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July 26, 1968

**Major Change In Age
Structure Indicated**

WASHINGTON (BP)--A recent study of the nation's population through 1985 indicates a move to a major change in America's age structure, with a "startling increase" in the young (ages 15-44) labor force, as well as the eldest (65 plus) citizens.

This youthful group will increase nationwide by 57 per cent, according to a report released by the National Commission on Urban Problems. In metropolitan areas there will be a dramatic increase of 67 per cent for whites and 129 per cent for blacks.

The total number of persons from 15-44 projected for 1985 is about 111.5 million, an increase of 40.6 million. The authors made these projections assuming a continuation of low birth rates, which have been declining since 1957.

By 1985, persons 65 and older would number 25 million, an increase of 8.4 million.

In both the young and old brackets, the projections show that the increases among black persons far surpass that of whites. The increase among young Negroes, aged 15 to 44, would almost double, an increase of 92 per cent.

Black senior citizens would increase by almost two-thirds, 63 per cent, while corresponding whites would increase by half.

Other indicated trends of population growth and change, which pose many challenges to the nation, are:

-Metropolitan areas will grow from 113 million in 1960 to 178 million by 1985. The portion of Americans living in such areas will jump from 63 to 71 per cent.

-By 1985, the West would have replaced the Northeast as the most metropolitanized region of the country with 82 per cent of its inhabitants concentrated in big cities.

-The black population will increase by 14 million by 1985, and would make up 14 per cent of the population compared with 11 per cent in 1960.

-Among the regions, the largest growth rate of blacks in metropolitan areas would be in the West, where the increase would be 150 per cent while the white population would almost double, increasing by 94 per cent.

-The north central states by 1985 would have the greatest geographic separation of the races within metropolitan areas. The indications are that 90 per cent of the blacks in this region would be residents of central cities while this would be true for only 29 per cent of the whites.

-White suburban population of central cities in the South would remain essentially the same in 1985 as in 1960.

-In contrast, white suburban population in the South would grow by 140 per cent, from 10 million persons in 1960 to 24.1 million in 1985.

-Negroes in central cities in the South would increase by 3.2 million, from 3.9 to 7.1 million, a gain of 82 per cent.

-Negro suburban population would grow in the South at a rate of 174 per cent, from 1.3 million in 1960 to 3.7 million in 1985.

-In the South, central cities would be 39 per cent black by 1985, in the north central states, 32 per cent, in the Northeast, 25 per cent, and in the West 23 per cent.

The authors of the study on the outlook for metropolitan populations are Philip M. Hauser, director of the Population Research Center of the University of Chicago, and Mrs. Patricia Leavey Hodge, associate of the center.

The study was made in cooperation with the U. S. Census Bureau. It should be noted, however, that the responsibility for the projections is that of the authors and not of the Bureau of the Census.

Population Experts See
Divided Society By 1985

WASHINGTON (BP)--A study of America's urban population outlook, picturing the possibility of the United States becoming a society divided by race and economic factors, has been released here by the National Commission on Urban Problems.

If current trends continue, a team of population experts foresees that by 1985 America will be "well on the road towards a society characterized by race stratification along social and economic lines as well as geographic separation."

The possibility of a racially divided nation 17 years from now, spells out the fear expressed earlier this year by the Kerner Commission in its report on civil disorders. After several months study, that 11-member panel concluded that the United States "is moving toward two societies--one black, one white--separate and unequal."

The study made by demographers at the University of Chicago Population Research Center projects that in 1985 three-fourths of all black persons in metropolitan areas would be living in central cities, ringed by suburbs where 70 per cent of the residents will be white.

The 90 page report, prepared for the consideration of the National Commission on Urban Problems, is entitled "The Challenge of America's Metropolitan Population Outlook--1960 to 1985."

Former Senator Paul H. Douglas (D., Ill.) is chairman of the 16-member commission appointed by President Johnson in 1967. The study will provide part of the factual foundation on which the commission will make recommendations to the President later this year.

It should be observed that the population experts are not making predictions. They are simply making projections on the basis of recent and current trends.

In releasing the report, Chairman Douglas cautioned that it should be read "not as prophecy but as warning." He interpreted it as "the direction in which the nation is now headed."

"We hope that by revealing these trends, the American people can judge those which pose the greatest threat to our social order and then take the necessary steps to alter them," Douglas said at a press conference.

In their analyses of central cities and suburban rings the demographers project that, while the total U.S. population will increase by 41 per cent between 1960 and 1985, central cities will gain 10 million more nonwhite, a 94 per cent increase, while the suburban areas will mushroom with 53.9 million whites, a 104 per cent increase.

The report indicates a numerical increase of black persons in the suburbs, from 2.8 to 6.8 million. In commenting on this, Douglas said, "These will still be all but lost in a sea of whites" with the black suburban population only increasing from 5 to 6 per cent of the total.

This prospect of the further division of our cities by racial groups "raises the most compelling questions for a democracy," Douglas said.

Suburban areas should make a conscious effort to absorb Negroes in larger numbers simply "in the interest of peace," Douglas said. He explained that his suggestion was not intended to dilute black political power in the inner cities. But when the black population surpasses a "certain percentage," violence erupts, he explained.

The projection regarding Negroes in the suburbs does not take into account the effect of congressional action and court decisions regarding open housing laws.

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World Baptist Youth
Urged to Face Crises

7/26/68

By W. C. Fields

BERNE, Switzerland (BP)--Some of the big issues facing mankind--disease, hunger, poverty, illiteracy, hatred, racism, restricted religious freedom and war--were lifted up as major challenges to young Christians by the keynote speaker at the 7th Baptist Youth World Conference here.

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Robert S. Denny, associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, Washington, D. C., told 5,300 young people from 65 nations that progress is being made in eliminating these human misfortunes but that the strength of youth is also needed in the fight.

Good news continues to arrive for the human family, Denny said, with advances in education, scientific technology, family planning, and in the fight against poverty and disease.

"It is a great day to be alive," he told a capacity crowd in Berne's Festhalle. "So let us seek first the Kingdom of God, whether or not anything else is added to us."

"The meek may or may not inherit the earth," he told the youthful delegation, "but you as youth certainly will."

Denny also pointed out that Baptist relationships with other religious groups including Roman Catholics and Jews "are better than they have ever been."

Applause greeted the reading of a telegram from President Lyndon B. Johnson commending the conference theme, "One Lord, One World, One Witness" as an effort toward unity among people in a strife-torn world.

Max Jarman, Baptist layman and business executive from Nashville, Tennessee, donated to each conference participant a copy of "Good News For Modern Man," a new translation of the New Testament produced by the American Bible Society and translated by Robert Bratcher, a Southern Baptist.

The young men and women were urged by conference leaders to give these copies of the New Testament to persons in Berne and other European cities who are not Christians.

The Swiss-born artist, Annie Vallotton, who illustrated the new Bible translation with simple sketches of Bible scenes, presented devotional messages to the youth delegates each evening using drawings, singing, and wry humor.

Music for the conference was directed by William J. Reynolds of Nashville, Tennessee, with assistance from an 800-voice international choir, the Baylor University Band, an interdenominational youth choir from Sweden, a 300-voice choir from the First Baptist Church, Dallas, and other music groups.

Gunnar Hoglund of Chicago and Joseph A. Adegbite of Lagos, Nigeria, served as chairman and vice-chairman of the seven-day meeting.

Baptist World Alliance staff members estimated that the final registration would be 3,800 from North America with the majority from the United States, 1,000 from Europe, and 500 from the rest of the world.

The Baptist Youth World Conference meets every five years--Prague (1931), Zurich (1937), Stockholm (1949), Rio de Janeiro (1953), Toronto (1958), and Beirut (1963).

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Baptist Youth Asked To Champion Poor's Cause

BERNE, Switzerland (BP)--Revolution over the world is filling a vacuum left by the church's weak witness to its faith, participants in the 7th Baptist Youth World Conference were told here by a prominent Negro educator.

Samuel D. Proctor, academic dean at the University of Wisconsin, told young Baptists from 65 nations that the church's failure had been in practicing "a brand of Christianity that left injustice unchallenged, that let exploitation run rampant, that left babies dying of malnutrition, that blinded itself to slavery, usury, and sweatshops, that permitted racism to become a chronic, worldwide disease."

Proctor, an ordained Baptist minister, told the 5,300 young people that what is now being called for by secular forces over the world was first called for by the Old Testament prophets and by the Sermon on the Mount.

"What now seems radical is the same message that caused the prophets to be stoned and that brought Jesus to Golgotha," he said.

Preaching the Christian gospel without practicing it invites the poor and the down-trodden to be cynical, he observed.

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"They then become vulnerable to political and ideological schemes that promise to meet their need for all of the wrong reasons."

Token gestures at the poor are an insult adding to their cynicism, Proctor stated.

"It is high time that we abandon the labels that divide us," he said, "and think of love in action, meeting needs on a long-term basis, with the necessary changes to assure such action."

Proctor described as "a bewildering phenomenon" churches that sanction the status quo, bless unsatisfactory social and economic conditions, fear change, and carry in their memberships people whose comforts are not negotiable.

The result has been, he stated, that in black communities, on college campuses and elsewhere the activities on behalf of the poor have come mainly from those who deny any interest in religion.

"They have taken our agenda from us," he said.

Characterizing this "secular Christianity" as "the fruits of the spirit without the roots," Proctor asserted that it is inadequate for the task ahead.

"The secular arguments for sharing the things of life are self-defeating. They operate at the lowest level of human instinct, mutual self-preservation. They accept greed as life's rule and then serve the poor only to keep them from threatening our own advantages," he said.

He challenged the young Baptist conferees from around the world "to insert creative love into the human equation."

Proctor formerly headed the institute for services to education, an American agency to promote equal opportunities in higher education. Prior to that he served in top administrative posts with the Office of Economic Opportunity, the Peace Corps, the National Council of Churches, and as president of Negro colleges in Virginia and North Carolina.

"Today in America," he told the young audience, "there is a high national resolve to create upward mobility for the poor, to share the abundance of that rich land with the deprived at home and abroad. If the churches encourage this movement, it would succeed. If the churches pray their way around it, it will fail."

Calling upon the youths to lead the way in reclaiming the cause of the poor in all lands in the name and spirit of Christ, Proctor said, "Each must find his own Jericho Road for himself in the modern world. He must bind up the wound that he sees and lift up the fallen around him."

He concluded that "only this love, relevant and implemented, can create the climate for the renewal we seek, the healing we yearn for and the order that precedes peace."

The seven-day conference is held every five years under the sponsorship of the Baptist World Alliance.

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