



**BAPTIST PRESS**  
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
Telephone (615) 244-2355  
W. C. Fields, Director  
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

**REGIONAL OFFICES**

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Editor, 161 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303, Telephone (404) 523-2593

DALLAS Editor, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) RI 1-1996

WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Editor, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

**BUREAU**

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD Lynn M. Davis Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,  
Telephone (615) 254-1631

January 19, 1968

34 Texas Baptist Churches  
Have Negroes, 32 Segregated

MINERAL WELLS, Tex. (BP)--Thirty-four Texas Baptist churches have Negro members, a preliminary report on a survey of churches in the Baptist General Convention of Texas has disclosed.

The survey also revealed that 333 churches have adopted integration policies to accept Negro members, but as yet have no Negroes as members.

But it also revealed that 32 congregations in the convention have segregation policies, forbidding Negroes as members.

These statistics were revealed by Rufus B. Spain, professor of history at Baylor University in Waco, Tex., during a report to the Texas Baptist Missions Workshop retreat here. Spain said a group of Baylor students and professors are working on the survey.

About 3,500 questionnaires were sent to Texas Baptist pastors, with 929 usable data sheets returned so far, Spain reported. He stressed that the statistics in the final report may vary slightly as a few more questionnaires may be returned before the final data processing on computer.

Of the 929 replying, 204 churches have Negroes attending the worship services, while 376 have "generally understood" integration policies.

Some 73, the survey shows, have "generally understood" segregation policies, with another 118 giving no definite policy.

Those churches with Negro members are located mainly in metropolitan areas of the state, with about two-thirds of the churches in cities with populations in excess of 100,000.

About half of the integrated churches have between 200 and 1,000 members, while over half are predominately white-collar workers with a large professional element.

More than 75 percent of the members of integrated churches are high school graduates, while the pastors have had seminary training.

Spain, who spoke on "changing racial patterns in Texas Baptist churches," said the survey began when Gary Nelson, senior honors program student at Baylor, desired to do research on Negro integration in Southern Baptist churches.

Nelson, with the assistance of a group of Baylor professors and Waco Baptist pastors, prepared the questionnaire. A pilot project of churches in the Waco area was first conducted.

-30-

Stewardship Commission  
Elects Braswell Chairman

1/19/68

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention elected Glen E. Braswell of Denver, executive secretary of the Colorado Baptist General Convention, as its new chairman in annual session here.

Braswell will succeed O. E. Burton, pastor of First Baptist Church, Clearwater, Fla., as chairman of the 26-member elected commission.

Elected vice chairman of the commission was Edward G. Ayers, a Baptist layman and president of Ayers Insulating and Supply Co., in Norfolk, Va., and re-elected as secretary of the commission was Robert Parker, pastor of Cullendale Baptist Church in Camden, Ark.

-30-

Theodore Adams Plans  
Retirement, June 30

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Theodore F. Adams, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Richmond for more than 32 years and former president of the Baptist World Alliance, told the church in annual business session here he plans to retire effective June 30.

Adams said he would be 70 in September, and felt it was time for a new and younger pastor to take over the leadership of the church while things were going well.

The prominent Baptist minister said that Richmond would always be his home, and he and his wife hoped to remain as members of the church after the new pastor is selected. "When you call a pastor, he will be my pastor as well," Adams said.

He made a motion that a pulpit committee be elected by the church to select a new pastor. He said that anything he could do to help the new pastor and the church, he would do gladly.

Adams is the only Southern Baptist minister to be featured in a cover story in Time, the weekly newsmagazine. The article quoted a Richmond attorney as saying "Ted Adams is probably regarded by a vast majority of Southern Baptists . . . as the finest Baptist preacher in the world."

He came to the church as pastor in 1936 from American Baptist pulpits in Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio. He is a graduate of Denison University, and Rochester Theological Seminary. He also has honorary doctorates from the University of Richmond, Denison University, and College of William and Mary.

-30-

Baptists Vocal In  
Fight Against Brewery

1/19/68

PERRY, Ga. (BP)--Major controversy has developed here over plans for a \$40 million brewery which has been announced by Pabst Brewing Co. of Milwaukee.

Pabst disclosed it will build the huge brewery in Perry, south of Macon, with construction scheduled to begin sometime this spring. Perry was chosen because of an abundant supply of underground water.

Immediate opposition was voiced by Baptist and Methodist pastors in the area and plans were started to try to develop enough public protest to cancel plans for the brewery. But temperance forces were pessimistic as to their chances, because contracts had already been signed.

When the initial announcement was made, daily newspapers in Atlanta speculated on why the announcement did not come from the office of Baptist Gov. Lester Maddox, who has been pushing hard for new industry, but also has been widely-publicized for convictions on temperance and morality in government.

Political officials in Houston County claimed the decision to accept the brewery was made in Atlanta and politicians in the state capitol claimed it was a local decision.

For more than a week, Baptist leaders in Atlanta made diligent efforts to get the governor to make some type of statement, admitting or denying any part he might have had in bringing the brewery to Georgia.

But, he refused to make any statement to The Christian Index, the Georgia Baptist convention newspaper, or to Louis D. Newton, pastor of Druid Hills Baptist Church in Atlanta, who contacted the governor in his capacity as chairman of the public affairs committee of the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Jack U. Harwell, editor of The Christian Index, wrote an editorial criticizing the "cloak-and-dagger" tactics which forced all the secrecy surrounding the brewery announcement, and calling on Georgia Baptists to join Houston County citizens in protesting the locating of the beer plant in Perry.

Referring to Gov. Maddox's refusal to make a statement, Mr. Harwell said: "The least our Baptist governor--who has daily prayer meetings in his office and speaks in churches almost every Sunday--could have done would have been to make a statement defending free enterprise and local control, two of his favorite themes, but reaffirming his opposition to alcoholic beverages. But he didn't...This disappoints us greatly."

-30-

Mississippi Baptist Group  
Urges Concern For Poverty

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--The Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention has issued a statement calling on Baptists in the state to practice loving concern toward the poor.

"In recent years," said the statement, "we have practically abdicated our traditional and scriptural position and relinquished this ministry to the government and private welfare units---local, state and national.

"We call our people back to loving concern for those among us who need our help, remembering the words of Jesus, 'Inasmuch as ye do it unto the least of these, you do it unto me,'" said the statement.

The Christian Action Commission is the Mississippi Baptist Convention equivalent of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The lengthy statement it adopted on "Work--Leisure--The Poor" was published in the Mississippi Baptist Record, official convention newspaper, and released by J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the commission.

"Baptists historically have been identified with the poverty-maimed," the statement said. "We traditionally adopt a church covenant in which we agree to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry and the relief of the poor."

"Christian compassion (if not practical economic necessity) compels us to be concerned with these segments of people in our community," the statement added. "They, too, are those for whom Christ died. His statement 'the poor you have with you always' was not to infer that we are to do nothing about or for the poor."

Most of the statement was devoted to the issues of work and leisure time. Saying that "wealth without work seems to be the universal quest," the statement added that in most cases "work is avoided as much as possible and tolerated only enough to draw the pay check and all the fringe benefits."

The Christian Action Commission stated, however, that the Bible identifies work as "a holy privilege," and that work gives "a great sense of achievement" and gives "identity and meaning to one's character."

"Work is a moral and religious duty and must be conceived as a vocation of ministry and service. Through work we glorify God and serve mankind. If one is working strictly for the pay check, he is more enslaved by his labor than he is a free man. Thus the Christian will engage only in honorable and necessary work."

Touching on labor unions, the statement said that the worker's right to choose his own destiny is basic, whether he casts his lot with a labor union or chooses not to do so.

"There should be no antagonism between the church and labor, nor animosity between the church and management...Granted that profits must be made, persons are more important than machines or profits."

On the subject of leisure, the statement said that some people are not poverty-stricken, but are leisure-stricken.

"What you do when you have nothing to do may be a test of your character," the Commission said. "'Redeeming the time' in leisure or recreation must be a redemption from meaninglessness."

The statement added that many are deprived of the opportunity of gainful employment. "To be sure, there are some who do not desire to work and prefer to live from the fruits of other's labor. Some are caught in the escalation of automation and find themselves unskilled for remunerative tasks."

In conclusion the Mississippi Baptist group said it would (1) "emphasize the Bible teachings concerning business ethics, property right, the dignity of work, the place of leisure and our obligation to those unable to work, and (2) suggest some practical procedures to churches and individuals as to how to meet the needs in these areas of concern."