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By C. Christopher Ross

A burden for revival in America was laid on the heart of Dr. Jerry Falwell several years ago and "I have committed myself to changing the hearts and minds of the nation which was founded upon Christian principles and, I believe, ordained of God to lead the world in these last days of the 20th century and into the year 2000.

In recent years, America has allowed its principles to slip and its moral attitudes and minds of the nation which was so serious that "unless this country does repent and change its lifestyle, I believe God will bring judgement to us as a nation," the minister said.

For more than three years, Dr. Falwell has been preaching for revival in America and a strengthening of Christian family living. With students from Liberty Baptist College and the outreach of the Old-Time Gospel Hour television and radio network, he has criss-crossed America preaching plain and simple the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the love of country and the importance of wholesome lives.

The care and concern for the nation includes more than just preaching in his pulpit at Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, Va., where the 17,000 members provide the nucleus for the far-flung outreach of the Old-Time Gospel Hour television and radio network and the growing educational institutions of Liberty Baptist College and Schools where all told there are more than 13,000 students being trained and nurtured in Christian education from kindergarten through graduate school.

Dr. Falwell has involved himself with encouraging Christians to speak out and to participate in the governmental process as a basis for leading the revival in America. "Unless we change the hearts and support of men and women, we can't change the degradation of society and our nation," he said.

To maintain the spirit of growth and to carry on the work has cost millions of dollars for the Gospel efforts.

"And, the burden has been heavy to continually seek the financial and prayer support of Christians all over America," Dr. Falwell said. "We must lean on the Lord every step of the way because we have taken the burden from God and the Holy Spirit has touched the hearts of believers."

Since the summer of 1979, the Thomas Road Baptist Church and the Old-Time Gospel Hour has faced the most serious financial crisis in the history of the ministry.

"I believe God has put us to the test again to see how strong our faith really is," Dr. Falwell said. "I believe God has kept us dependent upon Him daily. Frankly, I have gone through a time of great trial and tribulation and searching for the will of God. These difficult days were also times of tremendous prayerful support of our members and supporting Christians across the nation."

Dr. Falwell said the Thomas Road Baptist Church ministries have found repeatedly that "God intends for us to continue to preach the Gospel to every creature and to train young men and women and to continue our work for revival in America."

The Virginia evangelist has been leading the "I Love America" rallies to state capitals with great success -- most recently in Frankfort, Ky., and Nashville, Tenn. "Response has been wonderful from government leaders, our senators and congressmen and governors. Gov. Julian Carroll of Kentucky is a wonderful leader and magnificent Christian who made an effort to support Christians all over the state of Kentucky."

The ministry has endured its financial crisis "because God has allowed us more time to change the course of this country."

Dr. Falwell, who led a national day of fasting, a national day of repentance and a national day of jubilee, has announced that October was a month of blessing "from God."

The Thomas Road Baptist Church ministries set a goal of $6.5 million as vital to the future of Dr. Falwell's ministry. "I am happy and thankful to God to report that for October we reached $6.7 million with $1,480,000 being given by Thomas Road Baptist Church members."

The pastor said than an endowment of $2 million was set up by a donor, who wished to remain anonymous, for Liberty Baptist Schools. This endowment, he said, is not included in the $6.7 million.

Dr. Falwell also said that the Old-Time Gospel Hour board of directors has voted not to construct buildings on Liberty Mountain during the next 18 months except as designated contributions are made for that purpose. He said several small gifts have been given for building dormitories.

"I am hopeful that some larger amounts will be committed later this year to enable us to complete several dormitories, a classroom building and the administration building, which is now under construction," Dr. Falwell said.

"Enough designated funds are presently on hand for limited work over the next several weeks."

Some 20 areas in the 330-station television market are in jeopardy of losing the Old-Time Gospel Hour program, Dr. Falwell said, because the program is not self-supporting. However, "we will attempt to bolster these areas with an additional letter to viewers explaining the situation."

The television pastor and chancellor of Liberty Baptist Schools said his schedule will be heavy for the next year as he attempts to arouse Americans to take positive action to relieve their communities of sinful living, degrading immoral practices and the governmental looseness of world relations.

"We must have revival in America," Falwell said. "It is tragic and shameful that the family unit is so weakened and moral values are taken so lightly. We can not rest until we change our nation and return to the values of our forefathers."
Harvest Time In The United States

By Harry Covert

The thrust of missionary efforts has long been centered around foreign lands by American Christians. Undoubtedly, selfless missionaries have given their lives, time and talents to deliberately, we forget our own home those around the globe.

During the last 20 years of the 20th century, fundamentalist Christians with their primary impetus in Lynchburg, Va., and Thomas Road Baptist Church, are planning and developing on the planting of 5,000 new churches in the United States and Canada.

To begin this awesome task, thousands of young men and women are being trained and educated in the Liberty Baptist Schools where Dr. Jerry Falwell is carrying through with his mission as a preacher of the Gospel and using his longtime phrase, using every available means to reach every available person at every available time.

How exciting it has been to see hundreds of young preachers and church workers going out into the fields of America to organize churches and also to join churches already beginning to take shape. Many of these inspiring young people have been trained and burdened in Lynchburg where Dr. Falwell planted his ministry 23 years ago.

Beginning this year, those young people in Liberty Baptist Schools, those encouraged and supported by the Thomas Road Baptist Church will be expanding their world-wide efforts but also they will be concentrating new efforts on the major urban cities of the United States — Washington, Philadelphia, New York, Chicago, and the northeast. Dr. Falwell has said many times over that if he were starting his ministry in the 1980s, he would begin in one of the major cities of the United States where "thousands of lost people need to find a purpose in their lives." Thus, the burden for America is not only to maintain its national honor in the world but to rebuild the decaying families, the rotting spirits of individuals and renew the love of God by every soul.

How often we tend to honestly forget that there are thousands upon thousands in America who have never heard the Gospel message and whose lives reflect human degradation and sin instead of joyful homes, families and professional and personal lives. Dr. B. R. Lakin preached recently that too many Christians exemplify an attitude of indifference and "ignore God and His blessings." God said He loved dirty sinners and it takes Divine love to love ugly people.

Perhaps the older I become the smarter I find my elders and how little that I truly know.

As we see thousands of young people being trained for Christian service in all walks of life here at Liberty Baptist Schools, we know full well how heavy the work load is to reach America for Christ and to reach every soul. Dr. Lakin reminded recently that "We don't have a soul (because) we are a soul.

One of our financial leaders, Rev. H. David Brown, who is also an ordained minister, recently left the burden to move to Uniontown, Pa., to begin a work at Calvary Baptist Church. Dave Brown is one of the finest young pastors that we have met and he is excited about his new pastorate.

In our zeal to encourage him and to encourage our readers in Pennsylvania to learn about him, we carried an article in the Sept. 28 issue. Unfortunately, there was a phrase that slipped by my sharp pencil which read: "The area is severely lacking a fundamental work and little has been done to reach the area with the Gospel."

It is quite something to see when the English language is allowed to say more than is intended. Our intent was to show that Dave Brown will be a part of the carry in the carrying of the Gospel message to western Pennsylvania because there are other outstanding works. I should like to note that I discovered we have many wonderful readers of the Journal-Champion in the Quaker State (no pun intended) but also there are outstanding fundamental churches.

It is a joy to always learn that God blesses His work and works. I should like to point out there are many such fine pastors and churches as Eugene Tursey at Benson Baptist Church in Finleyville, Pa.; Richard Hoover at Community Baptist Church in Fensalawney, Pa.; Dennis Klest at Calvary Baptist Church, Allison Park, Pa.; and Gary Herring at Bible Baptist Church, Uniontown, Pa.

I have always enjoyed the invitation hymn, Harvest Time. Indeed, "The grain is falling, the Sower's calling" and we must be ready to glean the fields for the lost souls.

The missionary zeal of Christians today is stronger than ever and not only are we attempting to span the globe but are taking careful aim for the millions of Americans in the continental United States.

Restoring Good Taste In

By Harry Covert

I am the last person to ever suggest censorship by government for newspapers in any way. Radio, television, books, publishing houses, playwrights or preachers. Freedom of speech is basic to Americans and the American heritage.

At times, those involved with communications often edge over — I mean giant I wonder about the performers' creative minds and talents. Often, I have referred to French philosopher Alexis de Toqueville's comment "Meeting of Minds" discussing human events.

Newspaper publishers, radio and television broadcasters have a tremendous responsibility to the public. For the most part, the secular press carries on this duty with high integrity and honor.

No one will deny that television plays a significant role in the life of every American from birth to death. The medium entertains us, informs us and educates us on a broad scale. We have the chance to see as well as hear information instantly, to learn quickly and to understand cultural differences, see history in the making, see history as it was.

From my standpoint, there have been two highlights in America television during the past year (excluding sports events). Steve Allen, the man many remember as the instigator of the Tonight show and host of innumerable programs, wrote the magnificent "Meeting of Minds" program where historical figures sat down and discussed human events.

Allen, using talented actors and actresses, developed the characters of the past and had them discuss life in every context. I was fascinated by the program on Public Broadcasting System. "The Sixties" somehow thought it more entertaining, more informative, more, more..."The Sixties" Company, D'Frent Strect, Alice of those other simple kinds.

The second program of note happened this fall. When Hell Was In Session was the story of Rear Admiral Jeremiah A. Denton Jr. and his fellow prisoners of war who were beaten, broken and kept worse than dogs in North Vietnamese prison camps. It was carried by NBC-TV.

These are only two examples of the excellence that creative writers and producers can provide for viewers. And, I don't believe that everything on television has to be dramatic or historical or educational because I thoroughly enjoy humor, humorists and comedic performances.

What all of this is leading us to is that as broadcasters attempt to maintain their audiences in order to maintain their advertisers and high advertising rate, they have begun to destroy their own principles and standards with gutter language, trashy plots, and raunchy programs.

Everytime I hear announcers and guests ask on talk shows (they are my favorite at times) allow their dignities to drop with swearing in front of national audiences I begin to wonder where their disciplines have gone. Everytime I hear the double entendre for the sake of a laugh (especially during sports) I wonder (hoped to be family hours), I wonder about the performers' creative minds and talents. I have been fortunate to have been a part of the media for all of my adult life. I have enjoyed reading and studying the great writers of the past and those of the 20th century. But, I wonder and wonder why we have to talk dirty, act stupid and pray on the weaknesses of others just to have fun or get a laugh.

1980 School Birthday year was 1980. No, get the day be Sunday. It should be next year. Sir Raikes Meredith Glouces a few a and assembly girls we e a.m. until Sun. Sun.

It began 78 situation and calling scholars of fund a catechist teacher ecol education, than j out the whi the and the thriving Sun since 18 years. So, published public school focusin city of Jerry B.
The Future Is Still Bright

By Elmer Towns

1980 is the year of the Sunday School. We begin celebrating its 200th Birthday this fall and will climax the year with a giant celebration on Oct. 5, 1980. Mark your church calendars and get the candles and cake ready. Buttons will be distributed that read, "I was in Sunday School on its 200th Birthday." It should be the biggest church days next year.

Sunday School began when Robert Raikes gathered children into Mrs. Meredith's kitchen on Sooty Alley in Gloucester, England, 1780. He paid her a few shillings to teach reading, writing and arithmetic, plus religion. He assembled approximately 90 boys — girls were added four years later, and the early Sunday School met from 10 a.m. until late afternoon.

Some will say that Sunday School began before 1870. They will point to situations where the Bible was taught and call that Sunday School. However, scholars identify Raikes as the founder of Sunday School because: (1) his curriculum was the Bible and not catechism, (2) he used laymen as teachers rather than clergymen, (3) he enrolled children of the streets rather than just church children, (4) he carried on the present-day idea of Sunday School which are to reach, teach, and win, (5) which are to reach, teach, and win, (5) and the movement that he began is still thriving.

Sunday School has come a long way since Raikes, especially in the past 10 years. The seventies began with the publishing of the "Ten Largest Sunday Schools," a runaway best-seller that introduced the largest church, captured national attention, and "old" have had their day — the future of Sunday School still is with the young — both young pupils and the leaders who are young at heart. Today, Sunday School excitement is found among those new Sunday Schools that are being planted and the mid-sized Sunday Schools that are growing.

When I visit our Sunday Schools, I see more puppets than ever and the walls are painted with murals and pictures. Teachers are using more visuals than ever. I am excited about the modern teaching methods that communicate the old story.

When I visit our Sunday Schools, I see campaigns reaching and teaching new pupils. I get excited about growing Sunday Schools because I see that the margin of expansion is coming from the young adults.

But there are four Sunday Schools around the world, much larger — Jotabec Church, Santiago, Chile, averaging 80,000; Yoido Island Full Gospel Church, Seoul, Korea, averaging 50,000; Madureira Church, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, averaging 40,000; and Java Christian Church, Burbaya, East Java, averaging 35,000.

But what does the future hold for Sunday School? Most big Sunday Schools no longer strive to break records. The bus ministry is not expanding, it seems to be holding on. But those who "work" the bus ministry still find that it works.

Those Sunday Schools that are psychologically "old" have had their day — the future of Sunday School still is with the young — both young pupils and the leaders who are young at heart. Today, Sunday School excitement is found among those new Sunday Schools that are being planted and the mid-sized Sunday Schools that are growing.

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The request was made by the Tidewater Chapter of the Virginia Society of Human Life. Chapter President Charles D. Dean, Jr. said that in the test tube baby process more human life is destroyed than helped.

Bishop Festo Kivengere returned to Uganda immediately after dictator Idi Amin was overthrown and in a recent National Press Club speech in Washington reported the church in Uganda is healthy, despite eight years of persecution. He said the church was harrassed, haunted, accused, persecuted, but instead of becoming less powerful it became more powerful. The buildings couldn't take the congregations. Asked if Amin was a mad man or crazily evil, Bishop Kivengere said he thought Amin was demon possessed.

Anne Arundel County, Md., has moved to introduce legislation in the next session of the Maryland General Assembly, to prohibit the sale of drug paraphernalia to children. Such items as a working pen which also serves as a marijuana pipe; a "Star Wars" gun which allows the user to smoke a concealed marijuana cigarette; and a cartoon-character jewelry which forms a hashish pipe. These are sold not only in Maryland, but in other areas as well. Anne Arundel County's alcohol and drug program director, the Rev. Robert Kramer, says the products are being used at home without the knowledge of parents and in the classroom without the knowledge of teachers.

A high school biology teacher in Lennmoo, S.D., may lose his job for exactly the opposite reason that John Scopes was tried in Tennessee 50 years ago. Lloyd Dale continues to teach Creation in his sophomore biology classes as an alternative to the theory of evolution. School Board members, fearing the curriculum would violate the First Amendment, have tried to fire the fundamentalist preacher, but Dale says he intends to continue to teach Creation because, he says, evolution and Creation are both philosophical views and neither is provable. Dale is threatening a lawsuit if he's dismissed.

The National Federation for Decency has charged the CBS Television Network with "seducing" young people to broadcast a program next Easter based on the popular Jim Bishop book, "The Death of Christ" but with important changes written by the network. NPF head Don Wildmon in Tupelo, MS., says there are a number of changes that contradict Scripture, but the biggest error has Jesus turning to John and saying, "you among my Disciples understand my words but the others want to boycott CBS during the November ratings period to protest this and other shows such as "Flesh and Blood," which depicted incest.

The Crash Of '79

By RUSSELL HUGHES

Fifty years ago America suffered its most devastating economic era. The crash of '29 is well-remembered by many Americans. Some economists are suggesting that our present economy indicates many of the same deterioration.

One would have to reason that necessary monetary controls would have been perfected during this half-century to prevent such a recurrence. However, we still do not have financial assurance that such a depression could not happen again.

Recently the Federal Reserve and the present Administration have demonstrated their knowledge and ability to prevent further economic declines by increased interest rates. Better dollar management is now being exhibited which will lead to increased world-wide confidence. We must realize that the effect of our economy and currency value is impacted internationally. We must not only accept responsibility for our economy but for the world economy.

Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker has repeatedly been quoted as saying that the standard of living of the U.S. must be maintained in order to control inflation. As in any necessary situation, Americans, when asked to use discipline and common sense have directly responded. We cannot continue to purchase on the basis of anticipated price increases. This action only adds fuel to the inflationary cycle. We, the consumer, must exercise a behavior of restraint and conservatism. Prices will not slow until the end of this year or the first of 1980. How we react in our buying practices or use of restraint will directly effect this outcome.

Yes we have the knowledge and ability to prevent a depression of '29 or a crash of '79. But we as individuals must realize that our actions or inactions affect the world's economy.

A return to stable economic conditions will occur in proportion to the amount of efforts of the average American in reduced spending and increased production.

(Mr. Hughes is a financial consultant in Lynchburg, Va.)
Powerful Books: New Titles Make Must Reading

By Harry Covert

I have recently come across three books written by friends in the remaining space, to recommend for wide readership.

Cal Thomas, Peter Marshall Jr. and Elmer Towns have each penned manuscripts of considerable interest to them everywhere — those who love America and those who love to tell The Story.

Cal Thomas' work appears often throughout the pages of this publication as part of International Media Service, the Christian newsgathering agency in Washington, D.C., which also provides special coverage for some 125 radio stations and three television stations.

Journalism has been a field of endeavor for me for more than 22 years. The interesting thing about the media is the fact we deal with people — all kinds of people, all kinds of events at all kinds of times. We see people at their best and worst, at their coming and at their beginning. I have always enjoyed writing about people whether they be in athletics, politics, religion, education or gravedigging, boat building or adventuring.

Cal Thomas has written a people book, Public Persons and Private Lives. It includes nine intimate interviews with famous people, including the late Art DeMoss, Dallas Cowboys' Coach Tom Landy, Charles Colson and Billy Graham.

As an interviewer, Thomas doesn't just ask the easy questions but he gets to the serious business of how these nationally-known figures allow Christ to lead their lives — in times of turmoil as well as times of triumph.

So often, Christians neglect the living of Christian lives because of the "birth of Christian" lives that we are unable to face the reality in troubles within our churches, families and private lives.


Thomas is a native of Washington, D.C. and for many years served with NBC radio and television as a national correspondent, on the legendary Today program and the NBC Nightly News. He is a fervent Christian in the nation's capitol and is the author of two other books, both excellent by the way. His other titles are A Freedom Dream and Target Group Evangelism.

In 1972, a Hampton, Va., couple, William J. and Jean House invited me to their home to meet Peter Marshall Jr., the famed Senate Chaplain. At the time, I was writing for the Newport News Daily Press and The Times-Herald and was always looking for a good story

CAL THOMAS

Marshall was visiting in Hampton and speaking in a local church. I had the opportunity to get to know him and we corresponded for several years.

Along with an outstanding Christian writer, David Manuel, Peter has written an interesting volume, The Light and the Glory (published by Fleming Revell Company). In fact, it is an exciting book that has reached bestseller status. It is a story of American history and the effects that Christianity has had upon "America The Beautiful."

Marshall and Manual researched thousands of personal diaries, letters, ship's logs, old books and journals and enjoyed the support of numerous educators at Yale and Harvard.

Their suggestions that Christopher Columbus' discovery of America was directed by God are evidenced by details culled from Columbus' own diaries and journals. They even contend that the Italian explorer was a born again Christian.

CAL THOMAS

PETER MARSHALL

The Light and the Glory is not a book to be taken lightly. Every page is footnoted and is fascinating with details of the founding of America.

My contention has always been that God has blessed America because he has expected this nation to lead the world to a return to Christian principles and world evangelism.

Christians who believe the Bible through and through must pick up a copy of this intriguing book to see what one reviewer called, "A thrilling view of God's direction, intervention and guidance in the affairs of the colonies... The reader will be stirred to examine his or her own life in the light of Christian responsibility for the direction and future of America."

PETER MARSHALL

Peter Marshall is a graduate of Yale University where he received his B.A. in history. He has developed his own national reputation as a preacher and teacher of Christian maturity. His mother is a distinguished writer — famed if you please — Catherine Marshall, who penned the book, "A Man Called

ELMER TOWNS

Elmer Towns is one of those authors who gets up early and writes in longhand and by recording. He can grind out the words and how he does it is an amazing talent to me. He is the leader in the promotion of Sunday Schools across America. He is an expert on the history of Sunday Schools and how they can and should be developed.

Leader Seeks Fasting

Richard A. Vigerie, head of the largest political direct mail advertising agency in the country, has called on the nation to set aside Sunday, Nov. 18, 1979, as a National Day of Fasting to "pray, fast, meditate and alone our sins." Vigerie made the plea in the Conservative Digest, a monthly political journal which he publishes.

In the editorial, Vigerie said he was sending letters to thousands of conservative leaders, journalists, priests, rabbis and ministers, asking them to urge their readers, members and congregations to set aside the Sunday before Thanksgiving as a day to "devote completely to prayer, meditation, thanks, and repentance for our sins."

Vigerie said, "Perhaps, many of our personal and national problems have developed because we have forgotten to thank God for our blessings, our opportunities, our freedoms and our great country."

Vigerie, citing precedent for his call, said, "Some of our Presidents, did this. George Washington set aside a day for fasting and prayer when he was President. Also Abraham Lincoln, twice during the storm of our tragic Civil War, designated a 'Sunday for prayer and fasting.'" In addition, he wrote, "twice during some of the darkest days of the American Revolutionary War, the Continental Congress declared a day of Fast and Repentance."

"We, as a nation, need collective to get down on our knees and acknowledge our God and ask for His guidance and blessings, for forgiveness for our sins, and for deliverance from our enemies."

His latest book (he has written more than 20 and is working on a novel about John the Baptist) is How To Grow An Effective Sunday School. It is enjoying success of considerable proportions.

"Some churches are building on emotions and music — there is little Bible teaching," Towns writes in his book published by Accent Books. "Other churches are building on the dynamic personality of their pastor. They, too, have little Bible teaching. All of these trends may have a legitimate, secondary place in the church's ministry, but when given top priority they cause us to neglect the heart of the Great Commission."

Towns writes that "The Sunday School is the only place in most churches that gives a systematic, comprehensive, complete coverage of the Word of God."

Church workers, pastors and teachers ought to mull over the meat of this fine book.
End Tax Supported Lobbying Efforts

WASHINGTON, D.C. — One of the most alarming efforts of the Carter administration has been the expenditure of tax funds in support of public relations practices that can best be described as purely political in nature.

First there was the Carter memorandum to federal department heads urging them to use their tax supported offices to persuade you to support passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. Then there was the massive tax supported public relations campaign to sell the American people on the Panama Canal giveaway.

And now the Carter administration has spent more than one million of your tax dollars to persuade you to support its increasingly unpopular SALT II arms limitation treaty with the Soviet Union.

Throughout most of 1979, the administration has been sending representatives of the State Department and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency around the country to speak in favor of SALT II. These tax supported SALT II sellers have been urging their audiences to lobby their Senators to vote for the so-called arms limitation treaty.

To date, employees of the State Department and ACDA have made more than 1,100 appearances around the country to generate support for the President’s controversial treaty with the Soviets. Senior officials of the government have appeared at 39 government sponsored pro-treaty conferences.

In each of these cases, the airfare, hotel accommodations, and incidental expenses, as well as the salaries for the government bureaucrats were covered by the tax dollars of working Americans, many of whom are philosophically opposed to the treaty with the Soviets.

While any administration has the right to put forth its interpretations of the facts surrounding an important issue, this calculated lobbying effort clearly steps over the bounds of propriety and, in my opinion, legality as well.

That is why I and several dozen Congressional members of the American Conservative Union have recently filed suit in the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. In ACU v. Carter, we are seeking to enjoin the administration from using tax funds for the purposes of blatant political lobbying efforts.

Further, all, considering that recent polls show that half of the American public who are decided on the issue, oppose SALT II, it is fair that their tax dollars should go toward supporting something in which they do not believe in which they do not believe.

Moreover, government involvement in the manipulation of public opinion is an activity unbefitting a democracy such as ours and threatening to undermine the viability of our constitutional process.

ACU v. Carter could very well prove to be a landmark judgment, defining once and for all the line between public information and barfarced political lobbying with taxpayers funds.

Boycott Pushed Against CBS For Vulgar Programs

TUPELO, MISS. — The National Federation for Decency says it is pushing a national boycott of CBS-TV during November and pressing a national Phone CBS Day on Oct. 29 as a follow-up to its efforts against the network’s airing of the movies, “Flesh and Blood,” and other immoral, violent and vulgar programs.

“We are asking people to refuse to watch CBS during November when the national ratings are done and to record their action in any viewing diary they are asked to keep,” said Donald W. Wildmon, head of the citizens’ group. “We have also asked our people to call their local CBS station on Monday, Oct. 29, and let the local station know they will not be watching.”

The announcement was made in the group’s October Newsletter which went to 70,000 churches, groups and individuals. Wildmon said many churches are actively promoting the NFD efforts.

The NFD said efforts against CBS for airing “Flesh and Blood,” which depicted incest and other immoral conduct, threatened to undermine the network’s airings of the movies, “Flesh and Blood,” and other immoral, violent and vulgar programs.

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The NFD said efforts against CBS for airing “Flesh and Blood,” which depicted incest between a mother and son were extremely successful. The group said it has learned that ads that on the program sold for $30,000 per minute instead of the usual $200,000—250,000.

“We feel that CBS lost approximately $5,000,000,” he added. He stated a major advertiser told him that many of the 12 movie ads on the program were probably free spots.
Write in this publication for me started off by accident. I never expected to last very long in the prints — that's an old expression I learned from the library about describing newspapers as a scree. But I got to thinking that some of my opinions weren't so wacky after all, especially after listening to the wags on the tube and the politicians on the radio and the teevee.

For too long we've all heard about the people who are so heavenly minded that they're no earthly good. You can believe it. Not everybody who writes in the Washington Post or the New York Times or those slick magazines have the only opinions in the world.

Here in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia we watched the Rev Run Jesse Jackson talking to the terrorist Arabs. We watched him interject his thoughts about settlin' the middle east. Confound it, the Eastern Establishment press treated him like he was some big shot. Can you imagine, the Rev Run Andy Young our fired ambassador to the United Nations, dealin' on the side with the Arabs and the FLO?

I keep picking up Time magazine and Newsweek magazine and several religious monthlies that talk about the "religious right" — you know, the fundamental preachers who

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THE VERBAL GIANT

Backwoodsmanship: Lakin-Style

Reporters Notebook

"Never enter a battle of wits half armed," is the original one-liner of Dwight McSmith of Hampton, Va., who uses his humor quite well in Christian living. McSmith, active as a Christian speaker, teacher and writer for more than 35 years, would love Dr. B. R. Lakin, the venerable evangelist from Titusville, Fla., by way of West Virginia, who is a favorite at Thomas Road Baptist Church and the man Dr. Jerry Falwell claims as his pastor.

At the recent Super Conference III at Thomas Road Baptist Church, Dr. Lakin was in rare form as he headlined each night's preaching, following such giants as Dr. John Rawlings of Cincinnati's Landmark Baptist Temple, Dr. Truman Dollar and others. Lakin, who has often been quoted in these pages, keeps his audiences alive and alert with his Gospel preaching and makes no bones about his affection and support for Falwell.

While Dr. Falwell makes it a point never to answer those who sharply criticize and pooh-pooh his growing ministry, Dr. Lakin always defends the Lynchburg, Va. pastor. His classic West Virginia answer to Falwell critics came on the first night of Super Conference III. "If you can't see the possum, don't kill the dog who can," Lakin, a genial man of 78 who says he's planning his nightly preaching schedule for 25 more years, also added: "Dr. Falwell doesn't mind being swallowed by a whale, but he doesn't want to be abed to death by a minnow."

Asked if he was planning to retire, Lakin said he believed every word, every comma, every period and every semicolon in the Bible. "I don't see where the Book tells a preacher to retire. The Book says to 'occupy till I come' and that's what I intend to do."

Dr. Richard Angwin of St. Paul, Minn., the pastor who fought to kill a gay rights bill, is another of the outstanding religious leaders who political leaders are encouraging to seek public office. Minnesota Gov. Al Quie, an active Christian and former member of congress, reported is urging Dr. Angwin to enter the state Senate race as a political leaders are encouraging to seek public office. Minnesota Gov. Al Quie, an active Christian and former member of congress, reportedly is urging Dr. Angwin to enter the state Senate race as an active Christian and former member of congress, reportedly is urging Dr. Angwin to enter the state Senate race as a political leader.

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And, while we're writing about athletics, we can't overlook the growth of athletics among Christian schools. At Lynchburg Christian Academy the athletic program is booming, too, and LGA is leading the way to organize a new Virginia Christian high school conference. This is in line with the Christian school movement across America where young people not only learn the importance of a academic excellence but athletic achievement for the right goals.

Television programming leaves a lot to be desired and Christians are becoming alarmed at the "poisoning of the airwaves" by some programmers. However, one of the greatest programs of all was September's "When Hell Was in Session," the story of Rear Admiral Jeremiah A. Denton Jr., the navy prisoner of war in Vietnam who kept his men together by his leadership, faith in God and love of country — something we've often found lacking these days. Admiral Denton wrote his story in a book with Ed Brandt, an outstanding Baltimore, Md., newspaperman. This television program was one of the most moving of the decade and should win an Emmy for its star, Hal Holbrook, and the love for Denton of every freedom loving American.

Evangelist Chuck Millhaff is a favorite in Lynchburg and Thomas Road Baptist Church. During the Founders Banquet on Liberty Mountain, where 5,120 sat down to dinners of roast beef and ham, the dynamic Missouri preacher presented his "Living Giving" sermon. It was a night to remember because the Founders, Thomas Road members and Liberty Baptist Schools staff, faculty and administration participated in an event for the Glory of God where the banqueters pledged $1,460,000. These were not just numbers but soul-searching pledges to honor God. Millhaff's message was outstanding. Said Millhaff: "It's never correct for a Christian to ask if we can afford it but, is it God's Will... We will reach the world with righteous fanaticism. God is not pleased with the flesh. We must seek Him as the Source of this ministry... Christians are supposed to be supernatural... If we have a complete commitment (to Christ) we become Spirit-controlled."

New Liberalized Rules In Effect For FBI Agents

On the heels of the so-called "gay rights" march in Washington, FBI Director William Webster announced the agency will no longer automatically dismiss agents who engage in sex outside of marriage and may liberalize other rules governing the personal conduct of agents. Webster said homosexuality and marijuana use are still not accepted by the FBI, but he says he is "open" to arguments from advocates and may bend the rules in "appropriate situations."

New York Congressman Ted Weiss says the homosexual rights march shows "gay rights" is a matter of national concern. Weiss wants to extend the Civil Rights Act to protect homosexuals. Louisiana Congressman Larry McDonald, however, disagreed. McDonald has introduced a resolution that would put Congress on record opposing any special status for homosexuals.

A former Methodist Church building in Shanghai has been reopened on a non-denominational basis, with 1,000 people attending a "thanksgiving" service. The new name for the church, translated from Chinese, means Grace Church Building. The Rev. Tracey Jones, general secretary of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries and a former missionary in China, said the reopening "clearly indicated a Christian community continues in China."

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Accreditation Is Not Wrong

BY ELMER TOWNS

When a college or seminary seeks accreditation, it is only natural to witness a desire for academic excellence and finally, after all, we have long claimed that the tax standards in public schools have destroyed the quality education that is taught at a Christian school that seeks accreditation and its high standards.

Answering Objections

There are several objections raised against Christian schools seeking accreditation. Some say that accreditation causes a school to drift into liberalism. This is not true. Christian schools have been drifting into liberalism long before accreditation was applied. The forces that brought about the necessity for human judgment and the bureaucracy of Christian institutions are some of the reasons why a Christian school drifts into liberalism.

A second criticism against accreditation is that the seminary is accepting a license from the government. This is an argument that the separation of church and state. But the issue is "separation of what?" We believe that the government, no matter what the church, has no say about doctrine, ministry or the expression of Christian life by a believer. However, the government can make laws over areas of life that have no bearing on Christianity but touching society in general. After all, a college or seminary must have license to drive on the roads, churches accept licenses to run buses, and a license is required for an application to construct a building, and in many cases, to exist physically on the land that is chosen for the church. Therefore, Christians should not be arbitrary in deciding who they accept and those they reject.

A government license is a set of standards to insure quality. But, a seminary is accredited by the American against unsuspecting abuses. Licensing has its advantages, such as removing potentially dangerous drivers from the road, policing fraud by building contractors, and protecting the property values of homeowners who have invested in a home. A license does not take away the freedom of where a person drives, the size of the building, or what type of message is advertised on a sign.

A seminary acceptance by society of a license, in that it assures the potential student and supporting church that a seminary has set the proper standards and protects them from fraudulent operators who offer degrees from a name by which the seminary is known. As a license to build a building does not determine what goes on inside, so accreditation does not dictate the content that is taught in its classrooms.

Accreditation does not violate the first amendment. Anyone can start a school and anyone has the freedom to teach a course on the government. Education is a free enterprise, provided it keeps within the limits of the law. Education is also the right to own the property and to be legally recognized by the government. There is no law that prohibits education. However, most states, like the state of Virginia, have decreed that you may not offer a degree nor call yourself a college or seminary unless you meet certain minimal requirements.

When a college or seminary takes a license from an accrediting agency, it is only natural that they will test the worth of those self-imposed standards and goals.

Lastly, some criticize accreditation for the quality of its standards. One man said, "Why should Mickey Mantle attempt to meet the standards in Little League baseball?" He was implying that a Christian college had higher standards than a secular one. In actuality, accreditation assures that a Christian college has a baseball game, that there are batters, rules, and equal numbers of "students". But accreditation simply says our seminary is attempting to keep the highest possible level of education at its highest level.

Finally, some criticize accreditation because it is allowing an outside organization to set the standards for a seminary. But accreditation is not for society as a whole. It is for a seminary to outside rules. When a self-study team is sent to examine a school, their primary aim is to determine that a seminary has clearly defined its objective and standard for those aims at a graduate school level.

In fact, every Christian school uses standards set by outside authorities. They use achievement tests, secular textbooks, encyclopedias and dictionaries, which are outside states, in order to pass a test. If they do not follow the same school year calendar, including most holidays set by the government.

There may come times when a Christian school will say no to accreditation. If an accrediting agency asks a Christian college to change its denominational affiliation, it may refuse accreditation. Probably an accrediting agency will never ask a college to change its doctrine. The public influence is seen when they suggest a reduction of the number of Bible offerings and/or Christian service requirements. At this point, Christian educators must be resolute in the aims of the founders of the Christian training.

A second place to resist accreditation is when they demand a change in the lifestyle of the faithful, or students of the college or seminary, Liberty Baptist Schools make a southerly turn that requires their students to be separated from sin and ecclesiastical liberalism. The government agency ever attempts to modify this stand, Liberty Baptist Schools have no reason to reject accreditation.

When accreditation demands that we hire unsaved teachers, it should be rejected. This will probably never happen. Most Christian educators may be tempted to compromise their convictions to hire a Ph.D. in an area where it is hard to recruit a teacher.

Another area to reject accreditation has to do with recruitment. If Christian schools were required to accept unsaved students on the same reasons, accreditation should then be rejected.

The Association of Theological Schools of the United States has over 190 seminaries in its membership. The Association accepts all types of theological schools from liberal Protestant seminaries to Southern Baptist institutions, and from Roman Catholic to Jewish seminaries. Some of the Jewish seminaries have strict orthodox doctrinal statements and in no way have they been asked to compromise their belief. The same can be said of the narrow expectation on the life-style of Catholic seminarians. ATS has a cherished place in Liberty Baptist Seminary that in no way will it compromise its doctrinal or denominational position.

Ultimate Accreditation

In the final analysis, the ultimate accreditation is the pupil's ability to perform the ministry to which he is called. A Christian school is more than accredited when students win souls, build churches, and become champions for Christ. Some schools may have accreditation, yet if their graduates are not able to build churches, win souls to Christ, nor preach the Word of God, then accreditation is worth nothing.

The Scripture teaches that ultimate accreditation is the fruit of the Spirit, and not what we claim to be. Jesus taught that a fruit tree produces after its kind. The ultimate accreditation is the man of God who carries out the Great Commission and focuses on the doctrine of the preaching of Scripture and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. That is the aim of Liberty Baptist Seminary. If accreditation certifies that aim, then let the seminary seek accreditation.
By ROBERT E. BAUMAN
Mai., Chattanooga
WASHINGTON, D.C. — A recent NBC/Associated Press poll showed that barely 13 percent of Americans approve of what Congress is doing, and in light of the recent events — the specter of no pay for more than 2 million federal and military employees, insults traded between the two Houses, and a continuing decline in the ability of the majority party's congressional leadership — I am surprised that the figure is not lower still. Americans have every right to be upset and disgusted at the ongoing displays of narrow-visioned politicians. I certainly am.

The most recent spectacle pivots on the 1980 federal appropriations bills that the House of Representatives passed but the Senate is holding hostage. When the beginning of the new fiscal year started on October 1, almost every federal agency, department and armed service was technically left without a cent to spend. Some money was left in pipelines, so the real squeeze was put off for a matter of two weeks. In those two weeks, the House passed and sent to the Senate a stopgap spending bill, one that would have spared the anguish and threats that are now in the air. The Senate rejected that bill twice.

The controversy centered on two points: the House’s insistence that federally funded abortions be limited to cases where the mother’s life is in direct danger, and the issue of a 5.5 percent pay raise for Congress. The Senate balked at both, conveniently overlooking the larger question of responsibility to the innocent hostages involved — those federal employees and beneficiaries whose paychecks were on the line.

The House has passed 12 of the 14 money bills that are needed to meet federal obligations. The Senate in turn has passed seven. Meanwhile, charges of “vicious fools” and worse were heard from members of the Senate, adding to the circus atmosphere that clouded the real issues.

The House of Representatives is now scheduled to stay in session at least a month longer than originally expected, mainly to deal with the bills that have yet to come out of the Senate. Again the majority party leadership wields its hands and bemoans the lack of unity. Unfortunately, the American people are the butt of the cruel joke of the majority in this Congress. The wolf is at America’s door, in more ways than we care to consider, and all the majority in Congress can come up with is the sad spectacle of a legislature backbiting its way into disaster.

The only solution is the 1980 election of a new majority in Congress — a majority that will represent the people for a change.

Sen. Kennedy Most Liberal

Washington, D.C. — According to a study released by the American Conservative Union, today, Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) has been and continues to be one of the most liberal members of the U.S. Senate.

Spokesman for the American Conservative Union said that they compiled a list of his votes on issues of key concern to conservatives in light of recent news analyses that suggested that the Massachusetts senator might be moving toward the center of the political spectrum.

The ACU analysis shows that Kennedy has tallied an extremely liberal voting record on key conservative issues across the board: on budgetary matters, taxation, social issues, abortion, government regulation, national defense and international issues.

Kennedy has consistently received low marks in the ACU’s ratings of the Congress. Since 1971 when ACU began issuing ratings, Kennedy has received a cumulative conservative rating of three percent.

In 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977 and 1979, Kennedy received zero per cent ratings from the American Conservative Union.

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Don't trust the recording of this important time of your life to anyone but an experienced professional photographer.

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Photography Department
(804)237-5961 Ext. 229.

Tabulations Of Pledges By The Thomas Road Baptist Church Members, Old-Time Gospel Hour And Liberty Baptist Schools Supporters Was Made On Oct. 16.

Early View Of The Liberty Baptist College Multi-Purpose Building As Preparations For 5,120 Dinners Were Made On Oct. 16.
NOVEMBER 9, 1979

Pastor Leads Way For Code To Battle TVs Immorality

By CECIL HODGES

By Friday morning, Oct. 19, local pastors met for an 8 A.M. breakfast to discuss where we go from here in launching a major campaign to boycott WTOC.

Mr. Neil Neman, director of operations, was introduced and read the following statement: "In response to the recent concern by many of our viewers regarding the showing of a made-for-television movie "Flash and Blood," I would like to take this opportunity to express my apologies to those of you in our vast coastal empire audience who may have been offended by any parts of this movie. WTOC has informed the CBS television network of the adverse reaction of some of our viewers. Thank you."

Finally, the ministers voted unanimously to ask me to select ministers from various denominations to draft a plan establishing a "People For Decency" Headquarters with a staff of ministers to laymen from various vocational backgrounds including a representative of the media, to establish a code of community morality so that a future confrontation might not be necessary. (Dr. Hodges, pastor of Bible Baptist Church in Savannah, Ga., is also president of Baptist University of America.)

When planned to retire at fifty

this is the business that made it possible

a true story by John B. Haake

Starting with borrowed money, in just eight years I gained financial security, sold out at a profit and retired.

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Businesses to get started include: Video color TV, Color TV equipment for sale including 2 color cameras, control console, recorder, monitor, lights, Kossuth Street Baptist Church, 2901 Kossuth Street, Lafayette, Ind. 47904. Phone (317) 447-2236.

"Not until I was forty did I make up my mind that I was going to retire before ten years had gone by. I couldn't do it on a salary, no matter how good. I knew I couldn't do it working for others. It was perfectly obvious to me that I had to start a business of my own. But that posed a problem. What kind of business? Most of my money was tied up. Temporarily I was broke. But I found the business I wanted I was able to start it for a small amount of borrowed money.

"To pyramidal this investment into retirement in less than ten years sounds like magic, but in my opinion any man good enough to think through and to work out a plan of action and drive that motivated me, could achieve such a goal. Let me give you a little history.

"I finished high school at the age of 18 and got a job as a shipping clerk. My next job was bookkeeping at a plant that processed bondeless beer. Couldn't see much future there. Next, I got a job as a Greyhound Bus Driver. The money was good. The work was pleasant, but I couldn't see it as leading to retirement. Finally, I decided to change and went into business for myself."

"I managed to raise enough money with my savings to invest in a combination motels, restaurants, and a service station. It didn't take long to get my eyes so big that my customers thought I was going my wife and I worked from dawn to dusk for seven days a week. Rolling in all those hours didn't match my idea of fun and it gave me no time for my chores and I decided I was going to raise the alarm and agreed that I should look for something else."

"I found it. Not right away. I investigated a lot of businesses offered as franchises. I felt that I wanted the guidance of an experienced company—wants to have the benefit of the profit that brought success to others, plus the backing of running my own business under an established name that had national recognition."

"Most of the franchises offered were too costly for me. Temporarily all my capital was frozen in the motel. But I found that the Duraclean franchise offered what I had been looking for: "I could start for a small amount. (Today, only 126,000 comes a Duraclean dealership, and the company will finance the balance of the total 6000 cost, without interest or financial charges.) I could work as a one-man business to start, and operate from my home. No office or shop or other overhead, no salaries to pay. Equipment would fit in my car truck. (I took it back later, out of profit. Last of all, there was no ceiling on my earnings. I could build a business as big as my ambition and energy dictated. I owned it as many men as I needed to cover any volume. I could retire every year working for me. And I could build little, or as fast as I wished.

"So, I started. I took the wonderful training furnished by the company. I used the plan outlined in the training. During the first period I did all the work myself. By doing it myself, I could manage two or three times as much business and still make my profit and buy a Duraclean. I would be able to work it as a one-man business to retire before I was fifty.

"Well, that's the business I was able to start with such a small investment. That's the business I built up over a period of eight years. And, that's the business I sold out at a substantial profit before I was fifty.

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"Furniture dealers and department stores refer their customers to the Duraclean Specialist. Insurance men and real estate brokers know that a Duraclean can save them money on your clients. Hotels, motels, specialty shops and big stores make annual contracts for keeping their carpets and furniture fresh and clean. One Television Special- ist signed a contract for over $10,000 a year for just one contract roll.
FCC Acknowledges Network Power

By FORREST L. BOYD
International Media Service

Former vice president Spiro Agnew stirred up a great controversy several years ago when he launched an attack on the television networks. Agnew had declared that the three networks act as a sort of monopoly in deciding what the American public will see and, in the case of news, what particular slant will be given to the public. His point was that these decisions are made by a small number of individuals. Agnew called them an "unelected elite."

Former President Nixon’s aide, Charles Colson, took up the cause, and did what he could to trim the influence of the networks. But no one has really succeeded in that effort.

And now, the Federal Communications Commission is bowing to the power of the networks. A new FCC staff report has concluded that the networks are so secure and so dominant that the FCC appears powerless to require them to respond to viewers’ interests. This is true, even though the FCC has the authority to regulate commercial network television.

The staff report concluded that the grip of the networks is such that no viable fourth network could successfully compete with the existing three. The main reason is that the three networks have already tied up the needed local stations as affiliates. A fourth network, because of commitments made by the local stations, would be able to reach a maximum of 60 percent of the nation’s households. Each of three existing networks theoretically reaches 100 percent of the households. The report said that "So long as one accepts the existence of three, and only three, networks operating at any given time, there will be severe limitations on the use of the regulatory process to alter the programs which viewers can watch." One might think the local stations might exert influence over the networks, but the report said the stations normally confront the networks on only one concern: the dividing up of profits. If a station gets too insistant about something, the networks will hint that they might shift their programs to a competing station. Even though Spain’s King Greets Americans

An American delegation travelled to Spain over a recent weekend to help Campus Crusade for Christ kick off a "Here’s Life" campaign in that country. Sen. William Armstrong of Colorado was a member of the delegation and he reported the American group got a very warm reception. He said the King of Spain met with Campus Crusade President Bill Bright.

the local stations have the right to turn down programs they feel are unsuitable for their communities, they seldom do.

The FCC staff report amounts to an admission that the government can’t do anything with the networks, so it recommends that the best way to deal with the situation is to try to stimulate alternatives to network programs, by encouraging new technologies, such as communications satellites and cable and other ways to interconnect stations with alternative program sources. There are a number of programmers, including Christian organizations, waiting for the FCC to provide just such encouragement. Until those new technologies are perfected so that different programs can be seen by most Americans, apparently viewers will continue to be at the mercy of the three television networks. The FCC staff report shows those who would like to see an improvement in TV programming, and what they’re up against.

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LBC Evangelist Holds Jesus First Crusades

Harold Vaughn, a 1979 graduate of Liberty Baptist College, is answering the call to full-time evangelism by launching "Jesus First" crusades. The first crusades were launched last summer in 40 churches from Lynchburg to California. Vaughn preached: David Early, another college student, worked with the youth; and Keith Settle, a Liberty Baptist Seminary student, led the music.

He was saved at age 15 when he attended a gospel film in a local high school. There for the first time in his life, he heard that he had to be born again to get to heaven. He went forward and, as a result, knows in his heart that he was saved. However, for the next three years, he did not grow because he was not in a solid, Bible-preaching church. Vaughn had many questions and was lured into cults, first getting involved with baptismal regeneration and next with Armstrongism.

Then a Liberty Baptist College student started a church 20 miles from his home, the Charlotte (Va,) Baptist Church. Harold was straightened out and dedicated his life to Jesus Christ. Because of the influence, he attended Liberty Baptist College, entering the Pastor's Major.

"The early days were exciting, being a pioneer for

since I have been saved, only preaching excites me." When he was asked how he knew God was leading him to evangelism, he testified, "Evangelism is the only thing I want to do... the only thing I can do... and the only thing that fulfills me.”

The greatest evidence of God's calling upon his life came in Southside Baptist Church, Gainesville, Fla. Vaughn was preaching a four-day revival and over 30 people got saved one evening. He testified, "Heaven touched that church and God moved in." The next day they called off the Christian school and the students went soul-winning.

Dr. Dennis Oliver, retiring director of the Canadian Church Growth Center, says over half of Canada's population has no vital connection with any church. He predicts, "The 'Jesus First' crusades are characterized as a message of total commitment. Vaughn feels God is leading him to minister to God's minority (reviving the remnant) so that Christians in turn can go out and win souls for Jesus Christ. The embryonic success of Vaughn's crusade in the past is evidence that God's hand is upon him as he enters full-time evangelism.

Church Membership Down In Canada

Dr. Dennis Oliver, retiring director of the Canadian Church Growth Center, says over half of Canada's population has no vital connection with any church.

"A Federal judge in Los Angeles ruled that 100 church-sponsored private schools do not have to pay the state of California unemployment or disability taxes.

"Every year or so it does you good to read something that will make your blood boil.

"A book I could not put down once I started reading it. It kept me up most of the night reading it to the last page. It examined every aspect of the death of Mary Jo Kopechne. It respected the best traditions of investigative reporting. All the very details of that terrible night when a girl was needlessly allowed to die are now being pieced together to form the whole."

—Ralph de Toledano

Copley-Newsapers

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WEST GERMANY'S CHALLENGE

BY HAROLD O. J. BROWN

In a recent article in the German quarterly "Bible and Congregation" (Bibel und Gemeindearbeit, edited by Dr. Samuel Kuelling), Rudolf Willeke, a well-known sociologist and economist in Germany and a Bible-believing Christian, discusses what he calls the "expropriation and challenging of Christians" in West Germany's democratic-socialist government.

The fact that the West German government can be accused of systematically attacking the church and of gradually but surely depriving Christians of their rights may seem strange when one considers the fact that both the Protestant Church (Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland, EKD) and the Roman Catholic Church are to some extent state churches, as the government collects special taxes for their support and provides either Protestant or Catholic religious instruction, or both, in all public schools.

The government also supports training for the Protestant ministry and the Catholic priesthood at West German universities. Nevertheless, as Mr. Willeke shows, it is happening. The Lutheran Church of Sweden is also established by law and government-funded. Nevertheless, the socialist government that ruled Sweden for four decades—it headed by Prime Minister Olof Palme—appointed an atheist, Alva (Mrs. Gunnar) Myrdal to be minister of church affairs. Mrs. Myrdal promised: "phas the church out by economic means." Incidentally, Gunnar Myrdal was the famous sociologist whose book, "An American Dilemma," formed the basis for the 1954 decision of the United States Supreme Court outlawing racial segregation in public schools. The Myrdals' daughter, Dr. Sissela Bok (nee Myrdal) is married to Derek Bok, president of Harvard University. Mrs. Bok is an authority on euthanasia and a member of the Ethics Advisory Board that recently recommended to HEW the funding of a project of Pierre Soupart, M.D., to create test-tube babies for experimental purposes.

If both West Germany and Sweden, where the Christian religion is supposed to be established by law, can move to expropriate Christians and to "phas out" the church, we do not need to be surprised if similar things are happenings in the United States, officially a secular nation, in spite of the fact that we have a born again Christian as President.

A look at what is happening in West Germany may cast some light on things that are going on in our own country, and give us some idea of where things may be headed in the future.

In 1978, Willeke notes, the Synod of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD) devoted itself to reaffirming the value of marriage and family. And children. But at the very same time the West German government was proceeding undauntedly against the family. In 1977 alone, Willeke writes, West Germany denied the right to life to 120,000 human beings. And in the United States the figure was over one million.

In the United States, a great deal is being said about family values and morals, especially by political leaders such as President Carter. At the same time, the U.S. government is in perpetuating, but the Carter administration is actually defending the so-called "economic tax" that makes it much more economical for two unmarried wage-earners to live together without marriage or marriage equality.

In a series of decisions since the early 1960s, the U.S. Supreme Court and various lower courts have ruled that marriage gives us some idea of where things may be headed in the future. That is going on in our own country, and that for him they present special problems of an ethical nature. The Christian who lives in a society based on inflation and deficit financing in the United States, but no major political leader—not even President Carter—has taken seriously the ethical problem posed by a government policy that is really organized theft.

One feature of our present inflationary economy is that it in effect deprives all citizens of the possibility of prudently managing their own affairs, something that God expects them to do.

SUPPLANTING OF PARENTS

In October, 1968, West Germany's state minister of education determined that for sex education a principle of public education in all classes from the second to the 13 grades. In the fifth grade, teachers are expected to watch a movie depicting human sexual intercourse "exclusively under the aspect of reproduction and orgasm," but otherwise without value judgments.

Absence before marriage is spoken of as unhealthy. Sex education is supposed to produce a positive attitude towards homosexuality and even towards incest. With the exception of incest, the same patterns have been introduced in sex education in America, largely under the aegis of the Planned Parenthood Federation.

As Willeke points out, when the government adopts this sort of an attitude, it is clearly depriving parents of their right to influence the thinking of their children in the area of sexual morality. Even more seriously, in 1975 the German Federal government published a report indicating that parents are "amateurs" in the education of children and recommends that schools take the day-mother role. Such intrusion does not go over parental tasks.

The so-called Youth Assistance Law (proposal of 1978, not yet enacted), replaces parental authority in many cases with a so-called Guardianship Court. Similar steps are under way in the United States, partly under the sponsorship of the International Year of the Child.

In 1979, the state of North Carolina enacted many of these principles as part of the Child Health Plan (SB 389), which provides among other things for "Home Environment Evaluation" to detect "possible problems." This "evaluation" may be initiated on the basis of suspected child abuse or neglect, nutritional problems, emotional trauma or any one of any other clues... even though no current problem may exist.

Although none of these measures, either in West Germany or in the United States, is directed specifically at Christians as Christians, their net effect is ultimately to deprive all citizens of personal property, of family authority and even of the custody of their children. The confidence of both the German and American governments that they will meet with little resistance is evident from the bold-faced way in which government documents and sometimes even the laws themselves clearly state their long-range goals of making everyone a ward of the state.

Probably very few citizens of either country really like these developments, but Christians know that if they permit them, they will be abdicating their responsibility to God; they will make it impossible to exercise abilities that God requires of them, such as stewardship of personal resources and the education of one's children. And only Christians have the power behind them to resist such government encroachment—for only Christians know that even if the government crushes them, God will still raise them up and vindicate them.

Although Christians have traditionally been less concerned than so-called civil libertarians, we can confidently predict that if Christians do not stand up as a body to prevent the abolition of our fundamental rights, there is no other group in America that is numerous enough or strong enough to do it. If we remain indifferent, within a few years or at most a few decades there will no longer be any rights for civil libertarians or for anyone else—except perhaps for the small circle of elitists who will manage everything and everyone.