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McCall Says Information
Misleading on Baylor Aid

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WACO, Tex. (BP)--Baylor University President Abner V. McCall termed "misleading" a Baptist Press story reporting that Baylor is one of 100 colleges and universities receiving the largest amounts of federal support in 1965.

McCall took issue with the news report that Sen. James B. Pearson (R., Kan.) had submitted to the U. S. Senate a chart showing rank and percentages of federal aid going to 100 colleges and universities receiving the most federal aid.

Sen. Pearson's chart did not indicate what types of federal aid were included in his figures, but the Baptist school here was ranked as 66th on the list, with a reported \$9,770,000 received during 1965.

In submitting the chart, Sen. Pearson called for a more equitable distribution of federal aid and urged the Senate to pass a resolution to that effect.

McCall said the story was misleading because it did not indicate what kinds of "federal aid" went to Baylor University.

The federal funds Baylor received were for contract research grants on a non-profit, cost-sharing basis with the federal government, and for student financial aid, McCall said.

The making of research contracts with the federal government and the receipt of federal funds for loans and scholarships for students have been approved by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, McCall said.

Baylor College of Medicine at Houston received 96 research grants totaling more than \$6.5 million, and 39 research training grants totaling more than \$2 million, he added.

"In all medical and scientific research contracts the university bore a portion of the cost," said McCall.

The Baylor president cited as an example the research project for the development of an artificial heart in which more than \$1 million in federal funds was expended.

The chart, which indicated that Baylor received .4 per cent of the total amount spent by the government for higher education in 1965, did not show that most of this money was received by Baylor College of Medicine, and all of the money received was for research grants and research training, McCall pointed out.

Baylor did not receive loans for buildings or any unrestricted gifts for any purpose, McCall said.

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Dallas Pastor Critical Of
Marchers, Demonstrators

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DALLAS (BP)--W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Baptist Church here, bitterly denounced all demonstrators, marchers and draft-card burners.

He said draft-card burners and demonstrators against the Vietnam war are "half-brains" and "left-wingers." He was also critical of Negro Civil Rights Leader Martin Luther King for alleged anti-U.S. actions and talks.

Criswell, quoted in a Dallas Times Herald newspaper article, said he believes King's conduct is a recent "fungus-like development."

"I just can't describe the contempt I have for these writers, marchers and draft-card burners . . . If I had my way I would jail every last one of them, including the preachers and the professors," he was quoted as saying.

The article was evidently prompted by Criswell's Sunday night sermon deploring the situation.

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Court Ruling Requested
On Child Benefit Theory 371

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By Beth Hayworth

WASHINGTON (BP)--A group of Pennsylvania citizens has asked the United States Supreme Court to rule on the validity of the child benefit theory of government aid to parochial schools.

In an appeal filed here, the court was asked to strike down a five to two decision of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upholding the constitutionality of a Pennsylvania act that provides free transportation of elementary and high school students to nonpublic, nonprofit schools.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled in January that this act is constitutional.

There is no indication at present whether the U.S. Supreme Court will agree to hear this case.

The child benefit theory was spelled out by the U.S. Supreme Court 20 years ago in *Everson vs. Board of Education*, the famous parochial school bus case.

Here the high court ruled that a state (New Jersey) could constitutionally finance bus transportation of children to parochial as well as public schools.

In the five to four ruling on the *Everson* case, the Supreme Court said that transportation aid was not public aid to religion, but rather was a general program to help children get to school safely and quickly, whether they went to public or parochial schools.

The Pennsylvania citizens said in their appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court that the safety of children is not the question to be decided in a case like this.

"If safety were the criterion, then pupils living in the more populous areas would also have to be transported. Everyone knows that city streets are much more dangerous to the safety of children than are country roads," they stated in the brief.

They maintained that the child benefit theory which has evolved from the *Everson* case is "illogical and difficult to apply."

"Every element of the educational program of an institution is primarily for the benefit of the child and the furnishing of transportation at public expense constitutes a direct benefit to the school," the brief said.

"The state has departed from the position of neutrality and is actually supporting religious institutions," they argued.

Justice Musmanno, who wrote the majority opinion of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in its January decision, said: "Despite the wondrous flexibility of the English language, it is difficult to see how one can conclude that placing children on a school bus establishes a religion."

"And even if the children are transported to a school which, in addition to teaching state-approved subjects, offers guidance in the world of faith, this still does not establish a religion," he continued.

The Pennsylvania citizens, in filing the appeal, said that "probably no section of American law has produced so much litigation and been the subject of so much legal opinion. For the good of all concerned a more definitive decision from this court is needed."

According to the brief, courts in three states, Maryland, Louisiana (in a textbook case) and New Jersey have ruled that the child benefit theory is constitutional. Courts in five states, Delaware, New York, Oklahoma, Washington and Kentucky, have ruled that such public aid constitutes a direct benefit to the parochial school.

Two major questions posed by the citizens group are:

(1) Does the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States forbid the legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from requiring the use of public school buses for the transportation of pupils to sectarian religious schools at public expense?

(2) Is the statute in question, which requires the public school districts to provide free transportation of pupils who attend nonpublic elementary and high schools not operated for profit, so vague and indefinite as to violate due process of law?

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The Pennsylvania law in question reads in part as follows:

"When provision is made by a board of school directors for the transportation of resident pupils to and from the public schools, the board of school directors shall also make provision for the free transportation of pupils who regularly attend nonpublic elementary and high schools not operated for profit.

"Such transportation provided for pupils attending nonpublic elementary and high schools not operated for profit shall be over established public school bus routes. Such pupils shall be transported to and from the point or points on such routes nearest or most convenient to the school which such pupils attend. The board of school directors shall provide such transportation whenever so required by any of the provisions of this act or of any other act of assembly."

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Press Representatives
Named For Assemblies

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NASHVILLE (BP)--Press representatives have been named for the 1967 summer season at the two Southern Baptist assemblies at Glorieta, N.M., and Ridgecrest, N.C.

Miss Pat Shelton of Nashville, a junior at Belmont College (Baptist) here, will serve at Glorieta Baptist Assembly. She was assistant press representative at Glorieta last summer.

A senior ministerial student at University of Richmond, Va., (Baptist) Charles P. Barrett of Alexandria, Va., will serve at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly.

The 1967 season of 19 Southern Baptist leadership conferences will open June 8. at both assemblies and will continue through Sept. 4. The assemblies had a combined total registration of 65,309 in 1966.

Glorieta and Ridgecrest assemblies are owned and operated by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Radio-TV Advisory Group
Urges More Short Programs

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FORT WORTH (BP)--A nine-member broadcasting industry advisory council to the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission agreed here that religious broadcasting in the future is going to have to concentrate more on the short, capsule message.

The nine-member council, meeting for the first time here, advised the SBC Radio-TV Commission to produce more short spots for radio and television.

The group felt it is going to be more and more difficult to find time for 30-minute or one-hour specials on prime radio or television time, a commission spokesman said.

The advisory council also urged the Radio-Television Commission to help local churches improve the quality of local religious broadcasting, most of which is low in quality, they said.

The nine-member advisory council will meet annually to advise the Baptist Radio-TV Commission on the future approaches of religious broadcasting.

Most of the all-day meeting here was devoted to a round-table discussion between the industry representatives on the advisory council with the Radio-Television Commission staff and representatives.

The discussions touched on such topics as researching needs, radio and television program formats, station and program promotion procedures, and methods of establishing station contacts.

Purpose of the meeting was "to determine areas of mutual cooperation and benefits between the commission, as one of the largest religious broadcasters in the world, and the broadcasting industry," said Paul M. Stevens, executive director of the commission.

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