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Alabama Baptist Says
False Hopes Cause Riots

BIRMINGHAM, ALA. (BP)--An editorial in the Alabama Baptist weekly newspaper here blamed the federal government and civil rights leaders for sowing "seeds of discontentment" that led to recent riots in Chicago, Cleveland, and other cities in the North.

The editorial in the official publication of the Alabama Baptist Convention called the riots a "harvest of false hopes planted by the Federal Government and others in connection with the Civil Rights Movement."

"Anytime you cause people to expect too much," the editorial said, "you are apt to be sowing seeds of discontentment. It seems clear that this has happened and is happening in our country today."

The editorial was written by Hudson Baggett, editor of the weekly tabloid paper who assumed the office in June. Baggett is a former professor at Samford University, a Baptist school here.

"Any Christian worthy of the name is concerned about the welfare of his fellow man whatever his race, but to foster false dreams about utopias that do not exist is to mislead and bring disappointment," the editorial said.

"And to promise a Great Society on earth where all human relationships will be perfectly adjusted is to disregard the whole emphasis of Biblical thought concerning the sinful nature of man," the editor said.

The editorial quoted both President Lyndon B. Johnson and Vice President Humbert H. Humphrey in remarks urging revolutionary action.

"With such remarks, no wonder our country is the scene of so much confusion," wrote Editor Baggett.

President Johnson was quoted as saying in a speech to college students at the White House on Aug. 3: "I am proud this morning to salute you as fellow revolutionaries. Neither you nor I are willing to accept the tyranny of poverty, nor the dictatorship of ignorance, nor the despotism of all health nor the oppression of bias and prejudice and bigotry. We want change. We want progress. . . and we aim to get it. I hope that you . . . will go out into the hinterland and rouse the masses and blow the bugles and tell them that the hour has arrived and their day is here; that we are on the march against the ancient enemies and we are going to be successful."

Vice President Humphrey was quoted as saying: "I think you'd have more trouble than you have had already because I've got enough spark left in me to lead a mighty good revolt under those conditions." Humphrey was describing what he would do if he had to live in the slums, the editorial said.

The editor wrote that such "encouragement to revolutionaries by top political leaders sows seeds that threaten to bring a bitter harvest."

Editor Baggett also said that "seeds of discontentment are sown when there are calculated moves and plans to disregard law and order."

"The evidence is plain that most of the demonstrations and riots North, South, East and West are not spontaneous, but carefully planned and promoted," the editorial said.

"This has been one of the greatest points of irritation to the people of the South," wrote the Alabama editor. "We all know if one desires he can stir up trouble and disorder anywhere, anytime."

"And with all of our faults we don't like for people to attempt so-called progress by doing it like that--especially outsiders. Yet this has been a trademark of the Civil Rights Movement."

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The editorial quoted two nationally-circulated news publications to back up the editor's views.

U. S. News and World Report was cited as spotlighting "the charge of city officials and police that violence is being fomented deliberately."

"Even the Wall Street Journal in a recent editorial accused the Federal Government and others of promising Negroes too much," wrote the Alabama editor.

The Baptist paper quoted the Wall Street Journal editorial at length. In summary, the Journal said that the Negro has been promised a new world, a job, equality, care for family, a rebuilt city.

"These are plainly impossible promises, and all the more so because the Negro was led to believe his gratification would come instantly and easily," said the Wall Street Journal. "Who could be surprised that disappointment and distrust are the consequences."

The editorial by Baggett is the first on the hot civil rights question he has written as editor of the weekly Alabama paper, the second largest of the 29 state Baptist newspapers within the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Patterson Named Professor
At New Orleans Seminary

8/12/66

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--Eugene N. Patterson, promotional secretary for Baldwin County Baptist Association in Alabama, has been elected professor of evangelism and director of field missions for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary beginning Sept. 1.

This is the second time Patterson has been a member of the New Orleans Seminary faculty. He was a professor for 14 years from 1945 until 1959.

He was president of Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz., for six years and accepted the Baldwin County missions position in 1965. He has also been pastor of churches in Mississippi and Alabama.

Patterson is a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., and has a master and doctor of theology degrees from New Orleans Seminary. He has done additional studies at Union Seminary, New York, and at Oxford, Temple and Harvard Universities.

The returning professor is the second person to occupy the Roland Q. Leavell Chair of Evangelism. B. Gray Allison occupied the chair of evangelism until his resignation earlier this year to accept a position with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's division of evangelism.

Seminary president H. Leo Eddleman, who announced the appointment of Patterson, said his work will be in general evangelism and missions.

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Baylor Receives Gift
Of Recorded Sermons

8/12/66

WACO, Tex. (BP)--A Marlin, Tex., woman, who over the years has built up a collection of recorded sermons by outstanding Baptist ministers, presented them to Baylor University to enable ministerial students to study the style and message of past pulpiteers.

The 54-record collection and a record player were given to the university's department of religion by Mrs. Stella Nettles Garner. The collection features sermons by George W. Truett, recorded at the First Baptist Church in Dallas.

Mrs. Garner and her husband, J. W. Garner, compiled the collection and years ago played them in prison camps and in rural churches in North Carolina where no preacher was available.

The records once were offered in a transcription service sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention Radio Commission.

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She offered them to Baylor's department of religion, saying she felt that future ministers could profit from the preaching of men like Truett.

The record collection will be placed in Baylor's Tidwell Library for use by students in the religion department.

Mrs. Garner has a strong Baylor heritage. She directed cafeteria operations at the university in 1931-32 and once operated a boarding house on the site of the Armstrong Browning Library. Two of her boarders were Baker James Cauthen, now executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, and W. A. Criswell, now pastor of Dallas's First Baptist Church.

She later worked as a field agent for San Marcos Baptist Academy, San Marcos, Tex., before marrying Mr. Garner and moving to Hampton, N.C.

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Baptist Church
To Become Jail

8/12/66

LIBERTY, S. C. (BP)--Lonnie Shull Jr. is pastor of First Baptist Church here.

He does not plan on going to jail.

But if he should find himself behind bars in this town he would feel right at home.

The new town jail will be the old sanctuary of First Baptist Church.

It's an interesting story.

First Baptist Church, founded in 1780 and one of the oldest churches in its area, has during almost two centuries outgrown several buildings. The most recent move was last December when the church moved to new facilities on Edgemont Avenue.

The old church building and grounds were sold to the town of Liberty. Church members and town officials were delighted by the transaction.

Too small for the growing congregation, the church in its central location was just right for the city hall, fire stationand jail!

And if things go according to plan a part of the sanctuary will be razed and the remainder converted into a town jail.

Police Chief Herman Curtis says he hopes the Baptist preacher will come often to his old bailiwick, "to visit and counsel with the prisoners, of course," he adds.

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Francis Davis, Former
Maryland Editor, Dies

8/12/66

BALTIMORE (BP)--Francis A. Davis, editor for 40 years of the Baptist Convention of Maryland's newspaper, suddenly died here at the age of 73.

Davis, according to The Maryland Baptist which he formerly edited, was "the man who could be appropriately called 'Mr. Maryland Baptist.'"

A former president of the Maryland Baptist Convention, Davis became the unpaid editor of Maryland Baptist Church Life in 1922, and was editor when the name of the publication was changed in 1934 to The Maryland Baptist. It was then published monthly.

At the time of his death, Davis was president of F.A. Davis and Sons, Inc., a wholesale tobacco products firm which his grandfather founded.

He was vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1940-41, and was president of the Maryland Baptist State Mission Board for 21 years.

A former member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, Davis had also served as a board member for the SBC Foundation, the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in New Orleans; and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

Funeral services were conducted Aug. 6 at University Baptist Church, Baltimore, where Davis was a deacon and Sunday School teacher.

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