

FROM WASHINGTON OFFICE
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February 14, 1964

More Federal Funds
Asked For Hospitals

WASHINGTON (BP)-- President Lyndon B. Johnson has asked Congress for more extensive federal aid to public and private hospitals under the Hill-Burton Act.

In a special health message to Congress the President called for extension and expansion of the present Hill-Burton Act providing government grants or loans to both public and private hospitals. Some recommendations would provide more aid specifically to private hospitals.

Stating that much still needs to be done to meet the health needs of the people, President Johnson recommended a five year extension of the program including his proposed amendments. The Hill-Burton Act expires this year.

As areas where additional federal funds are needed the President stressed (1) the need for careful planning in building and locating hospitals where they are most needed, (2) the "critical need" for modernizing present hospital facilities, (3) the difficulty in raising funds to match federal grants, especially for nonprofit groups, and (4) the need for specialized facilities and equipment for group practice, particularly in small communities.

To help meet these needs President Johnson made the following recommendations:

1. "that Congress authorize special grants to public and nonprofit agencies to assist them in developing comprehensive area, regional and local plans for health and related facilities;"

2. "that the Act be amended to authorize a new program of grants to help public and nonprofit agencies modernize or replace hospital and related health facilities;"

3. that the Act be amended to "permit mortgage insurance of loans with maturities up to 40 years to help build private nonprofit hospitals, nursing homes, and other medical facilities;" and

4. that Congress authorize a five year program "of federal mortgage insurance and loans to help build and equip group practice medical and dental facilities. Priority should be given to facilities in smaller communities, and to those sponsored by nonprofit or cooperative organizations."

In the special health message the President also called for a stronger nursing profession. He recommended:

1. grants to build and expand schools of nursing, to perfect new teaching methods, and to assist local, state and regional planning for nursing service;

2. federal loans and a national competitive merit scholarship program, and a proportionate loan forgiveness feature for each year of service as a nurse up to six years; and

3. continuation and expansion of the present Professional Nurse Traineeship Program to increase the number of nurses trained for supervisory and teaching positions.

Would Extend Public,
Private School Aid

WASHINGTON (BP)-- An expanded program of federal aid under the National Defense Education Act would be available to both public and private schools in a bill introduced in the U. S. House of Representatives.

Rep. Edith Green (D., Ore.) introduced a bill to amend and extend the National Defense Education Act of 1958. This is considered to be a substitute for an earlier, less extensive bill introduced by Mrs. Green in the first session of the 88th Congress. Mrs. Green is chairman of a House education subcommittee.

The new proposal would extend the provisions of NDEA, expiring in 1965, for two additional years. It would amend a number of titles in the Act as well as add some new titles.

It would amend Title II, student loans, to extend the loan forgiveness feature to college teachers and teachers in "nonprofit private" elementary and secondary schools. Currently the cancellation of up to 50% of the loan applies only to public elementary and secondary school teachers.

Present NDEA provisions make funds available to assist in providing laboratories and equipment to teach mathematics, science and modern foreign languages in public elementary and secondary schools (Title III). Mrs. Green would amend this to include history, geography and English for students whose native language is not English.

Twelve per cent of the funds allotted to states for such laboratories and equipment is reserved for loans to private elementary and secondary schools. The U. S. Commissioner of Education is allowed to authorize loans directly to the private schools where state law makes it necessary.

The new bill would write into NDEA a prohibition of graduate fellowships for study at a school or department of divinity or for study of religious or theological subjects. This is not a regulation in the Act now but is generally followed as administrative procedure.

Title V, providing guidance, counseling and testing programs, would be extended to public elementary schools and to public junior colleges and technical institutes. The bill would further make testing programs available to nonpublic schools, where states permit, by providing such programs "if authorized by law, in other elementary and secondary schools and in other junior colleges and technical institutes...."

Separate provisions of the present Act for institutes in counseling and guidance training and in languages would be pulled together under a new title in the proposed bill. "Title XI--Institutes" would permit the U. S. Commissioner of Education to arrange directly with colleges and universities, through grants or contracts, for institutes for advanced study.

Eligibility to attend these institutes and to receive stipends would be extended to teachers and counseling and guidance personnel in public or private elementary or secondary schools, institutions of higher education or technical institutes. The program would be further expanded to include institutes for teachers of history and geography in addition to modern foreign languages and English as a second language.

Also in a new title, the bill calls for an income tax deduction for college expenses of students. These expenses would include tuition and fees, books, supplies and equipment. The provision limits such expenses to \$1000 a year and requires that they be reduced by any amount received as a scholarship or fellowship under certain parts of the United States Code.

No hearings are scheduled on the new proposal but recent hearings have been held on the earlier bill introduced by Mrs. Green.

Renews Proposals
For Student Aid

WASHINGTON (BP)-- Three Kennedy Administration proposals for some assistance to students for college expenses are included in a bill introduced in the U. S. Senate.

Sen. Vance Hartke (D., Ind.) introduced the measure as an alternate proposal for attempts to provide tax credits for college expenses.

The bill would provide student loans and scholarships, a loan insurance program, and a work-study program. It would include these areas by expanding the student loan section of the National Defense Education Act.

Though the Hartke bill is not considered formally an administration bill, a spokesman in the Senator's office said it is expected to have administration support. It was drafted in the U. S. Office of Education in consultation with U. S. Treasury personnel, the spokesman said. All of the programs except the work-study program are parallel to provisions in the administration's education bill to the first session of the 88th Congress.

In the area of loans the measure would extend the loan provisions of NDEA for 3 years and would include college teachers as well as elementary and secondary school teachers. It would extend the loan forgiveness feature to teachers in "nonprofit private" elementary and secondary schools.

An undergraduate scholarship program would be set up on a state-administered basis. A scholarship would be limited to \$1000 for any academic year and would be granted on the basis of merit.

The loan insurance program would establish a loan guarantee fund whereby the Commissioner of Education would issue "insurance certificates" for college or commercial loans arranged by the student. The student-work-study program would establish and support student employment opportunity within institutions of higher education. Funds would be available to the institutions to pay to the students for work related to their college studies.

Numerous proposals have been offered to give financial assistance for college expenses, either by way of loans or scholarships, or by means of tax relief--credits, deductions or exemptions.

During Senate debate on the tax bill Sen. Abraham Ribicoff ^(D. Conn.) sought to include an amendment allowing tax credits to parents or students for college expenses. The amendment was defeated by a narrow margin. Ribicoff said that more than 450 bills had been introduced during the last ten years to provide some type of tax relief. More than 100 Congressmen and 19 Senators have introduced such bills in this Congress, he said.

A tax deduction provision is recommended as a new section in the National Defense Education Act in a recent bill introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Edith Green (D., Ore.). This would allow a deduction of up to \$1000 for expenses for tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment.

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FROM REGIONAL OFFICE

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February 14, 1964

**Fire Guts Main Building
At Mary Hardin-Baylor**

BELTON, Tex. (BP)--A Sunday morning fire completely destroyed the administration building at Mary Hardin-Baylor College here, leaving only the brick and limestone walls standing.

The blazing flames were out of control before fire engines arrived on the scene. Nothing could be done to save the 56-year-old building, nor the vital school records inside.

It was the Wilson Administration Building, which housed the Alma Reeves Chapel, offices of the administration, plus the journalism, business, religion, and sociology departments.

The building will cost more than \$500,000 to replace. It was valued at \$156,000, the maximum amount for which the three-story structure could be insured.

During a Sunday night religious service on the women's college campus, President Arthur K. Tyson said that "out of these ashes, a bigger, better, finer college will emerge."

President Tyson made the first contribution towards a building to replace the historic structure in launching a reconstruction campaign.

Records dating back to 1845 when the Baptist school for women was founded were completely destroyed, along with the personal records and files of college administrative and faculty members.

One department head lost all notes and research on his doctor's degree. Another lost detailed historical research on the civil war. All transcripts and student records were destroyed.

Tyson called a meeting of the administrative committee soon after the fire. The committee believed the school records could be reconstructed if every former student and all those who had anything to do with the college would send back copies of transcripts, publications and records to the school.

The college had only recently begun microfilming the records, but the microfilming equipment and all film was in the building that burned.

It was not known how or where the fire started. It was reported by a student who saw smoke and flames belching out of the windows.

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State Secretaries Elect
Polhill As President

(2-14-64)

HOUSTON (BP)--Lucius Polhill, executive secretary of the Baptist General Association of Virginia, was elected president of State Executive Secretaries Association, an organization of state Baptist administrative heads.

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The secretaries, meeting at the Sheraton-Lincoln Hotel here, also elected Fred Kendall, executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, as vice president, and re-elected Fred D. Hubbs, secretary of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan, as secretary.

Polhill succeeds Noel M. Taylor of the Illinois Baptist State Association as president of the group.

The annual three-day meeting is a fellowship gathering of state Baptist administrative officials in which they discuss mutual problems. Next year they will meet in Edgewater Park, Miss., and in 1966 at Athens, Ga.

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Baylor Names Summers
New Religion Chairman

(2-14-64)

WACO, Tex., (BP)--Ray Summers, director of graduate studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., will join the Baylor University faculty July 1 as chairman of the department of religion.

Summers, who received his bachelor of arts degree at Baylor in 1933, has been professor of New Testament at Southern Seminary since 1959.

Prior to that he was professor and director of the School of Theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, and later was director of graduate studies at Southwestern Seminary.

After finishing his undergraduate work at Baylor, Summers received the master and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Seminary. He also did graduate work at the Garrett Biblical Institute in Evanston, Ill., at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and the University of Basel, Switzerland.

E. L. Dwyer, professor of religion, has been acting chairman of the department and will continue in his teaching capacity. McCall said the university is grateful to Dwyer for serving faithfully and ably in this interim capacity, and that he and the other members of the religion faculty had recommended Summers to the job.

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Editors Warn Freedom
Loss in Aid Programs

(2-14-64)

HOUSTON (BP)--The Southern Baptist Association warned in a resolution adopted here that government aid programs aimed at fighting the evils of poverty might create conditions just as harmful, especially in religious freedom losses.

The editors of state Baptist papers urged in a lengthy resolution that state and national governments administer public funds and programs through public agencies rather than through church-related institutions and agencies.

The resolution commended "men of good will everywhere for their efforts to eliminate the evils of poverty, ignorance and disease."

It also resolved "that in efforts to improve the lot of people in America and the world, due and proper attention be given to other important values and principles, especially religious freedom and separation of church and state, lest in correcting one evil, we create other conditions that will result in harm to the people, the government and the churches."

During sessions of the three-day meeting here, W. Barry Garratt, associate director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs in Washington, D. C., told the editors that the present administration is not as strong on church-state separation as the Kennedy administration for purely political reasons.

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"Whereas President Kennedy, a Roman Catholic, needed the Protestant vote and was thus strongly in favor of church state separation, President Johnson, a Protestant, needs Catholic votes," Garrett told the editors.

Most of the program for the editors meeting was devoted to a technical study of religious journalism, editing, writing, layout, photography, and editorial content. Heads of the journalism departments for three universities in Texas were on the workshop-type program.

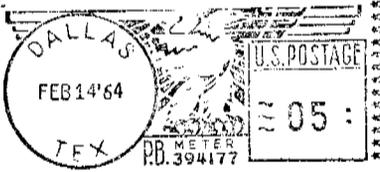
Elected president of the editor's association was host editor E. S. James, of the Baptist Standard in Dallas. James succeeds Reuben Alley, editor of the Religious Herald in Richmond, Va.

Jack Gritz, editor of the Baptist Messenger in Oklahoma, was elected vice president, and Gainer Bryan, editor of the Maryland Baptist in Baltimore, was re-elected as secretary treasurer.

The editors voted to meet jointly with the state Executive Secretaries at Athens, Ga., Feb. 14-16, 1966. Meeting site and dates for the 1965 session had previously been set in Edgewater Park, Miss., Feb. 15-17.



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