



# BAPTIST PRESS

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BWA Group Hears Plea  
For End To Race Riots

NASHVILLE (BP)--The president of the largest Negro Baptist convention in the United States issued a plea for American Negroes to turn from rioting and looting to respect for law and order and "the principles upon which this nation was founded."

"There is no way we can solve the nation's racial problems by turning away from law and order, and by burning, looting, and killing," declared Joseph H. Jackson, president of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.

Jackson chided Negro leaders, naming Stokely Carmichael who formerly headed the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee specifically, who "believe we can build a free nation by disobeying the law."

He laid the blame for the riots on public officials who wait too long and do nothing, the public press for making heroes of people like Stokely Carmichael and other radical Negro leaders, and on the churches for "turning away from the conference method and taking up pickets and the use of force to change society."

"We all must share some of the blame," said Jackson.

Later, in a Baptist World Alliance Study Commission on human rights and religious liberty, differing viewpoints were expressed on the causes of rioting and looting in the nation.

Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Christian Life Commission, said that the violence and anarchy by black racists "are tragic reflections of white racism tracing back for hundreds of years."

"Black power racism has fed on discrimination, prejudice, unemployment, poor housing, poverty, deprivation and all kinds of social disadvantages to create an explosive situation," said Valentine.

In discussion that followed Valentine's paper, a professor at Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Centre, Mass., said that the white power structure shares some of the blame for the rioting because they created an affluent society but did not give the Negroes a chance to be a part of it.

Culbert Rutenber, an American Baptist theologian, said that the gradual approach of the non-violent movement has not worked effectively, and thus the Negroes in despair had turned to violence.

A Negro Baptist minister from Memphis, Tenn., S. B. Kyles, agreed, saying that Negroes have made gains because they resorted to violence that they would never have seen otherwise.

"We're told that violence won't work," Kyles said. "But it is working. For ten years we've been saying that, and the Negro people finally got tired of waiting. When they tried it, violence did work."

"They wouldn't turn on the fire hydrants in New York until after the riots," said Kyles, pastor of the Monumental Baptist Church, Memphis, affiliated with the Progressive National Baptist Convention.

"You get people who have laid under a ton of bricks for years and you remove two bricks and say 'Now, doesn't that feel better?', but they're still oppressed," Kyles said.

He added that he personally condemned violence and anarchy as a method to gain freedom and equality, but it was now apparent that the non-violent approach he and other Negro ministers had long advocated was not working fast enough.

Several in the study commission expressed the hope that the Baptist World Alliance could do something concrete, besides just adopting resolutions and hearing speeches, to get at the problems that cause the race riots.

J. T. Ayorinde, general secretary of the Nigerian Baptist Convention, told the Americans attending the study commission, "if you can do anything as Christian leaders, please do it," with an almost pleading voice.

Ayorinde said that race riots in "Christian America" hurt tremendously Baptist missionary efforts in Africa, and when Africans read in the press about race riots in America, they say to missionaries and African religious leaders, "We don't want that kind of religion."

Several specific suggestions were made in discussions, outlining what Baptists should do.

Included in the suggestions were such ideas as: (1) confess our sins and seek to make restitution for our past injustices, (2) go back home and do in the churches these "high-sounding" things we've been talking about, (3) try to work for open housing and non-discrimination in jobs, (4) open the doors of Baptist churches to all races, and (5) hold joint, inter-racial worship services.

Concluded Valentine in his prepared paper: "Let us determine that through legislation and through love, through work and through witness, through open doors and through open hearts, through repentance and renewal, we will give ourselves to a redemptive witness in the realm of race."

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Solon Attacks Alcoholism,  
Urges Ban On Radio, TV Ads

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WASHINGTON (BP)--In a hard-hitting speech to the U.S. Senate, Sen. Wayne Morse (D., Ore.) condemned the social and economic cost of drinking and called for a curb on radio and television advertising of alcoholic beverages.

The Oregon senator introduced a bill that would amend the Communications Act to ban broadcast advertising of all alcoholic beverages between the hours of 3 p.m. and 10 p.m., local time.

Sen. Morse said he could not claim that his bill would curb alcoholism and drinking, reduce crime, prevent riots, or end automobile accidents, but that it would focus attention on the "tremendous social and economic cost of drinking among the American people."

He told the Senate that voluntary advertising codes generally prohibit the televising of hard liquor commercials, but that in recent years there had been a dramatic rise in the television advertising of beer and wine.

The senator cited the millions of teenagers (most of whom cannot legally drink beer) who see and hear the wine and beer ads. For the good of this growing proportion of the population, he said, the advertising of any alcoholic beverage should be eliminated when the audience is composed of a significant percentage of teenagers.

"This is no idle concern," Sen. Morse said. He pointed out the recent legislation that requires health warnings on packages of cigarettes and expressed regret that no such warnings appear on beer cans.

"That such effects occur cannot be denied by anyone," he argued. "I am a little dismayed," he continued, "to read that legislators, the medical professions, and others are beginning to think of hallucinogenic drugs as a danger to individuals and to the community, when the dangers of alcohol are infinitely more widespread and yet receive far less attention."

"Politicians and citizens in all walks of life can view with alarm all they like the use of narcotic and exotic drugs," the senator said, "but they are straining at the gnat and swallowing the camel, so far as relative magnitude of the problems are concerned."

Sen. Morse reminded his fellow senators of these facts:

\* "One in every three arrests in the United States is for drunkenness, and if arrests for related offenses such as drunken driving and disorderly conduct stemming from drinking were included, the figure would be much higher.

\* "This country has over five million identified alcoholics. Stated generously, one citizen out of 40 is an alcoholic. Considering that about 40 per cent of the population is 21 or under, one person out of 24 adults is an alcoholic.

\* "Alcoholism is the nation's fourth largest health program, as well as being the first largest criminal problem."

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Sen. Morse quoted the director of the National Safety Council who estimates that perhaps one-half of those involved in fatal automobile accidents are under the influence of alcohol.

The high correlation between alcohol and traffic accidents calls for a lot more attention to this problem than we have been willing to give it in the past, he urged.

"We have blamed bad tires and passed laws against them; we blame poor highway design, and try to do something about it; we blame faulty engineering and try to pass laws against that; but the one big, known quantity about traffic accidents that we know about and have failed to mention is the presence of a drinking driver or pedestrian," he continued.

"About that, we have done nothing. We seem unwilling even to mention it," the Senator said.

"We are not going to come to grips with crime, or with highway deaths, and perhaps not even with riots in the immediate future, without coming to grips with the role that alcohol and young people play in all of them," he concluded.

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Flood of Smut Calls For  
Commission On Obscenity

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WASHINGTON (BP)--The House Committee on Education and Labor has unanimously recommended the creation of a Commission on Obscenity and Pornography to report its findings and recommendations to the President and Congress no later than January 31, 1970.

In its report to the House of Representatives the committee said that the states and the federal government have been unable "to stem the tide of an estimated billion-dollar business in obscenity."

"Last year," the report said, "the Post Office department received close to 200,000 complaints, most of them from parents who objected to unsolicited, obscene commercial material which had been sent to their children."

"It is estimated that there are some 20 million pieces of smut mailed annually within the United States," it continued.

At hearings earlier in the year it was pointed out that "pornographic material has been flowing into the nation in great quantities from a number of foreign countries, including Great Britain, Germany, Sweden and Spain."

Many authorities link the rise in juvenile delinquency with the increased distribution of "smut." The U.S. Children's Bureau reports that in 1965 nearly 700,000 delinquency cases were handled by the courts.

"In the past 10 years, delinquency cases have increased by 58 per cent," the report found. "By 1970, it is estimated that one out of nine children will come into contact with the juvenile courts or law enforcement agencies," it continued.

Rep. Dominick V. Daniels (D., N.J.) introduced the proposed bill in the House of Representatives. Rep. Carl D. Perkins (D., Ky.) is chairman of the committee reporting the bill. Early action by the House is expected.

The Senate in May of this year passed a similar bill, introduced by Sen. Karl E. Mundt (R., S.D.).

A spokesman for the House Education and Labor Committee said that the House has spent much more time on the problem than the Senate. "We think our bill is 'more constitutional,'" he said.

Chief differences in the two bills is that the Senate proposes more of an "investigation, includes the power of subpoena, the tends more toward censorship, the House spokesman reported. The House bill is aimed toward an unbiased "study" as the basis of the report the proposed commission shall make.

If the House version is enacted into law the commission will:

1. Analyze laws and evaluate and recommend definitions of obscenity and pornography,
2. Study the methods, volume and traffic in obscene materials,
3. Study the relationship of such materials to crime and anti-social behavior, and

4. Recommend legislative, administrative and other action to regulate the flow of such traffic "without in any way interfering with constitutional rights."

The 16-member "blue ribbon" commission proposed by the House would include psychiatrists, sociologists, psychologists, criminologists, jurists, lawyers, "and others who have special competence with respect to obscenity laws and their application to juveniles"

In the past 10 years, according to the committee report, many confusing and conflicting decisions in both state and federal courts have emerged. It called for a fresh analysis and appraisal of the legal situation relating to obscenity and pornography.

In 1957, in Roth V. United States, "the U.S. Supreme Court for the first time in its history squarely faced the problem of obscenity," the committee report said.

The high court defined obscenity as: "Whether to the average person, applying contemporary community standards, the dominant theme of the material taken as a whole appeals to prurient interest."

"Contemporary community standards" was explained by the court in 1965 (Jacobellis V. Ohio) as meaning "contemporary national standards."

Other recent court decisions have left many legal questions on obscenity confused, the committee's report indicated.

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Arkansas Man Named  
Seminary News Director

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FORT WORTH (BP)--Robert S. (Bob) Harrelson, executive vice president of the Chamber of Commerce in Jonesboro, Ark., will become news director at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Sept. 1. He will enroll as a student in the school of religious education.

He will fill the vacancy on the seminary's public relations staff created when Billy Keith returned as a Southern Baptist missionary to Japan after a year's furlough.

Harrelson received the bachelor of science degree in journalism and political science from Arkansas State University in 1963. He has done graduate study at the University of Georgia and the University of Houston.

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BWA Relief Aids India  
Drought, Haiti Hurricanes

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NASHVILLE (BP)--A picture of millions of people throughout the world in need of food, clothing, medical care, and homes, with a plea for Baptists to respond to this need, was presented here to the Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance.

"More people in the world need food, clothing, medicines and homes than ever before in history," said R. Dean Goodwin of Philadelphia in the report of the Relief Committee of the Baptist World Alliance.

"The empty hand stretched out in need is the sign of our time," said Goodwin, director of the division of communications for the American Baptist Convention.

Adolfs Klaupiks of Washington, relief coordinator for the alliance, described relief activities of Baptists in India, Africa, Haiti, Europe, and other areas of the world.

In India where a terrible drought has plagued the countryside for two years, Baptists have helped build water wells to provide that basic necessity for the people.

In Haiti, funds have been provided to rebuild Baptist chapels destroyed by hurricanes, and Baptist workers were employed to do the construction, adding even more relief to the needed people.

In Eastern Europe, medicines, vitamins and clothing were provided for widows and underpaid Baptist ministers. The Alliance has clothed practically all of the Baptist pastors in one country, simply because they could not afford clothing any other way.

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These and other examples of Baptists meeting human needs around the world were outlined by Klaupiks and Goodwin in their report to the Alliance Executive Committee.

During 1966, the committee received \$158,000 for relief, in addition to monies used for relief by some Baptist conferences and mission agencies that do not come through the Baptist World Alliance.

The Executive Committee approved relief projections totalling \$180,800 for the next 12 months. Of this, \$81,000 has already been received or promised. The remainder must come from Baptist conventions, conferences and unions from throughout the world.

The request includes the following allocations: Africa, \$19,000; Bolivia, \$18,000; Europe, \$26,400; Haiti, \$37,600; India, \$64,800; the Middle East, \$5,000; and an additional \$10,000 for contingency and emergencies.

Klaupiks explained that the needs in the Middle East far exceed the \$5,000 requested, and that more will probably be received and spent there for relief.