

October 6, 1961

7 Institutions Reply
To Goldwater Charge

By the Baptist Press

Seven Baptist institutions have answered charges by Sen. Barry Goldwater (R., Ariz.), that they received federal "grants for facilities."

They responded to the senator's listing of a dozen colleges and hospitals related to the Southern Baptist Convention. Sen. Goldwater did not explain circumstances under which transfers of property were made in accordance with the Surplus Property Act of 1944.

The largest transfer of all, according to government information lists, was to Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, Tenn. It involved 9.54 acres and 20 buildings, with a fair value of \$1,794,883.

"Fair value" is the sum which the government, through assessors, presumed to be the price of buildings at time of transfer.

Assistant Administrator Drexel Toland of the Memphis hospital described the so-called grant:

"Several years ago, there was an old government hospital a few blocks from our institution abandoned by the Veterans Administration. It was made available to anyone who would continue its use in some service to the public.

"We were one of 15 to apply for the facility with our proposal to rehabilitate its use as a chronic disease hospital for the elderly. The government thought our projected use was the most beneficial and we were awarded the facility on a 20-year basis for this purpose.

"The entire program was presented by our board to the executive committee of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and fully approved with no qualifications. Further, our board...to avoid any entangling alliances with government control, accepted this facility on the basis that we fund sufficient monies each month so that at the end of the 20-year transfer period, we would make a payment to the government for the purchase of the land which would be the only thing of real value which we received from the government."

At DeLand, Fla., President J. Ollie Edmunds made this statement on behalf of his school, claimed by the senator to have gotten as a give-away acreage and buildings on Oct. 23, 1947:

"Sen. Goldwater's statement is partially correct. Stetson University was given the right to acquire title from the government to several hundred acres of land and more than a dozen valuable buildings valued at \$218,116 without payment therefor; but this right was never exercised and as soon as the veterans had been served, the property was returned to the War Assets Administrator."

The buildings are now owned by the City of DeLand. Stetson used them only temporarily to house and feed the large influx of former servicemen who came to the college after World War II.

"Baylor University since World War II has purchased at nominal prices a number of wooden barracks buildings and various items of surplus furniture and equipment under the Surplus Property Act.

"In June, 1961, the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas requested no Texas Baptist institution to obtain further property by accepting the educational discount under this act and Baylor will comply with this request," its president, Abner V. McCall of Waco, announced.

It was listed as getting buildings from Ft. Hood at 5 per cent of their fair value of \$5040, and 19 other surplus buildings also at 5 per cent of their fair total value of \$9100.

Guy Newman, president of Howard Payne University, Brownwood, Tex., took issue with the use of the term "government grants." He acknowledged purchase of surplus properties from Camp Bowie and elsewhere, at the "price suggested."

The list of property in Washington shows Howard Payne as acquiring 12 buildings and 211 acres from Camp Bowie whose fair value was \$61,670. The university got a full educational discount, that is, paid nothing, according to this record, in 1954.

In 1955 it acquired one building from Love Field, fair value \$820, for only 5 per cent of that amount, according to the same source.

Three other acquisitions by Howard Payne were a building from Lake Brownwood Dam, valued at \$50, for only 5 per cent of that sum; five buildings from Camp Bowie, for 5 per cent of their \$3100 fair value, and one building from another site for nothing. It had a fair value of \$3000, the government information said.

Arthur K. Tyson, president of Mary Hardin-Baylor College, Belton, Tex., said, "It is not our purpose ever to violate the sacred scriptural principle of separation of church and state."

This school, according to the information, had acquired one building from Camp Lampasas Reservoir for 5 per cent of fair valuation of \$650.

Campbellsville College in the Kentucky city of that name was listed as receiving 18 buildings, former war housing, whose fair value was \$23,000. Campbellsville got the same educational discount as many other schools--paying 5 per cent of the fair value.

Business Manager Marshall Black told Baptist Press, "These properties were declared surplus and schools throughout the area were invited to inspect them.

"The transfer price was established by the government, and that price was paid by the college at the time of removal....No special preference was given our school....We are reporting regularly each year on the use of these buildings according to our contract. They are still being used for the original purpose of housing college students," Black said.

Every Baptist hospital and college named by Goldwater most recently was contacted by Baptist Press for a reply to the senator. The following schools and hospitals have made no reply:

Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz., for seven buildings reportedly acquired for 5 per cent of their \$630 fair value;

Missouri Baptist Hospital, St. Louis, for two buildings gotten for 5 per cent of their \$2132 fair value;

University of Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, Tex., for 232.83 acres and 70 buildings claimed to be acquired for nothing, their fair value being listed at \$570,000;

Baptist Memorial Hospital, apparently San Antonio, Tex., for 10 acres and three buildings at no cost, fair value being \$19,075; again, two buildings at 5 per cent of the fair value of \$170.

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Folks and Facts.....

(10-6-61)

.....Ralph Taylor Wootton is new administrative assistant to the president of Averett College, Danville, Va. The junior college is sponsored by the Baptist General Association of Virginia. Wootton came to Averett from the faculty of Sul Ross State College, Alpine, Tex. (BP)

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Literacy Specialist
Returns To Nashville

ATLANTA (BP)--Miss Anne Grove, literacy specialist for the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, has returned to her home in Nashville following termination of a pilot project in literacy missions.

Working in the associational missions department, Miss Grove had established pilot projects throughout the Southern Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky, Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia.

The projects, according to Miss Grove, were undertaken as an experimental effort to determine whether Baptists in local churches could and would use literacy methods as a tool of Christian witnessing.

Wendell Belew of Atlanta, secretary of the associational missions department, said the findings of these studies will be used to project literacy missions in the future.

"We are continuing to work in the field of literacy missions," he said, "and we will continue to lend such assistance as we can to all interested groups."

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Baylor, Furman Teams
Remain Undefeated

(10-6-61)

By the Baptist Press

Baylor's Bears recovered in the fourth period to take a 16-13 victory over powerful Pittsburgh in the Pennsylvania city. The win for the Texas Baptist college caused speculation the Bears may attain national ranking this year.

The Baylor team had tuned up the previous week with a 31-0 intersectional victory over another Baptist college, Wake Forest. Baylor plays in the Southeast Conference, Wake Forest in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Furman University's Purple Paladins won their third straight of the season, a hard-fought 13-7 victory over George Washington. The Baptist school from Greenville, S. C., is one of the favorites for the Southern Conference championship.

In one of four games Howard College of Birmingham will play with sister Baptist schools this year, the Alabamans scored at will to smother Georgetown (Ky.), 64-6.

The University of South Carolina dealt neighbor Wake Forest another loss, the North Carolinians a 10-7 victim of a 31-yard field goal.

Northwest Missouri State College, often referred to as Maryville State because of its location, pinned a 13-9 loss on William Jewell, a Baptist college in Missouri.

Richmond, loser to Army the previous week, found military teams tough. The Baptist college suffered an extra-point defeat at the hands of Virginia Military (VMI). The score: 8-6. A 101-yard runback of an intercepted pass gave the military men the winning points.

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October 6, 1961

BJCPA Asks Continued
Freedom For Churches

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Government should not "use the churches" to promote political programs and ideologies, according to a recommendation adopted by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. C. Emanuel Carlson is the executive director.

In semi-annual session here the BJCPA expressed misgivings on "any and every tendency on the part of the Government to promote its political program and ideologies through the churches." It reaffirmed the historic Baptist position of separation of church and state.

The BJCPA shared governmental concern for such matters as world peace, soil conservation, and civil defense, but it insisted that the distinct function of the churches and of the state should be respected in such programs. The Committee recommended to its constituent groups that they "express serious concern and proper action" on this important principle.

The BJCPA renewed its encouragement to Baptists throughout the nation to question candidates for public office on their position on matters relating to separation of church and state. The BJCPA staff was instructed to contact the appropriate denominational agencies to carry out this idea before the next election.

A year ago the BJCPA made a similar suggestion to encourage all candidates for public office, state and national, to state their views on separation of church and state.

Further action of the BJCPA called for communication with "proper agencies or offices of the various conventions to encourage timely resolutions on religious liberty and separation of church and state."

Subjects for the next two annual religious liberty conferences were set by the committee. In 1962 the conference will discuss church-state relations in higher education. The 1963 subject is church-state relations in the field of communications.

Bryan F. Archibald, pastor of the Chevy Chase Baptist Church, Washington, D. C., was elected the new committee chairman. He succeeds Clarence W. Cranford. Walter Pope Binns, president of William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., and Harold C. Bonell, Nashua, N. H., were elected vice chairmen.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs is a denominational agency composed of officially elected or appointed representatives from seven of the major Baptist groups in North America. These groups are: American Baptist Convention, Baptist Federation of Canada, Baptist General Conference, National Baptist Convention of America, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., North American Baptist General Conference, and Southern Baptist Convention.

Jackson Named
BJA Chairman

WASHINGTON (BP)-- J. H. Jackson, president of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., was named chairman of the Baptist Jubilee Advance at a joint committee meeting of the cooperating conventions here. Jackson succeeds Frank H. Woyke, executive director of the North American Baptist General Conference.

The Baptist Jubilee Advance is a cooperative undertaking of seven Baptist bodies in North America, climaxing in 1964 in a joint meeting at Atlantic City celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Triennial Convention.

Special programs and emphases have been outlined for the five-year period. The emphasis for 1962 is church extension, and for 1963 evangelism through world missions.

"For Liberty and Light," the overall theme for the five-year period, was selected as the theme for the 1964 celebration. C. E. Bryant, director of publications for the Baptist World Alliance, was named to head the press room operations for the combined meeting.

The report of a special committee on exchange of speakers proposed contact with the cooperating conventions for pastors interested in pulpit exchange during vacation periods and evangelism campaigns. It is hoped that 500 pastors will participate in such an exchange in an effort to cultivate better understanding between the different Baptist bodies.

A general article on the Baptists will appear in early 1962 in Feature Magazine. The article, to be released under the approval of the Baptist Jubilee Advance joint committee, will be part of a concerted effort to present Baptists to the world during the celebration period. Feature serves national magazines, daily newspapers and other news media with a combined circulation of one half billion.

The March 1962 meeting of the BJA committee will be in Boston, coinciding with special activities celebrating the sailing of the Adoniram Judsons for Burma in 1812.

The seven cooperating groups in the Baptist Jubilee Advance are: American Baptist Convention, Baptist Federation of Canada, National Baptist Convention of America, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., North American Baptist General Conference, Seventh-Day Baptist General Conference, and Southern Baptist Convention

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Peace Corps Interpreted
For Liberty Conference

Oct. 6, 1961

WASHINGTON (BP)-- The constitutional guarantee of religious freedom for the individual, including the right to profess no religion or anti-religion, is a unique contribution of the United States, said Paul Geren, Deputy Director of the Peace Corps.

Geren, a Baptist layman, spoke here at the 5th annual Religious Liberty Conference, sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. C. Emanuel Carlson is executive director of the BJCPA.

The Peace Corps official cited three basic patterns of church-state relations in the contemporary world situation: (1) that of the Soviet Union which explicitly provides for separation of church and state but severely restricts religious freedom and accords full freedom only to anti-religionists; (2) the establishment of a state church with a measure of freedom for other religious groups; and (3) the pluralistic pattern of the United States which prohibits an established church and guarantees religious freedom to the individual.

Turning specifically to the Peace Corps, Geren named seven projects now under way or in the planning stage for Ghana, Tanganyika, St. Lucia (West Indies), Colombia, the Philippines, Chile, and Nigeria. These involve teachers, teachers' aides, surveyors, and agricultural and rural specialists.

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He pointed out regulations which he said assure that Peace Corps operations will be consistent with the U. S. constitutional provisions for church-state separation and religious liberty:

(1) Peace Corps volunteers are selected without regard to religion, race, political affiliations, or ethnic background.

(2) The Peace Corps will not contract for any project involving religious proselytizing or propagandizing among its volunteers or the people of the host country.

(3) The Peace Corps will not attempt to work with the host government to assign volunteers according to their religion.

Geren said that the Peace Corps goes where it is invited and that voluntary agencies may be involved, both on the part of the United States and of the host country. CARE and Heifer Project, Inc., are examples of private voluntary American organizations involved.

While being careful and watchful for the preservation of the American way in church and state, Geren said, "we must be always resourceful and imaginative in the search for means to bring the tremendous resources of faith, hope and love of the American people to bear on the grave problems of the world."

The question, he stated, is not how to continue to separate church and state but, "How can individuals and groups of us feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, visit the sick and the prisoners? How can we heal some of the wounds of the world by bringing love where there is hate?"

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Baptists Face Liberty
Problems In Human Aid

(9-6-61)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Baptist leaders struggled with the problem of meeting human needs without violating the principles of religious liberty at the fifth annual religious liberty conference here.

Sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director, the conference took a hard look at church-state problems in meeting emergencies, the care of dependents and the aging, human health, and foreign assistance and development.

The 95 participants were from seven national Baptist bodies in the United States and Canada. Represented were the National Baptist Convention of America, Baptist Federation of Canada, Baptist General Conference, North American Baptist General Conference, Seventh Day Baptist Conference, American Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Convention.

The conference agreed that if the ministry of Jesus Christ is projected into the modern world the churches must accept their responsibility wherever human need exists. The conferees also agreed that government in the modern world has a necessary, desirable and enlarged activity as compared with the society and economy of half a century ago.

It was also the general consensus of the conference that the concern of government and the concern of the churches for meeting human need are not competitive ideas, but that the institutions of each undergird and supplement the work of the other. The conference did not favor the intertwining of government and church projects, but it favored cooperation wherever possible.

In confronting the church-state problems involved in the Peace Corps the conference agreed that no religious tests should be made of volunteers, that the religious liberty of the volunteer should not be restricted in the country where he serves, and that he should refrain from "proselyting and propaganda" activities for his church as a Peace Corps representative.

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The conference regretted that the law passed in the recent Congress did not include provisions regulating the church-state policies of the Peace Corps. It requested the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs to work for a revision of the law to include such safeguards.

The BJCPA was requested by the conference to take the initiative in contacting the proper agencies and groups to survey and appraise the involvement of Baptists and other groups in service to Cuban refugees in Florida. The BJCPA was also asked to work with hospital groups, children's homes, homes for the aged and others to learn the policies of the various institutions in matters relating to church-state problems.

It was the view of the conference that the churches should cooperate with the government in relief during disaster, either natural or caused by war. However, the conference said that churches should not accept government funds to build fallout shelters.

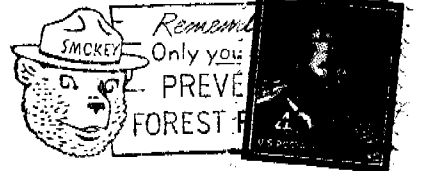
It was noted by the conference that one of the problems in settling church-state issues is a lack of understanding of the proper function of the church and state in a mid-twentieth century economy. The BJCPA was encouraged to conduct studies by theologians, political scientists, and others to give special attention to this problem.

The religious liberty conference is not an official group, nor are its findings binding on any person or group. Its purpose is to assist Baptist leaders to understand what the church-state problems are in modern society, and to discuss basic Christian principles that are applicable to the issues.

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