

March 27, 1959

Catholicism Called Totalitarian System

ALEXANDRIA, La.--(BP)--"Two great totalitarian systems are vying for the control of man," according to Glenn L. Archer, Washington, director of Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

"These two systems, communism and Catholicism, both follow a great leader and both are international in outlook and methods," he said.

Archer was in this central Louisiana city for a meeting on separation of church and state that was attended by more than 100 pastors and laymen. Participants were selected by the public affairs committee of Louisiana Baptist Convention, sponsor of the one-day meeting.

Archer, with tongue in cheek, also told the group that "there is one distinction between the two systems: over at the Kremlin that man doesn't diagnose himself as infallible."

He added: "The man in the Kremlin has not yet demanded taxes of the American people to support the propagation of his ideology."

Archer warned that American democracy and religious freedom "may be ground between these two totalitarian stones."

"Now the worst part of it all is that you and I have been misled to believe that Communism is our worst enemy," he said. "Communism is a flash in the pan compared to an ecclesiastical authoritarianism that for a thousand years has upset the peace and harmony of the world."

"History may see all of our billions of dollars that we thought were designated to dethrone Communism have actually entrenched clericalism for another thousand years," the spokesman for religious liberty said.

Archer concluded by asking his audience to consider two things: (1) "The price our forefathers paid for what we enjoy, and (2) the price our children will pay if we lose the first amendment."

Also on the program were Barry Garrett, Washington, associate director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, and Carl Conrad, director of French missions for Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Conrad told the men that a number of violations of the principle of church-state separation had been reported to his office.

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Criticizes Sectarian United Fund Support

MEMPHIS--(BP)--Sectarian agencies should not be included in fund-raising campaigns conducted by Community Chest, the head of a Southern Baptist Convention agency here declares.

In an editorial in the Brotherhood Journal released Apr. 1, George W. Schroeder, executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission, says "To speak against the including of sectarian agencies in Community Chest drives is not being anti-civic minded."

The Brotherhood Commission is an agency promoting laymen's and boys' work in the SBC.

Schroeder suggests that committees be appointed to point out Baptists' position on the matter.

"Really, there is no solid argument for including sectarian agencies in Community Chest drives. If denominations want such agencies and benevolent

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institutions, they should be willing to support them. This, we believe, is playing fair. . . . Let those who lead in such campaigns play fair with the people by taking the sectarian causes out of these civic drives," he asserts. (Underlined words were italicized by Schroeder.)

"We know full well that the usual answer given as to why sectarian groups are included is that such agencies minister to people of all or no faiths," Schroeder says.

"We hasten to reply that our Baptist agencies and institutions, which are supported by gifts of Baptists through their churches, perform a similar ministry, but we do not ask civic funds to support our work."

Calling on Baptists to "stand and be counted," Schroeder says that "Committees need to be appointed, composed of some of our strongest pastors and laymen. In turn, these committees need to approach the leaders in civic campaigns and make a clear-cut statement before those groups that will leave no doubt as to where we stand."

Including sectarian organizations in Community Chest drives leads people to believe that the religious groups so benefitted "have made demands that if they were not participants they would withhold the support of their people," he adds.

"Baptists ask nothing for ourselves," the editorial continues, "but we do preserve a precious and time-honored American belief that religious agencies and institutions should be supported by the peoples identified with those groups."

Baptist groups have spoken out before against sectarian interests in Community Chest and United Fund drives. The editor of the Baptist New Mexican last year urged only qualified support of local drives, urging that Baptist contributors designate their pledges so as to avoid supporting sectarian causes.

In 1957, the Baptist General Convention of Texas took note of the sectarian involvement and urged Baptist humanitarian agencies to refrain from seeking support through community fund drives.

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Baptist College Holds Special Nuclear Study

JEFFERSON CITY, Tenn.--(BP)--Six science professors and an equal number of student majors in the field at Carson-Newman College here took part in a special experiment for the Atomic Energy Commission.

Purpose of the experiment was to determine the effectiveness of radioisotope training in liberal arts colleges.

The Commission's mobile training laboratory, housed in a bus parked adjacent to the school's science building, was used for the two-week, intensified course. The training offered was in research techniques involving radioactive materials.

It was the first time the mobile unit has been used in this country.

The mobile laboratory represents an extension of a four-week basic course in radioisotope techniques given at nearby Oak Ridge (Tenn.) Institute of Nuclear Studies.

The bus and its load of equipment are valued at about \$40,000.

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EDITORS: This story only to be held for release Wednesday, Apr. 1.

Brotherhood Commission
Employs Editorial Head

MEMPHIS--(BP)--Roy Jennings, Memphis newspaperman, will become editorial secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Brotherhood Commission here on May 1. He is presently serving as night city editor of the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, the mid-south's largest daily newspaper.

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Jennings became associated with the Commercial-Appeal in 1949. Last year he was selected to attend the American Press Institute of City Editors at Columbia University, New York City.

Jennings will head the newly-established editorial department of the Brotherhood Commission. "He will give general direction to the technical supervision of publications and other literature as well as leadership to assignment and preparation of manuscript material," George W. Schroeder, Commission executive secretary, said.

A native of Oklahoma, Jennings graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1949 with a bachelor of arts degree in journalism. Four years' service in the air arm of the Navy preceded his college career. Between 1941 and 1945, he spent two tours of duty in the Southeast Pacific and one tour in the Northwest Pacific.

He is a member of LaBelle Baptist Church in Memphis where he serves as a deacon, Sunday school teacher, and director of the Training Union. He also supervises the publications of his church.

The Brotherhood Commission issues three periodicals---the quarterly Brotherhood Journal, the monthly Ambassador Life, and the quarterly Ambassador Leader.

The Journal is for Baptist laymen, Ambassador Life for boys 9 to 16 in church Royal Ambassador chapters, and the Leader for men who direct the RA chapters.

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Asks Congress To Set Annual 'Interfaith Day'

WASHINGTON--(BP)--The United States Government would be cast in the role of peacemaker among the many religious groups of the nation if a Joint Resolution introduced in the Senate is passed.

Sen. Kenneth B. Keating (R., N. Y.) has introduced S. J. Res. 53 which would set the fourth Sunday in September each year as "Interfaith Day" and which would request the President to issue a proclamation "calling on the people of the United States to observe such day, and urging the participation of all Americans and all religious groups in the United States, regardless of sect or creed, to participate in the observance of such day by such means as they may deem appropriate."

The resolution would declare it to be the policy of Congress to encourage mutual understanding of all people of good will. It also states that "the fomenting of antagonism between Americans on a basis of sectarian creed is contrary to American traditions and to the spirit of the guarantees of freedom of worship embodied in the Constitution of the United States."

Commenting on the interfaith proposal, C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, observes that "at least one senator thinks the United States government has a stake in good inter-faith relations. He would declare it to be the policy of Congress' to encourage inter-faith understanding by means of a presidential proclamation.

"The annual proclamation by the President would be designed to counteract those who are 'fomenting antagonism' contrary to American traditions.

"It would be unfortunate, indeed," Carlson continued, "if bigotry and strife in our nation should make our government feel compelled to intervene religiously in the interest of national unity. Nevertheless, the substitution of political sanctions for religious commitment in maintaining good relations will no doubt injure rather than improve the cause so desirable to all Americans."

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Church-State Problems In Juvenile Delinquency

WASHINGTON--(BP)-- Legislation on juvenile delinquency involving church-state problems has been introduced in both houses of Congress, according to observation by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

programs The proposals call for grants to states to strengthen and improve their ~~problems~~, grants to approved nonprofit institutions of higher learning to pay the cost of training personnel employed or preparing for employment in the control of juvenile delinquency.

"The problems of juvenile delinquency are of great concern to church people and to Americans generally," comments C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the BJCPA, "so much so that they may favor taking action both

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through their churches and through their government. The problems and the precedents for this proposal are comparable to those which produced hospital grants for defense education, and for social welfare purposes.

"The effectiveness of the churches' ministries in all of these areas," Carlson continued, "has rested on the genuine personal love and concern which has motivated action. If the churches are changed into administrative agencies for the carrying forward of programs supported by tax funds their effectiveness will also be gone. The solution lies, not in the government hiring the services of the church, but in the providing of adequate public agencies of a specialized nature which can undergird all the private agencies in the community."

Hearings have been concluded in the House of Representatives on juvenile delinquency bills proposed by Rep. Carl Elliott (D., Ala.) and Rep. Edith Green (D., Ore.). Similar bills have been introduced in the Senate by Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.).

It is hoped by advocates of the measures that a bill will be reported out of the Committee on Education and Labor by the end of April. However, observers on Capitol Hill state that all the juvenile delinquency proposals are in trouble because of the "battle of the budget" and the effort to cut down Federal spending.

Precedents for the above proposed approaches to the solution of the juvenile delinquency problem can be found in the government's use of the church agencies to provide hospital care, to improve education and to extend other welfare services through the churches.

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Jordan King Welcomes Christian Pilgrims

WASHINGTON--(BP)-- Christian pilgrims are welcome to visit the holy places in the Kingdom of Jordan, according to His Majesty Hussein I, Hashemite King of Jordan.

The statement was made in response to a question at the National Press Club here. King Hussein was asked, "Is there freedom in Jordan for Christian pilgrims to visit the holy places and shrines?"

In reply the King said, "We are proud for people all over the world to visit Jordan and especially for pilgrims to visit the holy places."

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SBC President Visits Latin American Missions

WASHINGTON--(BP)-- Missionaries in five South American countries will be visited by Brooks Hays, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, in a two-week tour sponsored by the Foreign Mission Board of the SBC. Mrs. Hays is making the trip with her husband.

This goodwill tour will consist largely of conferences with missionaries, small gatherings and a few speaking engagements.

Last year Hays visited Russian Baptists in Moscow and later in 1959 he plans a tour of the Baptist mission work in Africa.

The countries to be visited on the current trip are Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

The tour which began on March 27 will terminate April 10.

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Proposes No Duty On
Religious Imports

WASHINGTON--(BP)-- Aid to religion continues in Congress by proposals to provide free entry into this country of articles for religious purposes. Each year special legislation is proposed for free entry of items for specific churches or organizations. Efforts continue to cover all categories in permanent legislation.

Rep. Thaddeus Machrowicz (D., Mich.) has introduced a bill to exempt from import duty "altars, pulpits, communion tables, baptismal fonts, shrines, mosaics, iconostas, or parts, appurtenances, or adjuncts of any of the foregoing...imported in good faith for the use of, either by order of, or for presentation (without charge) to, any corporation or association organized and operated for religious purposes, including cemeteries, schools, hospitals, orphanages, and similar nonprofit activities staffed and controlled by such corporation or association."

Last year legislation was passed to exempt religious vestments from import duty.

This year bills have been introduced to exempt stained glass windows for use in St. Mary's Church at Whittier, Calif., and to exempt religious sceneramas and other articles imported for exhibition by religious societies or institutions.

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Proposes New Program
For Hospital Loans

WASHINGTON--(BP)-- A new program to extend credit to private nonprofit hospitals for the purpose of construction and expansion of facilities has been proposed in Congress by Rep. Charles A. Boyle (D., Ill.). The program calls for \$500 million for long-term, low interest loans to nonprofit hospitals.

This proposal is in addition to the inclusion of a loan policy in the Hill-Burton Act that was approved last year. By this policy the funds made available through the Hill-Burton Act can be loaned to church institutions whose principles rule out the acceptance of governmental grants.

The new proposal (H. R. 5334) cites the increasing need for hospital facilities, the inability of State and municipal bodies to finance the projects and the desire of many private nonprofit hospital organizations to borrow money for construction purposes.

Included in the provisions of the bill are new buildings, expansion, remodeling, alteration of existing buildings and initial equipment, and medical transportation facilities.

The bill was referred to the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce of which Rep. Oren Harris (D., Ark.) is chairman.

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BAPTIST FEATURES

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Special reports on Baptist programs,
activities, trends, and newsmakers.

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Reviewers Praise Book
By SBC President Hays

WASHINGTON -- Brooks Hays, former Congressman from the fifth district in Arkansas, and president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has written a book explaining his moderate position on the segregation problem. Published by the University of North Carolina Press, the book, "A Southern Moderate Speaks," reviews in autobiographical fashion the political career of the author and focuses attention on the events leading up to and including the Little Rock crisis.

Both political, religious and other reviewers have given careful analysis of the book. Here are samples of the opinions that have been expressed.

"Brooks Hays speaks from an experience and with a selfless sincerity which command respectful and careful attention...He says frankly and forthrightly in this book what he thinks can and should be done to guarantee full civil rights in America. Without at all insisting that his own proposals be accepted, he marks out clearly that area of understanding and accommodation where the essential elements of national unity surely lie. This is not only A Southern Moderate speaking, but a very noble and wise American." -- Adlai E. Stevenson.

"Brooks Hays...was defeated into success...As to politics, Brooks Hays is still young enough to wait; but in the larger field of religion and citizenship, he is now free to make his faith and experience with high courage articulate across America." -- Daniel A. Poling, Christian Herald.

"Provides many good insights into the working of American politics, but it also serves as a testimony to Christian faith in a world where the Christian thing is not usually the easy thing." -- J. F. Green, Baptist Sunday School Board.

"Proves Mr. Hays not only a moderate in the field of race relations, where extremists seem to dominate, but a man whose convictions developed through many years of splendid service in this area. It also proves Mr. Hays a Christian statesman who will not sacrifice principles." -- John J. Hurt, Jr., Editor, The Christian Index.

"The voice of Mr. Hays, recently rejected as a politician in the furies engendered at Little Rock, deserves attention as that of a man stating the religious and legal faith of one prominent Southerner...This story as here written chiefly proves that the Pilgrim needs to be wary in the Southern dark. Indeed, Mr. Hays seems in essence to have written a sort of unfinished autobiography of an angel in Bedlam." -- Jonathan Daniels, The Saturday Review.

"It is scrupulously honest, the expression of a man to whom his Christian conviction means a great deal. It is a just book. It does not sit in judgment, and it sees good in all things. It is the expression of a conciliator, not a fighter or crusader...It reveals what perhaps is the fatal flaw of the South's one-party politics. The flaw is that at no time before the abuses of civil and voting rights became so intolerable as to produce Federal or, as it is called, 'outside' action, did any of the Southern moderates in the Congress initiate any reform action of their own." -- Ralph McGill, editor of the Atlanta Constitution, in the New York Times Book Review.

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Baptist News Features

"The moderation which Mr. Hays advocates and practices is unsatisfactory to both extremes in the present conflict....Only through the approach that he advocates is the nation likely to solve its most pressing minority problem in a way that will insure lasting progress and good-will." -- Gainer E. Bryan, editor, The Maryland Baptist.

("A Southern Moderate Speaks," by Brooks Hays, University of North Carolina Press, 231 pp., \$3.50.)