

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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Catholic President Cited  
As End To Free Church

DALLAS--(BP)--Senator John F. Kennedy's election as president of the United States would "spell the death of a free church in a free state," the pastor of the world's largest Southern Baptist church warned in a Sunday sermon here.

W. A. Criswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, fired away at the Catholic presidential candidate crying that his election would kill "all hopes of continued full religious liberty in America."

An editorial in the Dallas Morning News termed Criswell's sermon "an opening gun in a barrage that, if it does not halt Kennedy at the convention will be stepped up to destroy him at the polls."

"If Kennedy is nominated and elected," said Criswell "it will inevitably open the door for a United States ambassador to the Roman Catholic Church, tax support for Catholic schools, and finally the recognition of the Roman Church above all others."

The 50-year-old minister quoted the official newspaper of the Vatican, Osservatore Romano, which published an article it labeled "authoritatively binding" on all Catholics.

The article said: "The church has full power of jurisdiction over all the faithful and hence has the duty to guide and direct them on the plane of ideas and action. The church has the duty and the right to intervene even in the political field. A Catholic can never prescind the teachings and directives of the church."

Criswell said that the official pronouncement from the Vatican was designed to rebuke Kennedy publicly and internationally.

Criswell, who has been pastor of the 12,000 member First Baptist Church of Dallas for the past 16 years, did not give the nod of approval to any other presidential candidate.

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Folks & facts. . . . .

(7-13-60)

. . . . .George H. Mahon, representative of the 19th Texas District to the United States Congress since 1932, will be summer commencement speaker at Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex., on Aug. 25. Wayland will confer the honorary doctor of laws degree upon Mahon following the ceremony. (BP)

Church State Journal  
Prints Second Edition

WACO, Tex.--(BP)--The J. M. Dawson studies in church and state at Baylor University here has published the second edition of the Journal of Church and State, the first publication of its kind in the nation.

James E. Wood, Baylor religion professor and editor of the journal said that the non-sectarian publication presents a scholarly study of the principle of separation of church and state.

The first issue of the journal was published last November.

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Folks & facts. . . . .

(7-13-60)

. . . . .A new book by Donald A. Bell, professor of psychology and counseling at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, has been chosen July Book of the Month by the Pinehurst Clergy Book Club. "How to Get Along With People in the Church," published July 1 by Zondervan Publishing House, was selected by the book club after being on the market only three weeks. (BP)

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Stevens Will Head BWA  
Radio-TV Conference

(7-13-60)

FORT WORTH--(BP)-- Paul M. Stevens, director of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, has been elected president of the newly-established Conference on Radio and TV of the Baptist World Alliance.

The international organization of Baptists who use radio and television for religious purposes was created at the tenth Baptist World Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, recently.

Other officers are Edward Berry, head of the Brazilian Baptist Radio Commission, vice president; and Robert Maynes of Mexico, secretary.

Four areas of responsibility were outlined for the next five years. These areas with their chairman are Truett Myers of the Radio and Television Commission, program for conference at the Baptist World Congress in Miami in 1965; Fredrick Essex, American Baptist Convention, promotion; Christovam Fagundes, Brazil, library for exchange of materials; and Ernest Watson, Australia, membership.

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Folks & facts. . . . .

(7-13-60)

. . . . .Robert Naylor, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, was elected to the executive committee of the American Association of Theological Schools during their biennial meeting in Richmond, Va., June 14-17. He will serve two years. The group voted for committee restudy of their constitution and discussed a statement regarding academic freedom and tenure. (BP)

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Helen Stuart To Head  
Panama Area WMU Work

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--Miss Helen Stuart of Dallas, Texas Baptist language missions worker, has been elected Woman's Missionary Union field worker for Panama and the Canal Zone by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Beginning July 15, she will head the newly-organized WMU work in Panama and the Canal Zone.

For the past two years Miss Stuart has been a field worker among Latin American people in Texas with emphasis on Girl's Auxiliary work. She was also associate editor of "Nuestra Tarea," the WMU Royal Service magazine for Spanish-speaking people.

Before becoming a WMU field worker, Miss Stuart was a teacher in a Latin American kindergarten for Texas Baptists in Kennedy and Harlingen, Tex.

Previously she served as education secretary for the First Baptist Church of Tampa, Fla., following graduation from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, with a master of religious education degree in 1956.

A native of Union Springs, Ala., Miss Stuart also holds the bachelor of arts degree from Judson College, Marion, Ala.

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Hardin-Simmons To Offer  
New Religion Degrees

(7-13-60)

ABILENE, Tex.--(BP)--Hardin-Simmons University here will offer two new degrees in the fields of religion and religious education next fall.

The Baptist college will offer the bachelor of arts degree in religious education, and the bachelor of science degree in religious education.

The bachelor of arts degree is designed primarily for students planning to secure seminary training, while the bachelor of science degree will include courses in religious education methods, administration, church music and finance for students who are unable to continue their study at a seminary.

Hardin-Simmons President E. A. Reiff said that the bachelor of science degree would give students a thorough knowledge of religious education, but was not an effort to compete with seminary offerings.

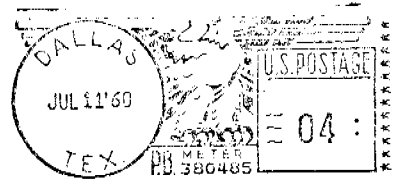
G. Norman Weaver, professor at Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, Mo., for the past seven years, has been added to the religious education faculty with the added responsibilities.

Weaver will receive his doctorate in religious education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, July 15. He holds the bachelor of science degree in education from Southwest Missouri State College, Springfield, the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, and the master of education degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia.

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July 13, 1960

Cutlines

#1

CONGRESS SERMON--Baker James Cauthen of Richmond, Va., executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, delivered the Congress Sermon for the Baptist World Alliance meeting at Rio.--(BP) Photo

#2

NEW ALLIANCE PRESIDENT--Delegates to the 10th Congress of the Baptist World Alliance elected as their president for the next five years John Soren, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He previously served as an Alliance vice president.--(BP) Photo

#3

PRESIDENT, FIRST LADY--John Soren, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Rio de Janeiro, and newly elected president of the Baptist World Alliance and his wife discuss the event which has thrust them into forefront of Baptist life.--(BP) Photo

#4

ATTENDING CONGRESS--Baptists from 70 nations attended the 10th Congress of the Baptist World Alliance. The largest attendance was from the host country of Brazil. Registration reached almost 13,000, attendance at plenary sessions of the Congress frequently ran to 20,000.--(BP) Photo

#5

SEMINARY EXTENDER--Paul R. Jakes of Phoenix, Ariz., is a new associate in the seminary extension department of Southern Baptist Seminaries. His new duties started July 15, according to Lee Gallman, Jackson, Miss., director of the department.--(BP) Photo

#6

GENERAL SECRETARY--Josef Nordenhaug, who has been serving as president of International Baptist Seminary in Ruschlikon Zurich, Switzerland, has been elected general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance. Like his predecessor, Arnold T. Ohrn, he comes from Norway.--(BP) Photo