

Drive To Abolish RFC

Baptists Propose Moving CU College Here

(Continued From Page One)

Cumberland will be abandoned by the Baptists and turned back to its former trustees.

In this event, Ward-Belmont, which was taken over by the Baptists last month, will open in September as a co-educational junior college.

The executive board's decision came after an all-day conference and was announced in detail yesterday by Dr. Charles W. Pope, executive secretary.

A co-educational program will be instituted next fall, regardless of the action taken by Cumberland's trustees, Dr. Pope said.

Other Decisions Uncertain

As for Cumberland, the Baptists will continue to sponsor the college of law in Lebanon and will make efforts to expand it, provided the trustees accept the board's plan, Pope said.

What is to become of the Ward-Belmont preparatory school and conservatory of music is not certain, Pope said. A final decision on this point will not be made until the Cumberland transfer issue is settled but in any event no changes will take place until next fall.

The executive board's action yesterday amounted to an offer to transfer to the trustees of Cumberland university the 28-acre Ward-Belmont plant, which includes 44 buildings and is valued in the neighborhood of \$4,000,000.

The offer was conditioned, however, by the following provisions:

(1) That the arts and science college at Cumberland be transferred to the Ward-Belmont campus, leaving the law school in Lebanon.

(2) That all buildings on the Cumberland campus now used by the arts and science college be used to strengthen the law school.

(3) That "the overwhelming majority of the trustees of Cumberland university approve this proposition."

(4) That the proposition be further approved "by a majority of the trustees serving at the time Cumberland was transferred to the Baptists."

(5) That all "restrictions by this former board of trustees be removed."

Regarding the fifth provision, Dr. Pope said that while the present board of trustees, appointed by the Baptists, is the only legal governing body of the school, the "old board" continues to exert influence on Cumberland affairs.

It has been particularly active, he said, in opposing the Cumberland-Ward-Belmont merger.

Another of the "restrictions" the Baptists want removed is an agreement with the former trustees that the name of Cumberland university is not to be changed, Pope said.

By getting rid of this restriction, the Baptists will be free to choose a new name for the school to be formed by the merger of Ward-Belmont and Cumberland.

If, by the failure of the Cumberland trustees to approve the merger, the Baptists abandon the Lebanon school, they will withdraw from Cumberland all money invested there since 1946, Dr. Pope said.

Gaye McGlothlen of Nashville, all Baptist preachers.

Present Cumberland trustees will vote on the proposal next Monday night at a meeting in Lebanon or Nashville.

President Richardson pointed out that while there is opposition in Lebanon to moving any part of Cumberland, the arts and science school there has never played an important role in the university's development.

Of 9000 persons graduated from Cumberland since it was founded more than a century ago, all but 1300 were law school graduates, he said.

Others who appeared at the meeting on behalf of Cumberland were Dr. A. T. Hall of Lebanon, Dr. A. H. Hopson of Lebanon, C. H. Moore of Clarksville, and Harold Stevens of Nashville, all members of the present board of trustees.

Would Reinforce Status

One of the principal effects of the merger will probably be to reinforce Ward-Belmont's status with the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, it is believed, Ward-Belmont is in danger of losing its accreditation by the association because of insufficient endowment to meet association requirements.

By crediting Cumberland's endowment to the consolidated school here, Ward-Belmont's standing with the association would be guaranteed.

Cumberland was in an identical position with the association when the Baptists took it over.

In addition to Phillips, Cumberland's present trustees are Raymond L. Rogers, Fred S. Powell, J. Harold Stephens, Maxey Jarman, Thomas W. Jarrell, Andrew D. Tanner, the Rev. W. L. Stigler, and Mrs. J. E. Lambdin, all of Nashville; Dr. A. H. Hall, the Rev. Alvin Hopson, and E. B. Hughes, all of Lebanon; W. H. Turner and Rep. Albert Gore of Carthage, P. D. Massey of Fayetteville, W. Spurgeon Knox of Columbia, B. E. Cockrum of Cowan, O. C. Rainwater of Harriman, E. A. Langford of Cookeville, Howard G. Kirksey of Murfreesboro, C. H. Moore of Clarksville, W. S. Johnson of Cookeville, E. L. Smothers of McMinnville, Joe Harting of Brownsville, and Judge Earl Swann of Springfield.

The 1945 board consisted of Adams, Dayton A. Dobbs and J. M. Peebles, both of Nashville; Sam S. Bone, Roy O. Crips, O. F. Darwin, C. O. Dodson, H. K. Edgerton, W. J. Baird, Neal McClain, W. T. Bone Jr. and Homer E. Shannon, all of Lebanon; R. L. Houston of Birmingham, Edward Potter and John J. Hooker of Nashville, W. A. Mc-

Cord of Corinth, Miss., and Herman L. Turner of Atlanta, Ga.

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...to approve the merger, the Baptists abandon the Lebanon school, they will withdraw from Cumberland all money invested there since 1946, Dr. Pope said.

Big Investment Involved

This investment includes about \$273,000 for operating expenses, \$200,000 for unrestricted endowment, and a "considerable amount" spent for capital improvements.

Such an action by the Baptists would be in compliance with terms of the agreement between the church group and the university's former sponsors, Pope said.

If the merger is approved, the administrative officers of Cumberland, headed by Dr. Richardson, will move to the Ward-Belmont campus, and the present six man board of Baptist trustees a Ward-Belmont will be dissolved.

Rejection of the merger plan would mean that the present Ward-Belmont trustees will continue to operate the school.

The position of Dr. Robert C. Provine, Ward-Belmont president, under the proposed consolidation has not been decided upon, Pope said.

Regarding the faculties at the two schools, he said:

"Nothing definite has yet been determined as to the size of the faculty or the personnel of the faculty, but in all probability the school board which has authority to select a faculty will give consideration to the personnel of both faculties."

Pope predicted that within a short time a four-year Baptist college here would have a student body numbering 1000.

"Eventually this school would have the largest student body of any Baptist college in Tennessee," he said.

Baptists operate Carson-Newman college in Jefferson City, as well as Cumberland, and Union university in Jackson, Tenn.

In answer to reports that Union's conservatory of music and perhaps other divisions would be absorbed by the new school at Ward-Belmont, Pope said, "That is a matter for future consideration."

The merger plan adopted yesterday was recommended by a three-man committee of the Baptist education commission, appointed to study possible uses of the Ward-Belmont school property.

The committee consisted of Dr. O. E. Turner of Paris, Dr. R. B. Jones of Chattanooga, and Dr.

A joint agreement between the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Corps of Engineers that will speed "vastly" the Cumberland river's development was announced here yesterday.
 The announcement was made by Col. Henry Walsh, Nashville district engineer, and confirmed at its power potential is 100,000 kilowatts.
 "Our arrangement should be of great benefit to the people of the..."
 Knoxvillle TVA headquarters by G. O. Wessenaer, TVA director of power.
 The agreement provides for construction work to start on Old Hickory Dam by July, 1951, if necessary funds are forthcoming from congress. Cost of the dam located near Nashville is \$50,000,000 and Col. Henry Walsh, Nashville district engineer, and confirmed at...

TVA, Engineers Agree On Cumberland Plan Start on Old Hickory Dam by July
Asked, 5 Other Projects To Be Pushed

BY NAT CALDWELL
 A joint agreement between the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Corps of Engineers that will speed "vastly" the Cumberland river's development was announced here yesterday.

BENTON, Tenn.—Figures in Polk county political faraup. Fr attorney; Maurice Shearer, county superintendent of highways; W quarterly county court, and G. O. Rogers, magistrate.



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