



**BAPTIST PRESS**  
 News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

460 James Robertson Parkway  
 Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
 Telephone (615) 244-2355  
 W. C. Fields, Director  
 Jim Newton, Assistant Director

**REGIONAL OFFICES**

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Editor, 161 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303, Telephone (404) 523-2593  
 DALLAS R. T. McCartney, Editor, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) RI 1-1996  
 WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Editor, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

**BUREAU**

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD Lynn M. Davis Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,  
 Telephone (615) 254-1631

December 16, 1966

**SBC Statistical Estimates  
 Show Increases, Decreases**

NASHVILLE (BP)--Preliminary estimates of 1966 Southern Baptist Convention statistics show small increases in the number of churches and members, a large increase in music ministry enrollment, and decreases in baptisms and enrollments in other church program organizations.

The estimated statistics were computed by the research and statistics department of the Baptist Sunday School Board here, and outlined by the department's secretary, Martin Bradley, to a meeting of state Baptist denominational workers here.

Bradley said the estimates are based on a sampling of statistics submitted by 53 Baptist associations which were found last year to reflect accurately the final totals which are available each February.

From the sampling of 53 associations in 13 state conventions, the predicted changes were given in the percentage of increase and decrease over last year's statistics.

Percentage increases were reported in the number of churches, up .6 per cent; church membership, 1.4 per cent; and music ministry enrollment, up 12.5 per cent.

Percentage decreases were baptisms, 4.2 per cent; Sunday School enrollment, .4 per cent; Training Union enrollment, 1.8 per cent; Woman's Missionary Union enrollment, .4 per cent; Brotherhood and Royal Ambassador enrollment, 5.6 per cent.

In making the presentation, Bradley stated that a comparison of 15 metropolitan associations was made with the 53 associations that seem to be representative of the entire SBC, and the statistics in the 15 metropolitan associations confirmed the pattern of decreases in baptisms, Training Union, WMU and Brotherhood enrollments.

Contrary to the 53 association prediction sample, a very slight Sunday School enrollment was reported in the urban churches of the 15 metropolitan associations.

Music ministry enrollment for the 15 associations, where music ministry may be expected to be already in a higher stage of development, was significantly less than that for the 53 associations, Bradley said.

Included in the 15 metropolitan associations were: Montgomery, Ala.; Phoenix, Ariz.; Denver, Colo.; Pensacola, Fla.; Carbondale and East St. Louis, Ill.; Owensboro and Bowling Green, Ky.; Kansas City and St. Louis, Mo.; Asheville, N. C.; Cincinnati, Ohio; Nashville, and Amarillo and Galveston, Tex.

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**Two Baptist Schools  
 Receive Federal Loans**

12-16-66

WASHINGTON (BP)--Two Baptist schools are among eight church-related colleges approved for college housing loans totaling \$5,935,000, according to announcement by secretary Robert C. Weaver of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Campbell College (Southern Baptist), Buie's Creek, N.C. received approval of \$1 million loan for construction of two dormitories.

Ottawa University (American Baptist), Ottawa, Kans., received \$700,000 for a new men's dormitory.

In October HUD announced reservation of funds for both projects, pending review of a complete application.

Among the other church-related schools approved for college housing loans are one each Church of Christ, Evangelical Lutheran, Mennonite, Methodist, Pentecostal Holiness, and Roman Catholic institutions.

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### 1.2 Million Participate In Schools of Missions

ATLANTA (BP)-- Over 1 million Southern Baptists in 1966 participated in Schools of Missions conducted by 2,704 churches, the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board reported here.

Alabama led all states in total attendance, reporting 160,645 of the 1.2 million total.

"This is one of the least costly and most valuable programs a church can put on," Kenneth Day, secretary of the board's missionary education department, said.

"Total expenditures averaged about \$47 per church, and for this investment, each received first-hand reports from five missionaries--two foreign missionaries, two home missionaries, and one state-employed missionary,"

Purpose of the week-long Schools of Missions is to educate the Southern Baptist constituency in world missions, "from local church missions to the most remote mission field in the world," Day said.

At a meeting of state directors of Schools of Missions in Atlanta, 21 associations reported on the test run of a modified Schools of Missions program referred to as World Mission Institutes.

The pilot projects involved study of mission study books and messages from missionaries, just as in the traditional Schools of Missions, Day said, but the program is condensed into a half-week (Sunday-Wednesday or Thursday-Sunday).

The associations that experimented with the modified program reported good response and requests for it already are coming in for 1967, '68 and, '69 programs, Day said.

Visual presentations and stewardship speakers were eliminated from the old format to reduce the conventional six-day program into four night sessions.

"The missionaries often use visuals with their messages and they always relate their work to stewardship," Day said. "This shorter program should encourage better attendance."

In the two-day meeting, state directors of Schools of Missions also discussed other innovations in missionary education that involve taking better advantage of the missionaries as means of educating church memberships in missions.

Youth-mission conferences and mission emphases on college campuses apparently will be getting increasing attention, Day said.

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### New Chair Funded At Texas School

12-16-66

BROWNWOOD, Tex. (BP)--Insurance Executive Carr P. Collins Sr. of Dallas has pledged to give \$50,000 to the Douglas MacArthur Academy of Freedom operated in conjunction with Howard Payne College (Baptist) here, and the college's president has announced establishment of an endowed chair in the name of Collins' son.

Collins will give the \$50,000 to the school provided the academy raises its assets currently available for a new construction program to a total of \$200,000.

Establishment of a Carr P. Collins Jr. Chair of International Affairs and appointment of Col. Russell Fudge, academy director, as the first appointee to the position, was announced by the president of Howard Payne College, Guy D. Newman.

Collins gave Howard Payne \$250,000 last year for endowment, and a part of the earnings from this endowment will be used to fund the chair, Newman said.

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### Baylor Choir Heard On National Network

12-16-66

WACO, Tex. (BP)--The Baylor University Chapel Choir, under the direction of Euell Porter, professor of music, was heard nationwide over the Mutual Broadcasting System Dec. 19.

The choir was the first to be featured in a series of college choirs presented one each day during the Christmas season.

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