



BAPTIST PRESS

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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December 29, 1969

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W. F. Vanderburg
Dies in Texas

MIDLAND, Tex. (BP)--W. F. Vanderburg, 54, secretary of the estate stewardship department for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, died of a heart attack here Dec. 28.

Vanderburg had served as secretary of the estate stewardship office since the department was created in September 1968. Survivors include his wife, the former Pauline Barrett, and three daughters.

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Note to the State Paper Editors: The following is only an opening day story on the Mission 70 Conference. A picture of Chancellor is being mailed directly from the HMB. A wrapup story, a special feature on the ghetto work project, and more pictures will be mailed to you by Dec. 31, the closing day of the conference.

Mission 70 Prediction:
"Faith To Make Comeback"

ATLANTA (BP)--NBC Newsman John Chancellor set an optimistic context for Mission 70, injecting hope into pessimistic predictions about the seventies by asserting that "faith would get a chance for a comeback."

Assessing the sixties and speculating on the seventies before more than 4,000 Southern Baptist students and young adults here, Chancellor predicted the old values of religious faith and fidelity would be essential for the new decade, even if old institutions were not.

"The fix we are in in the sixties would provide spectacular opportunity for ministries of various kinds in the seventies," the news commentator stated.

"Our institutions are breaking down, our conceptions of life are changing. It looks as if in the seventies, faith will get a chance for a comeback,"

The hope for the new decade, Chancellor told the church vocation conference, is that as the young move into responsible positions they will produce "new rules of living that will match the realities around us--for example, replacing the cheapness of mass production with the quality of personal production, and establishing a kinship that will break the barriers of fear in the ghetto."

In a news conference before his opening night Mission 70 address, Chancellor said our cities were like Japan--small geographically and jammed--and that a philosophy for living under such circumstances was an immediate need for humanity.

"What better resource is there in society to provide this than the church," he asked?

The stewardship of natural resources, and air and water pollution will be the dominant political issues in the seventies, he said in his message, and population growth will be the major crisis.

Quoting James Reston of the New York Times, Chancellor said that the denial of the old values of religious faith and fidelity would not hold up in the seventies.

"In the seventies we will need more trust in human relationships than in the sixties," he said.

Political events shaped the young in the sixties, Chancellor stated, and in the seventies those young people will be the bulk of the voters.

"The young in the seventies will be trying to clean up the skies and the lakes, and they will find more support for demonstrations than they did when they were demonstrating against the war," he predicted.

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"And this generation will have to think about what values will replace the old values built around birth when the population stabilizes--and it must. Society one day will have to be based on 'enough for everybody,' not 'more for some.' "

The newsman looked to 1976 to be a crucial year politically, with extremism being the danger. Many of the young, he said, are capable of being far to the left of the Democratic Party, and the so-called silent majority is capable of being far to the right of the Republican Party.

The "center" in American politics, the corrective to democratic government, is not as powerful anymore, he said.

"If I could make my own bumper sticker for the seventies," Chancellor quipped, "I would make it read: 'The driver of this car is of the extreme center and he is powerful and dangerous.' "

Chancellor was keynote speaker of the mammoth four-day conference, which has attracted more than 4,000 college and seminary students, and young adults from 48 states.

The program is based strongly on dramatic presentations and dialogue with denominational leaders of the sponsoring agencies--the Home and Foreign Mission Board, the Sunday School Board, the Brotherhood Commission and the Women's Missionary Union.

Only two other speakers were scheduled: Negro Pastor Bill Lawson of Houston and Evangelism Leader Kenneth Chafin.

Small group session, a "tour of the world" exhibit, folk music festivals and ghetto workshops for about 900 of the conferees also were scheduled for the church vocation conference, which ends at midnight on New Year's eve,



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