BAPTIST PRESS

NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
127 NINTH AVE., N., NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE AL 4-1631
W. C. Fields, *Director*
Theo Sommerkamp, *Assistant Director*

May 12, 1960

Missions Before
Buildings For Ohio

CLEVELAND, Ohio--(BP)--Starting missions is more important to a Southern Baptist church in Ohio than a new building.

The five-year-old Harmony Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio, just started construction on the first unit of their building; but they have sponsored four missions and now give 17 per cent of their total offerings to world missions through Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program, according to Pastor James A. McCamish.

The 200-member church once had a membership of more than 300. They shared members as well as financial resources with the missions they sponsored, three of which are already self-supporting churches. The remaining mission is Hungarian.

The church's new one-story structure with a seating capacity of 261 includes space to house the Sunday school with 200 enrolled and the 100-member Training Union.

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Arkansas Men Find
Brotherhood Camp (5-12-60)

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.--(BP)--A group of Arkansas Baptist men have made a healthy down payment on a 1782-acre site in the Ozarks of northwest Arkansas which they plan to donate for use as a Southern Baptist Convention-wide training center for Brotherhood men and Royal Ambassadors.

G. C. Hilton, Springdale, Ark., businessman and president of the Arkansas Brotherhood commission, led in the purchase of the large acreage 10 miles northwest of Huntsville in Madison County. The down payment was $15,000.

Current plans, explained Hilton, are to complete payment of the purchase price of almost $36,000 and give the deed to the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission at Memphis, Tenn., for construction of a training center for men and boys.

Hilton said he has visions of thousands of men and boys using the center each year to receive more effective training, then returning home to make their influence felt in their community.

Disclosure of the gesture was made at a meeting here of the Tate Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador convention. It came in the form of a resolution which commended Hilton for "giving of himself utiringly to a persistent search for a suitable area in northwest Arkansas where a southwide Brotherhood-Royal Ambassador camp ground may be established. . . and for his liberal contribution in making an initial down payment on the property, thus holding it for purchase."

Hilton was named chairman of a committee appointed to work out financial arrangements. At a meeting preceding the convention, Hilton said $15,000 already has been pledged toward the purchase of the property.

Gov. Orval Faubus also spoke at the meeting, pledging his support with any necessary roads to the property.

The campsite is located in Gov. Faubus's home county.

George W. Schroeder, Memphis, executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission, told the men he was prepared to begin work the moment he received the property deed. He added:

"It is our intention to call in one of the best camping consultants in this country to study the acreage and draw us a master plan to show exactly what the training center will look like when all of the buildings are completed."

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Hilton, who already contributes 20 per cent of his income to his church program, cautioned any possible donors to "not let your church program suffer. Our gifts must be beyond our contributions through our churches."

The property was described as located in the center of the ruggedness and natural beauty of northwest Arkansas with many trees, lots of clear water and everything that's necessary for a good camp."

The tract is larger than Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly with its 900-plus acreage and Glorieta Baptist Assembly which has about 1,500 acres.

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Mississippi Names
Part-Time Worker (5-12-60)

JACKSON, Miss.--(BP)--The board of ministerial education of Mississippi Baptist Convention has announced appointment of W. L. Meadows, of Quitman, Miss., as co-ordinator of the board's activities.

Russell M. McIntire, of Clinton, Miss., chairman, in making the announcement, declared that Meadows would serve as the board's representative on a part-time basis, effective immediately.

Meadows is pastor-emeritus of First Baptist Church of Quitman and president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention board.

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'Distinguished' Alumni
Honored By Ouachita (5-12-60)

ARKADELPHIA, Ark.--(BP)--The faculty of Ouachita Baptist College here, senior liberal arts college of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, has voted to confer the "distinguished alumnus award" upon a scientist and a religious journalist at commencement exercises May 22.

Recipents of the award will be Nell I. Mondy, professor of chemistry at Cornell University, and Erwin L. McDonald, editor of Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, paper of the Arkansas Baptist state Convention. Both are members of the Ouachita graduating class of 1943.

Mondy, a native of Pocahontas, Ark., graduated summa cul laude, first in the class of 100. She received the bachelor of sceince degree from Ouachita in January, 1943, and the bachelor of arts degree the following August. College honors included election to the campus Who's Who, "Most intellectual girl," and "Most versatile girl."

McDonald, a native of London, Ark., received the bachelor of arts degree, magna cum laude, and ranked 11th in his class. While at Ouachita, he served as director of the Ouachita news bureau, as reporter, secretary and president of the ministerial association, and as reporter of the English honor society. He has been editor of the Arkansas Baptist since March, 1957.

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Folk and facts..... (5-12-60)

Larry H. Penley, editor of the Cleveland Times in Shelby, N. C., has been named director of publicity and alumni affairs for Wingate College, near Monroe, N. C. In addition to publicity and alumni affairs, Penley will teach one class in journalism and supervise the school newspaper. Wingate, a 64-year-old Baptist junior college, has an enrollment of 750 students.

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Home Board Launches
Literacy Program

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--A pilot program to teach illiterates to read has been launched by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board for a six-state Southeastern mountain area.

The program will begin in June when Miss Ann Grove of Waco, Tex., begins direction of the work. The announcement was made by Wendell Belew of Atlanta, secretary of the department of associational missions. His department will direct the work.

Miss Grove will use the Frank Laubach methods. She is the first literacy specialist to be employed by Southern Baptists to work on the field. She will deal with local literacy councils, formed in communities and cities by civic and religious groups, and with Baptist associations and churches.

In the southern ppalachian mountains of Kentucky, Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia, where the pilot program will operate, an average of more than 19 per cent of the population is illiterate, according to United Nations' publication "World Illiteracy at Mid-Century."

"We feel that this is truly a program of missions. A Baptist church can be found in almost every community in the South, where the highest percentage of illiteracy is found," Belew said. "No other organization has contact with every community, therefore it is our responsibility to free these people from illiteracy."

Miss Grove has been with the Baylor Literacy Centery in Waco for the past two years. She had studied literacy at Baylor University, and was recommended by Richard Cortright, Waco, director of the center.

Miss Grove has master's degrees from Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn., and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisiana. She was employed by the Home Mission Board for two years as director of the Carver Baptist Center for Negroes in New Orleans before joining the literacy center in Texas.

Her headquarters will be at Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky., which will provide her room and board. The president of the school, D. M. Aldridge, is president of the Appalachian Literacy Council. Active interest on the part of the people was given by Belew as the reason for locating the pilot program in that area.

Five representatives from southern Appalachian states may study literacy at Carver School of Missions and Social Work, Louisville, Ky., this summer, according to Nathan C. Brooks, president of the institution. Cortright will teach a four-week course in teaching illiterates, and the school will pay one-half of the expenses of five representatives, said Brooks.

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Eskimos Flying To
Bible Conferences (5-12-60)

KOTZEBUE, Alaska--(BP)--Two Bible conferences have been held in the Eskimo area of Alaska under direction of missionaries in that area.

One was held at Kwiguk, the other at Kotzebue.

The conference at Kotzebue, first of its kind in this community, was arranged by missionary John Thomas. He and another missionary, Dick Miller, used two planes belonging to the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board to bring people from outlying villages. They stayed with friends and relatives while away from home.

In addition to the 43 brought in by air, there were several from Kotzebue attending.

One elderly woman from Kobuk had never been farther down the Kobuk River than the little village of Ambler, which is only a few miles. She flew into Kotzebue for the conference. Since she could not read English, the songs were written in picture language for her to follow.

Eskimo people enjoy singing, and they did so in their native tongue. Many gave testimonies. At the closing conference, a number of Eskimos renewed their commitments to Christ.

Miller was in charge of the second conference at Kwiguk. Five Eskimos professed faith in Christ at this conference.

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Temperature Warm
On Atlantic Shore

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.--(BP)--Average temperature in Miami Beach for May is 78 degrees, with extremes of both heat and cold being rare. The highest temperature ever recorded here in May was 94, occurring in 1949. The lowest was 60, experienced in 1945.

The normal daily maximum, according to Weather Bureau records, is 83.3 degrees and the average minimum 73.4 degrees. The month averages only one day with a reading of 90 or above.

Rainfall varies considerable in May, but usually is confined to light showers. The average total for the month is 3.93 inches. The driest May on record brought the city only .41 inches of rain, and the wettest, 11.70.

The Weather Bureau reports May averages 68 per cent of possible sunshine, with 16 clear days and nine that are partly cloudy. Six are overcast. The average number of days in May bringing measurable rainfall is 13.

Visitors expecting to swim on their trips here will find the average surf temperature is 82.4 degrees in May.

Wardrobes for the Miami beach convention need contain only summerweight clothing for day and evening wear.

There is little formality in summer, and men can dispense with jackets during the day at hotels and restaurants, although these are worn in nearly all air-conditioned places.

Robes should be worn from hotel room to pool or beach, as swimming attire is not permitted in the lobbies of the larger hotels. Direct elevator service to the pool entrance is used.

Beach sandals will be useful.

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Oklahoma $2½ Million
1961 Budget Planned (5-12-60)

OKLAHOMA CITY--(BP)--A record budget will be presented to the November Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

In spring meeting, directors of the Baptist General Convention approved here a 2½ million budget for 1961. The budget provides a 60-40 distribution of funds with $1 million going to world missions through the Cooperative Program and 1½ million for the state mission work. There are no preferred items.

The board also recommended to the trustees of Oklahoma Baptist University Shawnee that the chapel, now under construction on the campus, be called the John Wesley Raley chapel in honor of the university president.

Upon Raley's suggestion, the board also asked the trustees to designate the auditorium as the Andrew Potter memorial auditorium in honor of the former executive secretary-treasurer of the convention.

The chapel, a $1 million structure, will house an auditorium, classrooms, and recital hall.

Approval was granted to the college to borrow up to $300,000 to be used to complete the chapel.

The Baptist Messenger, state paper of Oklahoma Baptists, reported a record circulation of more than 77,000. Jack L. Gritz, editor, announced plans to increase paid circulation to 100,000 by 1965. This will be accomplished, he said, by enlisting more churches in a budget subscription plan whereby every church family would receive the messenger in the home.

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Teletype Machine
For Ridgecrest

RIDGECREST, N. C.--(BP)--Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly will be on the Southern Baptist teletype network during June, July, and August.

James L. Sullivan, Nashville, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, said the board will install a printer machine as a service to those attending the assembly. Direction of the assembly is under the Sunday School Board.

Ridgecrest will be one of the main centers of Baptist activity during the summer months because of the large number of Baptists there to participate in assembly programs.

The machine will enable Baptist leaders to maintain contact with their home offices. It also will provide news of assembly activities to the editors of Baptist state papers.

The service division of the Board will furnish operators for the Ridgecrest machine.

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Association Mission
Superintendents Meet (5-12-60)

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.--(BP)--A conference for superintendents of associational missions will convene May 17 in First Baptist Church in Miami Beach. More than 200 superintendents will attend.

While other conferences have been held for missions superintendents around the Southern Baptist Convention, this is the first such conference planned by the men themselves, according to Harold Gregory, Nashville, Tenn., associational superintendent.

The conference will start at 1:30 P.M. and end at 4. "The program is planned to deal primarily with the personal problems of the superintendents, with a minimum of promotional emphasis," Gregory added. Both rural and city missions leaders will be present.

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Student Center, Home
For Aging In Florida (5-12-60)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.--(BP)--Florida Baptists have secured a 99-year lease on property for a student center at the new University of South Florida campus in Tampa.

The building must follow the architectural pattern of the campus and must cost at least $50,000, according to terms of lease. It also must be erected within 5 years.

The board of missions of Florida Baptist Convention also heard a report at its meeting here on progress for its home for aging at Vero Beach, Fla.

Architects presented their sketch of the first unit of the new retirement center. It is a motel-type unit. Together with a large residence already on the property, the retirement center will house 25 persons.

It is expected to be ready for occupants by January, 1961. J. Perry Carter is director of the retirement center program for the convention.

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Historical Commission
Publishes Newsletter

NASHVILLE--(BP)--The first Historical Commission Newsletter has been issued by the Southern Baptist Historical Commission here.

It will be issued quarterly and be sent to members of the Commission, members of state Baptist history groups, and other Baptist leaders--about 500 persons in all, according to Davis C. Woolley, Nashville, executive secretary.

The first number presents developments in the Baptist history field both by the Southern Baptist Historical Commission and various state Baptist history affiliates.

The next issue will describe the program of the Commission as defined by the program committee of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

"The purpose of the Newsletter is to keep members of our Commission and others interested in Baptist history projects abreast of developments," Woolley said.

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Folks & facts.....

.....Missionaries to Panama Wendall and Jane Parker will be on furlough in the states for two months and three weeks beginning May 15. They serve the Margarita Baptist Church, an English-speaking American congregation, in the republic.

He is the son of J. B. Parker, Southern Baptist Missionary emeritus to Brazil. Mrs. Parker is the former Jane Elverett whose parents served as home missionaries to the Indians in Alabama.

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May 12, 1960

Cutline

MICROFILM PAMPHLET MICROFILMED

Mrs. Virginia Anderson, (left), of the microfilm unit, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, prepares to make a microfilm copy of a pamphlet entitled "Preserve Your Church Records by Microfilm," as Howard B. Foshee, (center) secretary of the church administration department, Baptist Sunday School Board, and Davis C. Woolley, Nashville, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Historical Commission look on.--(BP) Photo.

BAPTIST FEATURES *

PRODUCED BY BAPTIST PRESS
A BAPTIST NEWS SERVICE
Special reports on Baptist programs, activities, trends, and newsmakers.

FROM WASHINGTON OFFICE
W. BARRY GARRETT, REGIONAL EDITOR
1628—16th St., N. W., Washington, 9, D. C.
Telephone: ADams 2-1760

May 12, 1950

Catholic Schools Seek
Aid From Public Funds

By W. Barry Garrett *

WASHINGTON ---(BP)--- A Roman Catholic organization to secure public funds for parochial schools has been launched on a national scale. It is called Citizens for Educational Freedom.

The purpose of Citizens for Educational Freedom is to combat what the Roman Catholics consider "inequitable distribution" of public funds for educational purposes and to secure such funds for their schools.

The objectives of Citizens for Educational Freedom reportedly are to combat strong pressure groups that insist on public funds for public schools alone, to create a public opinion that will make it possible for parochial schools to secure public financial aid, to engage in legal action in the courts, and to secure legislative relief.

This growing organization is in part the Roman Catholic answer to numerous denominational and other non-denominational efforts to maintain religious liberty and separation of church and state in America.

Founded in St. Louis, Citizens for Educational Freedom already operates in 47 states and is currently in a campaign to increase its membership and to establish local chapters in cities throughout the nation.

In making its appeal to the nation Citizens for Educational Freedom has adopted the slogan, "A Fair Share For Every Child," and is appealing for non-Catholics to join in their cause. The effort will be made to have it appear as a citizens organization rather than a Catholic organization.

In order to eliminate the appearance of ecclesiastical control and in order for it to be a grass roots movement all the officers are lay people.

In a recent issue of Our Sunday Visitor, a national Catholic weekly, an article by Dale Francis, prominent Roman Catholic writer, charged that the current education bill in Congress "will steal $100 million from the Catholics of the nation." This charge is based on the section that provides $20 per school pupil for the States to help with their educational expenses.

The formula in the bill for determining the number of school children in a State includes a provision for counting all school children, including those in parochial schools, but the distribution is to be made only to the public schools. While it is true that this seems to be an improper manner in which to calculate the number of school children for which a State is to receive aid, it is not true, as the Roman Catholic article claims, that this money belongs to the Catholic school children and is being stolen from them and being given to the public schools.

Thus by a strange twist of reasoning the article says, "Catholics don't want the money of other people to support their schools, Catholics are not demanding that money be taken from the pockets of Protestants and others who are not Catholics to support Catholic schools. We don't want their money. We want our money.

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*News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention. W. C. Fields, director; Theo Sommerkamp, assistant director; 127 Ninth Ave. No., Nashville 3, Tenn.

Paying lip service to the contribution of public schools to the nation, the article then explains the parochial school system. "Because we believe that education that teaches of creation while ignoring the Creator is incomplete, we have constructed a parochial school system that is equal in scholastic attainment and service to the nation to that of the public school system."

Three main arguments are being used by the Roman Catholics in their campaign for public support for their religious parochial schools:

(1) The service rendered to the nation by these schools should be paid for by the nation, the Catholics contend. They raise the question as to what the public schools would do if they closed all their parochial schools and turned their children into the public schools. They are seeking to establish the thesis that Catholic education is in fact public education.

(2) The responsibility, they continue, for the education of the children is upon the parents, and is not a primary responsibility of the State. Therefore, public aid is not aid to a church or to a religious school, but is aid to the child and to his parents for their educational expenses.

(3) It is not fair, the Catholics assert, to suffer double taxation, to be forced to pay taxes for the public schools and then to have to pay for their own parochial schools. They seem to forget that their schools are of their own choosing and that the public schools are open to all.

These are the lines of reasoning, no doubt, that Citizens for Educational Freedom will follow and will seek to sell to the American people.

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* Mr. Garrett is Washington regional editor of the Baptist Press.

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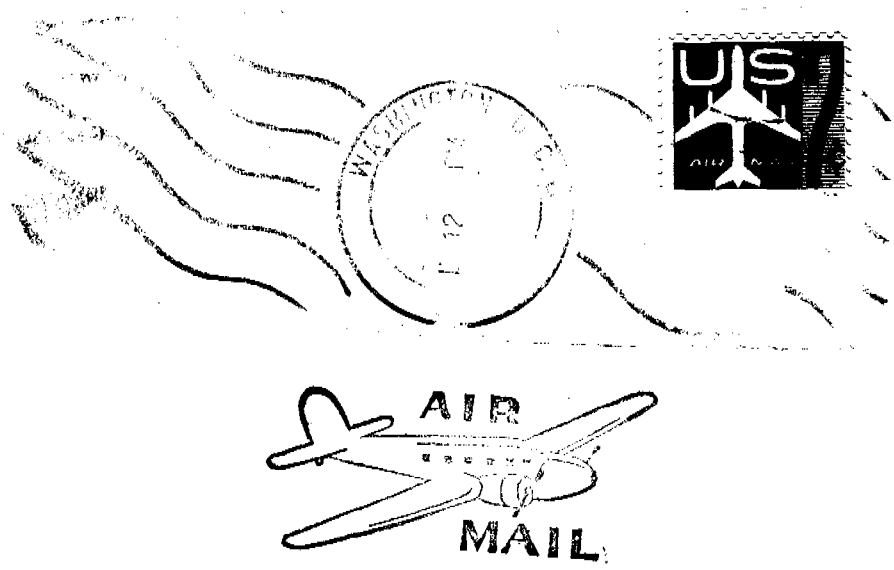

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May 12, 1960

Latin American Religion
Of Interest To Baptists

WASHINGTON ---(BP)--- Baptists traveling to the 10th Baptist World Congress at Rio de Janeiro will want to understand the religious life of the people they meet in Latin America, according to a Baptist World Alliance spokesman here.

Data in a recent statement by the Roman Catholic Bishops in the United States, announcing the establishment of a Latin American Bureau as part of the National Catholic Conference in Washington, give interesting information about South America. The Bishops reported:

(1) Although 95 per cent of Latin Americans are baptized as Catholics, as few as six to ten per cent actually practice their faith.

(2) There is only one priest for every 5,000 Catholics in Latin America, as compared with one for every 700 in North America.

(3) The Catholic Church in Latin America "has been weakened by illiteracy and by intensified Protestant missionary activity."

This information coincides with statements by Edgar F. Hallock, Southern Baptist missionary and general chairman of Baptist World Congress arrangements in Rio, that "a spiritual vacuum exists in Latin America" and that the people there "respond readily when they hear the gospel."

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Congressman Withdraws
Statement Defaming POAU (5-12-60)

WASHINGTON ---(BP)--- A blow aimed at Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State (POAU) has been expunged from the Congressional Record at the request of the man who inserted it.

Rep. Melvin Price (D., Ill.) in the April 26, 1960 issue of the Congressional Record inserted in the Appendix section a long article extolling the virtues of a highly-honored Roman Catholic citizen of St. Louis, Mo., Col. John J. Griffin, and which contained the following paragraph.

"The Klan, the Hitlerites, the Communists, and the johnny-come-lately POAU (Protestants and Other Americans United for the Separation of Church and State) are all dangerous, Colonel Griffin observed. But he is opposed to suppressing such organizations."

Other remarks in the article that obviously included POAU called them "phoney organizations" that "hide behind patriotic motives in order to vent their hatred on other citizens. They are like termites that work in the dark - the light of day and the truth will kill them."

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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention. W. C. Fields, director; Theo Sommerkamp, assistant director; 127 Ninth Ave., No., Nashville 3, Tenn.

In response to a vigorous letter of protest from Glenn L. Archer, executive director of POAU, Rep. Price, a Roman Catholic, secured the unanimous consent of the House of Representatives to delete the "objectionable reference." He described Archer's letter as a "justifiable" complaint. It was printed in full in the May 2 issue of the Congressional Record.

Archer pointed out that POAU "has specifically repudiated the Ku Klux Klan, the Know Nothing Movement, and all similarly bigoted movements based on prejudice." He said that POAU has 100,000 supporters from Protestant, Jewish, Catholic and independent religious groups and that three top officers have been presidents of America's largest Protestant denominations, Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian.

The May 10 issue of LOOK magazine carries an article by Eugene Carson Blake, Presbyterian, and G. Bromley Oxnam, Methodist, which is a POAU reply to an earlier article by John A. O'Brien, Roman Catholic, on the religious issue in the presidential campaign.

The Methodist Church in its recent meeting in Denver urged its regional units to encourage "moral and financial support" for POAU.

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Senator Boldly Proposes
Aid To Private Schools (5-12-60)

WASHINGTON ---(BP)--- The United States must work out a method whereby Federal funds can be made available to private institutions of higher education, or else be satisfied with a second-class educational system, according to Sen. Joseph S. Clark (D., Pa.).

Speaking before the 17th American Assembly held at Arden House, Harriman, N.Y., Clark told a cross section of educators, businessmen, labor leaders, and public officials that the question of aid to private schools now is "how much, how, to whom and what for." Admitting that he did not have the answers yet, he emphasized that efforts are being made to find solutions to this problem.

Clark said that he hoped a bridge had been built over the river of doubt about the necessity of Federal aid to higher education. He then expressed confidence that bridges could also be built over the rivers of doubt about the questions of aid to private schools.

Clark's speech was inserted in the May 10, 1960 Congressional Record by Rep. John Brademas (D., Ind.) who highly commended it to Members of Congress. He said that Clark's address was "one of the most valuable discussions of this problem I have ever heard."

Although not raising the issue of separation of church and state directly, Clark strongly implied that this was the problem in giving additional Federal aid to higher education. He used Pennsylvania as an illustration and pointed out that out of 109 institutions of higher education 91 were private schools owned by Baptists, Methodists, Lutherans, Catholics, Quakers, and by nonsectarian groups.

Asserting that "we will need to triple the annual level of expenditures for operations (in higher education) during the next decade," Clark asked "where are we going to get the money?" His answer for the college administrators was, "We are going to have to get the money we need from wherever we can lay our hands on it."

Clark said that all of the sources of funds for higher education were inadequate to do the job that needs to be done in this country and that the Federal Government was the only source remaining. He debunked the "anti-Government fixation" of many people in the nation and branded it "the new anarchy."

In working out the problem of how Federal funds could be made available to private institutions Clark proposed the organization of "an ad hoc committee of leading educators and other citizens who are convinced of the need for Federal aid so that, when they meet, they need not argue whether, but only how."

In addition he proposed that Federal aid should not be only to special projects, research, science, or defense-related subjects. "It should go to the heart of the university," he said, "not just to its periphery....Assuredly man does not live by bread alone."

Baptists are working on this same problem and are trying to learn how to provide first-class educational institutions and at the same time maintain the principle of separation of church and state. The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs has been requested by its annual religious liberty conference to provide a conference as soon as possible on the subject of "Baptists and Higher Education." The problems posed by Clark will no doubt be faced squarely when such a conference takes place.

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