



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

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**Southern Baptist Named
Christianity Today Editor**

WASHINGTON (BP)--A Southern Baptist who teaches at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill., has been named editor of Christianity Today, an independent interdenominational Protestant journal published here.

The new editor, effective Sept. 1, will be Harold Lindsell, 54, professor of Bible at Wheaton College, a private, non-denominational college which emphasizes conservative theology.

Lindsell, a former associate editor of Christianity Today, will succeed Carl F. H. Henry, an American Baptist, who will continue as an editor-at-large, but who plans to devote full time to study, research, and writing. Henry will spend six months to one year in Cambridge, England, beginning next September.

Henry and Lindsell are long-time colleagues. Lindsell was an associate editor on the magazine for three years under Henry's editorship, and both taught at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, Chicago, an American Baptist institution.

A former Presbyterian, Lindsell became a Southern Baptist when he was teaching at Columbia Bible College, Columbia, S.C., joining the First Baptist Church of Columbia.

A current member of the First Baptist Church in Alexandria, Va., he reportedly attends a Southern Baptist church in Illinois, but has not been involved in Southern Baptist Convention denominational life.

Known as a Bible expositor and preacher, Lindsell was on the faculty for 17 years at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., serving as professor of missions, dean of faculty, and vice president.

Lindsell is a summa cum laude graduate of Wheaton College, with a master of arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and a doctor of philosophy degree in history from New York University.

Following his education, he sought appointment as a foreign missionary from the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and several other mission boards, but was turned down because of an allergy condition.

The new Christianity Today editor, like his predecessor, has strong faith in the future influence and strength of Evangelicals in shaping future Christianity, according to statements in a release from Christianity Today.

Unlike Henry, Lindsell has not been involved in the current move to unite Evangelicals in a trans-denominational coalition, but he did attend the last session of those interested in Evangelical ecumenicalism held at Key Bridge, Va., just across the Potomac River from Washington.

Neither has Lindsell any close organizational ties to Southern Baptist Evangelist Billy Graham, a strong supporter of Christianity Today magazine and the guiding light in its founding in 1956. Graham and Lindsell are, however, good friends.

While Henry has been known as a conservative theologian with a special interest in both Christian ethics and in bringing Evangelicals closer together, Lindsell is more known for his Bible exposition and preaching.

Christianity Today, published bi-weekly, has a circulation of 160,000, and is generally considered to take a conservative, Evangelical point of view editorially.

South Carolina Editor
Urges Political Action

GREENVILLE, S.C. (BP)--The editor of the Baptist Courier here, John E. Roberts, has urged every Christian to become more involved in politics during 1968, an election year.

Admonishing ministers to encourage political concern and action, Roberts observed that "one of the great needs of our country is for good people to become more actively engaged in politics.

"This is true," he wrote in an editorial, "all the way from the lowest local office to the highest post in the land. The local school board, the sheriff's office, the various positions in town and country government should be sought by people of religious orientation and Christian commitment."

Roberts, although he didn't say so in his editorial, tries to practice what he preaches.

He is serving as mayor and chairman of the 10-man city council of the Northwood Hills Homeowners Association, a city-government type organization for a residential development of about 150 homes located five miles from Greenville.

The associate editor of the weekly newsmagazine, Fletcher Allen, serves as secretary for the 10-man city council which meets monthly to conduct city business.

"No arguments, please, about politics being a dirty game and therefore something from which nice people should keep a safe distance," wrote Roberts in his editorial.

"If it is dirty, and to whatever degree, it is so by default of responsible Christian citizens who have yielded it up to the unscrupulous. The caliber of politics is determined not by the candidates for office, but the voters. The quality of government is a reflection of the electorate more than of the office holder."

Observing that election year is not the only time that Christian citizens should be aroused to the problems and opportunities of government, Roberts did not, however, express any political viewpoint concerning the 1968 presidential election or any other specific election.

He did state that "the crisis of war should prompt added concern," and that "voters have a right to know something of the religious conviction of every seeker of national office.

Roberts cautioned against the church becoming a lobbying force, and against attempting anything comparable to a bloc vote.

"It is an obligation of the church, however, to make its members aware of their responsibility as individual citizens, Roberts wrote.

"Any nation faces tragedy of epic proportions when good men do nothing," he observed. "Christianity gives meaning to life, and democratic government is based on individual responsibility."

He concluded by declaring, "Any nation is seeking the right course when it has responsible, intelligent, God-fearing leaders elected by people whose religious life is reflected in their citizenship."

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Alabama Baptist Editorial
Criticizes Kerner Report

3/15/68

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--An editorial in The Alabama Baptist here strongly disagreed with the report of the National Commission on Civil Disorders because it was too tough on white racism and not tough enough on Black Power advocates.

The editorial, written by Editor Hudson Baggett, was critical of the report for laying the blame on the summer riots in 1967 largely to "white racism and police abuses" observing that the report was likely to make matters worse.

"Why condemn only white racism?" the editor asked. "This only intensifies the so-called white backlash.

"It is clear that the racial conflict in our nation poses an urgent problem. But why not try to be realistic?

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"Why not call for a curb of the lawless groups who abuse police and defy other authority?" the editor asked. "These groups have been allowed to take the law into their own hands too long."

"It is strange," Baggett wrote, "that the report does not say more about the prominent role which many Black Power advocates played in the riots last summer."

Quoting the report, sometimes called the Kerner Report since Illinois Gov. Otto Kerner was chairman of the commission, the editorial reported that the commission said, "The urban disorders of the summer of 1967 were not caused by, nor were they the consequence of any organized plan or conspiracy."

"The commission did admit, however, that militant organizations and individual agitators had a part," said the editorial.

The editorial in the Alabama Baptist quoted a prominent Negro Baptist pastor of Birmingham, J. L. Ware, as saying an attempt is now being made in Alabama by Black Power advocates to recruit Negroes for summer demonstrations. Ware explained that their aim will be "to create a crisis where no crisis exists," said the Alabama Baptist.

"Obviously," said the editorial, "attempts to intensify existing racial hostility and to create new crises have been prevalent in Alabama and elsewhere before."

"We shall be tempted again and again to match evil with evil in the days ahead, but this is not the Christian way," concluded the editorial. "Paul admonishes us, 'Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good.' Unless we follow his advice, we are apt to make bad matters worse too."

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Burgess Meredith Narrates
Baptist Film At HemisFair

3/15/68

DALLAS (BP)--Movie actor Burgess Meredith is the voice behind the scenes in the Baptist presentation of "Man's Search For God", a 10-minute color film appearing as one of three major attractions in the Baptist pavilion at HemisFair '68 in San Antonio, Tex.

Meredith is in Dallas directing Paddy Chayefsky's play, "The Latent Heterosexual", which will have its world premiere here March 18 in the Dallas Theater Center.

The Baptist pavilion is a joint effort by the Baptist General Convention of Texas in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and Home Mission Board, as well as the San Antonio Baptist Association.

The film, scheduled to have repeated showings daily during HemisFair's six months of operation, will be backed with special psychedelic lighting. Produced without actors, Meredith narrates the film from the point of view of an archeologist who lives half a million years in the future.

"The film is an evangelistic one," says T. A. Patterson, Texas Baptist Executive Secretary, "yet, the evangelism will be more 'felt' by the audience than actually expressed in words and pictures."

Patterson added that since art has always been an expression or reflection of religious thought that the film explores the art of the hemisphere as clues to man's search for God. This sequence was photographed in pre-Columbian museums including the Museum of Modern Art in Mexico City.

A circular world room exhibit features photographs of Baptists at work around the world in many countries. The series of photographs have been furnished by the sponsoring agencies.

A third attraction will be the historic paintings of "Great Moments in Baptist History" by Erwin M. Hearne Jr. of Dallas including a second series of dramatic moments in Texas Baptist history.

Dedication services of the Baptist pavilion have been scheduled for opening day, April 6, at 2 p.m.

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Hays Commends Evers
Race, Kerner Report

NASHVILLE (BP)--Former Southern Baptist Convention President Brooks Hays, speaking at Peabody College here, commended the report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, and observed that the Mississippi runoff election involving Negro Congressional Candidate Charles Evers was more significant than the results of the New Hampshire primary.

"I had not believed I would live long enough to see a Negro in a runoff election in Mississippi," said Hays, former Congressman from Arkansas who was defeated 10 years ago because of his moderate stand on Little Rock school integration.

Hays said that even though Evers lost to white conservative Charles Griffin in the House of Representatives race, it was extremely significant that a Negro could reach the runoff ballot in Mississippi.

Sporting a salt and pepper mustache, Hays drew laughter from the Peabody student body with his quips about politics and himself.

"I ran across an old mustache cup that had been in our family," he remarked. "Since we're a very frugal family, I decided to grow a mustache so I could get some use out of it."

Hays, president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1957-59, has been a special assistant to both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. He now is director of the Ecumenical Institute at Wake Forest University (Baptist), Wake Forest, N. C., and is head of the Southern Committee on Political Ethics (SCOPE).

He is also visiting professor at the University of Massachusetts, and professor of government at Rutgers University.

Commenting on the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders, Hays said it had done its work well.

"The report was professional and unemotional," he observed. "I think it will do a lot of good."

He said the U. S. must now "mobilize the sentiments of decent people of both races to combat violence.

"But if we do this and nothing else," he emphasized, "we would fail our generation. We need to deal with the causes, not only the symptoms."

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CHAPEL GOES TO SERVICEMEN: With an Army barracks on the first floor, the chapel for the 90th Replacement Battalion in South Vietnam near Saigon, has little trouble getting an audience. Protestant services are held at 9:30 each Sunday morning, Catholic Mass at 10:30. Southern Baptist Chaplain Lawrence "Beaufort" Graham leads the Protestant services. (BP) Photo by Major Charles B. Moore

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READY FOR SOLDIERS' SERVICE: The chapel of the 90th Replacement Battalion near Saigon, South Vietnam, probably can't compare with many churches back in the States, but to servicemen returning from battle duty, it is better than meeting in the open. Services are held here for both Protestant and Catholic servicemen. (BP) Photo by Maj. Charles B. Moore.

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BAPTIST CHAPLAIN PREACHES BIBLE: Southern Baptist Chaplain (Maj.) Lawrence "Beaufort" Graham of Williamston, S.C., reads the Bible he loves to preach at his chapel at Camp LBJ near Saigon, South Vietnam. Recently he was preaching so enthusiastically that he broke his hand pounding the pulpit. (BP) Photo By Maj. Charles B. Moore.

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WORSHIP IN THE FIELD: In South Vietnam, a chaplain holds services in the field where he can find his men. A soldier cannot always go to church, but the church can come to him. A C-ration box may be the pulpit. (BP) Photo courtesy U. S. Army by Sp4 Mick Harsell.

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GUNS READY WHILE SERMONS PREACHED: In South Vietnam, the chaplain learns to preach while their congregation holds guns ready in case of enemy attack. There is no escape from the reality of war, even during worship services. (BP) Photo courtesy U. S. Army.

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