



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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**Brooks Hays Named To
New Civil Rights Duty**

WASHINGTON (BP)--President Johnson has announced his intention to appoint Brooks Hays, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, as associate director of the Community Relations Service sometime in January.

Bill D. Moyers, presidential press secretary, said that this is a new position designated by the President. The duties of the new office were not outlined at the time of the announcement. The appointment does not require Senate confirmation.

The Community Relations Service was established in the Commerce Department under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to help cities adjust to the requirements of the Act in an orderly manner.

At the same time, Moyers announced for the President the appointment of a new director of Community Relations Service. He is Roger W. Wilkins, a 33-year-old nephew of Roy Wilkins, executive director of the NAACP. This appointment requires Senate confirmation.

Hays, a former Congressman from Arkansas, has served in special assignments under three Presidents. He was appointed by President Eisenhower to the board of the Tennessee Valley Authority, by President Kennedy as Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations and later as a Special Assistant. He has served as part time consultant to President Johnson.

For the past year Hays has taught at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N. J.

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**D. C. Baptist Building
Struck By Burglars**

12-23-65

WASHINGTON (BP)--Thieves broke into the Baptist Building here in the early morning hours and ransacked one floor.

The burglars apparently broke a lock on a gate to gain entrance to the grounds and then used a window off the fire escape to enter the building. They ransacked the second floor but made no attempt on the other three floors.

Taken in the robbery were two typewriters, three portable radios, three adding machines, two projectors and screens, a tape recorder, about \$30 in cash and about \$100 in postage stamps. One of the calculators was a new \$900 machine placed in the building that day on a trial basis.

Washington police believe the burglary was done by professionals. No finger prints were left. The building superintendent, who has an apartment on the first floor of the building, was undisturbed by the intruders.

The Baptist Building is jointly owned by the District of Columbia Baptist Convention and the Baptist World Alliance.

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EDITORS AND FRIENDS:

Baptist Press wishes you a merry Christmas and a happy new year, with every hope that this will be a very meaningful Christmas for you. If we can be of service to you, don't hesitate to call on us.

W. C. Fields, Director
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

**Rainwater Named Georgia
Convention Assistant**

ATLANTA (BP)--W. L. Rainwater, pastor of the Lakewood Heights Baptist Church here, has been named assistant to the executive secretary-treasurer of the Georgia Baptist Convention with offices here.

Rainwater, pastor of the Atlanta church for 13 years, will serve as an assistant to Searcy S. Garrison in the area of cooperative missions work.

He will have responsibility for coordinating and leading in the convention's work of associational and area missions programs, and for working with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, also with offices in Atlanta, in the areas where the board and the Georgia convention sponsor joint missions work in the state.

Rainwater, a graduate of Mercer University (Baptist) in Macon, Ga., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, will assume the post on Jan. 16, 1965.

Before serving as pastor of the Atlanta church, Rainwater was pastor of First Baptist Church, McRae, Ga., and First Baptist Church, Chattsworth, Ga.

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**Gardner Webb Tops Goal
With \$1.5 Million Gifts**

12-23-65

BOILING SPRINGS, N. C. (BP)--Contributions to Gardner-Webb College here exceeded the Baptist school's "Decade of Advance" fund campaign by more than a quarter of a million dollars.

Intensive community-by-community campaigns throughout surrounding counties netted a total of \$1½ million in cash, pledges, real property and securities. Goal for the campaign was \$1¼ million.

During a victory dinner banquet as part of the fund drive, Gardner-Webb President Eugene Poston said the school was committed to the pathway toward senior college status, and the excellent response to the drive was a tremendous step toward the goal.

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**San Marcos Academy
Dedicates New Tower**

12-23-65

SAN MARCOS, Tex. (BP)--Chimes rang out from a brand-new tower at San Marcos Baptist Academy here while dedication ceremonies for the new structure were held below.

The free-standing tower has been designed to form a part of a chapel to be constructed later.

Westminster Chimes within the tower strike the hour, and an electronic carillon plays occasional hymns.

The tower, sitting atop one of the highest hills in the community, is visible for miles.

Named the Robinson Chapel Tower, it was made possible by the gift of Mrs. J. H. Robinson, a trustee of the Baptist secondary and college-preparatory school.

The dedicatory address was delivered by John S. Rasco, of Odessa, Tex, chairman of the Christian Education Commission for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

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**International Christmas
Is New Orleans Reality**

By Mary Lane Powell

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--The Christmas carol, "I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In," had special meaning for many New Orleans Baptists as they participated in the first international Christmas party for seamen docked in the port city.

"Several of us were watching the docks very closely in order to get an estimate of how many sailors to plan for," said James Vandercook, director of the Baptist Seaman's Service. "We really didn't know how many would be there until we met at the warves that night."

More than a hundred sailors, on shore leave during the Christmas season, attended the unique party staged two days before Christmas. Vandercook called it a very good turnout for the first year.

One Baptist church volunteered its activities building for the event; another furnished the refreshments.

On hand to help the lonely seamen have a meaningful Christmas were more Baptists, including many students from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary here. The students participated in a Christmas talent show and mingled among the seamen, distributing a Christian spirit of good will.

"This kind of Christmas activity gives a person the proper concept of the holiday season and the Christian message," commented Vandercook.

The Christmas party idea evolved from the seamen's enthusiastic reception last year to Christmas caroling done by the Seamen's Service.

"Last year we went aboard almost every ship in port, giving gifts--either a Testament or a Gospel portion--to each sailor," Vandercook said. "The following Sunday we had men from four countries in church worship services."

The Christmas party this year has resulted in more of the same kind of response, Vandercook added.

In a port which more than 9,000 ships enter and leave each year, the Baptist Seamen's Service is a new venture.

It was begun on a spasmodic part-time basis in 1961 and has become a full-time ministry through the vision and hard work of Vandercook.

"For Baptists to have no witness to the more than 300,000 sailors who pass through New Orleans annually from almost every country in the world was unthinkable," said the amiable director.

Vandercook began a weekly half-time work with the seamen in 1963 while serving as pastor of a small Baptist church in the waterfront area. Last year he resigned his church to devote full time to the ministry of personal contact, preaching, and hospitality on the waterfront.

The Seamen's Service is guided by a board of directors composed of pastors and Christian laymen. It is supported through individual contributions and church-designated gifts.

Vandercook has urged Baptists to invite the travel-weary seamen into their homes, and he has led the way by inviting all who will to share Sunday dinner with his family.

"The largest number we've had to accept our invitation in one week was 20, although we had eight for dinner last week and ten the week before," Vandercook said. "Sometimes doing something special like this projects the Christian message much more than talking."

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Baptist Press Feature

Perhaps the special international Christmas party has influenced several seamen to re-think their outlook on life, as did a German chief engineer who ate at the Vandercook's home recently.

He told the director afterwards: "I had lost faith in religion, faith in people, in my country and in America. But you are concerned about me--perhaps I have just been looking in the wrong direction."

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BP PHOTO of Vandercook and seamen with seminary student being mailed to state Baptist papers, available to others on request.

NOTE TO EDITORS: Mrs. Powell is news director for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

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CUTLINES

DECEMBER 23, 1965

BAPTIST PRESS PHOTO

THIRD TIME'S A CHARM: For the third time, Jimmy Young of Thomasville, N. C., nearly lost limb or life. Young, press foreman for the "Charity and Children" Baptist newspaper in North Carolina, accidentally chopped off the tip of his finger in a cornering machine just before Christmas. Several years earlier he had nearly severed the same finger on the same hand in a similar accident. Earlier this year, Young was paralyzed when a lightning bolt struck nearby. But he still smiles about it, and says he's got a lot to be thankful for. (BI PHOTO)

PHOTO WITH FEATURE, Machine Twice Severs
Same Finger, Same Hand
mailed 12-21-65

CUTLINES

DECEMBER 23, 1965

BAPTIST PRESS PHOTO

THEIR SHIP CAME SAILING IN--Two Brazilian seamen get a personal invitation to attend a unique Interantional Christmas party sponsored by the Baptist Seamen's Service in New Orleans. Seamen's Service Director James Vandercook (left) and New Orleans Seminary Student Achilles Barbosa of Brazil greet the two Brazilian sailors, Nelson da Silva and Solon Celestina (right), crew members of the Brazilian vessel "Cabo Frio." (BP PHOTO)

PHOTO WITH FEATURE, International Christmas
Is New Orleans Reality
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