board asked for \$67,860,000 (an increase of \$10.6 million, 18.53 percent) and the Home Mission Board \$27 million (up \$4,365,600, 19.3 percent).

The other requests included:

The Southern Baptist Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary, \$250,650 (up \$22,800, 10.01 percent); the Annuity Board, \$1,068,000 (up \$150,000, 16.3 percent); Baptist World Alliance, \$441,000 (up \$115,000, 35 percent);

Brotherhood Commission, \$976,235 (up \$127,335, 15 percent); Christian Life Commission, \$903,750 (up \$191,875, 27 percent); Education Commission, \$487,370 (up \$63,570, 15 percent); Golden Gate Seminary, \$3,006,010 (up \$693,694, 30 percent); Historical Commission, \$603,360 (up \$209,760, 53.29 percent);

Midwestern Seminary, \$2,402,651 (up \$400,442, 20 percent); New Orleans Seminary, \$4,915,534 (up \$948,194, 23.9 percent); Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, \$464,000 (up \$63,750, 15.69 percent); Radio and Television Commission, \$6,554,096 (up \$1,740,746, 36.17 percent); SBC operating budget (includes Executive Committee operating budget as well as budget for planning and holding annual meetings), \$2,316,000 (up \$680,700, 41.63 percent);

Southeastern Seminary, \$4,523,756 (up \$815,961, 22.01 percent); Southern Baptist Foundation, \$282,472 (up \$28,135, 11.6 percent); Southern Seminary, \$6,114,863 (up \$1,073,948, 21 percent); Southwestern Seminary, \$8,204,882 (up \$1,630,457, 24.8 percent); Stewardship Commission, \$475,000 (up \$78,850, 19.9 percent).

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The Sunday School Board and the Woman's Missionary Union do not receive any Cooperative Program money but generate their own revenues by the sale of literature.

The 1984-85 budget parameters approved by the Executive Committee include the \$118 million basic budget (a three percent increase over 1983-84 operating budget), a capital needs budget of \$6,874,000 and a challenge budget of \$7,159,615--for a total of \$130 million.

Executive Committee chairman Dewey Presley, Dallas layman, warned the members of the budget committee to bring "lots of clothes when you come to your meeting in January--it may take a long time to put this budget together."

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Cecil Ray Elected;
Giving Group Named

Baptist Press
9/21/83

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Cecil A. Ray, general secretary of North Carolina Baptists, has been elected to head an effort to lead Southern Baptists to give \$20 billion a year by the turn of the century.

In addition to electing Ray National Director for Planned Growth in Giving, the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee also named a 15-member task force to assist in the effort to increase giving by Southern Baptist congregations to local, state, national and international causes.

Ray, who has led the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina since 1976, was elected without opposition by the 68-member Executive Committee. His nomination for the post was announced in late August.

Planned Growth in Giving, which also aims to increase contributions to the Cooperative Program--the denomination's unified method of supporting its work--to \$2.5 billion by the year 2000, grew out of a special study approved at the 1983 annual meeting of the SBC.

The action approving the effort and a national director also approved creation of the 15-member task force to serve as a steering committee to implement Planned Growth in Giving. Members were appointed by W. Dewey Presley, a Dallas layman who is chairman of the Executive Committee.

Named chairman of the task force is T.T. Crabtree, pastor of First Baptist Church of Springfield, Mo., who told committee members the appointment fulfills a need to "express something which has been surging through my heart and soul" for some time.

To serve with Crabtree on the committee are three executives of SBC agencies, three state convention executives, the president of a national auxiliary, two pastors, a layman, two state stewardship leaders, the vice president of the SBC and an associational director of missions.

Those named include Lloyd Elder, president-elect of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn; W. Keith Parks, president of the Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., and William G. Tanner, president of the Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

State executives are Ernest E. Mosley, Illinois; William M. Pinson Jr., Texas and Dan C. Stringer, Florida.

Others are Dorothy Sample, president of the SBC Woman's Missionary Union; Truett Gannon, pastor of Smokerise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Ga.; Richard A. Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix (Ariz.) Baptist Church; James W. Nelson, director of missions in Albertville, Ala.; M. Hunter Riggins, a layman from Poquoson, Va.; John Sullivan, pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport, La., and first vice president of the SBC and stewardship leaders Lyle Garlow of Oklahoma and O.D. Martin Jr., from North Carolina.

Ex-officio members of the committee are Presley, and the executive directors of the Executive Committee, Harold C. Bennett, and the SBC Stewardship Commission, A.R. (Rudy) Fagan.

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The task force, to serve a maximum of five years, will establish national goals, evaluate and approve action plans, provide feedback on the effort, evaluate progress and recommend corrective actions, and report regularly to the Executive Committee.

In presenting Ray's nomination, Bennett told members of the Executive Committee he believes Planned Growth in Giving "will prove to be one of the most exciting challenges" Southern Baptists have ever faced.

Ray, after his election, echoed Bennett's words, commenting he feels the effort to increase giving to \$20 million a year by the turn of the century is an "awesome kind of undertaking."

Fagan, in a survey of the challenge, said Planned Growth in Giving "focuses on individuals growing in God's plan of Christian giving" which "is an attempt to develop Southern Baptists into growing stewards. It is not an effort to raise more dollars; it is an attempt to help Christians grow."

He said 20 percent of resident members give 80 percent of the funds received, while some 30 percent of church members give nothing at all. Another 30 percent give only token amounts.

"Those who give nothing at all represent our greatest failure," he said, but added that the "30 percent who give token gifts compose our greatest challenge."

Ray was jointly selected by Bennett and Fagan. He will report to the executives of the two agencies during the course of his employment, which is to last a maximum of five years.

In approving the hiring of Ray, members of the Executive Committee also adopted a 1983-84 budget for the post, and were told of plans to fund the work in 1984-85.

The 1983-84 budget will be for nine months, as Ray will not assume the post until January of 1984. It calls for an expenditure of \$98,000, of which \$57,300 will be for salary and benefits for the three quarters of a year. Other allocations include \$15,000 for travel, \$15,000 for office expenses, \$700 for miscellaneous expenses, \$4,000 for task force expenses and \$6,000 for publicity and promotion.

The 1984-85 budget calls for \$81,000 salary, \$15,000 travel, \$11,000 for office support, and \$1,000 for miscellaneous expenses. Planned Growth in Giving materials are targeted for \$80,000, and leadership materials at \$3,000. Task force expenses are estimated at \$4,000, special worker training expenses at \$170,000, and a speakers bureau at \$3,000. Publicity and promotion are expected to add another \$19,000 for a total budget of \$387,000.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Baptist Press

Fellowship Of Baptist Men
Elects First Slate Of Officers

By Mike Davis

Baptist Press
9/21/83

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)--C.E. Price, a layman in Pittsburgh, has been elected the first president of the Fellowship of Baptist Men.

Price, a retired Westinghouse executive who is presently second vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, was elected Sept. 17 by the fellowship's general counsel at the organization's initial meeting at the Brotherhood Commission headquarters in Memphis. He will serve a three-year term along with seven other officers elected at the September meeting.

Bill Rhodes, an Atlanta attorney, was elected first vice-president of the fellowship, and Jack Knox, a transportation executive in Germantown, Tenn., was elected recording secretary. James Smith, Brotherhood Commission president, will serve as treasurer of the fellowship as provided for in the organization's bylaws.

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The four regional vice-presidents elected are: Russell Miller, Mountain Home, Ark., Bill Poe, Charlotte, N.C., Jack Deligans, Livermore, Calif. and Drexel Myers, Trenton, Mich.

The officers and 12 other men will make up the fellowship's executive committee. Three state Brotherhood directors and three Brotherhood Commission members were named to the executive committee. They are Mac Johnson, Brotherhood director in Alabama; Laddie Adams, Brotherhood director in Oklahoma, Bob Dixon, director of Texas Baptist Men, Don Green, Brotherhood Commission member from North Carolina, Don Donalson, Brotherhood Commission member from Oklahoma and Jim Gardner, current Brotherhood Commission chairman.

The six remaining slots on the executive committee will be filled by presidents of state Baptist Men organizations.

The purpose of the fellowship is to promote witnessing and missions involvement among Southern Baptist men, help churches involve more men in witnessing and missions, work with Southern Baptist Convention agencies and state and associational organizations in involving more men in witnessing and missions and encourage greater financial support in witnessing and missions by men through the Cooperative Program and other Southern Baptist channels.

The fellowship will encourage the development of state, associational and local fellowships on the basis of vocation, interest and skills and plans to hold a national meeting of members every three years.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Brotherhood Commission

Reagan Pushes Parochial,
School Prayer Amendment

By Larry Chesser

Baptist Press
9/21/83

COLUMBIA, S.C. (BP)--President Reagan continued his efforts for tuition tax credits and a constitutional amendment to allow oral group prayer in public schools in a speech at the University of South Carolina.

Reagan restated his support for tuition tax credits and school prayer as part of the administration's prescription for restoring excellence in American education. Overall, Reagan charged, "American schools have been failing to do the job they should."

The federal government can help restore educational excellence, Reagan contended, "without recycling still more tax dollars or imposing still more regulations." One way to do that, Reagan said, is "by encouraging parental choice and competition, and that's exactly what we want to do through our programs of tuition tax credits and vouchers. Parents should have the right to choose the schools they know would be best for their children."

Reagan promoted his proposed constitutional amendment to permit state-sponsored oral prayer in public schools as another part of his plan to restore educational excellence, saying it was an "idea which may be laughed and sneered at in some supposedly sophisticated circles, but I just have to believe that the loving God who has blessed this land and thus made us a good and caring people should never have been expelled from America's classrooms.

"It's time to welcome him back," Reagan continued, "because whenever we've opened ourselves and trusted in him, we've gained not only moral courage, but intellectual strength."

In his speech, Reagan also called for merit pay for teachers and less federal control of the educational process.

Reagan's tuition tax credit and school prayer proposals have cleared Senate committees and await floor action.

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Column's Moral Punch
Reaches 17 States

WILLIAMSBURG, Ky. (BP)--When K. Maynard Head began his weekly newspaper column, "Mountain Moments," he didn't expect it to catapult into more than 200 papers in 17 states and two books.

He began the column in January 1975 "as a vehicle to get the message of Christ" to the unchurched. "Several years ago I tried to find ways to evangelize the person who did not attend church or read religious books or articles," Head said.

He studied newspapers for what type column material frequently appeared. What was lacking, he found, was a human interest column with a moral punch line.

Once sold on the idea, Head began writing samples from which he and his editor selected the name "Mountain Moments." Since then Head has received more than 8,000 letters from readers, and answered each one personally.

Adding to his column's popularity are its bits of nostalgia, human interest stories and amusing anecdotes from the past and present his readers relate to. "I keep the column simple and avoid theological subjects and preaching," he said.

Head does, however, aim to let the reader know there's something deeper than just the subject being discussed involved in his writing.

Despite its success, Head still sees his column as simply a tool for ministry. "A minister has the most important product in the world to sell," he said, "so why not use the newspaper column to share your faith?"

Head is assistant to the president at Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky., and pastor of Mossy Gap Baptist Church.

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Baylor Fall Enrollment
Sets Record High

Baptist Press
9/21/83

WACO, Texas (BP)--A record 10,818 students are attending Baylor University this fall, according to enrollment statistics released Sept. 19 by the Baylor Office of the Registrar.

The enrollment figure includes the total University system with academic programs in Waco, Dallas and San Antonio.

The 1983 fall enrollment represents an increase of 345 more than the 1982 fall semester enrollment of 10,473.

Of those enrolled, 9,496 are undergraduate, 581 are working on master's degrees, 154 are enrolled in doctoral programs and 435 are attending the Baylor School of Law.

Also 46 students are enrolled in graduate courses in dentistry affiliated with the Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas and 106 students are attending classes at the U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences in San Antonio where Baylor has two affiliate degree programs.

The enrollment figures represent the official twelfth-day enrollment count at the University.

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