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Fall Enrollments At 54
Baptist Schools Decline

NASHVILLE (BP)--For the first time in ten years, fall enrollments at 54 Baptist colleges, universities, Bible schools and academies declined this year instead of increased.

Enrollment of "regular" (full-time) students in the 54 Baptist schools (not including seminaries) this fall was 67,730, compared to 67,752 in the fall of 1966.

The decrease was only slight--22 students--and the Southern Baptist Convention Education Commission here which compiled the statistics had a logical explanation for it.

Two Baptist schools which were listed on the 1966 fall enrollments report were not listed on the 1967 report. Thus 56 schools reported enrollments in 1966, while only 54 schools were included in the 1967 fall enrollment report.

One of the schools, Kentucky Southern College in Louisville, had severed its ties with the Kentucky Baptist Convention to become a private school, and one week before the report was issued, announced that it was merging with University of Louisville.

The other school, Southern Illinois College of the Bible, did not report because it does not meet the academic requirements to be listed as a Baptist school. It was at their request that the school was taken off the list.

Rabun L. Brantley, executive secretary of the SBC Education Commission, explained that if the enrollments of these two schools were subtracted from the 1966 report, the net fall enrollment of the Baptist schools for 1967 would actually have increased by 853 students instead of decreasing by 22 students.

The enrollment decrease of 22 students this fall compares with an enrollment increase of 3,130 students last fall.

Of the 54 schools included in the report this year, 24 schools reported decreases in enrollments, and 30 reported enrollment increases.

The biggest increases occurred at Furman University in Greenville, S. C., with 217 additional students to a net enrollment of 1,654; and at Baylor University in Waco, Tex., the largest Baptist school in the country with 7,647 "regular" students enrolled. Baylor enrollment was up 212 this year.

Biggest decrease in enrollment was reported by Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., which dropped by 164 students to an enrollment of 1,485.

Enrollment at all but eight of the 54 schools was within 100 students of the number reported for the fall of 1966. Thus, enrollment seems to have stabilized this fall.

In addition to the "net enrollment" of "regular" (full-time) students, the Baptist schools reported 7,461 "other" students enrolled in correspondence, extension and non-credit classes.

Total enrollment, including all categories of students, for the 54 schools this fall was 78,055, compared to 75,191 last fall, a decrease of 2,864.

Brantley explained that two schools, Mercer University extension department and Carson-Newman extension which reported 2,143 extension students last fall, changed their system of reporting this year and reported only 215 students this year.

The total enrollment category was also affected by the Kentucky Southern College and Southern Illinois Bible College being dropped from the list, Brantley said.

Included in the report were enrollment statistics from 38 Baptist senior colleges, 15 junior colleges, seven academies, and four Bible schools.

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Two Promotions Announced
In Board Reorganization

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NASHVILLE (BP)--Two promotions to new positions in the Sunday School and Training Union departments of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention have been announced by W. L. Howse, as part of an Education Division reorganization plan.

Elmer L. Gray has been named Sunday School department manager and Lloyd Householder, Training Union department manager, said Howse, director of the Education Division.

A joint letter from department secretaries A. V. Washburn and Philip B. Harris to department personnel described the responsibilities of the two managers.

They are "responsible to the department secretary for planning, organizing, conducting, and evaluating the department's work."

Gray was formerly supervisor of the Sunday School department's general program and administration materials unit and Householder was director of the vocational guidance section of the Training Union department.

Howse said the new alignment of positions would give the managers responsibilities for internal operations and free the department secretaries for external work.

The new positions will "enable the department secretaries to major upon working with church and denominational leaders in interpreting, expanding, and improving the Sunday School and Training Union programs," Howse said.

Howse said the other reorganization plans will be announced before Dec. 1.

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BP PHOTOS mailed to Baptist state paper editors

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South Carolina Baptist
Paper To Get New Home

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GREENVILLE, S.C. (BP)--The Baptist Courier, official weekly publication of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, is getting a new home.

Trustees for the newsmagazine awarded a \$58,173 contract to the Ralph Lee Construction Co. of Greenville for the one-story, contemporary-design office building. It will contain about 3,000 feet of office space.

Editor John Roberts said that it would be the first time in 98 years of paying rent that the Courier would have a home of its own. For the past 12 years it has rented property at 617 East McBee Ave., Greenville.

The property, located at the corner of Manly and Pettigru streets in downtown Greenville, is only two blocks from the Hiott Press, commercial printing firm that has held the printing contract for the weekly paper since 1935.

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Seminary Librarian,
A. J. Hyatt, Dies

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MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--The librarian at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary here, A. J. Hyatt, died in San Rafael, Calif., following a prolonged illness.

Hyatt, 57, had been librarian at the seminary since 1956, and previously had taught New Testament at Golden Gate Seminary for four years.

Funeral services were scheduled at the seminary's chapel Nov. 10. Officiating were Golden Gate President Harold K. Graves, Dean W. A. Carlton, and J. Ashby, pastor of Tiburon Baptist Church, Tiburon, Calif. Burial was in Sutter, Calif.

A native of Arkansas, Hyatt was a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, Tex.; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville; Golden Gate Seminary here; and the University of California, Berkeley.

He is the former pastor of churches in Berkeley, Richmond, and Chico, and Napa, all in California; and Ozark and McCrory, Ark.

He is survived by his wife and four children, three brothers and two sisters. The family requested that no flowers be sent, but that a memorial be established at the seminary's library.

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New Law Provides Support
For Educational Radio-TV

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WASHINGTON (BP)--President Lyndon B. Johnson has signed into law landmark legislation providing federal support for non-commercial educational radio and television. The Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, the first of its kind, is considered to be a momentous step toward mass education.

The legislation was requested by the President in his State of the Union Message last January when he urged the development of educational television into a "vital public resource to enrich our homes, educate our families and to provide assistance in our classrooms!"

The act calls for the creation of a 15-man board of directors for a non-profit, non-government corporation for public broadcasting. With an authorization of \$9 million for the first year, the corporation will make grants to local non-commercial television and radio stations, to program production groups and to educational networks for program development.

The act also authorizes spending \$38 million over the next three years on construction of educational television stations and \$500,000 for a study of instructional television by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Senator John O. Pastore (D., R.I.), chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and floor manager of the bill, called this "one of the most important bills to be considered in Congress this year."

Earlier Pastore told the Senate that the growth of educational broadcasting had been "impeded by chronic under-financing, under-staffing and under-programming."

Expanding construction would help, he continued, "but hardware is not enough.... The time has come to take steps to create higher quality and more diverse programs."

At the White House ceremony signing the measure, President Johnson announced the appointment of two members to the new corporation board: President-Emeritus Milton S. Eisenhower of Johns Hopkins University and James R. Killian Jr., board chairman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The President said he would "search the nation" for the ablest men to fill the posts on the board. The new law requires that the board members be "eminent in such fields as education, cultural and civic affairs or the arts, such as radio and television."

In addition, they cannot be full-time employees of the U.S. government and no more than eight can be of the same political party.

The \$9 million authorized for the corporation is considered to be "seed" money. More monies are expected to come from private foundations. Rep. Harley O. Staggers (D., W. Va.), chairman of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, says the method of permanent financing would be considered during the corporation's first year.

The Carnegie Commission, originator of the public corporation concept, in a report to President Johnson, recommended that the corporation be financed partially by a special excise tax on new television sets.

When Mr. Johnson signed the measure at the White House ceremony, he also proposed the use of computers and satellites to further the cause of education.

He said he envisioned the time when "a great network for knowledge" could tie together the remote doctor with a distant teaching hospital, and a scholar in one part of the country with a major library.

The President said he has asked his advisers to "explore the possibility of a network for knowledge--and then to draw up a suggested blueprint for it."

The first educational TV station went on the air in May 1953. Congress enacted the Pioneering Facilities Act of 1962 authorizing \$32 million in matching funds for new educational television broadcasting facilities over a six-year period.

The number of educational television stations on the air or under construction is now 189 (136 on the air and 53 under construction) according to a report from the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee.