

Protest against Communist Propaganda in the Schools

Copy of the Protest Unanimously Passed by the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches and sent to President John F. Kennedy

We deplore the fact that high school and college students throughout the United States are being abundantly supplied with Communist youth literature which is delivered free of charge by the U. S. Post Office at taxpayers' expense. This privilege to allow Moscow the free use of U.S. Postal Service was done by Executive order as of March 1961.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities has reported that "Every school and college in the United States is directly or indirectly the recipient of some of these Communist propaganda publications." A twelve-month spot check by the Bureau of Customs of Moscow's training literature through New Orleans alone revealed that "at least 300,000 packages of Communist propaganda were destined to schools and colleges in the U.S. Each package contained 5 to 15 different publications on youth leadership for communism."

At least 40 periodicals are being disseminated regularly in schools and colleges, none of which bears any label as Communist propaganda in accordance with requirements of the Foreign Agents Registration Act. In one recent year, seven million pieces of such Communist literature were cleared through New York and tons more through seven other U.S. port cities.

In support of this protest, the Rev. Edward Morrell, Jr., pastor of the Bible Baptist Church, Bedford, Ohio, said: "Frances P. Bolton, member of Congress from Cleveland, Ohio, stated that the Congress deplored the dissemination of Communist literature to students of our schools throughout the U.S. with the cost of such mailing being borne by the United States Post Office Department." Mrs. Bolton stated that this was a directive of the President over which the Congress had no control. The statement was made in a private interview with Dr. Paul Cell, a member of the Executive Committee of the American Council of Christian Churches.

*May 14-18, 1962
Springfield, Massachusetts*