



BAPTIST PRESS

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December 3, 1969

Enrollment At 55 Baptist Colleges Increases 2½%

NASHVILLE (BP)--Fall enrollments at 55 junior and senior colleges and universities affiliated with Southern Baptist state conventions increased by about 2½ per cent over last fall's enrollments.

A statistical report listing enrollments at the 55 colleges and universities prepared by the Southern Baptist Education Commission disclosed that fall enrollments this year exceeded last year's totals by 1,353 students.

Total (net) enrollments at the 55 colleges and universities this fall was reported at 67,272, compared to 65,919 last fall.

The 41 senior colleges and universities reported enrollments of regular full-time students as 57,286, an increase of 2,064 over the fall enrollments for the 41 senior colleges of 1968.

The 14 junior colleges reported enrollments totalling 9,986 this fall, compared to 9,697 last fall. Junior college enrollments increased by 289 students.

In addition to the 55 junior and senior colleges, the Southern Baptist Education Commission also reported enrollment increases at seven Baptist academies, and four Baptist Bible schools.

Enrollments at the seven academies totalled 2,578, up 88 students from last fall's 2,490 enrollment; and 623 at the four Bible schools, up 18 over last fall's 605 students.

Of the 41 senior colleges and universities, 22 schools reported increased enrollments, and 18 reported decreases. One school had the same enrollment as last fall.

Biggest numerical increase in enrollment came at the nation's largest Baptist school, Baylor University in Waco, Tex., with 7,085 students, an increase of 383 over last fall.

Biggest percentage of increase came at Palm Beach Atlantic College in West Palm Beach, Fla., an institution owned by the Palm-Lake Baptist Association, which nearly doubled its enrollment from 88 to 172 students.

Other senior colleges reporting enrollment increases were Atlanta Baptist College, Baptist College at Charleston, S.C.; Cumberland College, in Williamsburg, Ky.; Dallas Baptist College; Furman University, Greenville, S.C.; Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky.; Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz.; Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex.; Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, N.C.; Mercer University, Macon, Ga.; Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C.; Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss.; Mobile College, Mobile, Ala.; Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark.; Stetson University, DeLand, Fla.; Union University, Jackson, Tenn.; Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex.; and William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Junior colleges reporting enrollment increases were Anderson College, Anderson, S.C.; Averett College, Danville, Va.; Clarke Memorial College, Newton, Miss.; Gardner-Webb College, Boiling Springs, N.C.; Norman College, Norman Park, Ga.; Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge, Ark.; and Wingate College, Wingate, N.C.

The enrollment statistics were based on reports from the registrars at each of the Baptist schools, sent to the Southern Baptist Education Commission which compiles the reports annually.

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President Prods Nation
To End Poverty, Hunger

12/3/69

WASHINGTON (BP)--President Richard M. Nixon declared here that the nation cannot long continue to live with its conscience "if millions of its own people are unable to get an adequate diet."

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Speaking to the opening session of the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health, the President said that the elimination of hunger and malnutrition due to poverty "is a moral imperative."

"Malnourishment is a national concern because we are a nation that cares about its people, how they feel, how they live. We care whether they are well and happy," the President declared.

President Nixon used the occasion to challenge the 3,000 conference participants to lobby for three key pieces of legislation now in Congress which he said "should virtually eliminate the problem of poverty as a cause of malnutrition."

The measures are:

1. The Family Assistance Plan which would reform the present welfare program and, among other things, would put a \$1,600 floor under the cash income of every needy family.
2. Reform and expansion of the food stamp program. The President has asked for an increase in food stamp spending to \$2.5 billion a year instead of the \$340 million level spent in fiscal 1969. Under his proposal, free stamps would be given to the neediest families.
3. The establishment of a Commission on Population Growth and the American Future through which the administration hopes to provide "adequate family planning services within the next five years to all those who want them but cannot afford them."

The President also said that his administration has a goal to reach every needy child with a free or reduced-cost lunch by the end of the current fiscal year.

The elimination of poverty-related malnourishment is important "even in purely practical terms," the President emphasized.

"A child ill-fed is dulled in curiosity, lower in stamina, distracted for learning. The mounting cost of medical care for diet-related illnesses; remedial education required to overcome diet-related slowness in school; institutionalization and loss of full productive potential; all of these place a heavy economic burden on a society as a whole," he declared.

President Nixon concluded his speech to the first White House conference on nutrition by asking that those present be concerned with "the lives of millions of Americans, too young, too old, or too hurt by life to do without your help."

"And I commit to your concern," he continued, "the not less serious task of helping to bring the rest of America to understand what we seek, and to join us in adding this new dimension to the concept of American democracy."

The President's speech opening the three-day conference was received with mixed reactions. It was praised by some as showing a firm commitment to act against hunger among some 25 million poverty-stricken Americans.

Others criticized it as "vague" on specific proposals and felt the President should come up with emergency programs to feed the hungry.

Many of the conferees, representing a wide variety of social workers, nutritionists, food industry specialists, religious spokesmen, college students, and the poor themselves, are asking that the minimum income level be placed at \$5,500 a year instead of \$1,600 proposed by the President.

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SBC Mission Gifts May Meet
1969 Operating Budget Needs

12/3/69

NASHVILLE (BP)--Despite a slight decrease in world missions contributions during the month of November, gifts through the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program unified budget for 11 months of 1969 have increased five per cent over 1968 gifts.

SBC officials here said that if contributions for December increase by this same five per cent, the denomination will meet its operating budget for 1969 and pay off the capital needs allocations unmet during 1968.

During the first 11 months of the year, Cooperative Program gifts have totalled \$25,261,552 an increase of \$1.2 million or 5.04 per cent over contributions for the same period last year.

In order to meet the operating budget for the convention and provide the funds for capital needs unmet during 1968, contributions during the month of December would have to reach \$2,021,997.

John H. Williams, financial planning secretary for the SBC Executive Committee which prepares the monthly financial report on SBC world mission gifts, said that the denomination

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probably would reach the 1969 operating budget and 1968 capital needs without too much difficulty.

Williams, however, was less optimistic about contributions increasing enough in December to meet 1969 capital needs as well as the operating budget and 1968 unmet capital needs. To do so would require December gifts of \$2.8 million, or an increase of more than 10 per cent.

Throughout most of 1969, contributions have been about five per cent more each month than they were for the corresponding month in 1968, Williams said.

During November, however, a slight decrease was noted. November, 1969 contributions were \$2,303,909, down \$15,447 or less than one per cent compared to November, 1968 gifts.

The Cooperative Program unified budget provides operating and capital needs for 19 different agencies, institutions, and organizations of the nation's largest Protestant denomination. Capital needs not provided this year will be held over until 1970.

In addition to the \$25.2 million in Cooperative Program gifts, Southern Baptists have contributed so far during 1969 an additional \$22,059,960 to specific designated world mission causes through special offerings, mostly to home and foreign missions.

The combined grand total of \$47.3 million in Cooperative Program and designated gifts is an increase of more than \$2½ million over such contributions in 1968. This is an increase of 4.64 per cent.

Designated gifts for 1969 have increased \$885,901 or 4.18 per cent over the 1968 designations.

Of the \$47.3 million total, foreign missions has received \$29.7 million, and home missions, \$10.1 million. Six seminaries operated by the convention received \$4.8 million.

The financial report prepared by the SBC Executive Committee reflects only amounts given to support national and international mission efforts of the denomination. It does not include amounts given to state and local mission projects.

The SBC Executive Committee serves as the distribution and channeling organization for the denomination, receiving contributions from churches through the state conventions, and channeling the funds to each agency on the budget formula basis.

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U R G E N T C O R R E C T I O N

On story mailed 12-1-69, headlined: "SBC Seminary Enrollment Remains at 1968 Level," one paragraph was inadvertently left out when copy was stenciled, changing the meaning of the story. Please kill graph 9 of the story as sent, beginning, "Midwestern...Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. Instead, insert the following two paragraphs:

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., slipped into the decreasing enrollment category by only one student. Fall enrollment this year was 202, compared to 203 students last year.

Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C., dropped 12 students, from an enrollment of 582 students last fall to 570 students this fall.

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