

October 13, 1961

**Ruling Permits Bus
Service In Louisiana**

LAKE CHARLES, La. (BP)--The Louisiana state attorney general has held that local school boards may provide school bus service to private school students, including those at parochial schools.

The ruling brought an immediate expression of regret and dissent from the Public Affairs Committee of Louisiana Baptist Convention. Leonard E. Sanderson of Lake Charles is chairman of the committee.

The ruling applied to students who live more than one mile from their schools.

Baptists interpret such assistance at taxpayer expense as violating church-state separation, Sanderson said. Louisiana Baptists are paying the bill for transporting students to Acadia Baptist Academy, a high school in Eunice, La., he added.

The church in New Orleans operating a Baptist parochial school furnishes its own transportation, Sanderson remarked.

"While courts may hold that such use of tax monies is of assistance to pupils only, it clearly provides indirect assistance to the schools themselves in saving them thousands of dollars which otherwise they would have to provide to supply transportation..." the committee declared.

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**Church Music Among
New Worker's Duties**

(10-13-61)

BALTIMORE (BP)--John Edward Saunders, Baltimore pastor, has been elected secretary of Brotherhood, Royal Ambassador work and church music for the Baptist Convention of Maryland here.

Saunders is the first person employed to promote church music on a professional staff basis in Maryland. A committee of the State Mission Board has had this responsibility in the past.

The new department head succeeds, in part, Allen J. Beck, who resigned to accept the pastorate of Bedford Road Baptist Church, Cumberland, Md.

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**Home Board Appoints
Missionaries To Czechs**

(10-13-61)

ATLANTA (BP)--Ten missionaries, including two to Czechoslovakians, were appointed here by the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The mission board, located in Atlanta, has 1989 missionaries under appointment who serve in the United States, Cuba, Panama and the Canal Zone. Thus far this year, 265 missionaries have been appointed.

The missionaries to the Czechoslovak-speaking are the first to be appointed in at least 10 years, according to Loyd Corder of Atlanta, secretary of the board's department of language missions. Richard Frank Mazanec of Chicago and Cora Mazanec of Schenectady, N. Y., were appointed to serve with Czechoslovakians in Masaryktown, Fla.

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Corder added that mission work with this group has been carried on by local churches for some time prior to the appointment of special workers. Language workers were also appointed for the Russian-speaking in California.

In addition to these, a missionary nurse and workers for associational and rural areas were appointed.

Truett D. Allen of Hereford, Tex., was appointed as associational missionary living at Springer, N. M.; Hal F. Branson of Robards, Ky., as mountain missionary to Nogales, Ariz.; John R. Kelly of Dewey, Okla., as associational missionary at Sayre, Okla.

Eugene Marley of Mart, Tex., as pastoral-associational missionary at Hays, Kan.; Edmund and Ruby Burgher of Ekron, Ky., as language missionaries for Russian-speaking at Los Angeles.

A nurse from Tylertown, Miss., Attis Mae Popwell, was appointed for the Sellers Baptist Home and Adoption Center in New Orleans.

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Folks and Facts.....

(10-13-61)

.....Mrs. Katherine Cranford, wife of Clarence W. Cranford, died Oct. 9 at Lewiston, Me., after a prolonged illness. She underwent brain surgery 10 weeks ago and never regained consciousness. For 19 years, Cranford was pastor of Calvery Baptist Church, Washington. Eight months ago he accepted the pastorate of the First Baptist Church, Lewiston. He has been called back to the Washington church, to resume his pastorate Nov. 5. (BP)

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.....A Baptist prison chaplain, Earl Clayton Grandstaff of Jefferson City, Mo., has been elected to a two-year term as president of the American Protestant Correctional Chaplains Association. This is the first time a Baptist has held this office. (BP)

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Assistant Recommended
In South Carolina

(10-13-61)

COLUMBIA, S. C. (BP)--The General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention recommended here the convention's general secretary, retiring Jan. 1, be succeeded by his assistant.

If the state convention accepts the board's nomination, Horace G. Hammett of Columbia will become the convention's principal administrative officer.

Charles F. Sims of Columbia has held the post 12 years. Hammett has been assistant general secretary-treasurer for 11 of those years.

A native South Carolinian, Hammett studied at Furman University (Southern Baptist), Greenville, S. C.; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and Duke University, Durham, N. C.

His wife, the former Lorene Woody of North Carolina, is a trustee of Carver School of Missions and Social Work, an agency of the Southern Baptist Convention.

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BAPTIST FEATURES

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October 13, 1961

Editors: This is the eighth in Baptist Press' series on SBC agencies.

Couple Hears Problem
Answer On Car Radio

By Clarence Duncan
for Baptist Press

"A baby--what are we going to do with a baby?" the probing voice on the radio asked.

The question hit home to a young couple as they were driving down the busy turnpike near Chicago, Ill., one Sunday. They, too were asking the same question. As a possible answer, the young couple had even considered doing away with the unwanted and unexpected child.

They listened intently as the radio voice told of a recent television film about the marriage of two young high school students who had married against their parents' wishes. The young husband returned from school one day to find his wife frightened and crying. He blurted out the startling question when he learned his wife was expecting.

But the voice on the radio had changed now. It was reassuring, compelling, convincing. The speaker said that no couple can adequately meet the crisis of parenthood without God's help.

"What shall we do with the baby?" the speaker asked again. "Dedicate it to God," came the reply.

The young couple in the automobile pondered the words, and decided it was the right thing to do. When they arrived at their destination, they wrote to the producer of the program, asking for a copy of the radio message and telling of their new realization of responsible parenthood.

The program was "The Baptist Hour." It, like the television film that told the story of the high school couple, was produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth, Tex.

The letter the Radio-TV Commission received from the young couple was one of more than 50,000 responses, many telling of similar experiences, that come through the mail each year.

Paul M. Stevens, Fort Worth, director of the Radio-TV Commission, said this is a "wonderful example" of the ability of radio and television to reach people beyond the reach of pastors and missionaries.

"This is the entire purpose of the Radio and Television Commission--bringing men to God through Jesus Christ by the way of radio and television programs," said Stevens.

The first order of business for the Commission is producing radio and television programs.

Eight weekly radio programs are now prepared and distributed by tape recording to more than 1000 different stations. Most prominent of the programs, "The Baptist Hour," celebrated its 20th anniversary this year as a 30-minute worship service.

Permanent preacher for "The Baptist Hour" is Herschel H. Hobbs, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and pastor of the First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City.

A "congregation" estimated at 20 million hears "The Baptist Hour," each week over 470 radio stations in 38 states and 11 nations.

This year for the first time the program is being broadcast in eastern Nigeria to an additional potential audience of 10 million people.

Other programs of the same length and format are broadcast in Spanish (La Hora Bautista), Italian (Buone Novella), and a 15-minute version in Russian beamed across the iron curtain.

"MasterControl" is a 30-minute variety program produced by the commission which includes interviews with interesting people in all walks of life, popular music and brief vignettes of Christianity.

A 15-minute version of "MasterControl" is beamed via Trans-World Radio in Monte Carlo to Great Britain.

Other quarter-hour programs include "International Sunday School Lesson," taught by Clifton J. Allen, editorial secretary of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, and "Chapel Upstairs," a devotional program offered daily to radio stations.

In the field of television, the Radio-TV Commission produces films under "The Answer" series for weekly use on an annual average of 125 television stations across the nation. Some have been shown also in Canada.

During the past six years, the Radio-TV Commission has released 62 full-color, half-hour films for use in "The Answer" television series. An estimated 100 million people have viewed the films, prepared for the commission by Family Films, Inc., a religious film company in California.

Thousands of letters have poured into the commission office in Fort Worth in response to the television shows.

One woman wrote, "My husband, an unbeliever in God, liked the show and asked me to write to you for him. He would like the booklet you mentioned. Pray that God will save him."

Each day the Commission staff meets to pray for the people who write in response to the radio and television programs. As prayer requests come by mail each day the staff joins in a devotional period to petition God in behalf of those who write.

The Radio-TV Commission is involved, however, in a great many things besides the production of radio and television programs.

There are 10 departments of the commission, each with its own responsibility, and each working toward the commission's common goal. A promotion department creates news releases, posters, letters and booklets with the assistance of the art department. The printing department prints, addresses and mails the items.

Another department contacts radio and television stations to provide outlets for the programs, and another distributes more than 1000 tapes and films to these stations every week. Still another department produces a monthly packet-size magazine, "The Beam."

The commission is composed of 31 members, both laymen and pastors, elected by messengers to the annual Southern Baptist Convention.

As other Convention agencies do, the Radio-TV Commission operates under activities assigned it directly by the Convention. In its budget report on these activities to the 1961 Convention, it listed its 1961 income as: \$475,000 through Cooperative Program, \$95,000 from fan mail, \$40,000 from film royalties and rentals. With smaller sums from other sources, its budget totalled \$640,000.

Stevens said the years ahead for radio and television ministry will be "tremendous."

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Cutline: Staff prayer time, remembering requests received in "fan mail" from listeners.

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A Talk With 'Neutrals'?

By Gainer E. Bryan Jr.
United Nations Observer

On a visit to the United Nations I met two minor officials from one of the non-aligned nations of the Middle East.

One was a consul, the other a press officer from their nation's embassy in Washington. They were in New York for the day.

Over the coffee cups in the delegates' lounge we examined each other's minds.

Since these men were Arabs, I began by mentioning the propaganda that, strangely, comes to a Baptist editor's desk from Nasser's United Arab Republic. (That was before Syria's secession.)

The press officer's comment was, "The most powerful propaganda in the world--more powerful than Nasser's, more powerful than the Communists'--comes from your country."

"What propaganda is that?" I asked.

"The propaganda of the Zionists," he replied. "It is the best-financed in the world."

"Where does it come from?" I asked. "Where do they get the money?"

His reply: "From Wall Street."

This sounded, in part, like Arab doctrine and, in part, like something he might have read in Pravda.

I turned to the grave issues facing the UN. "What solution does your nation favor to the problem of the vacancy created by the death of Dag Hammarskjold," I asked.

The press officer answered, "It would have to be a solution that is satisfactory to both the US and the USSR."

His companion, however, answered precisely, "A temporary single executive looking ultimately toward a troika." He was veering all the way to the Soviet side.

I asked the press officer if he recognized what was causing the East-West conflict was the desire of Soviet Russia to master the world.

He replied, "Your country wants to master the world."

"That's not true," I declared. "The United States has never sought to master the world."

"Go back and read your history," he advised. Then he added, "The United States should follow its principles--the principles of your revolution."

"What about Hungary?" I asked. "Is Hungary not an example of Soviet domination?"

He replied, "Hungary is a sovereign country. She was admitted to the United Nations as a sovereign country. Your nation did not complain about her government at that time. You only complained when the government invited Soviet troops in to put down a rebellion. A sovereign country has the right to call on any nation she chooses for help in time of a rebellion."

Mention of Soviet arms led to the question of disarmament. "Your government speaks of disarmament," said the press officer. "But your capitalists don't want disarmament. The arms race is what's holding up your economy."

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Baptist Feature

I went away from this chat feeling as though I had talked with two Russians rather than two Arabs. The significant fact, however, was that I had talked to two Arabs who believe the Communist version of truth rather than the American version.

There were only two possible conclusions: Either America has failed to communicate the truth, or America has failed to make the truth what it ought to be.

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