

March 26, 1951

SBC SEMINARIES  
TO ENROL NEGROES

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Boards of three Southern Baptist theological seminaries have opened the way for enrolment of Negroes beginning with the semester that opens September of this year.

First to take the action was Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Fort Worth, Texas. On November 28, 1950, the Board of Trustees voted the following recommendation: "That we approve the admission of Negro graduates of senior colleges, who have received definite calls from the Lord to definite religious work, as regular students in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and that we notify our sister seminaries of such action and invite them to consider such matters and inform them that we desire to defer official announcement of our action until they have had time to consider, that all seminaries may move together if possible."

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, followed with an action at their annual Board of Trustees' meeting as follows: "We recommend that hereafter the Seminary admit qualified Negro students who apply for graduate work leading to the Master of Theology, Th.M., and the Doctor of Theology, Th.D. degrees."

Southern Baptist Theological Seminary Board of Trustees meeting recently at Louisville passed a similar recommendation: "Since legal barriers have been removed and because of the urgent need of adequate seminary training in the South for Negro Baptist students who are at present deprived of proper theological education, that beginning with the session 1951-52 carefully selected Negroes be admitted on the following basis. Negro men who are candidates for the B.D., Th.M., or Th.D. and who hold as prerequisite the B.A. degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university will be admitted to classes, library, and all academic rights and privileges."

In commenting on the action of the Louisville school, Dr. Gaines S. Dobbins, acting president for the school, said, "This action was taken after long study and much careful thought. It came out of a deep sense of obligation to our fellow Negro Baptists in helping to provide more adequate advantages for the training of qualified Negro students for whom provision is lacking and who would therefore be compelled to go outside the bounds of the Convention for their training in a Baptist seminary."

STATE BAPTIST PAPER  
STRENGTHENS CHURCHES

CLINTON, Miss.--(BP)--Rural churches with the state Baptist paper in their budget do better work, according to Dr. Norman O'Neal of Mississippi Baptist College. Dr. O'Neal recently conducted a survey of forty-eight rural churches. His findings revealed that the churches receiving THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST RECORD under the every-family-plan have larger budgets, more tithers, larger salaries for pastors, more money for missions, and greater per capita giving.

The comparison is as follows:

	Receiving state paper	Not receiving paper
Number of churches studied. . . . .	36	12
Average membership. . . . .	236	248
Average annual budget . . . . .	\$7,583.00	\$5,331.00
Average Salary paid to pastors. . . . .	\$2,701.00	\$2,183.00
Average gifts to missions . . . . .	\$1,912.00	\$1,393.00
Average number of tithers . . . . .	48	35
Percentage of church members tithing. . . . .	24	14
Per capita gifts. . . . .	\$ 32.14	\$ 21.47

KENTUCKIAN GETS  
HOME BOARD POST

ATLANTA, Ga.--(BP)--L. O. Griffith, of Louisville, Ky., was recently elected secretary of promotion for home missions by the Baptist Home Mission Board.

He will assume his new duties May 1.

Griffith will come to Atlanta from Louisville, where he has been serving as assistant to the executive secretary of Kentucky Baptists.

A native of Kentucky, the minister is a graduate of Georgetown College and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He held pastorates in the mountain area of Kentucky for twelve years.

SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY  
ENROLS TOTAL OF 1,896

FORT WORTH, Texas--(BP)--Total enrolment in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary for the year 1950-51 reached 1,896, according to Dr. E. D. Head, president of the Seminary. Of these 1,082 enrolled in the school of theology, 744 in the school of religious education, and 163 in the school of sacred music. Five hundred thirty-four are women and 1,362 are men. New students enrolled for the year are 789. There are forty-two faculty members, nineteen in the school of theology, eleven in the school of religious education, and twelve in the school of sacred music.

Since its beginning in 1908, Southwestern Seminary has enrolled 12,701 students and graduated 4,091. Five hundred and twenty-six of its students have become foreign missionaries, fifty-six of them appointed in 1950. There are now 409 foreign mission volunteers on the campus.

**REVIVAL SPIRIT RISES  
AS CRUSADE BEGINS**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--The revival spirit is breaking out among the Baptists in states east of the Mississippi as the Eastern Simultaneous Evangelistic Crusade gets under way, beginning Easter Sunday. 15,000 of the area's 18,525 churches are participating. The crusade is organized by units utilizing the convention's 597 district associations. An estimated 6,000 ministers from west of the Mississippi traveled east to help these churches. Dr. C. E. Matthews, Dallas, Texas, is the general director.

Publicity for the crusade included 1,277,216 lapel buttons, 243,316 bumper strips, and 1892 giant roadside billboards. More than 10,000,000 house to house visits were made in preparation for the revival.

One South Carolina mountain preacher has been talking about "spontaneous" revivals, which is about what the move is turning out to be, if early reports are a sign to the crusade's success. Three associations have already completed their campaign. They got an early start due to southeastern crop and climatic conditions.

Twelve Mile River Association in South Carolina with twenty-two churches reported twenty-two churches participating with sixty-nine conversions and thirty-two additions by letter. Chester Association in South Carolina with eighteen churches reported eighteen churches participating with 200 conversions and 148 additions by letter. Mt. Town Association in Georgia with fifteen churches, reported fifteen churches participating with 125 conversions and forty additions by letter. If all other associations do as well as these three total baptisms will be an estimated 160,000 according to Porter Routh, secretary of Department of Survey, Statistics and Information.

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**GRAHAM TO SPEAK  
AT SAN FRANCISCO**

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--Billy Graham, nationally known evangelist will speak in San Francisco to the Southern Baptist Convention on Friday, June 22, at 3:45 p.m., according to an announcement received here from the Committee on Order of Business.

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"THANK GOD FOR SOUTHERN  
BAPTIST UNITY."--R. E. MILAM

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--(BP)--A far western leader has declared that differences between Baptists West and East are small. He is R. E. Milam, executive secretary for the Southern Baptists of Oregon and Washington. In a special release received here he said, "All the way from Oregon to Florida Baptists are Baptists. I have heard through the years whispers to the effect 'That there were vast differences in Baptists East and West.' I don't believe a word of it!

"I have just had the joy of spending five weeks on the road across the Southern Baptist Conventions - preaching in pastor's conferences at New Orleans, Atlanta, Jacksonville, and Oklahoma City; preaching in pulpits, large and small, in Texas, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida; attending meetings of the state secretaries, Home Mission Board, and on the state and associational levels.

"The wonderful thing to me is that the interest in western missions is just as strong in the East as in the West. Stronger, I would say, because they have come forward with concrete evidence of that interest of Baptists.

"I find that when the message of Baptist distinctives, of Baptist mission and destiny is rung out clear and strong Southern Baptist ministers and laymen, women and young people all give spontaneous and thrilling response.

"Thank God for Southern Baptist unity!"