



December 13, 1977

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C. R. Daley: Common Sense
Voice In A Plain Wrapper

By Bruce Buursma

LOUISVILLE (BP)--He is not the sort of man who stands out in a crowd: average height, 58-years-old. He is wiry, but in a burley sort of way. His dull brown hair, thinning slightly, is parted neatly on the left. His eyeglasses are of a style thought quite dashing in the Eisenhower era. He is an unpretentious dresser.

People who know him say a book can't be judged by its cover, that beneath this plain brown wrap resides the soul of a poet, a thinker of courageous thoughts.

"When C. R. Daley speaks," says Jim Cox, who has worked at his side for the last two years, "people listen."

Chauncey Rakestraw Daley Jr., up from a rural Georgia boyhood, is the 50,000-watt editorial voice for Southern Baptists in Kentucky, the 30th in a line of editors of the 151-year-old official Baptist state paper, the Western Recorder.

Sitting in his book-lined office in the Kentucky Baptist Convention building in Middleton, Daley remembers his beginnings here, 20 years ago. All he wanted, he recalls was to speak the truth plainly. Popularity was of no consequence.

"You don't get to be real popular in this business," says Daley. "You can't be a true Baptist editor and keep people happy."

And there are testimonies to the effect that Daley has been a true Baptist editor through the years.

"Daley doesn't shy away from controversy if he believes he's right," says Cox, Western Recorder associate editor. "He's willing to tell the whole story. He won't squelch negative news."

"He's my ideal as a Baptist editor," says J. Marse Grant, editor of the Biblical Recorder, the official publication for Southern Baptists in North Carolina. "He's not seeking to win a popularity prize. He writes the best editorials week in and week out of any Baptist editor in the country. Chauncey has courage."

"Chauncey is a man of cool common sense and great conviction," adds W. C. Fields, director of Baptist Press in Nashville, Tenn. "He's a combination of Will Rogers, Robert Frost, the prophet Amos and Marse Henry Watterson (a former editor of The Courier-Journal)."

Even Daley's harshest detractors give him this much: He is gracious about printing the other side of a controversial issue.

Daley has written nearly 2,000 editorials (all of them hand-written on a pad of yellow, legal-size paper, before being sent to a secretary for transcription) over the last two decades, and collectively they chronicle a most remarkable period for the Southern Baptist Convention, an era of stunning growth, of moving into the mainstream of American religious life.

"My approach has been broad," says Daley, conjuring up his memories. "Any issue is in our domain. Some people think I should write only about happy things, about things that make Southern Baptists look good, things that make you feel good. Well, I'm not here to please people. I just want to make them believe I'm consistent and fair. I want their respect."

Daley is a son of the Deep South, Newington, Ga., a dairy farmer's boy who came to Kentucky 34 years ago to answer God's call and study for the ministry at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

In 1949 he signed on as a teacher of Greek and Latin at Georgetown, Ky., College. And four years later he accepted his first--and only--fulltime pastorate at the Harrodsburg, Ky., Baptist Church.

He was elected to the editorship of the Western Recorder in 1957. In his first editorial, published in July of that year, Daley wrote: "Without journalistic background or many of the other prerequisites as the world regards qualifications, and without a wildest dream of ever being editor of a state Baptist paper, here I am... Truth in reporting and sincerity in interpretation of events will be my guiding principle whatever the costs."

So now he looks back, and says he is quite satisfied.

He is proud of his long-standing lobbying for racial equality and integration of Southern Baptist congregations. He is proud of his consistent stand on church-state separation (he likes it). He is pleased with his coverage of the faculty-administration conflict at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1958, an issue, he says, that firmly established early-on his credibility as a journalist.

Daley says he sometimes thinks about leaving the paper, about getting back to his roots in the red clay, back to a pastorate in some country church in Georgia. But his friends say such a move is unlikely.

"He's the dean of Southern Baptist journalists now," says Cox. "He's a leader. He's sought after for his counsel. He probably has a better grasp of what's going on in the Southern Baptist Convention than any man alive.

"But here's the key: His pulpit is a large one, reaching thousands."

And Daley himself concedes the wondrous power of the press.

"My main concern is education--jarring people out of their superficial thinking," he says. "And I feel much more secure here than in a pulpit. I'm two, three times removed from people. They'll accept what I write more easily than they'll accept what their preacher says, simply because of the distance.

"The only difficulty with a job like this is the feeling of loneliness sometimes. I've sent editorials to the board of directors of the paper and they send it back and say: 'It's up to you.' Sometimes you just need a little reassurance."

But Fields, one of Daley's classmates at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in the 1940s, says Daley is anything but alone in his convictions.

"He's as eloquent a spokesman as we have," says Fields. "He's left a unique and profound impression on Baptist life. When he asked me 20 years ago if he should take the editorship in Kentucky, I told him he would have one of the great adventures of his life. Well, he has. But so have we."

Bruce Buursma is a religion writer for the Courier Journal in Louisville.

(BP) Photo mailed to state Baptist papers.

Ark. BSU Endowment
Gets Off to Fast Start

LITTLE ROCK (BP)--A Third Century endowment campaign to raise \$1 million support for Baptist Student Union (BSU) work on Arkansas' 27 campuses has already received over \$200,000 according to figures released by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

The Baptist Student Union is an arm of Southern Baptist churches with an active ministry on college campuses. Billboard advertising, radio and television spots and mass mailings to churches are being used in the campaign, thought to be the first active campaign by any state convention for endowment support of its BSU program.

The campaign was implemented through a vote at the 1976 Arkansas Baptist State Convention. "Messengers" there voted unanimously to allow promotion of the campaign in churches and among individuals, urging them to make five year commitments.

The endowment will be invested through the Arkansas Baptist Foundation which functions as a related non-profit institution for the support of Baptist causes. Earnings of \$70,000 to \$80,000 annually are expected from the final million dollar investment.

Earnings will be used to employ up to five student associates each year to assist BSU directors in expanding their outreach in areas such as evangelism, dormitory visitation, and Bible study groups. Salaries for part-time BSU directors at the five new junior colleges in Arkansas will be provided. There are already 3,000 Baptist students enrolled in these rapidly growing schools.

A more diverse ministry to the 800 international students now studying in Arkansas will be possible. Expanded support for the Arkansas BSU Summer Missions program and for a wide variety of mission-type projects will also be provided from endowment earnings, as well as funds for special speakers on campuses, a missionary residence adjoining one campus, and funds for post graduate study and short seminars for BSU directors.

Hardin-Simmons Names
University Relations VP

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Baptist Press
12/13/77

ABILENE, Tex. (BP)--Richard M. Styles, public relations consultant for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, has been named vice president for university relations at Hardin-Simmons University. He will begin duties Jan. 3.

Styles will replace Sherwyn McNair who resigned in December, 1976.

Styles is a graduate of Texas Tech ~~University~~ ^{College} Institute. Prior to joining the Foreign Mission Board staff in 1970, he was director of development and public relations at Virginia Intermont College in Bristol, Va.

In his current position with the Foreign Mission Board, Styles coordinates the public relations functions of the mission support division and serves as consultant to the board's two other divisions.

He also served for two years as chief of the Foreign Mission Board's press bureau, the overseas bureau of Baptist Press, and now serves as membership vice president for the Baptist Public Relations Association.

The 43-year-old Styles grew up on a farm near Lubbock and later attended Texas Tech, where he received a bachelor of arts degree with a major in Spanish. After graduation he served in the U. S. Army for three years. He has earned a master of arts degree in Latin American studies at the University of New Mexico.

Styles is married to the former Deann Buske of Friona. They have three children, Mike, Scott and Sheri.

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(BP) Photo mailed to Baptist state papers by the Richmond Bureau of Baptist Press.

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**Forced Retirement Upheld;
Ruling May Be Short-Lived**

WASHINGTON (BP)--In a ruling that may have little or no lasting effect, the U. S. Supreme Court held here that employers may force some workers to retire before age 65.

The 7-2 decision came in the case of a former pilot for United Airlines, Harris S. McMann, of Alexandria, Va., who was involuntarily retired on his 60th birthday in 1973.

Six years earlier congress had passed the Age Discrimination in Employment Act forbidding "arbitrary age discrimination in employment" and seeking instead "to help employers and workers find ways of meeting problems arising from the impact of age on employment."

The law did make an exception for employers with "bona fide" retirement programs already in effect prior to passage of the law. United Airlines has had such a program since 1941.

The distinction may be academic, however, because both houses of congress recently passed new amendments to the 1967 law making it illegal for employers to force retirement before age 70 for any reason. That measure is currently in a conference committee of both houses. It is expected to receive final passage and be signed into law by the President early next year.

Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, who wrote the majority opinion, stated that the intent of congress in passing the original 1967 law was to make exceptions for "the countless bona fide retirement plans" already in effect.

While acknowledging that "we do not pass on the wisdom of fixed mandatory retirements at a particular age," the court went on to declare that United Air Lines' 1941 retirement plan "cannot be a subterfuge to evade an act passed 26 years later."

Justice Thurgood Marshall suggested in a dissenting opinion that older workers adversely affected by the ruling have a "simple route" to regain their jobs: they "need only reapply for the vacancy created by (their) retirement" because the law clearly prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of age.

The U. S. Department of Labor estimates that 11 million American workers may be temporarily affected by the court's decision.

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Seminary Names Duduit
To Communications Post

Baptist Press
12/13/77

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Michael Duduit, has been named director of communications at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here, according to Wesley M. Pattillo, vice-president for development.

Duduit, who has served as news director at the seminary for more than two years while completing his theology degree, will succeed Carol Weaver, who resigned recently to prepare for her upcoming wedding.

Rex Hammock, a second-year student from Phenix City, Ala., will assume the news director post. The Samford University graduate has served as photographer and editor of the campus publication, Towers.

In his new post, Duduit, 23, of Jacksonville, Fla., will plan and direct the seminary's publications, news, and media relations efforts. He is a cum laude graduate of Stetson University, where he was editor of the campus publication, chairman of the university publications board, and was listed in "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities."

Duduit has served since 1976 as pastor of the Union Flatrock Baptist Church, Osgood, Ind. He spent two summers as a member of youth evangelism teams sponsored by the Florida Baptist Evangelism Department, and was youth director at First Baptist Church, Jacksonville Beach, Fla.

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(BP) Photo sent to Baptist state papers by Southern Seminary.

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