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127 Ninth Avenue, North

Nashville, Tennessee

BAPTISTS LEADERS CONTINUE TO SPEAK
AGAINST PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENT

NASHVILLE, Tenn. --(BP)-- Southern Baptists are continuing profound and definite reactions to President Truman's appointment recently of General Mark Clark as the United States ambassador to the Vatican state in Rome.

Following are quotes on the President's action from representative leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention:

Dr. Louie D. Newton, Druid Hills Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, president of the Georgia Baptist Convention: "While I must admit that I am not surprised at the President's sneak play in naming General Clark as Ambassador to the Vatican in the closing hours of Congress, when it was obviously impossible for Senate consideration, I must also admit a sense of deep concern, realizing that while we won the first battle in the effort of Roosevelt and Truman to comply with Vatican pressure, we have not won the war. There is encouragement in the fact that the President's tactics have quickly aroused widespread resentment on the part of people everywhere throughout the nation. If we lose this battle, we will have our backs against the wall."

Dr. S.G. Posey, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, believes the action to be "tragic and inimical to the welfare of our nation. It is deplorable that one schooled in the text and history of the Constitution and charged by sacred oath as the chief executive of our nation to uphold the Constitution could be so determined to violate the letter and the spirit of the Constitution whatever his reasons might be for doing so."

Among other effects of the action cited by Dr. M. Theron Rankin, executive secretary of the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Virginia, are: "(1) It will open wide the door to the complete breakdown of the principle of the separation of church and state, and (2) It will precipitate into the United States a bitter and irreconcilable religious struggle which will bring irreparable injury to our country."

Dr. John H. Buchanan, pastor of the Southside Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, expresses the common reaction of citizens in concluding that "our strategy now is to secure commitment from our senators that they will resist this appointment when it is brought for confirmation before the Senate in January. I am happy to state that in response to a telegram our two senators from Alabama have given assurance that they will vote against confirmation."

Edward Hughes Pruden, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., assured his congregation that "not only in an individual capacity, but in co-operation with other Protestant officials, I did my utmost to point out the great dangers which

-- more Vatican reaction --

seemed to me to lie in such an arrangement. I would equally oppose a like appointment to the world Baptist headquarters or the headquarters of any other religious body."

Dr. J.W. Storer, First Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma: "Only two camps can be happy about all this, and both will benefit from it -- the Vatican and Stalin. It is an hour for prayer, and an hour for men who love the United States to stand firm in the conviction that no religious group, Roman Catholic, Protestant, or Baptist, has any right to recognition as a sovereign state or entity by the appointment of an 'envoy' to it."

Dr. Walter Pope Binns, president of William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri, and chairman of the Public Affairs Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, writes: "The President's appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican is a violation of the principle of separation of church and state and a violation of the spirit of the First Amendment. At a time when we should have national unity, this political maneuver can only result in bitterness and division. The President has made his choice. Our hope now is that the Senate will disapprove the nomination. Let us make our views known to all Senators."

Theodore F. Adams, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia: "I hope this discussion can be carried on without engendering bitter religious controversy, but certainly we have no other choice than to stand for our traditional policy of the separation of church and state and for our Baptist principles of religious liberty."

Summing up the responsibilities and reactions of most Baptists, Dr. Duke K. McCall, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, and until recently executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee in Nashville, says: "Southern Baptists and all freedom loving Americans will need to hold their tempers and keep their powder dry, lest, in righteous indignation over the appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican by Harry S. Truman, we expend our energy before the battle is actually joined. In a wise political move President Truman has moved the battle from his desk to that of the senators, who must confirm the appointment. Let us make certain that when the matter is under consideration by the Senate that every senator as well as the President is made aware of the fact that our convictions will be expressed, if necessary, at the polls in the forthcoming election."

FLORIDA BAPTISTS OPEN
MODERN NEW HOSPITAL

PENSACOLA, Fla. --(BP)-- Pensacola Baptist Hospital opened the doors of a \$1,400,000 plant for its first patients in mid-October.

The institution was built and is operated under the direction of Baptist Hospital Corporation, a non-profit firm of Florida Baptists. Pat N. Groner is administrator.

Plans for the hospital have been growing since 1942 when a group of Pensacola deacons were appointed by their pastor to look into the possibility of erecting additional hospital facilities in the area.

Pensacola Baptist Hospital opened with 148 beds and thirty bassinets, six operating rooms, a medical staff of seventy and a nursing staff of thirty-five.

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GOOD WILL CENTER TO BE
DEDICATED IN BALTIMORE

BALTIMORE, Md. --(BP)-- Dedication services for the Kathleen Mallory Good Will Center in Baltimore will be held the last of November, according to Dr. J.B. Lawrence, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta.

The new center, erected by the Home Mission Board, is in honor of Miss Kathleen Mallory, former executive secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention. Miss Mallory served the WMU for thirty-six years.

Housed in a physical plant valued at more than \$125,000, the new center has, in addition to the main building, a recreational center and living quarters for workers. Annie W. Armstrong offerings for Home Missions provided \$100,000 of the center's cost.

Miss Mallory will appear along with other leaders from Maryland, the WMU, and the Home Mission Board on the dedication program November 23.

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WAKE FOREST COLLEGE BREAKS
GROUND ON WINSTON-SALEM SITE

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. --(BP)-- Official ground-breaking ceremonies for the new Wake Forest College campus in Winston-Salem were held in October. Speakers for the occasion included President Harry S. Truman; Pat Taylor, lieutenant governor of North Carolina; Grover H. Jones, president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and Dr. Harold W. Tribble, president of Wake Forest College.

Funds are in hand for the chapel building, first of the new buildings to be erected on the 320-acre site, according to Judge Hubert E. Olive of Lexington, president of the school's board of trustees.

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OREGON-WASHINGTON CONVENTION
VOTES \$85,000 1952 BUDGET

VANCOUVER, Wash. --(BP)-- An \$85,510.67 budget for 1952 was adopted by the Baptist General Convention of Oregon-Washington in its annual meeting in Vancouver October 24-25, according to Dr. R.E. Milan, executive secretary.

The new budget is \$30,000 more than the current year's budget.

Rev. E.R. Jacks of Longview, Washington, was elected president of the convention for the coming year. The 1952 session will be held in Portland, Oregon. The date is yet to be arranged.

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CHAPLAIN WORKS ON ARMY PROGRAM
AT SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY

FORT WORTH, Tex. --(BP)-- An army chaplain has been assigned to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth to complete his study on "A Program of Religious Education for the United States Army."

Major Alexander J. Turner was given a ten-month assignment by Major General Roy Parker, chief of chaplains, to complete work for his doctors degree in religious education. The blueprint of a program aimed at "raising the standard of the chaplaincy to the same high level of the civilian ministry" will be Major Turner's thesis.

A native of Florida, Turner was a student at the seminary and a pastor in Texas before being recalled to the service in 1947.

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BAPTIST CHAPLAIN DROWNS
ON DUTY IN FLORIDA

COCOA, Fla. --(BP)-- Major John R. Stephens, Southern Baptist chaplain serving at Patrick Air Force Base, Cocoa, Florida, lost his life recently in saving two men from the base from drowning. The two men were caught in an under-tow out from the beach near the base. Major Stephens became part of a human chain to bring them to safety, but was taken under when the chain broke. Names of the two rescued men were not known.

The forty-year-old major was a native of Spearman, Texas.

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