

December 13, 1961

Tennessee Takes Stand
Against Federal Loans

NASHVILLE (BP)--Another state Baptist group has positioned itself against borrowing public funds for religious institutions.

The Executive Board of Tennessee Baptist Convention adopted a statement drafted by its Public Affairs and Christian Life Committee. The committee, which had been studying the federal loan issue recommended:

"Because we believe in the time-honored principle of separation of church and state, and because there are many threats throughout the nation to the preservation of this principle, therefore it is our conviction that the borrowing of public funds by religious institutions is in violation of this principle."

Previously, the Executive Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas took a similar stand, which was later adopted by the convention proper. Virginia Baptists also think their agencies should not borrow from the government.

Tennessee Convention operates three colleges, a high school, a children's home agency and three hospitals which presumably would be affected by the Executive Board's action.

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50 Mississippi Men
Make Arizona Crusade

(12-13-61)

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--Fifty Mississippi Baptist men will make a crusade to Arizona Jan. 29-Feb. 4. The Brotherhood department of Mississippi Baptist Convention Board here will sponsor the venture.

The men, more than half of whom will be laymen, will speak in the churches, assist in making religious surveys and take part in evangelistic visitation. The men will pay their own expenses and in most cases are arranging car pools for transportation.

Areas where they will be serving include Phoenix, Tucson, Yuma, Flagstaff, Winslow, Douglas, Casa Grande, and Chandler, Ariz., and Las Vegas, Nev.

The invitation to the Mississippians came jointly from the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board and its Brotherhood Commission.

Mississippians visited Colorado previously.

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Men Chosen For Latin
Relief, Resettlement

(12-13-61)

ATLANTA (BP)--Workers for Southern Baptists' newly adopted ministry of relief and resettlement for Latin American refugees in Miami were named here by the denomination's Home Mission Board.

Robert Fricke of Miami, a missionary pastor and former teacher in the Cuban Baptist Seminary in Havana, was picked to administer the relief program in Miami and locate those wanting resettlement.

At the other end of the resettlement ministry will be R. G. Van Royen, of Dallas, a former superintendent of mission work in Panama and now a field worker for the language groups ministries department.

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Van Royen's work will be locating cities where sponsors will help resettle the refugees. He will lead in the organization of committees in associations and state conventions to deal with the problem.

The action came less than two weeks after the board adopted plans to put workers in the field and allotted \$10,000 for relief in Miami.

At the same time the board asked the denomination to raise \$50,000 as a part of the Annie Armstrong Offering and provide work and homes for a portion of the more than 100,000 Latins, mostly from Cuba, now in Miami.

Fricke, a native of Fort Worth, will work with Milton S. Leach Jr., director of Baptists' Spanish ministry in Miami.

Headquarters for the effort will be at the Latin American Center established by Miami Baptists at the Central Baptist Church.

As individuals make their needs known, Fricke will enlist the aid of Spanish Baptist pastors in Miami in meeting the physical and spiritual needs. As he learns of individuals needing resettlement, he will inform those working in this area.

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Moseley Selected
For Portland Post

(12-13-61)

(picture accompanies)

PORTLAND, Ore. (BP)--Fred B. Moseley of Atlanta, who has directed city missions work for Southern Baptists for two years, has been elected executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington.

He was elected at a special called session of the convention here, where state Baptist offices are located.

Moseley, who takes the new post Jan. 1, succeeds R. E. Milam of Portland. Milam is still a staff member of the convention, but resigned the executive position to direct the convention's capital needs program.

Administration of state convention affairs will not be new to Moseley, a former associate secretary of the Louisiana Baptist Convention for three years. He left that post in Alexandria, La., in 1959 to join the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

He has been secretary of the board's department of city missions. One of the "big city" programs of the Home Mission Board, during the SBC church extension emphasis in the West, was planned for Seattle, Wash. Southern Baptist churches in Seattle cooperate locally with the Oregon-Washington convention.

Moseley is a native of Gloster, Miss., and a graduate of Mississippi College (Baptist) at Clinton. He did his seminary work at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, from which he obtained the doctor of theology degree.

Other state convention administrative experience was gained while he served on the Executive Board of three conventions--Mississippi Baptist Convention, Alabama Baptist Convention and Louisiana convention.

There are over 160 churches cooperating with the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington including some in provinces of western Canada. The combined membership of these churches is about 24,000. Total collections by the churches for a year have amounted to \$1.5 million.

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Charles F. Sims Dies
After 10-Day Illness

GREENVILLE, S. C. (BP)--Dr. Charles F. Sims of Columbia, only a few weeks away from retirement as general secretary of South Carolina Baptist Convention, died here Dec. 11.

Death followed a 10-day illness in a Greenville hospital.

The 1961 session of the South Carolina convention in November had accepted his retirement, effective Jan. 1, 1962, and had honored him for his 12 years in the administrative post. He was 63.

The convention, in turn, had elected Sims its new president.

Horace G. Hammett of Columbia, assistant to Sims, had been elected to succeed Sims as general secretary on his retirement. Hammett was to be acting general secretary for the final weeks of 1961.

The first vice-president of the convention, David G. Anderson of Charleston, succeeds Sims in the convention presidency.

Burial services were held Dec. 13 at Washington Baptist Church near Greenville, where Sims united with the church at the age of 14. Hammett officiated. Sims was buried in the church-yard cemetery beside the body of Mrs. Sims, who died in 1959.

Survivors include one son, four daughters, a brother and a sister.

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NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE

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December ¹³~~12~~, 1961

Court Voids Florida
Non-Communist Oath

WASHINGTON (BP)-- The United States Supreme Court has unanimously struck down a non-Communist oath required of all public employes in the state of Florida.

The Florida law requires, among other things, that every state or local government worker swear that he has not and will not lend "aid, support, advice, counsel or influence to the Communist party."

Justice Potter Stewart, writing the opinion of the court, said the provision was too vague to be constitutional, and that it would inhibit perfectly lawful expression of opinion. He added that while ruling against the Florida requirement, the Supreme Court was not questioning the power of the state to safeguard the public service from disloyalty.

The oath was challenged by David Walton Cramp, Jr., a teacher in Orlando, Fla. It was discovered in 1959 that Cramp, who had been teaching for nine years, had never signed the oath. When asked to do so he refused. He was dismissed in 1960.

Cramp asked the state courts to declare the oath unconstitutional. He said that he was a "loyal American" and had never supported the Communist party but that he objected to the oath on principle.

Justice Stewart noted that the particular portion of the oath in question did not speak of Communist party membership or advocacy of the Government's overthrow. He questioned the meaning of the phrases "aid," "support," "advice," "counsel," and "influence."

"In the not-too-distant past," the Justice said, "Communist party candidates appeared regularly and legally on the ballot....Could one who had ever cast his vote for such a candidate safely subscribe to this legislative oath?"

The Justice further questioned, could a journalist who had ever defended the constitutional rights of the Communist party take such an oath, or could a lawyer who had ever represented the Communist party or its members?

"Indeed, could anyone honestly subscribe to this oath who had ever supported any cause with contemporaneous knowledge that the Communist party also supported it," he asked.

The Florida oath includes other passages dealing with party membership and belief in violent overthrow of the Government. These were not at issue in the Supreme Court case.

Court Reverses Negro
Sit-In Convictions

WASHINGTON (BP)-- The Supreme Court unanimously reversed the convictions of 16 Negro students in Louisiana for disturbing the peace by "sitting-in" at lunch counters.

The reason given for the decision by Chief Justice Earl Warren was not on the question of the right of a private business to exercise racial discrimination but rather on the question of disturbance of the peace. The Court reversed the convictions because there was no evidence that the peaceful behaviour of the students either had produced a public disturbance or had been likely to do so.

Warren said that the convictions "are so totally devoid of evidenciary support as to render them unconstitutional under the due process clause of the 14th Amendment." (The portion of the Constitution referred to says, "Nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.")

The cases, known as Garner et al vs. Louisiana, involved 16 Negro students at Southern University at Baton Rouge, La. They were convicted of disturbing the peace by sitting at lunch counters where they were refused service.

This decision did not deal with the question of sit-in convictions for violating trespass laws. Many of the cases now on their way to the Supreme Court are trespass, rather than breach-of-the-peace convictions.

Although Justices W. O. Douglas and J. M. Harlan agreed with the reversal of the Louisiana convictions, they disagreed on the question of possible violence arising from the sit-ins. They recognized the possibility of disturbance in segregated communities.

Justice Douglas would have reversed the decision for a more sweeping reason than was given by the Chief Justice. He said that no restaurant operating under a state or local license should be allowed to exclude customers on account of race.

Some reporters have observed that the Constitution prohibits only racial discrimination stemming from some governmental action. It has been the opinion that it does not touch private discrimination.

However, Justice Douglas said that restaurants were "affected with a public interest." Evidence of this public interest is that in most areas restaurants are licensed and must meet health standards.

"I do not believe that a state that licenses a business can license it to serve only whites or only blacks or only yellows or only browns," Justice Douglas said.

Justice Harlan took his position on a different ground. He said that the constitutional right of the Negro students to express opinions had been abridged without proof of any opposite "overriding interest" of the state. He said that the Negro students were propagating ideas by their sit-in demonstrations.

No state can curb such expression, Justice Harlan said, without passing a particular statute, demonstrating that it presents "a clear and present danger to the welfare of the community."

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Institutions Request
\$50,644,000 In Loans

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(12-12-61)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Thirty colleges, universities and hospitals requested a total of \$50,644,000 in College Housing Loans during November, according to Sidney H. Woolner of the Community Facilities Administration of the Housing and Home Finance Agency.

Of the institutions requesting loans, nine are church-related colleges, which asked for a total of \$5,368,000. These include Roman Catholic (4), Methodist (2), Society of Friends (2), and Christian Reformed (1). There were no Baptist schools in the list.

Other institutions requesting college housing loans include 12 state owned schools, six private schools and three hospitals.

Woolner said there is no assurance that these applications will be approved and "this is merely an announcement of applications received."

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Former SBC President
Visits Pope In Rome

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Brooks Hays, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Mrs. Hays visited Pope John XXIII at the Vatican during a trip to five European capitals.

Hays is special assistant to President John F. Kennedy. The papal visit was made while he was Under Secretary of State.

In making the announcement Hays emphasized that his visit to the Pope was not as a representative of the Southern Baptist Convention and "was wholly unrelated to my governmental duties." He said that he visited the Pope as a private citizen.

"Pope John and I met as fellow Christians without concern at that moment over differences between the religious bodies with which we are identified," Hays said.

He continued, "Our meeting symbolized, it seems to me, the interest that all Christians have in strengthening religious freedom and other freedoms throughout the world. We can hardly hope to see an end to political aggressions unless we of the Christian faith, whatever our affiliation, exhibit an active spirit of unity and brotherhood."

The high point of the talk with the Pope, Hays said, was his statement, "We are brothers in Christ."

Directing an observation to the Southern Baptist Convention Hays said, "It is my conviction that Southern Baptists should try to match every gesture of good will from Catholics and other Christians and thus strengthen freedom around the world."

Arrangements for the papal meeting were made by Monsignor Luigi Ligutti, long-time friend of Hays. Ligutti is the Pope's adviser on rural problems and is the Vatican delegate to the Farm and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The two were closely associated in the 1930's when Hays was Assistant Director of Rural Rehabilitation and while Ligutti was serving an Iowa parish. They have maintained contact through the years and have shared a mutual interest in rural problems.

The visit with the Pope was in a private reception room in the Vatican at 10:30 a.m. It was for about 15 minutes.

Hays described the conversation with the Pope as one "with a very inspiring religious flavor." The Pope asked about his family. When he said that it was his daughter's birthday, the Pope promised to mention the Hays family by name later in the day during his rosary prayers.

Also during the visit in Italy Hays visited with Msgr. J. G. M. Willebrands of Holland, Secretary for the Unity of Christians with headquarters in the Vatican. He also visited Fr. Thomas F. Stransky of Milwaukee, who has been active in promoting the current dialogue between Protestants and Catholics.

Hays commented, "I have the feeling that in the light of the appointment of Msgr. Willebrands and the Pope's statements in recent months that Catholic leaders wish to help create conditions that make for greater effectiveness in strengthening religious institutions and in establishing Christian unity--in short, establishing better Protestant relationships."

Hays visited Baptist leaders in both Italy and Spain during his trip. Although he deplored the sufferings of the Baptist people in Roman Catholic Spain, he reported hopeful signs for more religious freedom there.

He said that although Baptists are still having difficulty in validating marriages and in securing burial rights, it is not as severe as formerly. He said that the Baptists have no legal status in Spain but they are working to attain such standing.

Hays pointed out that if Baptists in either Italy or Spain achieve more religious liberty it would not be because of their political strength in either country. There are 5,251 Baptists in Italy and only 3,172 in Spain.

Texas Baptist PR Man
Goes To Peace Corps

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Lloyd Wright, director of Public Relations for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, has been named Director of Community Relations for the U. S. Peace Corps, according to R. Sargent Shriver, Director of the Peace Corps.

As Director of Community Relations, Wright will have charge of relations between the Peace Corps and national, state and local organizations. He will work with service clubs, civic groups, and religious organizations.

A main responsibility of the post will be to plan and implement an education program. He will be in charge of preparation of recruitment pamphlets, brochures, films and other materials.

In this position, Wright will work in the office of Public Affairs under the direction of Bill Moyers, associate director of the Peace Corps in charge of public affairs.

Wright has been director of public relations for the Baptist General Convention of Texas since 1959. For three years prior to that he was associate director in the public relations office. His appointment to the Peace Corps will become effective January 15, 1962.

A graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Tex., Wright was associated with several Texas radio stations before going to the Baptist convention work.

T. A. Patterson, executive secretary of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, said Wright "has given Texas Baptists outstanding service as public relations director.... He has maintained excellent contacts with the news media and communications organizations, and has been exceedingly helpful in areas of public relations administration."

At a meeting of the executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, a special committee headed by K. O. White, Houston pastor, brought the following resolution:

"The decision of Lloyd Wright to leave the executive board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and to accept a position with the Peace Corps brings real regret to all who have known him and served with him for almost five years.

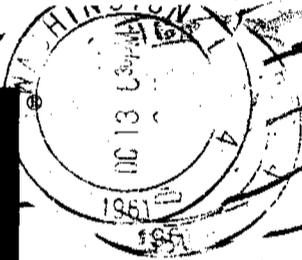
"His decision, sound judgment and marked ability in the whole area of public relations have endeared him to his co-workers and friends. He has rendered extremely valuable service here and will have the sincere prayers and well wishes of many as he engages in a new venture in which Christian citizenship such as his may have great impact."

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