



# - - BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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October 11, 1984

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84-146

### Baylor President Raps 'College Of Cardinals'

WACO, Texas (BP)—Baylor University President Herbert H. Reynolds has described the leading fundamentalists within the Southern Baptist Convention as a "little Baptist 'college of cardinals.'"

His denouncement is printed in the just-released September issue of the Baylor Lin , the university's alumni magazine, sent to 46,000 alumni in the United States and abroad.

"What has slowly evolved over the last four or five years is a little Baptist 'college of cardinals,' a group of eight or 10 people who come together, make some decisions and set about making authoritative-sounding pronouncements, leading people to believe that they are the spokesmen for our denomination—and they have no right to do that," Reynolds said.

"This is why I have made the statement on several occasions that we now have a priestly class among us who feels that somehow they are endowed with special wisdom and special authority, when, in fact, they possess neither."

Reynolds has been at the center of an attack by newly elected SBC first vice-president Zig Ziglar, who questioned the orthodoxy of several members of the Baylor faculty. Zigar particularly singled out an associate professor of Spanish who is a Mormon, and a religion professor who has contended evolution is not necessarily incompatible with the Genesis account of creation. The controversy made headlines nationwide.

Of the 300-plus letters and 150-200 calls Reynolds has received since the controversy began, only one was negative, he reported to the alumni. One of the most frequently asked questions is whether the fundamentalists will make further inroads in gaining control of Baptist seminaries, colleges and institutions, especially Baylor.

Without question, Reynolds said, they will not. "I believe people are becoming keenly aware of what has taken place: of all of the labels and code words that have been used manipulatively in order for this group to gain greater influence and control. Baptists don't want that."

Reynolds said he feels there are a "sufficient number" of thinking, discerning people within the denomination who are seeking "not authority, but a strong witness for Christ through our institutions, our agencies, our churches." These mainstream Baptists are committed to supporting the Cooperative Program and to maintaining the diversity of Southern Baptists' witness--elements that have made the denomination strong, he said.

Yet, the fundamentalists are making the matter of biblical interpretation a test of fellowship, Reynolds said. "Heretofore we, as Baptists, have always talked about the 'inspired Word of God' and our belief in it, and we have all been under a very large umbrella. We've been able to read the Word for ourselves with our own interpretations and to get along with one another. But the fundamentalists say, 'If you do not see this book as we see it, then you're not a first-rate Christian. You are not really qualified to have fellowship with the rest of us because you are not sufficiently orthodox.'"

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Inerrancy of the Scriptures is "not really a matter of concern" among mainstream Southern Baptists, but instead has become a "code word" or vehicle for some people to gain power, Reynolds said. "If you accept some as inerrant interpreters, then you can set up a de facto hierarchical organization, rather than the non-hierarchical organization that Baptists have traditionally subscribed to."

The reasons most Southern Baptists are Southern Baptists are that "we do not like to be told by others how we are to interpret the Scriptures, how we are to conduct ourselves or how we are to respond to some organized group," Reynolds said.

"In that day of judgment, we're going to be standing there alone, by ourselves, not with some priestly class or self-appointed denominational group. This is why the individual is so important in the concept of the priesthood of the believer. Each individual soul is going to be judged on his or her personal relationship with Christ. We, as Baptists, simply do not need the kind of hierarchical and power movements we are seeing now so clearly within our denomination."

The fundamentalist leaders are simply "power brokers" who would like to come to the point where they could direct the affairs of Baylor, the world's largest Baptist university, Reynolds charged. "They have said this, and they haven't been too shy about it."

But Reynolds said he isn't too worried about them taking control. "I think the collective good judgment of Baptist people will ultimately prevail. I have great confidence in our people as they become more and more aware of what these folks are up to. I think there is already evidence of a backlash. My mail indicates this."

As a 140-year-old institution, Baylor has "weathered a lot of storms," Reynolds said. Even now, "because of the grace of God we are literally flourishing within this climate of controversy. It's as if the tension has produced a dynamic quality to our work."

Baylor is committed to "following Christ as our plumbline," Reynolds said. "Our roots are in the life of Christ and the lives of Baptists and we do believe in the inspired Word of God. We believe in no creation apart from God. We believe the vital aspects of Baptist doctrine which have given us a uniqueness, and we would continue to perpetuate these things whether there were any conventions in existence outside these institutional walls or not."

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BSSB-N

Churches Make Commitment  
For 8.5 By '85 Final Year

By Frank White

Baptist Press  
10/11/84

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—"The mission for every New Testament church is the same now as it was in the first century," Harry Piland, director of the Sunday school department for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board told worshipers at the Bluegrass Baptist Church, Hendersonville, Tenn., during an Oct. 7 commitment service.

The church was one of several throughout the Southern Baptist Convention holding a commitment service emphasizing the Reach 5 in '85 Sunday school growth program. Some churches had 24-hour prayer vigils prior to their commitment service. Others discussed Reach 5 in '85 during Sunday school leadership programs.

Piland wrote pastors of the more than 36,000 Southern Baptist churches asking that they designate Oct. 7 commitment day for their members to sign commitment cards to enlist at least five persons in Bible study during the final year of the 8.5 by '85 enrollment emphasis.

The goal is to have 8.5 million persons enrolled in Sunday school by Sept. 30, 1985. Southern Baptist churches must enroll more than 500,000 this year to meet that goal.

More than 150 employees of the Sunday school department participated in a 29-hour prayer vigil ending at 9 a.m. Oct. 7 to support churches throughout the convention participating in commitment day activities.

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"The gospel is shared when it is passed on as Paul encouraged Timothy to do. We're here because someone shared the gospel with us," Piland said in his message.

Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville, had 138 members participating in a 24-hour prayer vigil before the beginning of their Oct. 7 services.

That prayer vigil led to 82 persons committing to reach at least five persons for Bible study this year, said Willo McCoy, Inglewood minister of education. Although commitment cards are recommended for use as a personal commitment between the individual and God, Inglewood church plans to use them to help establish enrollment goals, McCoy said.

Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown, Ky., plans for persons signing commitment cards to keep the cards and write the names and phone numbers of those they have reached on the back of the cards, said Bill Ray, minister of education. The 203-year-old church has set both an enrollment goal and an attendance goal for the year, hoping to enroll one person in Sunday school for each day of the year.

Texas Baptists have set a goal of 100,000 net gain in Sunday school enrollment as a challenge to support the convention goal of a 500,000 net gain, said Bernard Spooner, Texas state Sunday school director. "We're doing what we believe is our part."

The highest net gain in Sunday school enrollment in Texas for any year was 74,000 in 1954, Spooner said.

Reach 5 in '85 cards were distributed in the state's 41 regional Sunday school conventions in September. Participants were asked to sign the cards and consider using them for a commitment effort in their churches, he said.

On Texas church, First Baptist, Oak Cliff, in Dallas, has set a goal of a 333 net increase in Sunday school enrollment for a 20 percent increase during the year, Spooner said.

In that church, William M. Pinson Jr., executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, announced his commitment to enroll at least five persons in Bible study in the coming year, Spooner said.

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BUC-N

Federal Aid To Church Schools  
Added To High Court Schedule

By Stan Hastey

Baptist Press  
10/11/84

WASHINGTON (BP)—Federal aid to parochial elementary and secondary schools has been added to the growing list of sensitive church-state issues confronting the U.S. Supreme Court.

In an Oct. 9 notice, the nation's high court announced its intention to review a lower panel's ruling that funneling federal monies to church-related schools through the 1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act violates the First Amendment's ban on an establishment of religion. More specifically, the issue in a trio of cases from New York City is whether federal funds may be used to send public school teachers into parochial schools to provide specialized instruction as authorized in the historic 1965 law.

The high court earlier had agreed to review the same basic question as it involves state funding to send public school teachers to the parochial schools of Grand Rapids, Mich.

For the past 17 years, New York City has provided services in the form of remedial instruction and clinical guidance to parochial school children under terms of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. In a brief filed with the Supreme Court, the city argues that at no point in its application of the law has the practice had the effect of advancing religion or excessively entangling the government with the church.

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More than 90 percent of the questioned funds in New York City flow to Catholic and Jewish schools.

As one of the parties to the dispute, the federal government argues Title I was designed to benefit pupils in parochial as well as public schools and such aid, designed to benefit educationally deprived children in low income areas, does not violate the Establishment Clause.

Although the Supreme Court held in the landmark 1947 case, *Everson v. the Board of Education*, "no tax in any amount, large or small, can be levied to support any religious activities or institutions..." it has carved out several exceptions in intervening years. The first of these, state transportation of parochial school pupils, came ironically in *Everson*.

Since then the court has upheld state provision of textbooks in secular subjects for parochial students; state financed academic testing; state subsidized speech, hearing and psychological diagnostic services, and state tuition tax deductions for parents who send their children to parochial schools.

By agreeing to decide the New York City and Grand Rapids cases, along with three other church-state disputes involving religion, the high court has insured that on volume alone, the current term will be its busiest ever in the church-state field. It may also prove to be one of the most significant in settling difficult religious issues.

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Missions, Not Theology Is SEC  
Unifying Force, Panel Says

Baptist Press  
10/11/84

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)—Attempts to enforce a uniform theology on Southern Baptists will lead only to a weakening of Bold Mission Thrust, according to a panel of Baptist educators.

Speaking to a packed Alumni Chapel audience at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, four Southern Seminary professors—Bill Leonard, Ken Chafin, Larry McSwain and President Roy L. Honeycutt—joined Glenn Hilburn, chairman of the department of religion at Baylor University in a forum on the future of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC).

Looking for theological ways to define the SBC is useless, according to church historian Leonard, because Southern Baptists have traditionally united around cooperative mission efforts rather than a theology.

"Historically, Southern Baptists have not had just a diverse theology; they have had contradictory theologies. Calvinism, Arminianism and Landmarkism all reflect contradictory views of the church, free will and conversion—and all have been held by Southern Baptists," explained Leonard. "So when you look for theological ways to define the SBC, you're doomed already."

McSwain, professor of church and community, believes the current struggle will inevitably weaken the denomination and result in damage to Bold Mission Thrust, the convention's plan to communicate the gospel to every person in the world by the year 2000.

"What really faces us is the fate that every other denomination in America has fought. It isn't liberalism or fundamentalism that destroyed them, but the conflict between the two," McSwain said.

Panel members believe the only way to resolve the crisis within the convention is by a return to a sense of unity in diversity.

Pleading for a return to an open convention, Honeycutt urged all Southern Baptists to be accepting of diverse views within the denomination.

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"We are fundamentally a conservative body, and what I'm pleading for it that we be free to be what we are without external control," Honeycutt said. "Can we not acknowledge that, though we differ in interpretation, we can share a large unity in Christ?"

Chafin, who came to Southern seminary this fall as Carl Bates Professor of Preaching from South Main Baptist Church, Houston, echoed Honeycutt's appeal for a return to the convention's historic focus on missions and evangelism.

"This convention was formed to share Jesus Christ with every lost person in the world. That's the only thing that will bring us back together--if we rediscover that," Chafin said.

Expressing optimism about the convention's future, Baylor professor Hilburn thinks "we're going to come out of this experience and be better for it, (but) we're going to have to learn some valuable lessons. It's one thing to talk about autonomy and soul freedom, but we need to go back and understand what they're all about."

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New Intercessory Prayer  
Director Named

Baptist Press  
10/11/84

ATLANTA (BP)—Phillip Eugene Bruce of Conyers, Ga., has been named national director of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Intercessory Prayer Line Ministry.

Before coming to this position Bruce was a youth director at Robinhood Road Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Bruce will head the prayer line ministry as a Mission Service Corps volunteer. Mission Service Corps allows Southern Baptists to spend one to two years in mission efforts at their own expense or with the support of a sponsoring church or individual(s).

The 1983 graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., also worked as a home missionary during the summers of 1981-1983.

The "prayer line" is a national incoming WATS telephone line which enables Baptists to call the HMB toll-free to learn of home mission needs and requests for prayer, and for missionaries of the board to call to request prayer for their work and concerns.

Bruce will be responsible for recruiting other volunteers in the Atlanta area to answer the HMB's national prayer line. Volunteers will work four-hour daily shifts Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern time.

Bruce said he hopes to recruit more volunteers, including college students, to answer the phones. He also encouraged home missionaries to begin phoning in their needs.

The nation-wide telephone number for the prayer line is 1-800-554-PRAY, or 1-800-282-SEEK for calls within the state of Georgia.

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HMB Directors Adopt  
\$62.7 Million Budget

By Jim Newton

Baptist Press  
10/11/84

ATLANTA (BP)—Southern Baptist Home Mission Board directors adopted a \$62.7 million budget for 1985, elected a new associate director of military chaplaincy and appointed eight new associate missionaries during their fall meeting.

The 1985 budget is an increase of \$4.7 million or 7.5 percent over the 1984 budget of about \$58 million.

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The biggest portion of the 1985 budget will go to support the work of 3,792 home missionaries working in all 50 states of the nation, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and American Samoa.

Although it is the largest budget ever adopted by the board, HMB Planning Vice-President Leonard Irwin pointed out the board had to cut \$1 million in missions, evangelism and church starting projects which had been financed by the board during the previous two years. These were special projects which the board was under no obligation to continue, but almost all were effective and would have been continued had funds been available, said Irwin.

He said a shortfall of \$1.2 million in Cooperative Program income for 1984, plus an increase of only 2.8 percent for 1985 in Cooperative Program income prevented the board from continuing support for the projects.

The largest portion of the \$62.7 million budget, a total of more than \$32.5 million, will go to pay salaries and fringe benefits of home missions personnel. The 1985 budget includes an increase of \$1.75 million for health and life insurance benefits for missions personnel.

During his annual report to the directors, Home Mission Board President William G. Tanner said that last year, home missions personnel reported 63,739 professions of faith in Jesus Christ, plus almost 40,000 other commitments and decisions as a result of their ministries.

Tanner gave an overview of the board's work during the past year, and called for mutual trust in relationships among board staff, directors and others in the denomination.

"An agency...can survive problems, pressure or even a direct frontal attack, but a lack of trust is usually fatal," Tanner told the board.

He said the people of the Southern Baptist Convention need to trust the HMB directors, the directors need to trust the administration and staff and all those need to trust each other.

Such confidence and trust will not happen unless all involved work on it together, he said. "Confidence and trust are built because we are faithful and consistent and honest with each other," Tanner said.

During the opening devotional, HMB Director Omar Pachecano of El Paso, Texas, urged the board to be faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ, rather than following a gospel against liberalism, a gospel for conservatism or a gospel based on statements adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Just as there is a gospel according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, there is a gospel according to you and me...a gospel according to Southern Baptists," said Pachecano, associate director of missions for El Paso Baptist Association.

Speaking to the directors on "the struggling gospel among Southern Baptists today," Pachecano said the gospel of Jesus Christ is not really for or against liberalism. "When you get down to essentials, the gospel of Christ is against sin, not liberalism," Pachecano said. "Sin is not merely an ideology or particular outlook, it is estrangement from God, the isolation of a ruptured relationship with the Creator...Jesus saves us from sin, not liberalism," he said.

He warned that if Southern Baptists as a denomination are in alliance with liberalism or conservatism, "then we will be nothing more than an ideological pawn...a religious coalition of some 14.1 million votes for some political cause."

He expressed hope the media would report following the annual Southern Baptist Convention that the denomination turned neither to the right nor to the left, but rather to God.

"We do not need to hold our breath for the next convention vote in order to know what we believe, teach and preach," Pachecano observed. "The gospel of Jesus Christ is not controlled by majority vote."

Pachecano, a fourth generation Mexican-American Baptist, urged Baptists to make Paul's letter to Galatians the "Magna Carta" of their faith because it offers a message of liberty and freedom "that frees the believer from any form of tyranny and legalism."

During other business, the directors elected Lew Burnett, Army chaplain at Ft. McPherson near Atlanta, to a newly-created position as associate director of military chaplaincy, effective Jan. 1, 1985.

Burnett, a native of Texas, is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

Burnett, 53, has been an Army chaplain for 23 years, serving in such posts as Kor a, Vietnam, Ft. Sam Houston and Ft. Hood in Texas, Ft. Rucker in Alabama, and Ft. Bragg in North Carolina. He holds the rank of colonel.

He will be assigned to assist the director of military chaplaincy, Pat Davis, with the board's process of endorsing military chaplains and in implementing plans and programs to promote chaplaincy ministries.

Directors also approved the transfer of Bill Rutledge, the board's language missions program leader for Alabama, to direct the HMB refugee resettlement office in Atlanta.

Rutledge a native of Tennessee, has been a home missionary since 1968, working with Spanish-speaking people in Idaho, New Mexico and Alabama. He is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tenn., and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Directors approved 89 persons to receive field or language pastoral assistance, six persons for administrative positions, and seven new church planter apprentices, in addition to appointment of eight missionary associates.

Directors voted to request permission from the Southern Baptist Convention and its Executive Committee to change the HMB program statement on chaplaincy ministries to provide for endorsement of pastoral counselors.

The board also voted to ask the SBC Executive Committee for authority to issue investment certificates for sale to the general public through the HMB Service Corporation.

The directors adopted resolutions of appreciation for the work of Helen Fling, who is retiring from her joint position with the Home Mission Board and Woman's Missionary Union; Joe Carl Johnson, who is retiring as associate director of the church loans division; for the late James L. Barber, assistant director of the HMB Christian social ministries department who died in August, and for three retiring secretaries, June Brumeloe, Theda Howell, and Ella Keller.

In other action, the board voted to express appreciation to Glenn Igleheart, director of the HMB interfaith witness department for the past nine years, who has been elected director of the state missions division for the Baptist Convention of New York, and expressed appreciation for improved relations with National Baptists through the work of SBC President Charles Stanley of Atlanta and Emanuel McCall, director of the board's black church relations department.

The board also heard reports from Missions Vice-President Gerald Palmer and Language Missions Director Oscar Romo on a recent trip to Cuba, and heard a plea from Cecil Ray, director of the Southern Baptist Convention's Planned Growth in Giving program, for increased commitment to stewardship.

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1,150 Attend Center Dedication;  
Parks Warns of 'Tough Decisions'

By Bob Stanley

Baptist Press  
10/11/84

RICHMOND, VA. (BP)—Southern Baptists dedicated their new missionary learning center near Richmond Oct. 10 but received a warning that unless missions funding escalates more rapidly, their Foreign Mission Board will face "some very tough decisions" on the number of missionaries it can appoint.

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A crowd estimated at 1,150, standing on a grassy hillside under overcast skies, joined denominational and missions leaders in dedicating the new \$15 million orientation facility "for the extension of the Kingdom of God to the ends of the earth."

Board President R. Keith Parks announced that gifts from more than 1,100 individuals, groups and churches had met the entire cost of the center without the use of any Lottie Moon Christmas Offering or Cooperative Program resources.

Cost of the physical plant was \$9.1 million, with \$6 million in endowment set up to help pay operating costs for the 20-building complex, located on a 244-acre site about 25 miles from Richmond.

The warning about funding came from Parks as he presented the 1985 budget—a record \$144,206,000—representing a 5.53 percent increase, the lowest in recent years.

Parks said the increase is above the inflation rate and "is nothing to be ashamed of. It is still an exciting, thrilling and magnificent sum of money," he said, "and there's nothing like it in the Christian world."

But he said the denomination has not yet had bold financing for its Bold Missions program. He pointed out this year's Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal of \$66 million for foreign missions will require churches to increase their giving by 13.74 percent.

He underscored the "great urgency of these funds being available if we are going to continue in what we are trying to do in world missions."

In recent years, the portion of the budget for missionary support has continued to increase. Parks said he was asked "this week" if Southern Baptists have reached the point where the board cannot continue to send all the qualified missionaries who seek appointment.

"My response has been, because of our philosophy of believing the most important thing we do is send missionaries, we continue to shift budget funds into the missionary support section and take funds away from our operating and capital budget," he said. "I do not know how long we can continue to do this. There are some places in the world where missionaries will tell you we have already crippled their effectiveness.

"More missionaries are coming, I know that. The cost of supporting them is increasing, I know that, and unless funds begin to escalate faster than they have, you will be called upon to make some very tough decisions in the next few years."

The board packed the whole gamut of missions, from appointment to retirement, into its three-day meeting. It appointed 33 new missionaries and reappointed two, honored 31 missionaries retiring with 1,006 years' cumulative service in 18 countries, and still found time to dedicate its new missionary orientation center.

The board actually moved its orientation facility from Callaway Gardens, Ga., to the new center earlier this year. The second crop of new missionaries trained at the center, just winding up eight weeks' preparation for overseas service, helped play host to hundreds of visitors from across the nation and the Richmond area.

Baker James Cauthen, who spearheaded Southern Baptist foreign missions for 26 years as the board's executive director, and his wife, Eloise Glass Cauthen, took part. The learning center is named for the Cauthens.

A trio of speakers represented the roles of the local church, missions education and the denomination in Southern Baptists' Bold Missions effort to share the gospel with all people of the world by the year 2000.

Charles Carter, pastor of Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala., and head of the board's human resources committee in the formative stages of the new learning center, said that "if we do what God has called us to do in the local church, missionaries can come here with their hearts burning with compassion to reach our world for Christ."



He urged churches to be vehicles of communication for information about the challenge of missions and vehicles of inspiration. "Very few missionaries will be called out of a fragmented, decimated, broken, fractious membership," he warned.

Carolyn Weatherford, Woman's Missionary Union executive director, pledged "to the memory of missionaries past, to the commitment of missionaries present, to the promise of missionaries future, our continuing quality missions education in their behalf and for their support."

Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the convention's Executive Committee, said the new center will be a place where missions knowledge from the days of the first Southern Baptist missionaries to the present will be pooled for the benefit of both new and furloughing missionaries. Skills will be imparted, techniques evolved, and the whole mission enterprise will be advanced, to the honor and glory of the Lord Jesus, he said.

Year-round use of the center also will include conferences for missionaries returning on their first furlough, orientation for extended-term volunteers and two separate training sessions for journeymen, young people going out to assist career missionaries for two years.

The latest group of 45 journeymen, approved during this board meeting, will begin orientation at the center in January. Those who receive medical clearance and successfully complete the training will be commissioned Feb. 8.

The board meeting preceding the dedication underscored Southern Baptists' partnership with overseas Baptists related to their work.

Piero Bensi, president of the Baptist Evangelical Union of Italy, said Italian Baptists have been described as a "few" who "make a lot of noise." But it's a joyful noise, he added. Bensi is in the U.S. to learn more about evangelism and stewardship among Southern Baptists.

A Brazilian Baptist lawyer couple, Celso and Alice Oliveira, were in Richmond working with the board's Eastern South America and East Asia offices on missionary visa problems related to Brazil and Macao, a Portuguese territory.

Eight leaders from eastern and southern Africa, beginning a month-long guided study tour in the United States, joined area director Davis Saunders to tell of work in their area. They also outlined the kinds of help they need from Southern Baptist missionaries in evangelism, church development and other areas of work.

The group included George Ngamlana, secretary of the Baptist Convention of South Africa; Waugh Nkuhlu, general secretary of the Baptist Union of Transkei; William Kalenga, a home missionary of the Baptist Convention of Malawi; Eleazar Ziherambere, general secretary of the Rwanda Baptist Union.

Also, Daniel Mahimbo, director of stewardship and evangelism for the Baptist Convention of Tanzania; Daniel Nguku, director of stewardship and evangelism for the Baptist Convention of Kenya; Sam Wamanga, vice-president of the Baptist Union of Uganda, and Ticharwa Masimira, general secretary of the Baptist Convention of Zimbabwe.

In response to a motion made at the annual SBC in Kansas City, Mo., the board reaffirmed its present policy concerning appointment of couples with teen-age children. The human resources committee reported it had carefully restudied the question raised at the convention but had determined it would be unwise to change present policy.

This policy says couples with children 12 or older are eligible for consideration as missionaries only if specific conditions are met. The four conditions are: the couple must be recommended by a personnel selection staff member after one or more visits with the family in their home; approval must be given by the area director; the parents must be able to complete one full tour of service (four years) before the child would need to return to the U.S. for college, and the child must be recommended after a psychological or psychiatric evaluation.

The committee noted to change the policy would be to ignore a history of difficulty in appointing couples with teen-age children.

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Senate Subcommittee Conducts  
Illegal Video Gambling Hearings

By David Wilkinson

WASHINGTON (BP)—While citizens in four states prepare to vote on establishment of state-operated lotteries, concern about illegal gambling on video machines surfaced at the national level in Senate oversight hearings.

The hearings were conducted by the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Sen. William Roth (R-Del), subcommittee chairman, began hearings by noting "high technology has moved into still another aspect of American life—illegal gambling." Roth said "evidence will show that the machines are often made with features that could only be used for gambling purposes."

Foremost among the video games with which the hearing was concerned were video poker machines which have become widespread within the last two years. One witness, Stephen Hochman of the New York State Coin Machine Association estimated perhaps \$15 billion per year pours through illegal coin operated gambling devices in the United States.

Hochman related testimony of one organized crime figure in Pennsylvania who said monies from these illegal gambling machines financed organized crime killings and expansion of drug operations.

Angelo Aponte, commissioner for consumer affairs for New York City, repeated estimates that income from illegal gambling machines, primarily video poker machines, was nearly \$750 million in New York alone.

Because of the association of poker with gambling, "people who might never think of gambling find themselves in a situation where others might invite them to break the law," Aponte said. "We are particularly worried about these machines in establishments where there are children. Our youth are exposed to enough things at an early age that we might not wish to encourage. Now we have them playing five-card stud on the way home from school."

Claybourne Peebles, of Trenton, Tenn., district attorney for a rural four-county region in western Tennessee, told how the video poker machines appear far from big city lights.

Peebles reviewed for the subcommittee a story of attempted bribes of public officials, acts of violence and threats of murder which occurred in the wake of his investigations and cleanup campaign.

He said his office staff estimated there were approximately 342 video poker machines in his judicial circuit before cleanup efforts. "My office staff calculated the average amount of money in the machines seized what had not been 'robbed' (had money removed) was \$413," he explained. "If in fact the machines were robbed once a week, simple multiplication will indicate what a staggering amount of money was involved in the tiny rural circuit which I serve."

Senators were told there is a need for federal legislation and support in controlling the problem. Aponte said: "Some authority board beyond that of the local government is needed to control the abuses these video games invite."

Larry Braidfoot of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission said the Senate hearings were "encouraging."

"Too often those of us who are opposed to gambling are pictured as moralizers and religious fanatics who are trying to force our morality off on others," he said. "Illegal gambling is a nationwide problem and deserves this kind of national attention."