

FROM REGIONAL OFFICE
LLOYD WRIGHT, regional editor
103 Baptist Building, Dallas 1, Texas
Telephone: Office — Riverside 1-1996
Residence — Blackburn 4-6221

April 6, 1962

Baptist Mission Board Changes Migrant Work

ATLANTA (BP)--The day of the traveling Baptist missionary, who follows the migrant stream from crop to crop in a house trailer, is passing.

A recent action here by the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention changed that group's basic approach to migrant work.

The Home Mission Board had employed 12 missionaries, furnished with house trailers, to move with the farm workers as they have harvested the crops of the nation.

The new approach is to get rid of the house trailers, settle the missionary in a central city for a designated area, and let him enlist and instruct churches in providing a spiritual ministry to the migrants.

"Our objective is to enlist the associations and churches in a sustained ministry to the migrants," said Robert R. Harvey of Dallas, director of migrant missions for the agency.

"This approach will give permanence to the work and multiply the usefulness of the missionaries," said Harvey.

The nation has been divided into eight areas as follows: (1) Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina; (2) North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland; (3) Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, and Southeast Missouri; (4) Texas and Oklahoma; (5) California; (6) Oregon, Washington, and Idaho; (7) Arizona, Colorado, and Utah; and (8) Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana.

Harvey said materials have been prepared to provide guidance to the associations and churches in setting up and carrying out the work. There will also be more emphasis placed on establishing migrant care centers with programs for children and adults.

--30--

San Francisco Bumper Car Stickers Ready

(4-6-62)

NASHVILLE (BP)--Driving to the Southern Baptist Convention in San Francisco? If so, you may want to identify yourself to fellow Baptists and others as you drive west.

A black and orange reflector-type bumper sticker which says "Southern Baptist Convention, San Francisco, June 5-8" may be obtained without charge.

Send your request to public relations office, Executive Committee, 127 Ninth Avenue, North, Nashville 3, Tenn. Orders will be filled as long as the supply lasts.

--30--

The Baptist World
Receives Merit Award

NEW YORK (BP)--The Baptist World, monthly publication of the Baptist World Alliance, has won an award of merit for news treatment.

The award was given by the Associated Church Press at its annual meeting here. C. E. Bryant of Washington is editor of the Baptist World.

The Baptist Record, weekly newspaper for Mississippi Baptists, won two honorable mentions from the association. One honorable mention came for news treatment and the other for excellence in treatment of the denominational program and organized activities.

Southern Baptists who attended the meeting of the Associated Church Press were Gainer E. Bryan, Jr., editor of the Maryland Baptist; Erwin L. McDonald, Little Rock, editor of the Arkansas Baptist; Miss Dot Weeks, Birmingham, editor of Tell, a Woman's Missionary Union publication; Mrs. Fern Hurt, editorial assistant, the Baptist Messenger, Oklahoma City; W. C. Fields and Theo Sommerkamp from the Baptist Program and Baptist Press news staff in Nashville, and Marse Grant, Raleigh, N. C., editor of Biblical Recorder.

C. Emmanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, was participant on a symposium. The subject of the discussion was "Facing Inter-Faith Tensions."

Other panelists also included a Jewish rabbi, a Catholic editor, and an official from the Rhode Island state Council of Churches.

The 1963 meeting of the Associated Church Press will be held in Nashville, April 3-5, with Fields heading the program committee. Baptist agencies in Nashville are expected to be hosts to several events during the three-day meeting in 1963.

The Associated Church Press includes representatives from 163 publications. These publications have a combined circulation of 17,000,000.

--30--

Baylor Student Group
Approves Desegregation

WACO, Tex. (BP)--A resolution calling for the removal of racial barriers at Baylor University here has been overwhelmingly approved by the school's Student Congress.

The student governing body urged the Baptist school's administration to take action to integrate the institution by a 30-5 vote.

Both sides of the question were hotly debated by members of the Student Congress during an hour-long session.

Opponents of the resolution said that if Texas Baptists wanted integration at Baylor, the university would already be desegregated.

Those in favor of desegregation said that it was the duty of the Student Congress to pass the resolution since it is the "voice of the student body."

In a recent campus-wide straw vote on the issue, students favored admission of qualified Negro students and their participation in Southwest Conference athletics. They opposed, however, integration of dormitories.

--more--

The opposition also said that passing the resolution would embarrass the administration and endanger the university's receipt of gifts from donors who oppose integration.

Supporters of the resolution replied that if the administration was embarrassed over the straw vote, steps would have been taken to prevent the Student Congress from dealing with the question.

A month earlier, Baylor President Abner McCall told the students at a special panel discussion on Baylor policies that "an emotional change must be made among Texas Baptists before a movement toward integration will be put into action."

President McCall said that Baylor would continue its present admission policies until the school's board of trustees, elected by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, approves a change.

--30--

Mississippi Colleges
Set Baptist Courses

(4-6-62)

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--A new course, "An Introduction to Baptist Work," will be offered next fall in the four Baptist schools operated by the Mississippi Baptist Convention, Baptist leaders said here.

The study will emphasize the denomination's history and doctrine, and will include a study of the association, the state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention.

A group of institutional and denominational leaders meeting recently to plan curriculum materials for the course recommended that the course be required for all ministerial students and those preparing for religious education, and that students studying to be church musicians be encouraged to take the course.

The growing size of the denomination and its complexity of organization were cited as the needs for the course, said Foy Rogers of Jackson, secretary of the cooperative missions department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, sponsor of the project.

Schools slated to offer the course include Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss.; William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss.; Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, Miss.; and Clarke Memorial College, Newton, Miss.

Attending the meeting were Chester L. Quarles, executive secretary of the state convention; Carey Cox of Brandon, Miss., president of the state convention; Lewis Newman of Atlanta, associate in the department of associational missions, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; and the deans and professors of Bible and religious education at the convention's four colleges.

--30--

Folks and facts.....

(4-6-62)

.....President John F. Kennedy has named the president of Baylor University in Waco, Tex., Abner V. McCall, as one of nine members of the Commission on International Rules of Judicial Procedure. The commission studies and works out rules of international legal procedures. McCall is a former associate justice of the Texas Supreme Court. (BP)

--30--

Southern Baptists "Orbit"
With 90 Days on Networks

By Clarence Duncan

Lt. Col. John Glenn wasn't the only one to go "out of this world" in February--Southern Baptists also hit a high point in coverage of the nation by radio and television in February, March and April.

Six television programs and four radio shows produced jointly by the networks and the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission in Fort Worth were carried on nation-wide radio and television networks.

There has never been another 90-day period in Southern Baptist history when the denomination received this kind of recognition by these two great instruments of the mass media--radio and television.

Three Southern Baptist television programs were featured by the National Broadcasting Co. on February 4, 11, and 18.

First in the "Southern Baptist Hour" series was "From the Most High Cometh Healing," an award-winning documentary report of a major development in modern medicine. Second was "Operation Brother's Brother," telling of an unusual medical mission to Liberia. The denomination's efforts to rehabilitate Hong Kong were telecast in color as a special show entitled "To Breathe Free" on February 18.

March saw the NBC radio network presenting Southern Baptist programs on "Faith in Action" dealing with the "Concept of Christian Vocation" on four consecutive Sundays. Four well-known men told of personal motivation and Christian witness.

In April the denomination was represented on the three major networks with three television programs and one for radio.

In another historical "first" NBC-TV featured Southern Baptists in an hour-long "special" on Palm Sunday, April 15, live from Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth.

Columbia Broadcasting System featured on its April 1 "Church of the Air" program a sermon by Jaroy Weber, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Beaumont, Tex., and music by the Baptist Hour Choir.

The CBS-TV weekly religion program "Lamp Unto My Feet," featured a quarter-hour dramatic satire on mass communication, followed by comments on the Christian use of mass media by Paul M. Stevens, director of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

The American Broadcasting Company's weekly television program, "Directions '62" will present a follow-up report on "Operation Brother's Brother," on Sunday, April 29. Film prepared by the Baptist Radio-TV Commission will be used with live discussion.

Southern Baptists are a minority group when compared to protestant organizations such as the National Council of Churches with more than 30 million members. But the Southern Baptist "voice" is heard and quality recognized when six television and four radio programs are accepted by all three of America's major networks in a three-month period.

NOTE TO EDITORS: If your publication date is BEFORE April 15, please change verb tense in graph 8 to "will feature..." Also, if your publication date is AFTER April 29, please change verb tense in next-to-last graph to "presented a follow-up report..." and "was used with live discussion."

Thanks.

--30--

Mississippi Women Told
"Go Forward, Be Not Afraid"

CLARKSDALE, Miss. (BP)--A Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union leader told the Mississippi Baptist Woman's Missionary Union Convention here to "go forward" and not be afraid of Communism, the race problem, and a thermonuclear war.

"God will act mightily on behalf of those who will do what is in their power to do if they will act in faith, believing," said Mrs. Wm. McMurry of Birmingham, Ala., director of the promotion division for the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

She told the state woman's convention that Americans are being pursued by "the ad men, the heavy tax burden of the government, and the materialist who would substitute science for God."

"In the eyes of the materialist, we have outgrown God," she said. To operate the federal government it cost more from 1956-1960 than in the first 152 years of operation," she said.

Mrs. McMurry cited the race problem as the number one problem in the world today, and said that we are afraid of Communism, the race problem, and a thermonuclear war.

Four-fifths of the world will be Communist by 1968 if the trend is not reversed, said Mrs. McMurry in quoting Frank Laubach.

Speaking on the fear of a thermonuclear war, she quoted Edward Teller, father of the H-Bomb, as saying "man has never had a decisive weapon he did not eventually use."

She added there is a great gulf between what we profess in church on Sunday and what we practice during the week. "Jesus has never revoked his 'Go Ye,'" Mrs. McMurry said. "The command is still relevant and imperative."

--30--

Folks and facts.....

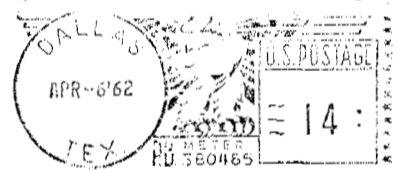
(4-6-62)

.....Jack Bird, associate director of public relations for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, has been named coordinator of production for Keitz and Herndon, Inc., a motion picture production firm in Dallas. Bird, who has served as technical director for the Texas Baptist office of public relations for the past ten years, will be in charge of coordinating the production of motion pictures in the three divisions of the Dallas commercial film production organization. A graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., Bird was in charge of the Texas Baptist work in motion pictures, film strips, photography, radio program production, and technical services. (BP)

--30--

BAPTIST PRESS

103 BAPTIST BUILDING
DALLAS 1, TEXAS



VIA AIR MAIL

Theo Sommerkamp X
Executive Committee
127 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville, Tennessee

A CO-OPERATIVE TEXAS AND SOUTHERN BAPTIST NEWS SERVICE
WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE

By W. Barry Garrett*

A move to get everybody "off the hook" in the parochial school controversy is being pushed in the Congress. It is an effort to write into a parochial school loan bill a provision that would provide for a court decision on the constitutionality of across the board loans to parochial schools.

The bill (S. 1482) is sponsored by Sen. Joseph S. Clark (D., Pa.) and Sen. Wayne Morse (D., Ore.). It is called "a bill to authorize loans to private nonprofit schools for the construction of elementary and secondary school facilities." The limitation on the loans would be "in an amount not exceeding the total construction cost of the facilities for which made."

The parochial school loan bill was scheduled for hearings last year before a sub-committee of the Senate committee on Labor and Public Welfare. It was suddenly canceled without explanation.

Washington observers concluded that the reason for the cancelation was that the Roman Catholic bishops got word to the men on the Hill that they would not be satisfied with loans if the public schools were given grants. Nor did they want to gamble on the possible outcome of a court case. Others would be willing to take that chance.

Now the bill crops up again in remarks by Senators Clark and Morse on the floor of the Senate. Both men urged passage of the bill in order to settle once for all the question of the constitutionality of loans to parochial schools.

Here is the way such a bill would "settle" the constitutionality of such loans.

The provision for judicial review would give standing in a statutory court to three categories of plaintiffs: (1) a school whose application for a loan has been denied by the U. S. Commissioner of Education on the ground that such a loan violates the first amendment; (2) a citizen who pays income taxes and who challenges such loans as a violation of the first amendment; and (3) a school whose application has been denied because of lack of funds might ask for a review of the loans to other schools as violations of the first amendment.

If the plaintiff loses his case in the lower court, he might then appeal to the Supreme Court. The higher court would decide whether or not to hear the case. The chances are overwhelming that it would not hear the case because of the decision in 1923 in the case of Massachusetts v. Mellon.

At that time the court ruled that a federal taxpayer, by virtue of that fact alone, cannot challenge the use of money properly appropriated by Congress. The reason for this ruling is, that one taxpayer's contribution for the appropriated purpose is negligible. Because of this ruling it has become most difficult for a case to be presented which the courts will hear.

Thus the ruling of the lower court on the constitutionality of loans to parochial schools would become the standard interpretation of the law of the land without any ruling from the Supreme Court.

Sen. Morse said in his remarks to the Senate that he and Sen. Clark "with the approval of the Attorney General and the knowledge of the President, worked with the Solicitor General in drafting the wording of that section of the bill" that provided for judicial review.

It is not likely that this bill will be brought before the Congress for action this year. However, it is possible that this provision for judicial review could be incorporated in other bills in the future.

The effect of such a provision would be to get everybody, from the President on down, off the constitutional hook that prohibits aid to parochial schools. But it would not be a genuine decision by the highest court in the land on the meaning of the first amendment in relation to loans to parochial schools.

*Mr. Garrett is associate director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Washington, D. C.

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

April 6, 1962

Prayer Case Argued
In Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (BP)-- The Supreme Court heard the arguments on whether it is constitutional to say a daily prayer in New York public schools. The decision, which is expected in the near future, will have far-reaching effects in the public schools throughout the nation.

The prayer, recommended in 1951 by the New York Board of Regents for all public schools, reads as follows:

"Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, and we beg Thy blessing upon us, our parents, our teachers and our country."

The case was brought by five parents in New Hyde Park, N.Y., who objected to the prayer as a violation of the first amendment of the Constitution. Two of the parents are Jewish, one Unitarian, one a member of the Society for Ethical Culture and one an agnostic.

Each morning in the New Hyde Park schools in each classroom the teacher or a pupil leads in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the "Regents'" prayer, as it has come to be known. Pupils may refrain from participation or may be excused upon request.

Testimony before the Supreme Court pointed out that thus far no request for a pupil to be excused has been received and only one request to refrain from participation has been registered.

Arguments were advanced that the prayer was a form of coercion in religion. It was pointed out that the teachers were under instruction to lead the class in the prayer, but that the pupils were not under orders to participate because they could be excused if they wished.

Defendants of the prayer denied that there has ever been an element of coercion involved in the practice. Opponents said that even though the school board did not make pupil participation mandatory the compulsory school attendance law did in fact bring in the element of coercion.

In addition the attorney for the five parents emphasized that this prayer constituted a form of religious education in the public school, which, he said, is forbidden by the Constitution as interpreted in a number of previous court decisions.

In their questions during the hearing the Justices made inquiry about the similarities and differences between this prayer and that invoked in courts of law for the help of Almighty God.

They wanted to know the difference between this recognition of religion and that of the Pledge of Allegiance, which declares that this is a nation "under God." In reply it was said that one was a pledge of allegiance to a country and the other was to a God, one is political and the other is religious.

The attorney for the school board made much of the contention that from its beginning in many of its public documents this nation has given recognition to deity. The Mayflower Compact, the Declaration of Independence, the practice of the colonies and the constitutions of the states were cited as evidence.

-more-

It was asserted that 49 out of the 50 states have some recognition of deity in their constitutions. "This prayer paraphrases what is in all of these state constitutions," it was said.

Defendants of the Regents' prayer said that the constitution does not prohibit a religious state but that it does forbid a state religion.

A sharp distinction was made between acknowledging religion and promoting religion. It was asserted that it was the purpose of the school board to promote the traditions of the nation but not to teach religion.

Both sides argued that the first amendment's prohibiting an "establishment of religion" and guaranteeing the "free exercise thereof" proved their contentions. Both cited previous court decisions to establish their points.

This promises to be a most difficult decision for the Court. Regardless of the decision extensive consequences may follow. If the prayer is unconstitutional, many religious practices now allowed in many public schools may be discontinued. On the other hand, if it is constitutional, it is possible that the insistence for more religion in the public schools may be strongly accelerated.

-30-

Senator Hits Liquor
Parties In Capitol

(4-6-62)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- A United States Senator has taken issue with the "increasing frequency in recent years" of serving liquor at functions using the physical facilities of the Capitol and the Senate Office Buildings.

Sen. Wayne Morse (D., Ore.), in remarks to the Senate, said that in his opinion the "growing social pattern of holding affairs in rooms in the Capitol and in the Senate Office Buildings at which hard liquor is served" cannot be justified.

The Senator said that to millions of American citizens such action constitutes a desecration of these public facilities and that it should be stopped. He said that official action should be taken by Congress, and that Members of Congress should be asked to stand up and be counted on the issue.

"Let them answer back home for any vote in support of such a desecration of the buildings belonging to the taxpayers of this country," Morse said.

He gave several reasons for his position on the matter. He said he did not believe that it is a good example for lawmakers to be setting for the youth of the country, and that since this involves a moral issue in the viewpoint of many, the serving of liquor in these public buildings should be prohibited. Under no stretch of the imagination, the Senator continued, could such be justified when it amounts to the setting up of a bar in connection with social gatherings in these public buildings.

Morse stated that he was not responsible for serving liquor at such affairs, that he would not knowingly attend such an affair, and that if he should find himself in such an affair and liquor were served he would leave immediately because "I do not think it is good public policy."

The Senator concluded his remarks by saying this would not be the last of his comments on this subject if the practice continues.

-30-

Baptist School Gets
\$700,000 Federal Loan

(4-6-62)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- A Baptist college in North Carolina was one of 24 church-related and private institutions receiving college housing loans in March, according to the Housing and Home Finance Agency of the Community Facilities Administration.

-more-

Campbell College, Buie's Creek, N. C., operated by North Carolina Baptists, was approved for a \$700,000 college housing loan. The funds will be used for construction of two dormitories and ten faculty apartments.

A total of \$22,890,000 in loans was approved for the 24 private and church-related colleges and universities. These include, in addition to the Baptist school, Methodist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Church of God, Evangelical and Reformed, and Christian Methodist Episcopal.

Eleven state schools were approved for loans amounting to \$14,080,250.

In February loans totaling \$25,915,000 were approved for 14 colleges and universities, of which amount \$17,070,000 went to private and church-related schools. Only two church schools were included in the February loans, a Methodist and a Roman Catholic.

-30-

State Legal Experts
Plead For Prayer

(4-6-62)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Attorneys general of 19 states in an amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief told the United States Supreme Court that to rule a voluntary, non-sectarian prayer in public schools unconstitutional would have far-reaching, undesirable results.

The brief was submitted by Roger D. Foley, attorney general of Nevada, on behalf of the chief legal officers of these states: Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Texas.

It was admitted to argument in the case as the Court heard attorneys for the New Hyde Park, N. Y., school board and for a group of complaining parents argue constitutionality of the 22-word prayer used in its classrooms.

The prayer, approved by the Board of Regents of New York in 1951 for use in public school classrooms, is as follows:

"Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, and we beg Thy blessings upon us, our parents, our teachers, and our country."

If the Regents' prayer cannot be recited in a public school classroom without violating the Constitution, the state legal officers said, a similar attack can be made on recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance with its reference to God, on use of the motto 'In God We Trust' on coins and stamps, on the religious motto of the Great Seal of the United States, on the prayers which open sessions of Congress, the state legislatures, and other public occasions, and even on the opening words of each session of the Supreme Court itself when its marshal declares, "God save the United States of America, God save this Honorable Court."

"There is nothing in the first amendment which limits its prohibition against an 'establishment of religion' to the field of education," they warned the high court.

"If the voluntary recitation of this nondenominational prayer in public schools is unconstitutional, then it should logically follow that the public acknowledgment of and prayer to Almighty God must be banished from all governmental functions," they declared.

Pointing to the fact that the architects of the U. S. Constitution were men of religious faith, the attorneys general expressed the opinion that they would have been "profoundly shocked" if they had known that in "the Year of our Lord 1962 a voluntary nondenominational acknowledgment of a Supreme Being and a petition for his blessings, recited by American children in their classrooms, would be seriously attacked as a violation of that Constitution."

They said that, as attorneys general of the sovereign states, they believe in the right of every man to profess belief or disbelief in God, but nevertheless "we firmly believe that as a nation, America must remain true to her religious heritage and tradition."

"Our children," they said, "must have every opportunity to gain an appreciation of this heritage and tradition, not only at home and in the church, but also in public activities, including public schools and other governmental functions."

The Supreme Court has taken the New York case under advisement and is expected to announce its decision before the end of its present term in June.

-30-

BAPTIST PRESS

1628 - 16TH ST. N.W.
WASHINGTON 9. D. C



AIR MAIL

THEO SOMMERKAMP
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
127 NINTH AVENUE, NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENN

THE WASHINGTON OFFICE OF THE BAPTIST PRESS

WATCH FOR THE (BP) CREDIT LINE