

May 6, 1962

**College Aid Bill Takes
Step Nearer Enactment**

WASHINGTON (BP)--Aid to church-related institutions will be a problem for Senate and H use conferees as they seek agreement on the college aid bill.

The House rules committee, after a three-month delay, agreed to allow conferees to try to work out a compromise on the Senate and House versions of the higher education bill.

One of the differences to be settled involves aid to church-related institutions. The House bill would allow loans and grants to both public and private colleges for construction purposes. It is known that some of the Senate leaders are opposed to grants to church schools in the House bill.

The House bill calls for \$1.5 billion in both loans and grants for the construction of classrooms, libraries, science laboratories and dormitories in public, private and church-controlled colleges.

The Senate version provides \$1.5 billion in loans only to four-year colleges, plus \$250 million in matching grants for junior colleges.

Private and church-related colleges would be included in the loan provision features in both bills. There is, however, a limited safeguard which is supposed to "take care" of the religious issue in aid to higher education.

Both measures contain provisions that would prohibit loans for academic facilities that are used for sectarian instruction, or as a place of worship, and any facility that is used primarily in connection with a school or department of divinity.

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D., N.Y.), chairman of the House education and labor committee, reportedly has indicated, after informal talks with some on the Senate side, that the differences over grants could be solved. According to reports, he said conferees might limit private college grants to classrooms for science, mathematics and language instruction.

The National Defense Education Act now permits loans to private schools to equip such classrooms.

Another problem for the conferees will be the matter of scholarship loans provided for in the Senate version. The House is strongly opposed to the scholarship feature.

The House rules committee did not clear the bill for conference until the managers of the House bill gave assurance in public hearing that they would not compromise on the scholarship feature without first giving the House an opportunity to vote on it. Such an understanding had previously been reached in private talks.

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**Seminary Launches
Education Experiment**

(5-6-62)

LOUISVILLE (BP)--An experimental theological education program will take teams of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary professors to different cities for teaching assignments next fall.

Four pilot areas--one of which will be Atlanta--with a concentration of Southern Baptist churches are being selected for a week of special seminary courses for church staffs and laymen, said Ernest J. Loessner, Louisville, chairman of a faculty committee on continuing education.

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Three professors will be the teaching staff for each city. Classes will be held in the mornings for pastors and other members of church staffs. Laymen will be invited to attend evening courses with their ministers.

Committees in each city will select seminary courses to meet specific needs, the seminary reported. These courses will be part of a general curriculum of theology, Bible, Christian ethics, pastoral counseling, religious education and church music subjects.

Major purposes of the seminary education project are to provide refresher and new studies for church staffs and to conduct discussion seminars for pastors and laymen, said Loessner. These are non-credit courses.

Teaching seminary courses in communities will be considered a part of each participating professor's regular seminary assignment.

Classes will be held in a centrally located Baptist church. Local sponsors' only financial responsibility will be for publicizing the courses and paying travel expenses for visiting professors.

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Folks and Facts.....

(5-6-62)

.....Miss Suzanne Stevens of Picayune, Miss., was crowned 'Miss Southern Baptist Hospital' of 1962 at a banquet held by the Mather School of Nursing, New Orleans. Setting for the banquet was the First Baptist Church of that city. (BP)

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.....More pastors volunteered to conduct revivals in California in connection with the 1962 Southern Baptist Convention than churches there could use. Grady C. Cothen, Fresno, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California, thanked all those willing to help, but for whom there were no openings. Some 500 of the 950 churches and missions in California will hold revivals just before or just following the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in San Francisco June 5-8. (BP)

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Two Issues Outshine
Others At Convention

(5-6-62)

SAN FRANCISCO (BP)--The nearly 10,000 messengers expected here for the 1962 Southern Baptist Convention will face two questions which stand out apparently above all others.

On the agenda for a vote is a proposal to permit the seating of messengers from churches outside the United States which cooperate with the SBC. The Constitutional amendment is intended to apply chiefly to messengers from churches in western Canada.

It faces opposition from those who believe such Convention approval will disrupt harmony between Southern Baptists and official bodies of Canadian Baptists at a time when, through the Baptist Jubilee Advance, they have been sharing some cooperative goals.

Likely to come up at one time or another is the question of academic freedom in theological education, or stated another way, the question of doctrinal orthodoxy at some of the Convention seminaries.

Two professors drew the ire of Baptists in the Southwest and elsewhere during the year by statements made or books published. They are Dale Moody of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, attacked for statements he allegedly made to a Bible conference in Oklahoma, and Ralph H. Elliott of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.

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Elliott wrote "The Message of Genesis," which was published by Broadman Press, an arm of the Convention's Sunday School Board. Because of his viewpoint on historical accounts found in Genesis, Elliott has faced sharp criticism.

This criticism has also been directed at the Midwestern trustees who, by a reported two-thirds majority, gave a vote of confidence to Elliott, and at the Sunday School Board for publishing a book containing such statements.

The Sunday School Board at its semiannual session defended its right to publish varying viewpoints on doctrine if they represent diverse views held by Southern Baptists.

The seminary, or doctrine, issue could crop up at several points. One of these is at the report of the SBC Committee on Boards which nominates trustees for the seminary. Those who take issue with Elliott and the trustees who sustained him may nominate a separate slate of "conservative" trustees to oppose the ones recommended by the committee.

An alternate time for the issue to arise could be during the conduct of miscellaneous business, when messengers may seek the floor to bring business--other than that on the official program--before the Convention.

The Canadian messenger question probably will come up when the Texas minister who introduced this Constitutional amendment last year brings it up for the required vote at the 1962 Convention. Or, it could come when a Convention Committee on Canadian Baptist Cooperation reports.

The proposed merger of Carver School of Missions and Social Work with Southern Seminary, both in Louisville, has the support of trustees of both schools. Nevertheless, objection may come to the proposed merger which in effect brings to a halt Carver's existence as a separate SBC institution.

The Convention will vote on a proposed 1963 Cooperative Program budget of \$19,792,-500 and will elect officers. But President Herschel H. Hobbs of Oklahoma City, if past custom prevails, will be reelected to a second one-year term.

1967 sites for the Convention will be considered by the Committee on Time, Place and Preacher. Jacksonville, Fla., or New Orleans seems to have the best chance of being nominated by the committee.

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