

June 25, 1964

Educators Consider
Student Entry Policy

BIRMINGHAM (BP)--Policies to follow in admitting students to denominational schools were considered at the annual meeting here of the Southern Association of Baptist Colleges and Schools.

Deans of Southern Baptist colleges presented and reacted to papers covering scores on college entrance tests, out-of-state vs. inside-the-state students, religious affiliation of applicants, and how well high school graduates are prepared for college.

Dean George M. Smith of Baylor University, Waco, Tex., said none of the Southern Baptist colleges has a student body made up entirely of Baptists. "None expects it to become so, and none wishes it to become so," he added. "At present, religious affiliation is not a real factor in our admission policies." He based his observation on a survey he made of Baptist college deans.

C. E. Butler, dean of Anderson College, Anderson, S. C., commenting on Smith's topic, asked, "Is it not the purpose of church-related institutions to train future denominational leaders?" He forecast the day ahead "when our Baptist colleges can't accommodate all the Baptist students."

Three out of four students at Southern Baptist colleges come from within the state where the particular college is located, Dean Joseph M. Ernest Jr. of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tenn., reported.

But, he added, "the main trend is to more and more out-of-state students numerically and by percentage in our Baptist college enrolments." He pointed out some Baptist colleges charge \$50 extra per semester for out-of-state students, and one college charges \$250. Other colleges make no special fee for out-of-state students.

Ernest declared "the admission of out-of-state students has some sound basis and is likely to continue. Baptist colleges still have to face up to where the limit will be drawn on admitting them."

Concerning scores on college entrance tests, Dean Charles W. Whitworth of Shorter College, Rome, Ga., said there is no uniformity among Southern Baptist colleges on the amount of influence the scores have on admitting students.

What some say in their catalogues about the minimum score for admission and what they actually practice may be quite different, Whitworth continued. He predicted a 10-year trend to a higher level of scores on which denominational schools will base their admissions.

Expanding on Whitworth's remarks, Dean Howard E. Spell of Mississippi College, Clinton, said students with low test scores, who do not survive beyond the freshman year at Baptist schools, "have not wasted or lost a year at college as some claim." He said their year in school is helpful to them.

"There are some Baptists who want prestige institutions (where only high scoring applicants would be admitted); there are some Baptists who want catechetical institutions, where you do not demand too much," Spell said.

Carl R. Fields, dean of Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky., said today's freshmen come to college expecting to learn, but their values system is not fully developed. He said eight out of 10 pieces of literature the high school graduate receives from the college before he enters deal only with the lighter side of college life--fraternities, athletics, campus social events, etc.

Concern about standards on which to admit students has arisen from the predicted tripling of college enrolments across the United States between 1960 and 1980. A Ford Foundation education specialist told the association there were 3.6 million college students in 1960, there will be 10 million in 1980.

History Says Diversity
Not Always Dangerous

NASHVILLE (BP)--History is valuable to Southern Baptists because "it can teach us diversity is not necessarily dangerous," the chairman of the Convention's Historical Commission said here.

C. Penrose St. Amant of Louisville observed, "There has been and there is a great deal of diversity among us. It becomes dangerous when detached from a common body of loyalties."

The dean of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, St. Amant said one trait of Southern Baptists is "the will to maintain fellowship with each other" in spite of their diversities.

"What accounts for the growing interest in history among Southern Baptists?" he asked at the commission's annual meeting. Answering his own question, he said attention to history has grown since "understanding the past helps us understand ourselves now and is an important resource in planning for the future."

The interest in history throughout the denomination is likely to be maintained, according to St. Amant, because "bright, young seminary professors have a scholarly and practical interest. There is also," he continued, "a growing interest in history by graduate students at the seminaries."

He cited another value of history as the fact it "gives indispensable warnings, points up factors to be considered, and suggests possible courses of action. It provides perspective which can save us from extremes and gives us perception in depth."

In contrast to the increased attention to history, "until recently history has been a secondary concern of Southern Baptists," he stated. "We are a practical people. Our genius has been in promotion, evangelism and missions. . . ."

"We've been so busy making history, we've forgotten to record it, and neglected its lessons," he went on to say.

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Historical Journal
Planned For 1965

(6-25-64)

NASHVILLE (BP)--The Southern Baptist Convention Historical Commission here will launch a historical journal in 1965, to be called "Baptist History and Heritage."

It will appear once next year--during the third quarter (July-August-September).

This, coupled with new access to "Quarterly Review," published by the SBC Sunday School Board here, is expected to allow the commission to publish scholarly articles on Baptist history and heritage.

Although pages of "Quarterly Review" have been available since 1947 for history articles, this is the first time the commission has had the working arrangement reported at its 1964 annual meeting in Nashville.

The Historical Commission will have control of history materials published in "Quarterly Review" for the first quarter and the second quarter each year. Editor Martin B. Bradley of Nashville will make 28 to 30 pages of each number available to the historical agency.

Under the new terms, the commission will pay writers and hold copyright privileges for the history material used in "Quarterly Review," which comes out through the Sunday School Board's department of research and statistics.

Until it recently began issuing its own periodic Newsletter, the commission's only printed voice was through "Quarterly Review."

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The Historical Commission, in its annual election, renamed three officers-- Chairman C. Penrose St. Amant, Secretary Gene Kerr, and Treasurer Davis C. Woolley. It elected as new vice-chairman Fred C. Schatz, Nashville.

St. Amant is dean of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. Kerr is administrative assistant, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Nashville and Woolley is the commission's executive secretary with offices here. Schatz is dean of Belmont College (Baptist) in Nashville.

The commission, accustomed to meeting during the summer, voted to move its annual meeting date to March, effective in 1965. The 1965 dates are March 15-17. Commission officers explained March is a more convenient month to transact the agency's business.

Emphasis of the 1965 meeting will be the commission's relationship to libraries.

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2 Of 3 Registrants
At Jubilee From SBC

(6-25-64)

By the Baptist Press

Nearly two out of three registrants at the Baptist Third Jubilee Celebration in Atlantic City, N. J., May 22-24 were Southern Baptists, according to a tally of registration.

Registration totaled 11,353. Of these, 7291 were Southern Baptists--64.22 per cent.

About one person in four was an American Baptist Convention registrant. The 3012 American Baptists made up 26.53 per cent of the total.

Third largest group of registrations were from the Baptist Federation of Canada with 324 persons--2.85 per cent. The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference had 113 registrants, next largest identifiable with any participating Baptist group.

Registration cards showed 249 failed to indicate their ties with any organization, while 123 were aligned with at least two of the participating groups and are not counted in individual groupings. Thirty persons were classified in the miscellaneous category--for example, some who indicated their organization ties only with the word "missionary" and did not elaborate.

The National Baptist Convention of America had 33 registrants for the Third Jubilee Celebration; the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., had 80, and the North American Baptist General Conference had 98.

The registration fees amounted to \$33,734. Funds collected were used to defray costs of the three-day, weekend celebration. Southern Baptist registrants paid \$21,419 and American Baptist Convention registrants, \$9204.

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Baylor Gets Grant
For Artificial Heart

(6-25-64)

HOUSTON (BP)--Development of the nation's first internal artificial heart has been launched by surgeons at Baylor University College of Medicine and engineers at Rice University here.

The unique research project will be aided by a \$653,324 grant from the U. S. Public Health Service.

Within three to five years, doctors at the Baptist medical school hope to replace a damaged heart with an artificial device.

Work on the artificial heart will proceed in special laboratories to be set up on the adjacent campuses in the joint project by the Baylor surgeons and Rice engineers.

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Dr. Michael E. Debakey, professor and chairman of Baylor's department of surgery, will conduct medical aspects of the research under a \$395,000 grant. W. W. Akers, professor and chairman of the chemical engineering department at Rice is doing engineering research under a \$258,000 grant.

For the past two years, Dr. Debakey has been directing pilot studies to determine the feasibility of such an internal artificial heart.

Baylor doctors have already developed an external artificial heart that works almost like a pneumatic pump. The external heart has been tested on research animals (dogs), but has not been tried on humans.

But developing an internal mechanical heart is an even more gigantic step, doctors say. Dr. Debakey, internationally known heart surgeon, thinks they can do it.

Baylor's part in the project will include developing the artificial circulatory systems for temporary and total replacement of the heart's work, designing power sources for the artificial heart, determining the qualities desired in the material from which the artificial heart will be made, and testing new plastics developed by industry for the artificial heart.

Rice will be responsible for engineering research in designing the artificial heart mechanism, discovering the ways in which the blood moves through the heart and circulatory system, testing the physical and chemical reactions between the living system and the artificial system, and helping develop a suitable power source.

One of the big problems will be finding the right kind of material from which the artificial heart can be made. So far, such a material has not been discovered.

The human body automatically secretes fluids to fight a foreign object when it is inserted in the body. Research will have to determine what materials could withstand such chemical action without causing problems in the body and blood system, and without corroding.

Another problem which must be overcome is designing a power supply for the heart. There are two possibilities: (1) an electrical power unit worn outside the body which transmits a "wireless" signal to activate the artificial heart inside, or (2) bellows attached under body muscles which would operate when stimulated with a slight electrical charge.

Careful research must also be done on how powerful the artificial heart should be. If it is too powerful, the pressure could cause destruction of blood cells. If it is not powerful enough, the blood might not flow freely to all parts of the body.

The internal artificial heart units will be tested on animals at great lengths before being tried on humans.

Baylor has leased a new X-ray unit complete with high-resolution closed-circuit television viewing, 16-millimeter movie cameras, and television video-tape machines which enable doctors to study simultaneously top and side views of the heart.

All of this may be several years off, but the research team is working constantly now on the external artificial heart.

Late last year, Baylor doctors successfully developed an external heart which enabled them to bypass the left ventricle--the section of the heart which pumps the blood to all parts of the body.

They are currently working on a similar bypass of the right ventricle, the part of the heart which pumps blood to the lung for oxygen.

When the doctors combine the two projects, they will be able to completely bypass the human heart by mechanical means. They expect to succeed sometime late next year, but the internal heart mechanism may be more than five years away.

Detective Work Finds
Old Leland Home Site

NASHVILLE (BP)--How do you find where a man had his home 175 years ago when you have no identifiable landmarks to go by?

It takes detective work, a lot of patience and persistence, and some know-how of surveying, according to Virginia historian Woodford B. Hackley of Richmond.

Hackley, secretary-treasurer of the Virginia Baptist Historical Society, told how he found the 600-acre "lot" and on it the home site of John Leland, 18th Century Baptist preacher.

In his report to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Historical Society, Hackley said he took some meager clues--the location of three churches in colonial times, references to a brook and a water well, and the names of some contemporary roads--and used them to find the Leland home site.

The site was in Orange County, Virginia. There Leland exerted influence in having the first amendment to the U. S. Constitution drafted, guaranteeing religious liberty and church-state separation.

Hackley talked with at least a dozen residents of the county. He corrected a surveyor's error while finding the location. Many roads mentioned in the 18th Century property description have been abandoned since, and others are called by different names now.

Starting with a years-old clue that the home was four miles from an Old English Church and near a brook would seem, on the face of it, helpful to a searcher. Hackley found them only little help. There were three such churches in the vicinity and he had to pin down the right one, he explained.

The county is full of brooks, so this was not definite enough alone. A surveyor years ago erred by saying a property line ran "west" when he really meant to say "east," according to Hackley.

The deed, which he was able to locate, contained no landmarks that could be identified today.

The clinching evidence came from an 85-year-old resident who remembered a house whose occupants had to go across the road to a well to get their water. There were several houses in the area, but one clue uncovered had mentioned going after water.

The 85-year-old man did not know the home itself had once been Leland's, as did no one else evidently in the county. The actual Leland residence was torn down in the 1930's, Hackley reported, and a new home had since been built on almost exactly the same spot.

"I reported my findings," Hackley said, "and gave the circumstantial evidence for this as the Leland site. I have asked for anyone with information to the contrary to come forward, but no one has challenged it.

"I found the site in question very close to four miles from one of the Old English Churches, and there were two brooks which could have answered the description," he added.

"If you go about something like this, let me give you some advice," Hackley told historical society members. "Be familiar with the community; know contemporary water courses and contemporary roads."

"Know who lived there at the time. Be able to decipher old, hard-to-read documents--deeds, wills, surveys. Be a surveyor of sorts. Know local historians. Know the idiosyncrasies of colonial surveyors. And have plenty of patience and stick with it," he said.

The Southern Baptist Historical Society, auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention Historical Commission, reelected its full slate of officers--R. N. Owen of Nashville, president; Mrs. Ollin J. Owens of Greenville, S. C., vice-president; H. I. Hester of Liberty, Mo., recording secretary, and Davis C. Woolley of Nashville, treasurer.

Owen edits the Baptist and Reflector, Tennessee Baptist Convention weekly newspaper. This is his eighth straight year as president.

BAPTIST PRESS

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