

FROM WASHINGTON OFFICE
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May 6, 1965

Baptist Joint Committee
Names Research Director

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Walfred H. Peterson, of St. Paul, Minn., will head the new research program of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, according to C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director.

The Baptist Joint Committee is beginning an expanded program of study and research in public affairs in the Nation's Capital. It will in effect be a miniature "research center." Peterson will begin his duties as director of research on August 1.

In announcing the new staff member Carlson said, "Dr. Peterson is an able and well-established political scientist. Neither the issues nor the Washington scene are new to him." Peterson served in the intern program of the Baptist Joint Committee in 1961 and 1963.

The new research program brings the executive staff of the Baptist Joint Committee to four full-time men. In addition to the executive director and the research director there are two other associates in the work. W. Barry Garrett is associate director for information services, and James M. Sapp is associate director for correlation services.

Peterson is currently professor of political science at Bethel College, St. Paul. During 1964 and 1965 he has been visiting lecturer in the graduate school at the University of Minnesota. Previously he was an instructor in the extension school of the university.

He is a graduate of Bethel College and the University of Minnesota, from which he holds the doctor of philosophy degree. He has had other teaching experience at the University of Washington, Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Ore., and Washington State University.

He has had scholarly articles published in the Western Political Quarterly, Journal of the Minnesota Academy of Science, Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation, and in other denominational and religious publications.

"Baptists and other friends of freedom will find in Dr. Peterson a man of genuine scholarship and competence," Carlson said.

"He is a man of broad Christian sympathies and general good will. He will add much to the effective work already being done by the Baptist Joint Committee."

Peterson and his wife, Marianne, have two children, Nils (8) and Elsa (5).

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(NOTE: Picture of Peterson mailed to Baptist state paper editors. Picture available to others upon request.---Barry Garrett)

No Vatican Ambassador
Probable At This Time

(5-6-65)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Rumors that the appointment of an ambassador from the United States to the Vatican is imminent have no basis in fact according to findings of a Baptist Press investigation.

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The present domestic and world political and religious situation make the appointment of such an ambassador "incredible," according to observations on the rumors by C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

United Press International reported categorical denial of the rumors by highest Administration authorities. Other reliable sources also confirm this finding.

Rumors such as this begin and gain impetus in numerous ways. For instance, on April 8 James Reston, columnist for the New York Times wrote an article from Rome. He advocated a United States ambassador to the Vatican. Some people thought this was a "trial balloon" to see what public reaction would be. Some other columnists took the same line.

Practically no attention was paid to Reston's suggestion until Henry Cabot Lodge made a surprise visit to the pope later in April. Immediately rumors spread that Lodge was in effect already the President's ambassador to the pope and that he was reporting in for duty. All that remained, the rumor said, was for a public announcement to be made.

This was followed by a news release from Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State (POAU) that such an appointment would serve only to "promote intercredal strife."

In dismissing the rumors Carlson said that they "have all lacked the earmarks of credence." He gave President Johnson's administration credit for being able to read the political signs of the times.

At least three lines of thought, the Baptist leader said, would argue against such an appointment. Carlson observed:

"1. The appointment of a United States representative to the Vatican at this point in the struggle in Vietnam would be viewed by the public as taking a partisan position on Vietnam's internal affairs--a position that would cause deep division internally in the United States.

"Obviously, the American government must keep world leadership, including the Vatican, informed on the American goals. But this does not mean representation.

"2. The American public is in the process of resolving a quarter century conflict over parochial demands for public funds. To reopen now the rifts of the forties regarding the status of the Roman Catholic Church--as 'church' and as 'state'--would be most unlikely.

"3. The current effort of the Roman Catholic Church to achieve a new position with reference to religious liberty would be greatly confused if the church now sought diplomatic representation from the American government. The Washington grapevines are notably lacking of any such desires on the part of Roman Catholic leadership in the U.S.

"In short, there are now no significant gains in sight which could motivate this kind of change in the situation at the present time. On the contrary, there are major dangers and complications in full view for all concerned."

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Baptist Writer Looks At
Judicial Review Issue

(5-6-65)

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Why did Congress refuse to include a constitutional "judicial review" provision in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965?

In an article in the May issue of Report From The Capital, a monthly bulletin of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, W. Barry Garrett said that "this device would really amount to a statement by Congressmen that they cannot read the Constitution."

Garrett, associate director of the Baptist Joint Committee, also said that there were both legal and political reasons that constitutional judicial review was not included in the nation's new education program.

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A type of judicial review is a part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. It grants the states (but not the local school districts) the right to sue the federal Commissioner of Education. However, this is not the same as judicial review of the constitutionality of an Act of Congress.

During the debate on the education bill a number of groups both inside and outside the Congress fought for an amendment to authorize court tests of the constitutionality of parts or all of the Act. The Congress, however, strongly rejected all such efforts.

"In order to have the constitutional questions ultimately resolved, we must await the administrative regulations being worked out by the Office of Education, the application of the provisions of the Act by the states and local communities, and the actual court cases or controversies that must follow the traditional patterns of testing constitutionality," Garrett said.

He pointed out three reasons efforts were made in Congress to include judicial review in the bill:

1. Some were convinced that this is the only way to get constitutional questions easily and quickly into the courts.
2. Some were using these proposals "as a nuisance and obstructionist gimmick to delay, alter or defeat the bill."
3. Some said that the bill violated the Constitution and that the courts should be given the privilege of ruling on its constitutionality.

Amendments to include constitutional judicial review in the education bill were offered by Rep. Howard W. Smith (D., Va.), Rep. John B. Anderson (R., Ill.) in the House of Representatives. In the Senate Sen. Sam J. Ervin (D., N.C.) offered an amendment. It was co-sponsored by Sen. John Sherman Cooper (R., Ky.) and Sen. John Stennis (D., Miss.).

Arguments against such provisions were presented by Sen. Wayne Morse (D., Ore.), Sen. Jacob Javits (R., N.Y.), and Rep. Emanuel Celler (D., N.Y.).

Arguments for constitutional judicial review were:

1. Previous Supreme Court rulings make it extremely difficult for a taxpayer's suit against the federal government to come before the courts; a judicial review provision would overcome this handicap.
2. Some felt the dual enrollment provisions, or the services available for parochial school children, or the bill itself, unconstitutional; judicial review would clarify what could and could not be done under the bill.
3. Some felt the bill was constitutional but that it would be administered in unconstitutional ways; judicial review would assure that constitutional principles would be followed.

Arguments against a constitutional judicial review provision were:

1. Including such a provision would defeat the bill itself.
2. Such a provision was not necessary because a form of judicial review was already in the bill; cases could come through normal court procedure, originating in the states.
3. Recent Supreme Court cases have relaxed the standards governing standing to sue where the freedom or establishment of religion is involved.
4. Such a provision would in effect be saying Congress has doubts concerning the constitutionality of its Acts.
5. Such a provision would be an invitation for numerous court suits, thereby delaying a large number of federal activities.

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Baptist Press

Religious Issue Raised
In Right-To-Work Laws

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Conscientious objectors to compulsory labor union membership are raising a religious freedom issue in the proposed repeal of Section 14 (b) of the Taft-Hartley Act.

Section 14 (b) permits state "right-to-work" laws barring union shops. A right-to-work law prohibits compulsory union membership as a requirement for holding a job. Repeal of 14(b) would make it possible for states to enact compulsory union membership laws.

Some minority groups, on religious grounds, are opposed to their members joining labor unions. If compulsory labor union membership laws are enacted, this would force conscientious objectors either to violate their conscience in order to hold a job or to be forced out of work if they follow their conscience, according to the protest being launched.

The Seventh Day Adventists, certain Mennonite groups, the Plymouth Brethren, the Old German Baptist Brethren and others feel that they will be discriminated against if Section 14 (b) is repealed without a conscientious objection exception being included in the Taft-Hartley law.

One proposed exemption clause being pushed by these groups would provide: "No person who, by reason of religious training and belief, is conscientiously opposed to being a member of or supporting a labor organization shall be required to do so as a condition to his employment or continuance thereof with any employer."

According to the protest, the conscientious objectors are willing to pay a fee to some government agency equivalent to labor union fees in order to demonstrate that they do not want the advantages of collective bargaining without paying the cost.

Some of these groups are sponsoring large newspaper ads throughout the nation to get their viewpoint before the people. Some of them have asked to be allowed to testify at hearings before committees of Congress.

These religious objector groups are not to be confused with labor union groups who want repeal of Section 14 (b) or with management groups who want Taft-Hartley to stand as it is. Labor union groups generally are opposed to right-to-work laws. Management groups generally are opposed to a closed shop.

Hearings on the proposed Taft-Hartley change are scheduled for May. Some of the conscientious objector groups have asked to present their case before the Congressional committees. Congress faces the job of deciding whether or not they have a proper case for religious objection and whether or not exception for them should be written into the law.

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R. T. McCARTNEY, *Regional Editor*

Lots to See, Do
In SBC Host City

By Charles Arrendell
Baptist Press Texas Bureau

The 15,000 Baptists expected to attend sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention and related meetings in Dallas May 31-June 4 will have plenty to see and to do in their "spare" time, if any.

The world's largest Southern Baptist, Methodist, and Southern Presbyterian churches, eight Baptist institutions and agencies, the famed Six Flags Over Texas amusement park, the State Fair of Texas and Cotton Bowl facilities are but a few of the attractions in Dallas and neighboring Fort Worth.

Many of the messengers to the convention will arrive in Dallas on Sunday, May 30, in time to worship with one of the 226 Baptist churches and missions in the Dallas Baptist Association.

In downtown Dallas just north of Memorial Auditorium where the convention meets is the SBC's largest church---the 13,000 member First Baptist Church of Dallas.

Across the street from the church is the Baptist Building, owned by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and one block away is the Southern Baptist Annuity Board building.

Farther north in the Highland Park area of Dallas are the Highland Park Presbyterian and the Highland Park Methodist churches, the largest churches of their respective denominations.

Overshadowing the downtown skyline is the tallest building west of the Mississippi River---the First National Bank of Dallas. Atop this 52 story skyscraper is a walk-around observation tower where visitors can see the city of Fort Worth on a clear day.

Just down the street, is an intersection sometimes called "the shame of Dallas." It is the site of the Triple Underpass and Texas School Book Depository where President John F. Kennedy was slain by a mad assassin. Near this same intersection is the court house where Jack Ruby underwent trial for the murder of accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald.

Between Dallas and Fort Worth is Six Flags Over Texas, an amusement park laid out in six sections--one depicting each of the six governments which flew their flags over Texas, the Spanish, Mexican, French, Republic of Texas, Confederate and United States flags. No beer or alcoholic beverage is sold at this family amusement center.

Avid baseball fans may want to take in a Texas League game at the Dallas-Fort Worth Spurs' new Turnpike Stadium located between the two cities.

In Fort Worth is the largest seminary in the world--Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, as well as the convention's Radio and Television Commission.

The Radio-TV Commission will dedicate the brand-new facilities of its international communications center on Wednesday afternoon, June 2, and the Seminary will hold open house that same afternoon.

Fort Worth, "out where the West begins," is also the home of Casa Manana, a theater-in-the-round, a life-size wax impression of the Last Supper, and a museum of western art.

Dallas boasts the Dallas Theater Center designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, located in the beautiful Turtle Creek area, and the huge State Fair Music Hall.

The day before the convention's opening auxiliary meetings, a two-week run of the famed stageplay "Hello Dolly" closes at the State Fair Music Hall. Star of