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February 27, 1969

**Texas Baptist Education Group
Rejects Carden Report Proposals**

DALLAS (BP)--The Christian Education Commission for Texas Baptists has adopted recommendations which reject the specific, controversial proposals of the Carden Report on the state's Baptist colleges. The recommendations, however, take into account the report's depth analysis of certain weaknesses in Texas Baptist education.

In a special meeting here, the Education Commission adopted recommendations from its 12-man study committee that (1) Howard Payne and Wayland Colleges continue to operate, (2) East Texas Baptist College continue as a four-year school, (3) Mary Hardin-Baylor College continue as a separate institution, (4) Hardin-Simmons University continue its present program as a liberal arts college but not expand its graduate work and (5) that the University of Corpus Christi continue to seek solutions to its financial and educational problems.

William R. Carden had recommended, after a year's study, that Howard Payne College and Wayland College be sold to local tax districts, that East Texas Baptist College be reduced to Junior College status, Mary Hardin-Baylor operate under the Baylor University board of trustees, Hardin-Simmons drop its graduate program and the University of Corpus Christi be granted independent status.

However, the committee of 12's recommendations did not hang a blanket "business as usual" sign on the affected institutions. They incorporated suggestions--based on Carden's analysis--on how the institutions could improve their situation and strengthened machinery for the committee and the Education Commission to follow up on what is being done.

A paragraph in the committee's report said: "It is apparent to us that the Carden Report and this (the committee's) study present Texas Baptists with an unparalleled opportunity to make a study in depth of Christian education in our convention. We recognize that we shall be derelict in our responsibilities if we do not pursue this opportunity for needed changes in the financial efficiency and curriculum offerings of our schools."

Suggestions, which the committee of 12 applied to all Texas Baptist schools, included warnings against proliferation of courses and degree programs (especially on the graduate level) and the practice of trying to become all things to all people. The Education Commission was asked specifically to appoint a committee to study the financial practicality of Howard Payne's intercollegiate football schedule.

Between now and July, when it will make its final report, the committee of 12 will work with each institution in studying school financing, five-year-projections of the roles and enrollment of each Texas Baptist school and other matters.

The committee expressed the intention to be diligent in following up recommendations for improvements. While it expressly recognized autonomy of individual college boards of trustees it implied the Education Commission could exercise leverage at budget allocation time.

Tentative machinery set up for follow up falls short of Carden's suggested Texas Baptist University system under a chancellor, but it includes the recommendation that the Education Commission be charged with its already latent responsibility to act as a "coordinating and counseling agency for Texas Baptist colleges."

Other tentative committee of 12 proposals include sending special teams of experts to help given institutions find solutions for given problems and conducting a study on how Texas Baptist colleges may make common use of faculties, libraries and other facilities.

Though the Carden Report has been widely reported as "controversial," it was the specific recommendations, rather than the body of Carden's analysis, which drew the most fire.

In fact, the schools which would have been affected drastically by Carden's proposals already have used the report in arousing local support and taking a long look at areas needing improvement.

One high-placed Baptist official, who considered Carden's specific recommendations "too drastic," said he thought the analysis itself to be "the finest of its kind in Baptist educational history."

He added, "It has been a catalyst which has caused creative tension and led school administrators and trustees and other Texas Baptists on a course of self improvement and evaluation which probably will not be reversed. Other states in the Southern Baptist Convention could certainly profit from a similar study."

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Southwestern Seminary Board
Approves Budget, New Courses

(2-27-69)

FORT WORTH (BP)--The board of trustees for Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here approved a record budget and two new courses, including one on the Negro church in America and another on curriculum theory and design.

An operating budget totalling \$2,458,244 for the fiscal year, 1969-70, was approved by the board. The budget represents an increase of more than \$100,000 over the present budget, and is the largest budget in the seminary's history.

The new course on Negro religion in America will emphasize the Christian perspective concerning slavery, the church and the Civil War, growth of Negro denominations, the rise of Negro cults, and the historic role of the Negro church, seminary officials said. It will be taught in the church history department by Leon McBeth.

The course on curriculum theory and design will analyze curriculum objectives, theories of learning in the curriculum plan of Southern Baptist curriculum materials, and will be taught by LeRoy Ford in the seminary's School of Religious Education.

In other action, the board granted tenure to Ford, and to Roy J. Fish, associate professor of evangelism. Ford is professor of programmed instruction and principles of religious education.

Seminary President Robert E. Naylor announced the appointment of J. N. Boo Heflin as an instructor in Old Testament, as a contract teacher. Heflin, a 1966 graduate of the seminary now working on his doctoral dissertation, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Heflin of Little Rock, Ark., and a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark.

Naylor also reported on progress of construction on the Walsh Medical Center and a new parking facility, and told the board the seminary has the largest enrollment this year since 1963-64, with a total of 2,036 students.

Southwestern Seminary is the largest of the six seminaries owned and operated by the Southern Baptist Convention.

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New Orleans Trustees Set Fund
Drive, Grant Salary Increases

(2-27-69)

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--The board of trustees for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary meeting here granted across-the-board salary increases to faculty members, and heard a progress report on a \$2 million fund campaign to raise money for increased faculty salaries and for student aid.

The three-day meeting here was described as "progressive and congenial" by the trustees' president, A. Morgan Brian of New Orleans.

There was no discussion of two recent faculty resignations at the seminary, according to F. Stanley Hardee Jr., assistant to the president of the seminary.

Hardee referred to widely-publicized resignations during the past six weeks by Professors Robert Soileau and Clark Pinnock, both of the seminary's School of Theology.

Hardee said that primary consideration was given by the board to the progress report on the school's \$2 million fund campaign for increasing faculty salaries and student aid.

More than \$500,000 has been pledged or given to date in the fund drive, the trustees were told, and another \$18,000 is pending.

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Hardee predicted that a victory statement would be made for the full \$2 million campaign by the time the Southern Baptist Convention meets here, June 10-13.

In addition to the across-the-board faculty raises, a study was begun to consider future faculty salary increases.

Six faculty members received promotions to new ranks on authorization by the board. They were:

Claude L. Howe Jr., (church history), and William H. Souther (church administration), both from associate professor to full professor; Clyde R. Walker (psychology and counseling), Joe H. Cothen, and Harry L. Eskew (music history), all from assistant professor to associate professor; and Randall Veazey from voice instructor to assistant professor.

Brian, an attorney for the firm of Deutsch, Kerrigan and Stiles in New Orleans, was re-elected president of the board of trustees.

Other officers re-elected were Don B. Roark, an executive with the Mississippi and Coastal Chemical Corp., Yazoo City, Miss.; as vice president; Cecil M. Girard, a New Orleans geophysicist, as secretary; and Edward Wood, a New Orleans financier, as treasurer.

Principal speaker at a banquet for trustees and faculty members was Charles Boddie, recently-elected professor of social ethics at the seminary. Boddie asked for the help of the faculty and trustees as he becomes the first Negro to teach in any of the six Southern Baptist Convention seminaries.

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Baptist Religion Professors
Deplore Criswell Book Publicity

(2-27-69)

ATLANTA (BP)--A resolution adopted by the Association of Baptist Professors of Religion meeting here deplored and protested "the nature of promotion and publicity" given to the book, *Why I Preach That the Bible Is Literally True* by W. A. Criswell of Dallas.

The Baptist religion professors said the advertising campaign "clearly suggests that the position espoused in this book is the official position of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention", which published the book through Broadman Press.

The author is also the current president of the Southern Baptist Convention and the pastor of the largest church in the denomination, the 15,000-member First Baptist Church of Dallas.

The resolution adopted by the 64 Baptist religion professors here said the group recognizes "the responsibility of Broadman Press to publish materials reflecting a variety of interpretations of the Bible," but it none-the-less deplored the publicity campaign on the book advocating literal interpretation of the Bible.

A footnote at the end of the resolution said that copies had been sent to James L. Sullivan, executive secretary of the Sunday School Board, and to William J. Fallis, manager of the Broadman Books department of the board.

Sullivan, when contacted about the resolution, had only one comment: "It is interesting that copies of this resolution have been received by the press, but that no communication from the association has yet reached my office." He had no further comment.

The resolution also stated that the Baptist religion professors are committed to the vocation of bringing young people to a knowledge of the Scriptures, and that this requires "the honest and conscientious utilization of the historical-critical method of Biblical study."

It added that any action "by a denominational agency which gives or appears to give denominational sanction to a denial of the historical-critical approach inevitably undermines the work of Biblical teachers and alienates students from both the denomination and the Bible itself."

A second resolution called for the cessation of "harassment, biblicism and witch hunting," at Southern Baptist seminaries.

"Once again, in recent weeks, events in a Southern Baptist seminary raise, for all concerned persons, a spectre of harassment, biblicism and witch hunting," the group said.

"The Association of Baptist Professors of Religion notes with strenuous objection the prevailing conditions and we insist that our seminaries must provide the dimension of freedom that is prerequisite to a search for truth," the resolution said.

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The resolution added that during the past 11 years, more than a score of seminary professors have "encountered the stifling effects of a restrictive atmosphere and have, under varied circumstances, departed from our theological faculties.

"We, as colleagues in the teaching of religion, say 'This must cease,'" the Baptist religion professors declared.

No particular seminary was singled out in the resolution, but a footnote said copies were sent to the presidents of the six SBC-owned seminaries, and to members of the board of trustees for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

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Challenging Financial Drive
Needed, SBC Leader Declares

(2-27-69)

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--The first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, Miss., told executive secretaries of state Baptist foundations here that Southern Baptists need a great, concerted financial effort.

"The greatest evil in our country today is not alcoholism, stealing, immorality or lawlessness," said Cooper, "but it is that of covetousness, greed and secularism."

Cooper, president of the Mississippi and Coastal Chemical Corp., in Yazoo City, Miss., said he felt that a great financial campaign, similar to the \$75 million campaign of the 1920's, would "give Southern Baptists a challenge, a unity, a cohesiveness of action and an involvement of laymen that is sorely needed at this time."

"God has an answer for each problem, a plan for each program, a solution for each difficulty," Cooper said. "The answer to our financial problem is found in his book--the answer is tithing."

The president of the State Baptist Foundation Executives, Thomas W. Nelson of Jefferson City, Mo., said that total assets of all state Baptist foundations and the Southern Baptist Foundation total more than \$140 million.

Saying that Baptists are now entering an era of great potential, Nelson, the executive secretary of the Missouri Baptist Foundation, said, "I doubt if any task in Baptist life is more promising for enduring contributions to our work."

Another speaker, Merrill D. Moore of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission in Nashville, echoed Nelson's statements, saying that the foundation executives lend a great service by helping Christians to find an element of immorality for their hard-won resources.

Elected president of the organization was Gus Johnson, executive secretary of the Florida Baptist Foundation in Jacksonville, Fla. Other officers are Glenn E. Crotts, executive director of the Arizona Baptist Foundation, Phoenix, as vice president; and Vernon Yearby, executive secretary of the Alabama Baptist Foundation, Montgomery, as secretary-treasurer.

The group voted to meet next in Austin, Tex., March 10-12, 1970; and in Atlanta, Ga., April 6-8, 1971.

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Texas Development Workers
Organize Separate Group

(2-27-69)

DALLAS (BP)--The Texas Baptist Development Officers Association has been formed from development personnel in the ranks of the Texas Baptist Public Relations Association.

The action came at the three-day annual meeting of the Texas Baptist Public Relations Association at the Hilton Inn here.

The two organizations will continue to cooperate and hold joint meetings. The new arrangement was made in the hope that each organization would be able to concentrate on specific interest areas.

Both organizations draw members from the public relations and development departments of Baptist institutions and agencies throughout Texas.

The first president of the Texas Baptist Development Officers Association is W. Lloyd Cloud, vice president of development at Dallas Baptist College here.

New president of the Texas Baptist Public Relations Association is Bob Havins, director of public relations and development at Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex.

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