

March 29, 1961

12-Month Seminary  
Enrolment Gaining

NASHVILLE (BP)--A 12-month enrolment report here shows an increase of regular students in Southern Baptist seminaries for the first time in three years.

According to Rabun L. Brantley of Nashville the enrolment reached 5931 for 1960-61 compared with 5477 the year before. Brantley is executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission.

There are 505 more ministerial students enroled than a year ago, he added.

Brantley cautioned against undue optimism. Enrolments of those who say they are going into the ministry, and who are now enroled at pre-seminary levels, are down by a total of 345 over last year.

"This drop in enrolment of students in the colleges, academies and Bible schools who have declared their intentions to become ministers could be reflected later in seminary enrolments," Brantley indicated. "However it is true some students wait until reaching a seminary before deciding definitely on entering the ministry."

Some figures released last fall showing declines in fall enrolments at the seminaries, were boosted to show gains when the 1960 summer school figures were added to make a 12-month total, Brantley continued.

"The national trend of decreasing enrolments of ministerial students has been apparent for several years and it is encouraging to note an increase in Southern Baptist seminaries this year. We must guard against too much optimism for a continuing upward trend because the college enrolments of ministerial students at present do not indicate there will be an adequate supply for the seminaries in the early future," he said.

The seminary totals count the six theological seminaries operated by Southern Baptists at Louisville, Ky.; Fort Worth, Tex.; New Orleans, La.; Wake Forest, N.C.; Mill Valley, Calif., and Kansas City, Mo. They also take in Carver School of Missions and Social Work at Louisville and a seminary for Negroes in Nashville jointly operated with Negro (National) Baptists.

When all Southern Baptist schools are considered--colleges, Bible schools, academies as well as seminaries--total regular students increased from 61,194 to 65,338. There is a grand total of 71,800 including 6462 special and extension students.

Graduates from the 71 schools increased from 10,006 to 13,336, according to Brantley. State Baptist conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention increased gifts to the schools slightly, from \$14,729,621 to \$14,880,879.

The schools received additional grants, gifts and donations of \$9,022,464, an increase of \$789,959. Total assets of the schools jumped \$37,713,303 to the figure of \$349,055,172. Of the increased assets, \$9,906,042 is in endowment funds.

Regular students means those students carrying a full course load.

Specialists Study  
Literacy Missions

ATLANTA (BP)--"In the beginning was the word," said the 56-year-old man, a former alcoholic who had just learned to read. "I thank God for my newness of life."

His wife, formerly illiterate, rose to read from the Bible, saying this was "one of the greatest joys of my life."

A literacy worker related the story in a meeting here of professionals in the nationwide literacy movement.

Wendell Belew of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta called the group to advise in the development of permanent literacy missions.

A pilot literacy project was instituted a year ago under the board's associational missions department of which Belew is secretary.

Baylor Literacy Center; education institutions; local church and civic efforts; state, federal, and Baptist projects in literacy were represented.

The groups claimed the common bond of using methods developed by Frank Laubach, world literacy specialist. Their techniques of teaching range from television classrooms to face-to-face teaching.

How can such diverse groups cooperate for the untimate goal of teaching the largest possible number of America's 10 million illiterates to read and write?

"This group felt that cooperating in the study of materials and techniques, with the Home Mission Board serving as a clearing house for informing all the groups of new materials and events, could be most effective," said Belew.

The groups expressed problems in locating illiterates, alerting the public to the problem. Promotion, distribution of materials, supplementary materials for teachers, and reading materials for new literates were also presented.

The group was asked to serve as an advisory committee for the Home Mission Board's literacy mission work.

Miss Ann Grove of Atlanta, who directed the board's pilot literacy project, expressed a need for resource people in expanding and developing a comprehensive program.

During the past year, Miss Grove has gone personally for literacy workshops to places where preparatory work had been done by local missionaries or associational groups.

"We must move to the state and associational level, using resource persons on the local level," said Belew. "This is the only way we are ever going to get across the country with this endeavor."

Marjorie Moore Armstrong of Springfield, Mo., said, "Our audience...justifies mass production of some basic appealing paperback books written for the new Adult reader."

Mrs. Armstrong, former Southern Baptist editor still busy as a writer, will teach a course in writing for the new literate at Carver School of Missions and Social Work in Louisville, Ky., this summer.

Study groups for materials, techniques, and promotion were appointed by Belew.

7 Brazilian Churches  
Tested Successfully

MIDDLETOWN, KY. (BP)--Seven Baptist churches in Brazil, using the Forward Program of Church Finance for the first time, have boosted their budgets by 75 per cent, according to a report here.

R. J. Hastings, Louisville, secretary of stewardship promotion for the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky, received word the seven churches had received pledges for 1961 budgets totaling \$56,204. Their 1960 budget income was \$32,619. (Dollar equivalents for local units of currency are used.)

Hastings visited Brazil and several other Latin-American countries in 1960 to help Baptist churches there launch test campaigns using the new stewardship methods.

The churches set budget goals of \$57,196, falling less than \$1000 short of their objectives in the actual pledging. Pledges were signed by 1650 people, of whom 1250 are tithers. One of the seven churches did not report number pledging and tithing.

Forward Program of Church Finance materials, tested successfully in the United States, were revised and printed in Spanish and Portuguese for testing in Latin-America.

March 29, 1961

Baptist Press Photo

BAPTISTS BOOKBOUND--Dolphin Books will publish in May a paperback edition of Courtney Anderson's "To the Golden Shore," a biography of Adoniram Judson. Judson left the United States for India in 1812 as a missionary of another denomination. Doctrinal study aboard ship led him to become a Baptist. While he remained in India, Luther Rice, another appointee with a similar experience, returned to America to appeal for financial support for Judson and his wife. The first nationwide Convention of Baptists resulted in 1814. (BP) Photo.

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College Aid Bill Helps  
Public, Church Schools

WASHINGTON (BP)--- While the Nation stews over Federal aid to parochial schools, loans and grants to private colleges appear to be sailing through Congress with little, if any, objection from church groups.

The Administration's proposal to aid schools of higher education has been introduced as separate legislation from that designed to aid elementary and secondary education.

Although President Kennedy restricted his proposals for help on the elementary and secondary levels to public schools, he included both public, private and church-related schools on the higher education level.

The Administration bill for higher education, introduced by Rep. Edith Green (D., Ore.) calls for \$2.4 billion over a period of four to eight years for loans to colleges, scholarships to students, and grants to schools under the scholarship program.

The bill would provide \$1.5 billion in long term, low interest loans to help both public and private colleges for construction of classrooms, laboratories, libraries and related facilities. Equipment is also included.

The scholarship program would authorize about \$900 million in grants to students. They could receive up to \$1000 a year for four years. In addition, colleges would be given \$350 a year for each scholarship to help make up their loss on each student.

A student awarded a scholarship under this program may attend any institution of higher education which admits him.

While interest was at fever pitch on the problem of aid to parochial schools, hearings in the House on the higher education bill were conducted with little advance notice and were closed after only a few days. No hearing has been announced in the Senate on the higher education bill.

In testimony before the House subcommittee Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Abraham Ribicoff said that he saw no constitutional bar to aid to private colleges. A tradition of such aid has been built up over the years, he said. He added there is no compulsion about college attendance and that religion plays a minor part in most college training.

Some Washington observers indicate that a real threat to separation of church and state lies in the higher education proposals and that the furor over aid to parochial schools may serve as a smoke screen to cover up this issue.

If this measure passes, they say, in a few years the question will be raised as to what is the difference between Government aid to church schools of higher education and Government aid to church schools on the elementary and secondary levels.

Legal Report Rules Out  
Parochial School Loans

WASHINGTON (BP)--- Across-the-board governmental loans to parochial schools would be unconstitutional, according to an 89-page legal report by Abraham Ribicoff, secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

In addition, Ribicoff said, "tuition payments for all church school pupils are invalid since they accomplish by indirection what grants do directly."

Clearly stating that the first amendment to the Constitution forbids across-the-board grants to church schools, the opinion cited the Supreme Court to prove its point.

"No tax in any amount, large or small, can be levied to support religious activities or institutions, whatever they may be called, or whatever form they may adopt to teach or practice religion," declared the Court (Everson v. Board of Education, 330 U.S. 1).

The Ribicoff report was made in response to a request by Sen. Wayne Morse (D., Ore.), chairman of the Senate subcommittee on education, during hearings on the Administration's aid-to-education bill.

The Morse request asked for legal opinion on the constitutionality of the bill to provide Federal aid to public schools and upon the demand of the Roman Catholic bishops that the Government provide long term, low interest loans to parochial schools.

The opinions were prepared by the legal staff of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, in consultation with attorneys of the Department of Justice.

"A loan represents a grant of credit," Ribicoff declared. "When made at a rate of interest below what is normally available to the borrower, it also constitutes a grant of the interest payments which are saved."

"These benefits," he continued, "plainly have the purpose of providing financial advantage or convenience to the recipient. And like the broad grant, the across-the-board loan would inevitably facilitate the performance of the religious function of the school. This the first amendment forbids."

In a similar way Ribicoff arrived at his conclusion about tuition payments for parochial school pupils.

He continued, "The form of governmental assistance is not controlling. Since tuition payments, whether made to the school or to the parent or student, would constitute support of church schools, they are prohibited by the first amendment."

After taking a hard stand against grants, loans and tuition payments for parochial schools, Ribicoff pointed out that "the permissible area of legislation which renders incidental benefits to church schools is not clear."

As illustrations he cited the Everson ruling permitting public bus transportation for parochial school pupils, the school lunch and milk programs, and the provision in the National Defense Education Act "which enables church schools to borrow funds for equipment to assist in teaching science, mathematics, and languages."

"Such programs advance specific national purposes," Ribicoff said, "and their relationship to the religious function of a church school is remote. Moreover, the requirement that such funds be repaid makes it unlikely that a church school will be enabled to free its own funds for religious purposes."

In conclusion he said, "In what other directions this principle of special purpose loans may be extended is difficult to ascertain. Typically secular and sectarian education is so interwoven in church schools as to thwart most possibilities."

There was no reference in the Ribicoff opinions to similar problems involved in Federal aid to church schools of higher education.

There was no constitutional objection to legislation providing Federal aid to public schools.

Education Committees  
Hear Baptist Witness

WASHINGTON (BP)--- Governmental aid to sectarian schools would result in difficult church-state entanglements, a Baptist spokesman said here.

C. Emanuel Carlson, in testimony opposing Federal aid to parochial schools before the Senate and House subcommittees on education, said, "Such aid would be a disservice to freedom and justice."

Carlson is executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, maintained by the Southern Baptist Convention, American Baptist Convention, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., National Baptist Convention of America, Baptist General Conference, and North American Baptist General Conference.

Carlson told subcommittee members that there is a high concern among Baptists for an adequate program of public instruction. The most recent expression of these convictions favoring public instruction was "commendation and approval" by the Joint Committee of a statement by the General Board of the National Council of Churches on "Public Funds for Public Schools."

Using as a basis of his testimony a position paper adopted by the Joint Committee in its March meeting, the director said, "To insert a 'loan' provision into an 'education aid' bill is to confuse two separate but important issues."

"A clear distinction," he said, "must be made between bona fide loans and various forms of sub rosa 'aid.'"

"Should the Federal Government set up an aid program, which, even under the guise of 'loans,' tries to build up the private and parochial schools with taxpayers' funds, it thereby becomes party to the parochial system in competition with the public educational programs of the several states."

A Federal-parochial system of schools would not help the total cause of education but could lead to Federal-Baptist, Federal-Methodist, Federal-Catholic, Federal-labor, Federal-Jewish and Federal-white supremacy schools, he said.

Carlson emphasized that education for a free people is not a welfare program. The public schools were not designed to monopolize the learning opportunities of the child, or as pauper relief, or as child welfare aid, he said.

"The present day proposals to change our educational viewpoints and to treat educational funds as aids to a person are to be regretted and to be analyzed in terms of the far reaching dangers to free community life."

Commending President Kennedy for his support for the constitutional principles of American government at the point of church-state relations, the Baptist leader said, "We believe that the President speaks on this point for the great majority of the American people."

"We are confident that Baptists in the United States are overwhelmingly in agreement with the views of the President to the effect that aid to sectarian institutions is clearly unconstitutional."

"As we see it," Carlson continued, "the great American experiment in religious liberty was based on the understanding that religion to be genuine must be voluntary."

Free churches and free participation are projected in the first amendment, Carlson said, and the churches do not wish to be tools of national policy. Using tax funds to strengthen church programs would mean use of powers reserved to the State and would obscure the voluntary quality of religious participation and support.

According to the director of the Joint Committee, the questions for Baptists are basically neither legal nor constitutional. The Baptist concern is for freedom for churches and their institutions and the free religious participation for all.

"In our estimation," said Carlson, "the time is ripe for a national reaffirmation of the principles, but also for a popular renewal of appreciation for the values which the Constitution guards."

Church-State Relations  
Face National Re-study

WASHINGTON (BP)--- Evidence of a prolonged national reappraisal of separation of church and state was seen at the 13th Annual Conference of the National Civil Liberties Clearing House here.

For the first time in its history the Clearing House gave major attention to the question of church-state relations.

The National Civil Liberties Clearing House is a voluntary association of 70 national organizations. Its concern is to promote discussion and exchange information in the fields of civil liberties, civil rights, intellectual freedom and other human rights. Over 100 organizations are represented at the annual conference.

Five prominent authorities led the discussion on "Church and State Today and in the New Decade." They were:

Wayne H. Cowan, managing editor of Christianity and Crisis; William Clancy, editor of The Church Peace Union's Worldview and a former editor of Commonweal; Rabbi Arthur Gilbert, director of Inter-Religious Cooperation Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Dean M. Kelley, director of the department of religious liberty, National Council of Churches; and C. Emanuel Carlson, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

All agreed that the next decade or longer would see the most serious discussions of church-state relations that have taken place during the national history of the United States.

Cowan said that the wide acceptance of the principle of separation of church and state in the United States was largely due to two influences--the Baptists, and the intellectuals of the Enlightenment, such as Thomas Jefferson.

Predicting that the Nation is entering "an agonizing reappraisal of the first order on separation of church and state," Cowan expressed the hope that all groups involved would be charitable to each other during the discussions.

Clancy, the Roman Catholic spokesman on the panel, emphasized that Catholics in America are divided into many camps in matters involving church-state issues.

He asserted that there is no "Catholic" position on separation of church and state. He emphasized that "American Catholics must pay profound attention to the general good of American society" rather than to insist on their own good.

"We have clearly come to the end of the Protestant era in American life," Clancy said. "We are now seeing a mature Catholic community ready to take its place in American life."

Gilbert declared that American Jews are going to hold firm in their efforts to preserve historic separation of church and state in this country. He gave two reasons for this Jewish determination: (1) the impositions on the Jews in Europe, and (2) the happy experience of Jews in America under the separation of church and state arrangement.

The rabbi severely attacked the Roman Catholic bishops "for acting most offensively in their current demands" for Federal aid to parochial schools and for opposing any bill that did not provide such help.

Equally objectionable to the rabbi was the practice in many public schools in teaching the Christian religion to the embarrassment of the Jews. He insisted that the home and the church were the places for religion to be taught.

In his remarks Carlson pointed out that one of the major causes of difficulty in church-state relations is the false concept of institutions in relation to persons. He emphasized that God first created man and then institutions for the service of man.

"Our American tradition is that man is more important than institutions. If we discard this, we have discarded freedom," Carlson concluded.



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Bremond Case May Go  
To Federal Courts

WACO, Tex. (BP)--The controversial Bremond school case in which a Protestant citizen group charges that a Catholic parochial school is receiving unconstitutional tax aid may be switched from a state to a federal court.

An attorney representing the Bremond Independent School district which operates the school has formally requested that the case be transferred from a state court to Judge Ben H. Rice's U.S. district court in Waco

Plaintiffs in the case had earlier filed charges accusing the school board of constitutional violations in a state district court in Robertson County.

The school board had twenty days to answer the petition to the state court and the board's attorney, David Kultgen of Waco, did so with a request to transfer the case to the federal court.

Counsel for the plaintiffs, Lyndon Olsen of Waco, said that the complainants had not yet decided whether to oppose the transfer to federal court.

"This is obviously a delaying tactic," said Olsen. "It seems to me," he said, "that the longer they can keep on going without getting an unfavorable ruling in the courts, the longer they can get tax funds in the Catholic church."

Since the federal court in Waco meets but three times a year, a hearing in the case cannot be set before September of 1961.

The two-year-old case has already run the gantlet of three court trials all ruling that they did not have jurisdiction until after "administrative remedy" had been exhausted.

When the complainants took their arguments before three different school administrative bodies, the school men said that only the courts could rule on the matter's constitutionality.

The principal issue is whether Catholic nuns wearing religious garb can teach in a public school and receive state tax funds as salary while under poverty vows.

The Bremond Independent School district has leased the school building involved in the case for the past 13 years from the Catholic church at a token \$1 a year.

Since the case first went to court, the school has ceased religious instruction for the Catholic pupils, taken down religious images and symbols from the building, and employed other teachers who are not Catholic nuns, but it has continued its lease agreement with the church and use of nun-teachers.

Southwestern Seminary  
To Offer New Doctorate

FORT WORTH (BP)--Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here will offer a new Doctor of Church Music degree beginning in September of 1961.

Designed to offer advanced professional training in the field of church music, the new program of graduate study will seek to meet the needs of church musicians, college teachers, administrators of music schools and denominational music organizations.

Enrollment will be restricted to applicants who possess a thorough background in music, music history, and performance. Applicants must also have had extensive experience in church music work, said James C. McKinney, dean of the seminary's school of church music.

The plan of study for the degree includes a minimum of 90 semester hours of work above the bachelor's degree in church music.

The fields of study and their minimum requirements include: music history and literature, 18 hours; music theory, with a skill emphasis on counterpoint, orchestration, composition or analysis, 12; ministry of music, eight; music performance, 16; and eight hours in church history, philosophy of religion, Christian ethics, religious education administration or education principles.

Each student must show satisfactory ability to translate Latin and at least one modern scholarly language.

Dissertations are to be on topics related directly to church music. There are to be six hours of electives.

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Wayland Starts American  
Heritage Scholarship

(3-29-61)

PLAINVIEW, Tex. (BP)--Wayland Baptist College here has established an endowed scholarship to be awarded to the winner of an essay contest on American heritage.

The new scholarship is designed to promote development of Wayland students into world-minded Christian citizens, said Wayland President A. Hope Owen.

The scholarship will be endowed by a \$4,000 gift from the J. M. Willson family of Floydada, Tex., who earlier gave the college its first endowed lectureships.

Named the Ailese Parten American Heritage Scholarship, the gift was made in honor of Miss Ailese Parten, Wayland's director of public relations since 1952.

Wayland will sponsor an annual essay contest on American heritage, with the \$200 scholarship being awarded to the winner of the contest.

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Baylor Doctor Invited  
To President's Conference

(3-29-61)

HOUSTON (BP)--Dr. Michael E. DeBakey, chairman of the department of surgery at Baylor University College of Medicine here, has been invited by President John F. Kennedy to participate in the President's Conference on Heart Disease and Cancer in Washington, D.C., April 22.

Dr. DeBakey will be a member of a four-man surgical team to participate on the program. A total of 24 physicians in the fields of heart and cancer research were asked to prepare reports to be digested for review at the conference.

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Texas Senate Candidates  
Voice Church-State Views

By The Baptist Press

Six major candidates for the U.S. Senate post in Texas vacated by Vice President Lyndon Johnson have unanimously opposed use of tax funds for blanket support of the programs of religious schools.

The Senate candidates voiced their views on separation of church and state in a poll conducted by the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

A questionnaire quizzed the candidates about their position on such issues as tax money to church schools, bus transportation to parochial schools, overseas distribution of farm surpluses through church channels, direct government grants to parents of parochial-school children, and public funds to sectarian colleges.

The poll was distributed to U.S. Sen. William Blakely who is under appointment to fill Johnson's term until the election; U.S. Rep. Jim Wright of Fort Worth; Republican candidate John Tower, a former Wichita Falls, Tex., college professor; Texas Attorney General Will Wilson, state Sen. Henry Gonzales, and former state Rep. Maury Maverick, Jr.

Political observers have identified them as the "major contenders" among a record 71 candidates for the vacant Senate post.

All candidates agreed that use of tax funds for blanket support of the programs of religious schools would be a violation of the church-state principle and each opposed direct government grants to parents of children attending parochial schools.

Two of the candidates, Tower and Wright, favored income tax deductions for education costs. Wright approved tax cuts for parents of college-level students only.

All five candidates who expressed a viewpoint opposed tax-supported school bus transportation for children to and from parochial schools. Gonzales did not answer the question.

The candidates voiced a split decision--three for, three against--on the distribution of farm surpluses abroad through church channels. Blakely, Tower, and Gonzales opposed the measure.

Five of the candidates pledged to investigate the background and position on church-state separation before recommending or approving candidates for the judiciary. Gonzales answered "no" to the question whether the principle is important enough to merit investigation.

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Howard Payne To Honor  
Former U.N. President

(3-29-61)

BROWNWOOD, Tex. (BP)--Howard Payne College here will award an honorary doctor of laws degree to a former president of the United Nations, Charles Malik of Beirut, Lebanon.

Malik will receive the degree as part of the program of Howard Payne's sixth annual Democracy-In-Action week April 9-15.

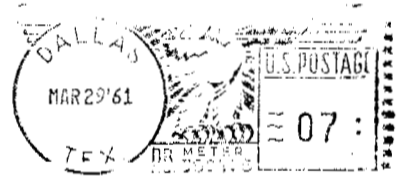
Malik, who teaches in the American University in Beirut, was Lebanon's foreign minister during the Middle East crisis of 1958, and was elected president of the United Nations General Assembly in that year.

A Christian-Arab, Malik will address Howard Payne students and faculty members on two occasions during the Democracy-In-Action week program.

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