

Light

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION OF THE SOUTHERN

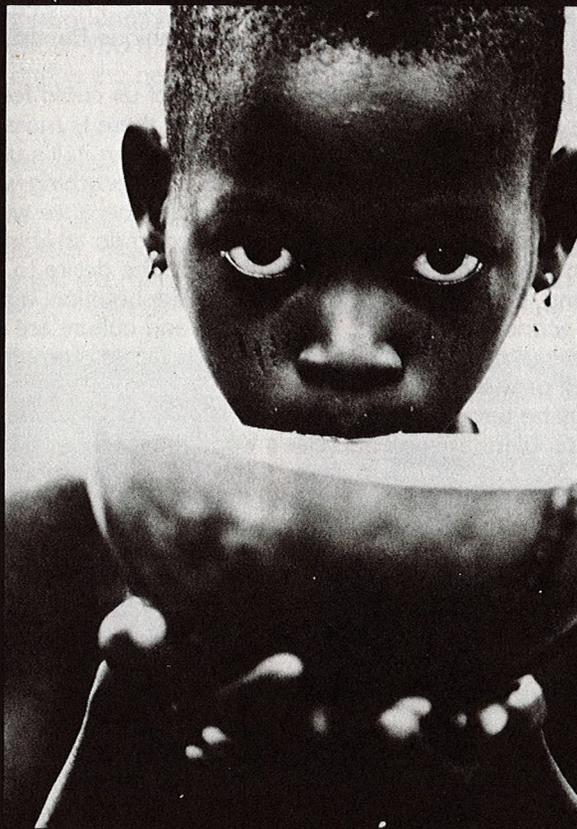
BAPTIST CONVENTION

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1987

A.D. 2000: A FORMIDABLE CHALLENGE TO CHRISTIAN WITNESS AND MINISTRY

By John R. Cheyne

**"The disciples determined . . .
to send relief" for the hungry.**
(Acts 11:29, RSV)



**Observe World Hunger Day
October 11, 1987**

Sponsored by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

Barring major and unexpected changes, the world in A.D. 2000 will be more crowded, more hungry, less stable ecologically, more vulnerable to disruption and have a greater number of people without knowledge or understanding of Christ than at any time in the history of mankind.

In the context of Christian missions, we will be confronted with a rapidly expanding number of unconverted billions who face spiritual and physical deprivation, chronic and prolonged food insecurity, social and economic exclusion from modern health care and unbelievably crowded and unhealthy physical living conditions. At the same time they will be without any sense of real hope for adequate help or significant change in their future.

This is the world to which, and in which, we are called to share the good news of the Gospel! If we propose to move into this next decade of Bold Mission Thrust, and the extension of the Gospel into all the world, the love of Christ compels us to care. To be blind or unaware of the situation, or to be callous or unconcerned about the condition of the world's people is to preclude the possibility of both an authentic witness or a biblically based pattern of concern.

Some Pressing Issues 1987-A.D. 2000

Some of the greatest growth from the present 5 billion people to over

(continued on page 3)

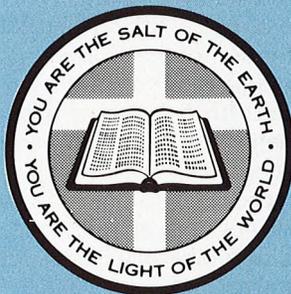
Texas Legislature Regulates Late-Term Abortions • Page 10

LIBRARY
Historical Commission, SBC
Nashville, Tennessee

- 2 Baker's Viewpoint
- 3 A.D. 2000
- 4 African Women and Hunger
- 5 American Women and Hunger
- 6 Volunteers Fight Hunger
- 8 Domestic Hunger
- 9 Gambling Update
- 10 Abortion Legislation
- 12 Hunger Resources

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Reflections

"Give us this day our daily bread," Jesus taught us to pray. On a Galilean hillside, Jesus distributed bread and fish to a crowd while he talked about the Bread of Life. In his parable of the last judgment, our Lord named the hungry as one of the "least of these my brethren" for whom God's people are responsible. Jesus knew that life is impossible without food.

In 1987, countless people starve or suffer from malnutrition. The numbers are staggering. Some indicate that as many as 500 million people in our world suffer from a significant degree of malnutrition. Others suggest that more than a billion people suffer from some degree of energy deficiency related to diet.

Some of these people starve to death. Others die from diseases they could overcome if they had adequate food. As many as 10,000 people die each day from starvation or the consequences of malnutrition. We live in a world where starvation is common; Lazarus, in the person of starving human beings around the world, lies constantly at our door.

Recent Southern Baptist publications spotlight the terrible need and our challenge. In this issue of *Light*, John Cheyne warns that "the world in A.D. 2000 will be more crowded, more hungry, less stable ecologically." The September issue of *World Mission Journal* paints a stark portrait of "Hunger in America." A July release from Baptist Press chronicles ways in which the Foreign Mission Board and Mozambique Baptists are fighting famine among people in that stricken land.

In the face of such drastic need, any one of us could feel overwhelmed. Someone returning from areas of Asia where there is massive starvation summed it up by saying, "To him who hasn't seen it, it's unimaginable; to him who has seen it, it's indescribable." Is there anything we can do to make a difference? We can get to thinking that because we cannot do everything about a problem, there is no need to do anything.

We can get caught in the complexity trap. The desire to do something is one thing. But we also know that issues like nutrition, agricultural systems, economics, politics, demography and culture are also involved. We may be tempted to think the problem is far too complex for us to deal with it well or wisely.

We may be tempted to assign responsibility to someone else or delegate the problem to someone else's world. I remember a brief dialogue in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Jem says, "Oh, well, I always thought Maycomb folks were the best folks in the world." And, Aunt Maudie replies, "We're so seldom called on . . . but when we are, we've got men like Atticus to go for us." Her response to one evil is akin to ours on others, including hunger.

But the Christ, his gospel and the Bible will not let us be comfortable with such responses to famine and hunger, starvation and malnutrition. Love like God's love finds ways to meet needs, to feed the hungry, to care for the dying.

In this issue of *Light*, we say: Look, millions and millions of the world's human beings know hunger to the extent that they are on the road to a slow and agonizing death. Look, Jesus stands in the midst of them saying, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me."

Larry Baker

A.D. 2000

Continued from Page 1

6.5 billion by A.D. 2000 will be in major city ghettos. The largest percentage will be under 20 years of age. It is conservatively estimated there are over 40 million abandoned street children in Latin America alone. This is expected to grow to 60 million by the turn of the century.

There are now between 13 and 18 million deaths from hunger-related diseases every year, while some 250,000 children become blind every year from a lack of vitamins. The number suffering from chronic malnutrition will rise from 700 million to near two billion during the next decade.

While the per capita income of the United States is expected to rise from \$7,066 in 1975 to \$14,212 in A.D. 2000, over the same period, income in Bangladesh, typical of developing countries, will move from \$111 to a mere \$120, and their



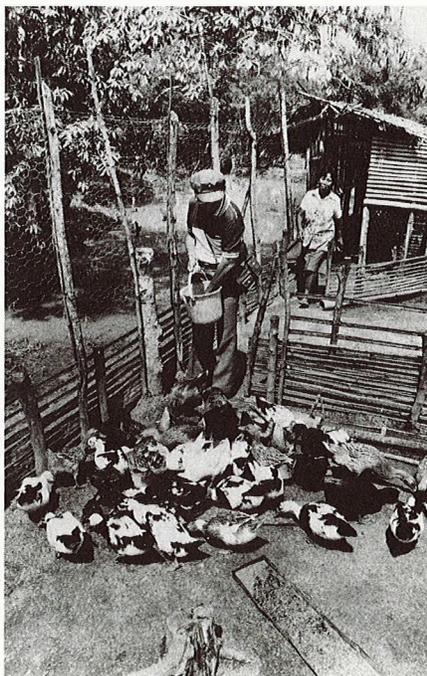
Missionary Harold R. Watson works at the Baptist Rural Life Center in Mindanao, Philippines to help families improve their goat milk production. (FMB photos by Don Rutledge)

already enormous population will double.

While community based health programs could conceivably prevent more than 80 percent of major health problems, 85 percent of health care funds are still being used through hospitals serving less than 10 percent of the Third World population.

Where Do Southern Baptists Fit In?

Southern Baptists certainly don't have all the answers, but there are some things we are doing, and are doing right. Baptist missionaries, along with national Christians are working on the front lines—at the grass-roots level. They are attempting to set up those kinds of model projects that deal with the underlying causes of hunger, and which can be easily replicated by both local groups and governments.



Southern Baptist duck distribution projects like this satellite one in the Philippines help hungry people to help themselves.

One of the best examples of this is the work being done through missionary Harold Watson, who has been recognized for his work in the Philippines. Through the Rural Life Center and Christian farmer's clubs, Harold has captured the attention of both the government and international agencies. His SALT program, designed to redevelop the badly eroded hillsides, has given new hope to thousands of peasant farmers, and is now written up in international development journals.

A goat and duck distribution program in Bangladesh is being heralded as one of the most significant efforts of its kind in that country. This, together with tube wells and fish farming, has made a dramatic impact on a large portion of the population.

Southern Baptists are slowly coming to recognize that the Foreign Mission Board has an effective, and often more efficient, program than many of the full-time relief agencies. While some fund-raising schemes have come into question, the fact that 100 percent of the designated relief dollar still goes directly to the field has given even more credibility to channeling funds through our own denomination.

And for Tomorrow?

How can Baptists have any real impact on the condition of the world's poor in the future? First, our response to world hunger must become pro-active and not merely reactive. We cannot afford to wait until the crises are so big that the media finally makes us move.

Second, giving and personal involvement must become part of a total lifestyle change rather than simply a token commitment on world hunger day.

And finally, we must become more aware and involved in our own government's aid policies. Food must cease being a weapon for political pressure, and funds earmarked for aid must be diverted from building up greater stores of arms to kill, and become stores of resources to save. ■

Cheyne is director of the Human Needs Department of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

AFRICAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN SUFFER HARSH, HUNGRY LIVES

In Spite of Backbreaking Work Food and Water Are Hard to Find

By Robert Parham

Emily Ngozi once did "donkey work." Each day was spent in backbreaking labor. If she was not carrying wood and babies, she was hauling water five hours a day on her back in the remote bush country of Kenya. Her future was as dim as that of her seven malnourished children.

But life has improved for Emily and her family, thanks to Southern Baptist hunger funds. Hunger money has been used in Emily's village to start a program leading to self-reliance. A rainwater catchment, a brick-and-cement silo and training in animal husbandry make life more than just survival. Life is now a little easier in this Kenyan village.

Unfortunately, Emily Ngozi's story is the exception. Life is much harsher for most African women. The typical woman in rural Africa works nine to ten hours a day in the fields, laboring with a short-handled hoe and with a baby strapped to her back. She spends another seven to eight hours fetching water, collecting firewood, cooking, marketing crops and looking after children. She must not only contribute to the production of cash crops, but she is responsible for all the kitchen gardening.

African men, on the other hand, perform a variety of tasks: cutting forests, plowing land, tending cattle, mining ore and working on cash crops such as coffee, cocoa and cotton. They also hold many of the urban jobs. But for the most part their situation is not as hard as that for African women.

Several statistics illustrate the plight of African women:

- A study in Ethiopia finds that 75

percent of the women surveyed spent three hours or more going one way to collect water.

- 60 to 80 percent of the continent's farm work is done by women. In Malawi two-thirds of the full-time farmers are women, while in Burkina Faso women do 80 percent more farm labor than men.

- One-third of the farms are managed by women.

- 25 to 33 percent of all households are headed by women due to a variety of factors, including divorce, death and desertion. Another reason

Despite the dominant role women play in food production, they receive little assistance.

is that husbands often migrate to urban areas in search of employment.

Despite the dominant role women play in food production, they receive little assistance. Financial credit is for men, not poor, rural women. Women without property and land simply do not have the collateral to get loans.

As for extension services, they are designed primarily for men. Those extension services that do focus on women are often oriented toward household problems instead of agricultural production. A good example of this is found in Ghana where women grow 50 percent of the food, produce 30 percent of the cash crops (cocoa, cotton, sugar) and manage 40 percent of the coffee farms. Yet most of the agricultural

extension officers assigned to help women are trained to work on nutrition (preparing and storing food).

If women are doing most of the food production, then they should be receiving the bulk of the foreign aid to enhance their work. But such is not the case. Instead, foreign aid goes in almost every direction except that of Africa's rural farmers. The failure of African women to receive necessary support is one explanation for the failure of Africa to produce enough food.

A study of the U.S. Agency for International Development's (AID) budget for Africa indicates that in 1985 only 4.3 percent of the funding was for women-specific projects, and only four of the 45 agricultural projects were designed specifically to benefit women. Not surprisingly, a report from the U.S. Congress Office of Technology Assessment concludes: "Women represent some of the most overworked and under-supported and, in most cases, some of the poorest of the rural population."

To make matters worse, African tradition commonly dictates that women eat last and least. The result is that women and their children are the ones most at risk to hunger. One indication of this fact is the high infant mortality rate across the continent. In Sierra Leone, for example, 200 babies die in the first year of life for every 1,000 live births, compared to 11 infants per 1,000 in the U.S. The infant mortality rate is an indication that women fail to consume adequate calories to have healthy babies.

A study in Gambia has found that infants six to nine months old receive 40 percent less breast milk in the rainy season, which is the time of year when last year's harvest is almost exhausted and the next harvest is not yet ready. It is the time when women must work the hardest, eat the least and suckle their infants less. The result is hungry women and children.

Reversing the hunger crisis in Africa is no simple task. But one of the keys is that women receive more help with food production and access to the food produced. One way to bring about some change in this direction is through more sup-

port for the development work of the Foreign Mission Board. We need to remember that projects leading to self-reliance offer the most promise in breaking the cycle of poverty.

Another way is through Christian citizenship. We need to encourage the U.S. Congress to support foreign aid programs designed for women. U.S. AID needs to be encouraged to hire more women agriculturalists, add more women staff members to AID missions in Africa, offer more training programs for women and allocate more of its budget to women-specific projects.

The U.S. ought to support programs which offer labor-saving technologies. In Kenya, for example, using tin roofs to collect water can

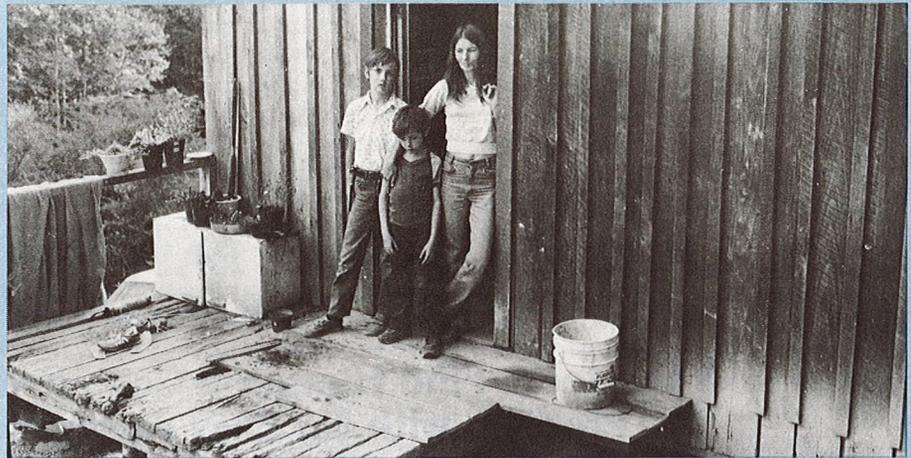
With more foreign aid targeted for women and appropriate technology . . . changes are possible.

save an estimated two to ten hours daily in household chores, leaving more time for women to grow larger gardens and raise more animals.

If increasing food production is one road toward reducing hunger, then women are key players. Their plight is oppressively hard, perhaps unlikely to change much in this century. With more foreign aid targeted for women and appropriate technology, however, changes are possible.

Understanding who is most at risk to hunger and why are prerequisites to reducing hunger. Our efforts to help poor people help themselves depend upon good analysis. Southern Baptists need to understand that women and children are the ones around the world most vulnerable to hunger. We can help these victims. But we must get off our heels and on to our toes, looking for ways to make a difference through private charity and public policy. ■

Parham is an associate director of the Christian Life Commission.



American Women and Children Not Excluded from World's Hungry

By Robert Parham

Like their counterparts in Africa, America's women and children are the ones most at risk to poverty and consequently to hunger. Several statistics illustrate this point:

- Two out of every three poor adults are women. One in five children is raised in poverty.
- 75 percent of poor black children live in families headed by women, compared to 45 percent of poor white children.
- 90 percent of the families receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), a welfare program, are headed by women.

These statistics are startling. Yet they are not as shocking as a statistic from the Children's Defense Fund which estimates that poverty takes the life of an American child every 53 minutes. More children die from poverty each year than from traffic accidents and suicides combined.

The causes of poverty among American women are numerous. Unemployment is one. Mothers without education and/or job training are unable to find work. Low wage earning is another: A woman working full-time in 1986 at a minimum-wage job made \$6,700, 25 percent below the poverty line for a family of three.

A third cause of poverty is family breakup. An alarming number of fathers abandon their families. Only

23 percent of women with minor children receive full child support payments from the fathers. This contributes to poverty and sometimes forces families onto the streets. Not surprisingly, 28 percent of America's homeless people are single parents with young children. The welfare system itself often adds to family breakup. For example, states determine the welfare guidelines for AFDC, and half of them deny benefits if the father is present in the home.

American women need job training, employment opportunities and adequate child support. They need support services such as quality and affordable child care.

They also need the benefits of a fairer tax system. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 is a small step in that direction. It removes 6.5 million low-income Americans from the tax rolls, making the minimum taxable income \$13,000 for a family of four. Another reform in the tax system is removal of the sales tax on food stamps, which in Tennessee, for example, means that 500,000 poor people have a little more welfare dollar each month for a little more food. But more tax reform is still needed. The sales tax on food in many southern states reduces the amount of food poor women can purchase, and it ought to be removed. ■

Parham is an associate director of the Christian Life Commission.

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS CONCLUDE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

Volunteers Find Hunger a Complex Problem with No Easy Answers

By J. George Reed

In June, North Carolina Baptists concluded a three and one-half year mission partnership in the West African country of Togo. About 250 volunteers spent from two weeks to two years living and working near the bush village of Moretan.

Though not just a hunger project, the Togo experience has taught us a great deal about what we label simply "hunger." Not just one issue, hunger is actually a series of issues woven together into a fabric of need and death.

Of course, hunger *does* have to do with food, though in the Moretan area of Togo, it is not a matter of drought and famine. Rather, it is a

Not just one issue, hunger is actually a series of issues woven together into a fabric of need and death.

question of farming practices. Can some animal traction or power be introduced to replace the short-handled hoes and spades which are the usual tools? Can granaries be built cheaply which will protect grain better than the thatched-roof sheds now in use?

It is also a question of improving the diet. Can protein sources be introduced which are better than the scrawny goats which are everywhere?

Can fruits and vegetables be grown which would provide more balanced, less starchy diets? And, can you expect people who have always grown and eaten starchy "cassava" to switch to other foods just because some "yovo" (white person) says they should?

"Hunger" is also a problem of water. Women in Togo may spend hours every day walking as much as six to eight miles to fetch water from rivers and ponds. Much of that surface water will be contaminated by human and animal wastes and by parasites. Intestinal parasites steal some of the food the people eat, adding to their hunger.

Water problems also include the scarcity of water for agricultural uses during the six-month dry season. For example, animal power is hard to sustain without a ready source of water since oxen drink so much.

"Hunger" is also a problem of health care and education. Childhood diseases are usually fatal for children already weakened by internal parasites. Yet inoculations, which could prevent many of those deaths, are not readily available.

Poor health education compounds these problems. Diarrhea, for example, accounts for up to half of the childhood deaths in rural Togo. The traditional treatment is to *withhold* fluids. Medically literate people recognize the danger of dehydration and know this treatment will hasten death. But to the Togolese it is perfectly logical: The child is putting out too much liquid, so you reduce intake.

Health itself can be a hunger issue. In many tropical areas, malaria

weakens millions of people. Malaria comes from mosquitos, which come during the rainy season, which is when farmers need to be at peak output. So, malaria hits at the worst time and adds to "hunger."

Sanitation, too, is a hunger issue. Disease and parasites are easily spread by human wastes, which are left uncovered or untreated. Water is also contaminated by human wastes, which compounds other problems.

Even travel and accessibility can be hunger issues. The Togo Partnership was located in an area isolated from the country's main road and markets during the rainy season by a flooded river. The residents of Moretan were unable to get products to market. They were also unable to reach medical care on the other side of the river.

Indeed, the word "hunger" covers a tapestry of issues and needs. And

In Togo, we learned the importance of a holistic approach to hunger.

that tapestry cannot be unraveled merely by pulling one thread.

In Togo, we learned the importance of a holistic approach to hunger. It is only somewhat helpful to build farm ponds if sanitation practices aren't changed, to teach oral rehydration if the water is still contaminated, to build better granaries if the animal stock is still poor or to inoculate children if other medical care is still unavailable.

The Partnership has either addressed or begun to address several of these problems. Over a hundred deep wells have been drilled and Togo-made pumps installed. Sixteen farm ponds have been built and are in use. A pharmacy has been completed and awaits the arrival of an already-assigned Togolese pharmacist. A 200-foot concrete bridge now provides year-round access to the entire region. Basic health education

... we have seen firsthand the results of Christian witness undergirded by concern for the whole person.

has been taught in many villages. A training center will be used by career missionaries to teach agricultural techniques, nutrition practices and literacy. The center itself models some significant improvements, such as screens in the windows and

latrines around back. Volunteer-built homes house career missionary families. A physician has recently been appointed by the Foreign Mission Board to work in Moretan.

We have also learned the importance of development work which is small-scale and locally based. The people of the Moretan area were involved in planning the project. They have worked alongside the North Carolina volunteers, with a village-based committee responsible for assigning workers. Some have learned to operate the well-drilling rig. Villages have pooled resources to purchase pumps. The use of locally built pumps aids the country's manufacturing economy and eases long-term problems of maintenance.

Finally, we have seen first-hand the results of Christian witness under-

girded by concern for the whole person. Prior to the Partnership, the Moretan area had had almost no Christian witness. Now there are 42 new churches and preaching stations. There have been more than 1200 baptisms, and another 1000 are in discipleship training, awaiting baptism.

A regional governor said it well. "Someday the souls of those who believe in Jesus will go to live with God. But while we are on earth our souls need bodies that we must take care of. Baptists are not only caring for our bodies but also for our souls." ■

Reed is director of the Department of Christian Citizenship Education, Christian Life Council, Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.



This muddy water hole was the only source of water for this Togolese village until Southern Baptists drilled a new well here. (FMB Photo by Joanna Pinneo)

DOMESTIC HUNGER GIFTS CONTINUE TO INCREASE

Home Mission Board Allocates Funds for Direct Food Assistance Programs

By Nathan Porter

The Home Mission Board is committed to lead Southern Baptists to witness to the gospel of Christ through ministry to human need. Voluntary designated gifts to Home Mission Board domestic hunger has continued to show an increase. Gifts for 1986 totaled \$1.3 million compared to \$1.2 million for 1985. Home Mission Board hunger gifts for January-May, 1987 (five months) were \$512,601 compared to \$457,977 for the same period in 1986. Under the supervision of state and local Baptist leadership, these

... funds are used exclusively for direct food assistance to the poor and hungry in the United States.

funds are used exclusively for direct food assistance to the poor and hungry in the United States. Following are examples of how the Home Mission Board works with Southern Baptists in ministries to the hungry, the poor, the homeless and the migrants.

In mid-April, migrant workers arrived at the Raisin City Farm Labor Center, located 25 miles from Fresno, California. They were greeted by church volunteers led by home missionary Augustine Salazar. While the 300 workers and their families waited to be admitted into the camp which would be their home for the next five months, they were treated to breakfast served by the volunteers. During the winter months, Salazar was busy training volunteers who

would be involved in teaching English as a second language, leading summer Vacation Bible Schools, providing food assistance, leading worship and evangelistic services and conducting other ministries to the migrants and their families.

From Maryland/Delaware to South Florida, approximately 100 different migrant ministries, sponsored by Baptist associations and local churches, report hundreds of church volunteers who actively serve migrant workers and their families.

Ray Shelton serves as migrant consultant with the Georgia Baptist Convention. From his home base in Americus, Georgia, he leads churches to provide a variety of ministries which address the needs of migrants in Georgia. These ministries include Bible study, worship services, Scripture distribution, food and clothing assistance, health kits, language interpretation, literacy education, medical and



It is estimated that 90 percent of migrant workers fall below the poverty line. Poverty and hunger go hand in hand.

dental assistance and job placement.

The work and life of migrant and seasonal farm workers in America are extremely difficult. Yet, they provide essential and invaluable service to all people of our nation. It is estimated that 90 percent of migrant and seasonal farm workers live below the poverty level.

Forest Avenue Baptist Church in Kansas City, Missouri, provides a shelter for 35 to 40 homeless persons. Agape House is a refurbished motel for the homeless, sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Union, Missouri. First Baptist Church of Silver Spring, Maryland, added to their soup kitchen and pantry ministries a shelter which cares for 10 homeless persons. In Tanzania, California, pastor Scott Sterling leads the small, struggling congregation of Tanzania Baptist Chapel to provide food and coffee to approximately 200 homeless persons each day.

Home Mission Board hunger funds help these church ministries provide meals to the homeless. During the past year, many associations and local churches have opened shelters for those who are homeless.

Marylin Prickett is a home missionary in Washington, D.C. She works with local churches and with the Johanning Baptist Center. The Center is located in the southeast section of the city in a community of low- to middle-income families who live in multi-family dwellings. Poverty is pushing many families out of their homes with no place to go. The Baptist Center serves families which are just trying to survive. Many families lose their children. This area contains the youngest age group in D.C., mostly 15 years and younger. There is a very high rate of unemployment and an urgent need for job training. The Johanning Center offers multi-ministries. The Center is the distribution center for food to hundreds of needy families.

These examples of hunger and other human-needs ministries are only a glimpse of Southern Baptists in ministry and witness to those who are hurting. ■

Porter is national consultant for domestic hunger and migrant ministries for the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

GAMBLING UPDATE

By Larry D. Braidfoot

Daily Track Wagering Averages \$160 per Visitor

Daily wagering at the 124 race-tracks operating in the United States averaged \$160 per person in 1986. Ten different race meetings averaged wagering levels in excess of \$200 per visitor to the track.

Of the 124 different race meetings held last year, 100 had per capita daily wagering levels exceeding \$100 per person. Ironically, the two meetings held at Keeneland, located in the heart of the Kentucky thoroughbred breeding industry, averaged only \$97 and \$94 respectively. (*The Blood-Horse*, April 25, 1987, p. 2615.)

Racing Industry Seeks Lottery for Help

The New Mexico legislature passed a lottery proposal that would be tied to the results of horse races and would be operated by the pari-mutuel racing industry.

Racing supporters in California claimed that California track attendance is off between 8 percent and 30 percent because of the new California lottery.

The industry also claimed that the Colorado lottery helped kill horse racing and undercut greyhound racing in that state. (*The Blood-Horse*, April 25, 1987, pp. 2665-66.)

Red Ink Continues at Birmingham Turf

Birmingham Turf, the newest track to open nationwide and supposedly the finest facility in the South, cut its purses for the second time in its opening meet in an attempt to stem the tide of red ink. Purses had originally been \$100,000 a day, but have been reduced to about \$50,000 daily.

The cuts became necessary when lending institutions requested that the track operate at a break-even level for the rest of the current meet. The track, which had been sold to Birmingham with the promise of

major levels of employment, laid off 100 employees.

Killingsworth and Associates, the industry's leading financial consultant which had prepared the economic projections for the track, is receiving only approximately half of its consulting fee as a result of performance conditions built into its contract. (*The Blood-Horse*, May 9, 1987, p. 2888.)

The track lost \$1.3 million in the first 18 days, although attendance was almost 1500 per day above the 5500 described as the "break-even" point. (*Tennessean*, March 30, 1987, p. 3C.) After almost two months, track ownership boasted that losses had been cut from \$100,000 to \$40,000 per day. (*Nashville Banner*, April 30, 1987, p. A-1).

Track management also embarked on a new marketing campaign "designed to attract more blacks and blue-collar workers." (*Nashville Banner*, April 30, 1987, p. A-1.)

'Tax Relief' Sought by Minnesota Track

Canterbury Downs in Minnesota lobbied the 1987 legislature for a reduction in pari-mutuel tax rates from 5 percent to 1.85 percent. Losses of \$7.9 million were incurred in 1986, the track's inaugural season. Canterbury Downs, which was required by law to pay 5 percent of the money wagered in purse money, paid an additional \$2.7 million in purses above that 5 percent level. Track operators were seeking major concessions from the state, which received \$7.2 million in pari-mutuel taxes in 1987. The lobbying effort failed. (*The Blood-Horse*, May 23, 1987, p. 3182.)

Lottery Performance Prompts Criticism, Changes in Several States

Lottery directors in both Pennsylvania and Missouri are being replaced primarily because of lagging sales. The director of the Pennsylvania lottery, Blair Gettig, was ousted in March, and James Holmes stepped down as head of the Missouri lottery

May 31. State officials also questioned the management of the lotteries.

The management of the Arizona lottery is also being scrutinized for a variety of irregularities. The lottery management made plans for a building to be constructed which was to cost \$440,000 more than comparable state buildings under construction. An audit of the lottery was hampered by the discovery that transcripts of the lottery commission's closed meetings from 1981 through 1986 are missing. (*The Arizona Republic*, February 20, 1987.)

Sponsor Says Missouri Lottery Doomed

The Missouri legislature may have doomed the state's new lottery by refusing to make concessions allowing the lottery to engage in motivational advertising and refusing to alter operating overhead levels in excess of 10 percent. The constitutional amendment providing for the lottery limited the overhead to 10 percent and prohibited advertising except for information purposes. Advertising to entice viewers to play was prohibited. The sponsor of legislation establishing the lottery, Senator Edwin L. Dirck, stated: "It cannot last. They'll have to shut it down." (*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, June 17, 1987, p. 1A.)

Legislative Roundup

Gambling legalization has moved forward in four states in 1987. Lottery referenda have been scheduled by legislatures in Indiana and Virginia. Pari-mutuel legislation has cleared the legislatures in North Dakota and Tennessee. The Mississippi legislature has opened the state to charitable bingo, dropping the number of states without some form of legalized gambling to three. If Indiana voters legalize the lottery, then only Utah and Hawaii will have no form of legalized gambling. ■

Braidfoot is general counsel for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

NEW TEXAS LAW REGULATES LATE-TERM ABORTIONS

Struggle to Pass Legislation Ends in Milestone Compromise

By Gary McNeil

In May 1987, the 70th Texas Legislature passed a law restricting late-term abortions performed in the state. Passage of the law came after a long struggle and a milestone compromise on the issue.

The Abortion Regulation Act, H.B. 410, sponsored by Rep. Mike Millsap (D-Fort Worth) and Sen. Ted Lyon

Pro-life proponents . . . now stand on the side of success, largely because they accepted the road of compromise.

(D-Rockwall), is the first abortion legislation to pass the Texas Legislature since 1973 when the Texas anti-abortion laws were ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

The legislative story behind H.B. 410 detailed a political tug-of-war. The bill's fortunes rose and fell, sometimes weekly, sometimes daily or hourly. Tentative compromises withered from mistakes and misunderstandings.

Pro-life proponents began the legislative session with a narrowly drawn bill and with the goal to enact an abortion regulation law. They now stand on the side of success, largely

because they accepted the road of compromise.

Review of the original H.B. 410 and the final version reveals the points of compromise. The original bill represented legislation pro-life proponents believed would pass constitutional muster under *Roe v. Wade*. Those provisions included:

- A ban on post-viable abortions. Only nine states have not enacted laws which regulate late-term abortions. This ban would not be dated precisely but would fall approximately between 21 and 26 weeks of pregnancy.

- Criminal sanctions against the doctor performing a later-term abortion. The penalty would have been a Class A misdemeanor, carrying a maximum penalty of two years in jail and a \$2000 fine.

- Parental consent for minors. Several states require minors to secure parental consent before permitting an abortion. This language would have allowed judicial remedy for a minor who believes she could not seek the parent's permission.

The final version contained:

- A ban on third trimester abortions. This term replaces viability and specifies a date—26 weeks—for a late-term abortion.

- No criminal sanctions. A doctor performing a later-term abortion, however, could have his license suspended or revoked by the Texas Board of Medical Examiners.

- No requirement of parental consent.

H.B. 410 proponents were led by the Texas Coalition for Life. The Texas Baptist Christian Life

Commission supported the original H.B. 410. The Commission submitted testimony in favor of the bill and urged Texas Baptists to communicate with their elected officials to support the bill.

Opponents to state regulation of abortions were led by the Texas Abortion Rights Action League. Others included the Texas Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Texas Women's Political Caucus.

The battleground over H.B. 410 took place primarily in the Senate. In the House, Millsap garnered more than 80 cosponsors out of 150 House members. In the Senate, stiff opposition developed in the Health and Human Services Committee. It was this committee that wrote and reshaped the language of H.B. 410.

Texas Governor William Clements also supported the bill. He assigned his advisor on moral issues, Dr. Richard Land, to work the bill. Governor Clements made the bill a priority for the session.

Committee testimony began on April 13 in both the House and Senate. The first roadblock to the bill occurred in the Senate committee. Senate sponsor Lyon offered to withdraw the parental consent language. The choice was a pragmatic one: Lyon said, "I still consider this (parental consent) of immense public interest, but I'm a political realist. With that provision, I don't have a chance to pass this bill out of this committee."

Lyon then appeared to have the bill set for swift and favorable committee action, but a major glitch developed. Governor Clements responded to the parental consent deletion by implying the language would reappear as an amendment on the Senate floor. Lyon's fragile favorable vote crashed in legislative flames and the bill remained in committee.

Other controversy surrounding the parental consent section added further fuel to the fire. A defeated legislative opponent of Senator Lyon's held a press conference chastising the deletion of parental consent as cutting the "heart and soul out of this badly needed legislation." This attack received a quick response by voices involved in the legislative

process. The Governor's advisor, Richard Land, said, "to attack Senator Lyon for trying to do that which is possible . . . endangers and jeopardizes the attempt to protect the lives of unborn babies." Bill Price, president of the Texas Coalition for Life, was even more blunt: "It's well known that Mr. Harvey lost a very close race to Mr. Lyon in 1984. He appears to be seeking some sort of advantage to hurt Lyon politically."

The Christian Life Commission of Texas sent out a letter to every Southern Baptist preacher in Lyon's district acknowledging Lyon's vital leadership on this issue. The potential for another sidetrack was averted.

The Senate committee amended the bill further in another meeting. The criminal sanctions were removed in favor of loss of license by the Texas Board of Medical Examiners.

With no Senate action, the battleground shifted to the House. Reported favorably from committee with the parental consent language deleted, H.B. 410 was brought to the House floor by Rep. Millsap on May 18. On the floor, he moved to accept the Senate action on criminal sanctions. Millsap acknowledged political reality that the bill did not go far enough for its supporters and went too far for its opponents. "This is being offered in the spirit of compromise," he said.

Millsap further helped the passage of the bill by asking for a voice vote, instead of a recorded one. The House passed the bill.

The Senate committee received the House bill, and filibuster threats rose as the Legislature drew near adjournment. June 1 would be the last day of the session, and the filibuster threat loomed larger with each passing day. Finally, on May 26, the Senate committee considered the bill. Another amendment was added changing the abortion ban from after viability to third trimester. Some opponents of the amendment believed this change would be unconstitutional since the language no longer tracked the language of *Roe v. Wade*. After the amendment passed, the House bill was passed out of committee to the floor of the Senate.

Two days later, Lyon brought the bill up for a vote on the Senate floor. No filibuster took place. The leading opponent of the bill, Sen. Craig Washington, said, "This is a reasonable compromise between where you'd (Lyon's position) like to be, which is regulation, and where I'd like to be, which is no regulation at all." Washington warned that he was ready to filibuster if the House attempted to change the bill as passed in the Senate.

Millsap accepted the Senate version of H.B. 410, and the bill passed to the Governor's desk. The Governor had previously made it clear he intended to sign the bill or allow the bill to be part of his call for an upcoming special session. Governor Clements signed the bill in June.

Throughout this process, the goal of passing an abortion regulation bill was paramount. Upon passage, this goal was made apparent by Lyon who called the bill an "historic measure." Bill Price said, "banning late abortions is of great historic significance."

Success occurred because proponents accepted the political reality of compromise and were willing to amend the bill. Thus, in Texas we have a milestone compromise abortion regulation bill. ■

McNeil is legislative assistant for the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

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MORAL SCENE

Nation Spent \$17.9 Billion On Teenage Mothers Last Year

Taxpayers spent \$17.9 billion last year on food stamps, medical care and cash assistance for families begun as a result of teenagers giving birth, the Center for Populations Options said in a report.

The center, which seeks the prevention of adolescent pregnancies, said its projections are conservative because they do not include expenditures for public housing, special education, child care, foster care, child protective services and other social services.

The center said that babies born to teenagers last year will cost the nation a total of \$5.5 billion over the

next 20 years, including housing and social services.

By the year 2006, taxpayers will have spent an average of \$14,852 for each child born to a teenager last year, the center said.

The report said that since two out of three teenage mothers do not receive welfare, the average cost of a single birth to a teenager who does not receive public assistance is closer to \$37,500.

The center said federal family planning programs could save \$3 for every \$1 now spent on serving teenagers.

—Washington Post

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