

# Report from the In Capital

OCTOBER 1967



# News Analysis

by W. Barry Garrett

## Monday Holidays

In spite of scattered protests from religious leaders there has developed little opposition to the proposed change in national holidays to provide more three-day week-ends. The only "religious" opposition at the hearings before Congressional committees came from the Lord's Day Alliance.

A few Baptist editors and a scattering of pastors have deplored the proposed changes because of what they fear will happen to church attendance if the people are given additional long week-ends. Some have said that they oppose the idea because of the increased death toll on the highways, a charge that is denied by the sponsors.

There seems to be no church-state problem in the proposal (except as church attendance and education programs might be affected), because only national holidays are involved. No religious holidays would be affected. Some have sought to raise the church-state issue by saying that Congress should not enact laws that may adversely affect the churches.

Already Labor Day is established as the first Monday in September. The new plan would establish President's Day (third Monday in February), Memorial Day (last Monday in May), Independence Day (first Monday in July), Veterans Day (second Monday in November), and Thanksgiving Day (fourth Monday in November). Others would shift Veteran's Day from November to March or April and rename it Patriots Day.

## Ministers and Social Security

A little-noticed provision of the new proposed Social Security bill makes coverage automatic for all ministers as self-employed persons unless the minister objects on grounds of conscience. Under the present Social Security law clergymen are exempt unless they irrevocably choose to participate.

Specifically, the new bill states that the

application for exemption would be allowed only if the minister "is conscientiously opposed to the acceptance of any public insurance which makes payments in the event of death, disability, old age, or retirement or makes payments toward the cost of, or provides services for, medical care."

The bill has passed the House of Representatives and now awaits action by the Senate.

As of this writing there has been no loud voice of protest by the ministers of the nation against the new coverage. This may be because they do not know about the provision, or it may mean that Social Security has become such an accepted part of the national life that no serious opposition remains in this area.

## The Right to Privacy

There are some things that are out of bounds for government. The right to privacy is one of those areas where limitations on government are hard to establish. Problems of wiretapping, eavesdropping and electronic information gathering arise when the right to privacy is insisted upon.

One of the latest problems in this area is the right of persons employed by the federal government to some information that is not the business of government.

Chief sponsor of a "bill of rights for federal employees" is Sen. Sam J. Ervin, Jr., (D., N. C.). In a strong speech on the floor of the Senate, Ervin said that the idea that any government agency is entitled to the "total man" and to knowledge and control of all the details of his personal and community life unrelated to his employment or to law enforcement "is more appropriate for totalitarian countries than for a society of free men."

"The basic premise of this bill before Congress," Ervin declared, "is that a man who works for the federal government sells his services, not his soul."

## BEST Ends Two Year Study; Findings Emphasize Purpose

By JIM NEWTON

NASHVILLE (BP)—The Baptist Education Study Task (BEST) ended its two-year investigation of the problems facing Baptist higher education when the BEST Findings Committee called for clear statements of purpose for Christian education.

The Findings Committee, however, did not resolve the question of acceptance of federal aid being faced by the 54 Baptist (SBC) colleges and universities throughout the nation. It left the decision instead to the elected boards of trustees and to the 16 conventions.

It did, however, offer some guidelines, suggesting that there can be cooperation between church and state as well as separation; that the trustees should make the decision on the matter; that each federal aid program should be studied carefully; and that the consequences must be examined if they either accept or reject federal aid.

The Findings concluded its report with a summary of the two-year study which has involved more than 8,000 baptists:

"An increasing awareness of the significance of Christian higher education as an integral component of the Baptist witness.

"A more enlightened understanding of the present difficulties that confront our Baptist colleges and universities.

"A consciousness of need for definition of the purposes of Christian higher institutions in our present day culture, and for more effective relationships between the colleges and the denomination.

"A more precise understanding of the nature and extent of financial support necessary to provide Christian higher education of acceptable quality.

"A deeper understanding of the vital relationships between the colleges and the conventions that foster and support them, and a clearer understanding of the areas of control and lines of responsibility.

"A rededication on the part of many to the improvement and strengthening of Baptist colleges and universities."

**REPORT FROM THE CAPITAL**—a bulletin published 10 months during the year by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002. A purpose of the bulletin is to set forth information and interpretation about public affairs that are relevant to Baptist principles.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs is a denominational agency maintained by the American Baptist Convention, Baptist Federation of Canada, Baptist General Conference, National Baptist Convention, National Baptist Convention, Inc., North American Baptist General Conference, Seventh Day Baptist General Conference, and the Southern Baptist Convention.

**Executive Staff** of the Committee: C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director; W. Barry Garrett, director of information services; Walfred H. Peterson, director of research services; and James M. Sapp, director of correlation services and editor of Report From The Capital.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**—Individual subscription, \$1.50 per year; Club rate for 10 or more, \$1.00 each per year; Bulk distribution of 10 or more to a single address, \$.75 each per year. Write for further information about Club and Bulk distribution plans.

OCTOBER 1967—Volume 22, Number 8



# Washington Observations

*News — Views — Trends*

September 25, 1967



**THE CLOUDS** of the 1968 election are already floating over the nation's capital. Some key congressional leaders are turning down invitations to speak to any but their own state constituents. Administration leaders are being assigned special areas of expertise even though much remains foggy as to the issues to be debated.

**FOREIGN VERSUS DOMESTIC** issues are assuming stronger lines of cleavage for the big debates just ahead. Domestic programs are already feeling the pinch of the huge output for war material. Foreign spending, including the war, provides mixed emotions as well as political maneuvering, where budget and tax problems persistently surface.

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE** have taken steps toward solutions of city problems by approving a rat-control program, rent subsidies and financing for model cities. The House reversed itself by approving \$40 million over a two-year period for rat extermination. The rat population of the U. S. is estimated to be 90 million.

**THE SENATE VOTED** \$537 million to finance the model cities program and voted to restore the \$40 million rent supplement program earlier eliminated by the House. The Senate insists on its position and has called for a conference with the House.

**EVEN IF NO CHANGES** are made in the present holiday schedule by law, changes in holiday schedule patterns are under way. Two hundred ninety seven major collective bargaining agreements in 1961, using only manufacturer's reports, gave eight or nine paid holidays. About 940,000 employees were affected.

**BY THE YEAR 1966** the number of such agreements had reached 685 and affected more than 2.7 million workers. These agreements are commonly tied to the present holiday calendar to give three and four day weekends. Such agreements are the pacesetters in American economic life. In fact, some agreements already call for ten paid holidays.

**THE DAYS MOST COMMONLY** specified as holidays\* in these collective bargaining agreements other than the eight major national holidays are, in order: Good Friday (571), December 24 (433), Thanksgiving Friday (304), Election Day (166), Columbus Day (153), New Year's Eve (147), and Lincoln's Birthday (101).

**ONE CONCLUSION** that can be reached after studying this data is that the long weekend is more common than the calendar indicates since over half of the present eight national holidays fall on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday; since such agreements as those referred to above generally insure that Saturday and Sunday holidays are given their due in manufacturing on Friday and Monday; and since Good Friday and Thanksgiving Friday are becoming "off days" for more workers.

\* (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.)

## THE THEME OF THREE CONFERENCES

By WALFRED H. PETERSON

The eleventh religious liberty conference is one of the three with a similar theme. All three start with "the role of the Christian through church and state." The first added, "in education," this one adds, "in human welfare," the next one will add, "in international relations."

These themes have one singular advantage. They start where the Christian life is most important—with the person acting out his beliefs. Too often we have started such conferences with our attention focused on institutions. We have asked how can we properly relate and separate church and state for the mutual benefit of these institutions.

But, ideally, institutions are means to ends. They are tools used by people for some good. And inter-institutional relations are means to ends. They too aim at some good. When they cannot be used for that good, they should be scrapped and more serviceable institutions put in their place.

Our best hope of putting and keeping institutions and their relations in their properly subordinate place is to center on people—people who use institutions to give service, and people who use institutions to receive service. Only the former is our

stated concern, but the latter is intrinsic to it. After all, the servant and the service is defined by reference to the needs of the one served.

We know that Christians do not ordinarily ask where they can do their best work in light of some plan of church-state relations. They rather ask where can they serve best in light of felt needs and available resources and talents. Does this imply that church-state relations are unimportant? Not at all. It implies that they are means, not ends. The ends are finally wrapped up in the duty of service to God and man.

The Christian may well use both church and state for those ends in our day. A welfare church and a welfare state give ample opportunities for service. But as he uses either, the Christian must always ask what his actions mean for the fiscal end he seeks. If he uses the state, he has used an institution with a certain image and power. Does it fit with the service he is trying to render? If he uses the church, he has used an institution with another image and power. Was his choice appropriate?

### Human Welfare and Church and State

The New Testament concern for the kind of temporal welfare associated with the help-

The 1967 Religious Liberty Conference will deal with needs and issues such as housing, medical care, retirement, adequate diet and other issues related to improving the quality of urban living in twentieth century America.





ing professions is so strong that there is little need to justify the welfare focus of this conference. Certainly, the church has always been in welfare work. To relate to our conference theme—Christians have used the church to promote human welfare.

The term "welfare state" still is a bit touchy in our society, though the federal Constitution's preamble used the phrase "general welfare" and state and local governments have always been in some sort of welfare activity. Apparently, however, some people have thought that government work in the area of the helping professions was so dangerous a thing that it ought to be avoided except in the most dire circumstances.

Yet this has long been a minority view, and the minority grows smaller. In Washington this year, one prominent evangelist publically told of his conversion (he called it that) to at least some of the ideas that created the present War on Poverty. Government action, he had decided, was proper in efforts to end deprivation. Again, to relate to our conference theme—Christians have used the state to promote human welfare.

Given the facts of our society's life, it appears that the "welfare state," in the federal, state and local sense is with us indefinitely on a large scale. We, of course, have known this since the 1930s or earlier, but we have been tardy in spelling out its implications for Christians and for church welfare work in conferences like the one

we are now holding. Thus, when the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration conducted in 1963 its "Workshop for Baptists on Deafness and Rehabilitation" and published a 105-page account of the workshop, many Baptists squirmed a bit, or a lot. But those Baptists who participated probably left the workshop confident that they had learned much there that would help them serve needy people better. So there was some squirming and some appreciation—and that may well have been true of the same person.

This ambiguity implies that we are not yet confident of how Christians should use both church and state in meeting human need. We have work to do.

### Some Needs and Issues

The staff of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs is not expert on matters

of the churches if they conduct no welfare outreach;

5. to show how to eradicate the negative results of the "social gospel" conflict that still inhibit the churches' proper welfare efforts;
6. to suggest ways to protect the individual's right of free choice when he seeks health and welfare care within the framework of a plural welfare system;
7. to develop guidelines on how church agencies can cooperate between themselves and with government and other private agencies.

We will confront in this conference the issue of:

1. how propagation of the gospel should be carried out in health and welfare agencies;



of welfare work. In preparing for this conference it asked help from three ad hoc Baptist groups in three areas of the nation. These groups gave suggestions concerning some needs in Christian welfare work and some issues in Christian welfare work that our conference should face. Here are a few examples of these:

We need:

1. to learn how to motivate church members to greater social concern and action;
2. to program ways of acquainting our youth with opportunities in welfare work;
3. to assess the responsibility of the churches in our society for carrying out services for basic daily needs for their members and for other people;
4. to learn the effect on the witness

2. whether or not Baptists should be more ecumenical in their health and welfare efforts;
3. how to react to government education and research programs that tend to mold welfare activity in the future;
4. how to react to government aid programs that directly assist the church agency and that indirectly support the church agency's work;
5. how to respond to the variety of federal, state and local controls that affect health and welfare service whether aids are accepted or not;
6. how to balance all the valid missions of the churches within the framework of available resources.

Since this is a mere sampling of the lists, obviously we will have enough to do in our three days.





## QUEST FOR ANSWERS

By LLOYD W. DAHLQUIST

Majorities are not always right; minorities are not always wrong. Majority opinion needs the tempering influence of the minority; minority opinion needs the energizing influence of the majority. Each needs the other, not in opposition, but in complementing the other to make the body whole. Danger lies in the practice of majorities overriding the minorities, even to the point of rejection or ridicule. Similarly, harm may be done when minorities fear, are suspicious of, or denounce majorities.

With that preamble statement to this article, I would say that generally speaking I do not know a better means to good judgment than the rule of majority, a basic principle of democracy in the local church, and in the wider fellowship of a denomination. Let the exception prove the rule.

Good procedure in securing answers or decisions depends greatly upon confidence in one another as fellow-members of the body, in the board leadership and in the executive personnel. There may be times when judgment and procedure must be questioned, but motivation and concern must always be above reproach. Perhaps this must be earned, at least tested, before it is respected. It is devastating beyond measure when anyone fears reprisal if he should "vote against the machine." All opinion or conviction should be respected because of moral honesty, spiritual integrity and worthy motivation.

Of necessity there must be lines of communication open at all times, that whosoever may say whatsoever on any given subject of debate leading to decision. This is done in our fellowship through the columns of our paper, *The Standard*, through personal letters to those in responsible positions and in the privilege of discussion on the floor of the convention. The Editor encourages forthrightness of expression in this Interaction Column, the secretary welcomes the correspondence from pastors and laymen and the moderator only needs to guide the debate to allow time for all

who want to participate. It is understood that several week before an annual meeting the people have been informed of the major items of business. Communication is essential to impart information, to express agreement or differences and to motivate interest.

But why bother anyone with decisions if there be no challenge in the program? It is my conviction that most people do not want to be bothered with the minutiae of detail that can be committed to executive responsibility. I have seen church business meetings come to naught, board meetings become a meeting of the bored and larger gatherings dissipated by monotonous detail that held no challenge for time and talent being expended. Great decisions demand, rightfully, great dimensions, whether it be of plan, program or principle.

Another factor that I would bring into focus here is the principle of delay in decision making. I am not speaking of procrastination, nor forgetting the emergency situations that call for prompt action, though it must be admitted that some emergencies are made worse by too hasty answers. Delay that permits time for research and study, opportunity for communication and cultivation of opinion—and for spiritual development and discernment is essential. Delay can also alleviate tensions and make for a more objective decision. There is real value here.

Finally, but not the least important, is the spiritual atmosphere of a church or convention business meeting. Admittedly, not all the decisions in the Lord's work are made by the most spiritual people, nor is it always evident that the best wisdom is used. Because of these weaknesses, but more because it is a pragmatic principle—it works to discuss and decide issues in the atmosphere of prayer, the reading of the Word of God and the sense of the presence of the Holy Spirit. This delivers people from selfish ambition, unworthy motivation and subjective reasoning. It brings Christ into focus

## Baptist Joint Committee Releases Conference Book

THE ROLE OF THE CHRISTIAN THROUGH CHURCH AND STATE IN HUMAN WELFARE is the title of a new volume released September 1, 1967 by the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Substance of the volume deals with aspects of the theme of the annual Baptist Religious Liberty Conference to be held in Washington, October 4-6.

The book, prepared as background study papers for conference participants, is being distributed to those registering for the conference.

Further distribution will include college and seminary libraries, denominational leaders and individuals interested in the field. The material was compiled by Walfred H. Peterson, Director of Research for the Joint Committee and edited by James M. Sapp, Director of Correlation Services.

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and the glory of God as the chief end of man, even in business matters.

Reverend Lloyd W. Dahlquist is General Secretary of the Baptist General Conference.

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## Conference Book

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Major sections divide the book into Motivational, Structure and Finance.

Chapters explore the following areas:

1. *Social Work as a Christian Calling* by G. Willis Bennett
2. *Evangelism as a Motive for Social Welfare* by David O. Moberg
3. *The Christian Witness—Personal or Institutional*
  - A. *The Church and the Poverty Program* by Dean M. Kelley
  - B. *Service: The Churches and Government* by Herbert Stroup
4. *Types of Church Welfare Institutions: Structural Considerations* by Gerald I. Gingrich
5. *Criteria of Church Relatedness* by Russell W. Leedy
6. *The Role of the Chaplain in Correctional Institutions* by T. E. Carter
7. *Financing the Welfare Institution* by James A. Christison, Jr.
8. *Church-State Relations in the Headstart Program* by Harold L. Hawkins
9. *Alinsky's Method and Church Response* by Evan and Sharon Rogers
10. *The Control of Man's Genetic Future* by V. Elving Anderson

Copies of the book are available at \$1.50 per copy.

## Conference Speakers . . .



Taylor



Hardberger

Principal speakers for the eleventh annual Baptist Religious Liberty Conference, October 4-6, at the Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C., were named last week.

H. Ralph Taylor, Assistant Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development and Philip D. Hardberger, Special Assistant to the Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity will speak at two sessions of the Conference.

Taylor will deal with "Quality Living in Urban Areas," at a Wednesday luncheon, October 4. Hardberger will be featured at a banquet Wednesday night in an address, "The Prevention of Poverty."

Both messages relate to an aspect of the theme of the conference, "The Role of the Christian Through Church and State in Human Welfare."

## Controversy Developing on Financing Higher Education

### Study Now, Pay Later Plan Suggested by Panel

WASHINGTON (BPA)—A new program that would let college students study now and pay later has been proposed by a White House advisory panel on education.

The plan would permit an undergraduate to borrow up to the full amount of his tuition and subsistence needs in return for a promise to pay the government one per cent of his annual income for every \$3,000 borrowed for 30 to 40 years after graduation.

The loans, which of course could be repaid in a lump sum, plus interest, would be made by a Federal Educational Opportunity Bank. Repayment would be made annually along with the federal income tax.

This new plan which would make it pos-

sible for anyone to afford a college education is the idea of a group of scholars, scientists and government officials, called, appropriately, the Panel on Educational Innovation.

Chairman Jerrold R. Zacharias of Massachusetts Institute of Technology said in presenting the report: "It has many virtues beyond the primary one of providing loans for which repayment is contingent on the borrower's later ability to pay."

The panel sees this as a boon to colleges, Zacharias went on to say, because it would help relieve them in the financial pinch they are in today. With students able to borrow so much, colleges could raise tuition and other charges closer to the actual cost, he explained.

One of the virtues of the plan, Zacharias said, is that any student would be able to

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### Solons Ask Studies for Free Higher Education

WASHINGTON (BP)—A Texas Senator and a New York Congressman have teamed up to start the wheels rolling toward universal educational opportunity beyond high school.

Sen. Ralph W. Yarborough (D., Tex.) and Rep. James H. Scheuer (D., N.Y.) introduced companion bills in the House and Senate. They would require the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) to submit to Congress before August 1, 1968 a plan or plans for "free universal educational opportunity at the postsecondary level."

"Education is the responsibility of society to its people," Yarborough declared, as he

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## Study Now, Pay Later

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attend any institution he chooses, if accepted, regardless of his financial situation.

The proposal has been denounced by the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges and the Association of State Colleges and Universities. They called the plan "a Pandora's box of ill-considered, obsolete and contradictory ideas. . .

Representatives of these groups, whose members enroll more than half the students in the country, say the proposal is contrary to the traditional American philosophy that education costs should be borne as much as possible by society and as little as possible by the student.

## N. M. Rating Church Property for Tax Purposes

SANTA FE, N. M. (RNS)—The question of classification of church-owned property for taxation purposes is expected to create controversy in New Mexico.

State Tax Commission officials believe substantial amounts of church-owned property should be on the property tax rolls.

A state-wide property reappraisal program is underway. Jesse Kornegay and Joseph Gallegos, of the state commission have advised firms conducting the program to appraise all church-owned properties not specifically exempted and place them on the 1968 tax rolls.

The only exceptions to taxation, Mr. Kornegay said, are "church buildings themselves, the parsonage and the necessary buildings, and the church parking lot."

It is anticipated that some disputed cases will be resolved only in the New Mexico Supreme Court.

Under the Tax Commission's plan it is expected that hundreds of acres of church-owned land without buildings will be subjected to property taxation, much of it for the first time. Other church-owned property not specifically exempted also will be subject to taxation. For example, this latter category might include much of the Glorieta Baptist Assembly at Glorieta, of which Mr. Kornegay said: "We feel very strongly that part of this is taxable."

The Tax Commission also cited a state Supreme Court decision of 1935 which it expects to follow. This decision stated: "It is generally held that the land on which it is the intention of a religious society to erect a church building, but on which no

## Solons Ask Studies

(Continued from page 7)

attacked a recent proposal by a White House advisory panel to let college students study now and pay later.

Calling the plan an "act of desperation," Yarbrough said it "may be financially sound, but it aims at the lifeblood of educational opportunity."

"The fundamental principle of equal educational opportunity without regard to financial need has become axiomatic in the American society," he said.

The Texas Senator reminded the Congress that the nation had previously experimented with generous aid to those wishing to continue their education beyond high school. He cited the land-grant colleges and the GI bills following World War II, the Korean War and now the cold war.

These investments provided "tremendous returns," he continued. "The land-grant colleges have provided the facilities necessary for millions to go to college," he said.

"The World War II and Korean GI bills have more than paid for themselves through additional taxes paid by the veterans earning higher incomes," Yarbrough pointed out.

Congressman Scheuer said as he introduced his bill, "There is a direct and provable correlation in today's sophisticated, automated, technological society between a person's economic status—his income, his tax rates, where he lives—and the amount of education he receives."

In order to accomplish the study task by August of next year the Secretary of HEW would be authorized to establish a Commission to help develop the proposed plans.

The Yarbrough-Scheuer plan has been referred to the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare and the House Committee on Education and Labor where it is now pending.

work of construction has been commenced, is not exempt from taxation."

In a "rough estimate," tax officials said that in Santa Fe County alone as much as \$15 million worth of property might be affected. If taxed, it would produce approximately \$200,000 in revenue.

"We have no idea how much church exemption there is because too much of it is left completely off the rolls," Mr. Kornegay noted. "We've never had any problem with church-owned income-producing property because most of it was on the rolls. But the rule is not whether the property now produces income but whether it is used for church purposes."

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#### Picture Credits:

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## COVER PICTURE

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is seeking to help American cities to upgrade the quality of urban living.

The need for beauty as well as for places which provide for moments of relaxation and recreation for all citizens is an important part of the effort to give persons in urban areas help and hope for full development of their personal lives and capacities.