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Toronto Bible College.



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[No. 2.]

"Practical Work" Issue.

In this issue of the RECORDER we are laying before the friend and supporters of the Bible College the facts concerning the Practical Work which our students carry on. All this service has been systematized and brought under the careful supervision of the new Director of this department, and gives promise of greatly increased usefulness.

The art of doing personal work in "winning men to Christ," will have to be learned and cultivated by every Christian if the unreached and unchurched masses are to be saved. The lack of spiritual results in the conversion of men and women is nothing short of appalling when we consider the energies expended at present in Christian work in all the churches. With all our organization and machinery we are in danger of neglecting this primary service which our Lord promised to teach His followers when He said "Come ye after Me, and I will make you to become fishers of men."

The Bible College is aiming to know that experience, both for itself and those under its care, and we rejoice that the Divine blessing is resting upon our efforts in this regard.

A Sample Instance of Practical Work

The following is a sample experience of a meeting conducted by our students every two weeks:

On one of the down town streets in the large hall of a building, unattractive and ill-smelling because of the inmates, the students are accorded a respectful hearing by the sixty or more men who congregate there to find a shelter or rest on the chairs or rough benches arranged around the wall.

As the writer takes his seat he studies the audience, over which the spirit of order prevails. There are faces to-night heavily marked by dissipation, yet showing signs of better days now gone. There are some with that stolid, sullen, hope-gone look; again others ranging from the strongly mischievous to the vicious, wicked and criminal, though we are thankful to note in the midst of such, a few who are bright with a genuine interest in all that is going on.

But they are all "Down and outs." They would not be here if they were not at the end of things, financially at least, for in that same room and atmosphere they sleep, with no other provision for their comfort than the chairs, benches, or the floor itself.

The service, which lasted over two hours, was made bright with much gospel song in solo and chorus. A strong testimony to the power of a living Saviour was given by an ex-convict of jail and Penitentiary, now a firm Christian. This was followed by several bright addresses, interspersed with music. In response to an appeal by the leader, some twenty hands were

raised in mute desire that prayer to the God who answers might be made for them.

Then the only open window was closed down. Tobacco and cigarettes were brought out, and breathing these foul odors the men sought sleep. No clothes were changed, of course—their night-dress and their day-dress are one—but ungroomed, unkempt, unwashed, they lay down.

Outside the building at the close of the meeting, one poor fellow asked for spiritual help, falling upon his knees on the pavement and crying to the Saviour for mercy. He found Christ there upon the street, while others have since been helped to experience the same great blessing.

Has the reader ever attended such a service in "Toronto the Good?" The students of the Bible College rejoice in the privilege to help even these outcasts of our society to Him who is to-day yet the Friend of "sinners." Jesus, if here, they feel sure, would be found helping such, and they are not above their Lord.

Rev. W. F. Roadhouse.

We have much pleasure in announcing the appointment of Rev. W. F. Roadhouse to the faculty of the Toronto Bible College, as instructor of the Practical Work department.

Through the interest and generosity of a friend of our work this appointment is made possible, and we feel sure the investment will be amply justified. The importance of this part of our instruction is becoming more and more evident, as we see the great need of trained workers who are "wise to win souls," and find that the course provided by our college is, as far as we know, the only one of its kind in Canada.

Mr. Roadhouse brings with him peculiar fitness for this service. Himself a graduate of the college, knowing and sharing its spirit and aim, having had a number of years in successful pastoral and evangelistic work, he is able to enter at once into the many and important needs of the work he undertakes.

—T. B. H.

The Governing Body and the Students

On Friday evening, Feb. 7th, a meeting of somewhat unique character was held at the College. The object of the gathering was to bring to the personal knowledge of the members of the Board the feelings of the students toward the College. About 100 students from both day and evening classes were present.

The Vice-President, Rev. Dr. R. P. Mackay, took the chair. He said he had no programme, but wanted to emphasize two things—the extensive and the intensive work of the Kingdom. It was an address rich in holy fervor and intense in spiritual power. Everyone felt it. Mr. Joseph N. Shenstone, the Treasurer of the College from the beginning, spoke upon missionary ideals from the layman's standpoint; the most satisfying thing in the world is the fellowship we have with men who are with us, "in Christ Jesus." Then the Chairman called for brief speeches from the students themselves. And such testimonies to what the College brings of Christian culture of the first and essential kind, one never heard before! What grateful hearts for the prayer-atmosphere and spiritual power and freedom amongst the students! How they blessed God for His servants who ministered to them. It was all so beautiful, happy, uplifting and spontaneous that every one felt it was blessed to be there.

The meeting was closed by brief words from Mr. McNicol, Mr. Hyde and Mr. Roadhouse. If there had been anyone present with even the shade of a criticism of the College's work, we feel sure it would have melted like frost before the summer's sun. Surely "the Lord hath been mindful of us: He will bless us."

One Week's Student Work.

We are sometimes asked that, since the students have no particular denomination's support, giving them preaching "supplies," what practical work is done by them? The writer replies by telling his surprise—and joy—in seeing for himself and having come under his personal supervision the important and

multiform activities of the College. These activities are both regular and constant, or occasional.

There are weekly services. (1) These are cottage meetings, held in the homes of those who belong mainly to the non-church-going classes and the "shut-ins." (2) Hospital visiting is engaged in by both young men and women, with large fruitage in soul-winning. (3) Every Lord's Day evening an evangelistic meeting is conducted in West Toronto in connection with the mission of the Annette St. Church. Saturday afternoon house-to-house visiting is carried on to help this work. (4) A noon-day meeting every Monday is held in the Christie-Brown works with good results. (5) Yonge Street Mission has an excellent meeting conducted every Wednesday evening by the Evangelistic Band, which rallies a large number of the students. Prison Bible Classes are taught in the Central Prison every Sunday morning. All of these are regular services and require no small amount of thought, prayer and effort.

In addition to the above, there is a monthly meeting (Sunday evening) at Sackville St. Mission, where a graduate of the College is now the Bible woman. Calls come in, too, from various Churches and Missions for Lord's Day evening Evangelistic services. These are constantly responded to and are productive of good results in arousing the churches and leading old and young to the Saviour.

Occasionally, request has come for a four-days' campaign in a church when the homes of the district, or town, are visited and personal work is done, and invitations are extended where the former is not possible. Since Jan. 1st, such campaigns have been held in Woodbridge (Feb. 6-9), and one is going on at this writing in Weston (Feb. 13-23), this latter having been continued into the second week. Both of these have been fruitful in the salvation of the lost.

All the foregoing varied effort has been under the leadership of students, some able young man or woman being at the head of each department of work. From Feb. 1st all the practical work of the students will be under the personal supervision and direction of a regular Instructor of the College—certainly no small task, as one may readily understand.

HOW THE STUDENTS' WORK IS
TABULATED.

A record is kept of each student's practical work. The College's diploma vouches for three things: (1) "The Course of Study"; (2) "Consecration"; (3) "Fitness for Christian Work." And before the diploma can rightfully be

given there must be, of necessity, training to do the Master's business. For this purpose the following is used;

STUDENTS' REPORT CARD.

To be Handed in Each Monday Morning

Date.....	Jan. 20, 1912.
Cottage Meetings Conducted.....	3
Cottage Meetings Attended.....	4
Mission Meetings Conducted.....	9
Mission Meetings Attended.....	58
Church Services Conducted.....	7
Other Services Conducted.....	6
Sunday School Classes Taught....	24
Personal Interviews.....	113
Professed Conversions.....	45
Visits to Hospitals.....	17
Other Visits.....	117
Leading Singing.....	16
Playing Instrument.....	10
Signature.....	

The above, however, is not one student's report, but a summary. It is the work done by 38 students (some of them newcomers) for the week ending Jan. 20. Note well—113 interviews with unsaved ones, and 45 professedly led to the Lord Jesus! Nearly forty per cent. of all approached in hand-to-hand and heart-to-heart fashion for Jesus Christ, accepted Him as Saviour! Surely this is, essentially, Christian service. Besides, 117 visits were made to Christians to urge, or encourage, or cheer them. We may add that behind all this fruitage for Christ is a most constant and deep, indeed powerful, ministry of intercession in the College (that is the secret of this fruitful service). It may be of interest to know of the personal soul-winning of some of the older students:—10 interviews, 7 conversions; 10, with 5 conversions; 12, with 4; 5, with 2; 2, with 1, etc. These are actual cases, and we believe them reliable. The week ending January 20, reported above, though chosen at random, is probably somewhat above the average.

For the essential work of the Kingdom, for doing the things most worth while, we believe the Toronto Bible College will bear at least favorable comparison with any kind of institution in our wide Dominion or elsewhere. This work of God should command the warm sympathy and moral support of every lover of the Truth. Where God's seal and blessing so manifestly rests, there may His followers likewise surely manifest their interest.

Notes.

The present Session of the College will close on Friday, April 25th.

Examinations will begin about the 16th of that month.

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CONTRIBUTIONS.—The needs of our work are constantly increasing, and we trust our friends will remember them in the distribution of their gifts.

Receipts for General Fund.

Donations received since Nov. 19th, 1912, to February, 1913:

No. 109.....	\$ 5 00	No. 157.....	5 00
" 110.....	10 00	" 158.....	5 00
" 111.....	5 00	" 159.....	5 00
" 112.....	5 00	" 160.....	5 00
" 113.....	5 00	" 161.....	5 00
" 114.....	5 00	" 162.....	5 00
" 115.....	5 00	" 163.....	5 00
" 116.....	5 00	" 164.....	1 00
" 117.....	10 00	" 165.....	100 00
" 118.....	50 00	" 166.....	7 00
" 119.....	2 00	" 167.....	5 00
" 120.....	5 00	" 168.....	2 50
" 121.....	5 00	" 169.....	5 00
" 122.....	100 00	" 170.....	10 00
" 123.....	5 00	" 171.....	1 00
" 124.....	5 00	" 172.....	2 00
" 125.....	10 00	" 173.....	5 00
" 126.....	10 00	" 174.....	20 00
" 127.....	20 00	" 175.....	300 00
" 128.....	15 00	" 176.....	50 00
" 129.....	5 00	" 177.....	10 00
" 130.....	5 00	" 178.....	40 00
" 131.....	10 00	" 179.....	1 00
" 132.....	5 00	" 180.....	4 87
" 133.....	5 00	" 181.....	5 00
" 134.....	10 00	" 182.....	5 00
" 135.....	20 00	" 183.....	5 00
" 136.....	20 00	" 184.....	100 00
" 137.....	5 00	" 185.....	5 00
" 138.....	5 00	" 186.....	20 00
" 139.....	5 00	" 187.....	5 00
" 140.....	5 00	" 188.....	50 00
" 141.....	5 00	" 189.....	25 00
" 142.....	5 00	" 190.....	5 00
" 143.....	25 00	" 191.....	4 00
" 144.....	10 00	" 192.....	25 10
" 145.....	2 00	" 193.....	10 00
" 146.....	5 00	" 194.....	5 00
" 147.....	5 00	" 195.....	5 00
" 148.....	25 00	" 196.....	5 00
" 149.....	5 00	" 197.....	3 00
" 150.....	1 00	" 198.....	1 00
" 151.....	25 00	" 199.....	100 00
" 152.....	10 00	" 200.....	10 00
" 153.....	5 00	" 201.....	100 00
" 154.....	\$10 00	" 202.....	50 00
" 155.....	100 00	" 203.....	5 00
" 156.....	2 00	" 204.....	2 00

Previously acknowledged \$1,965 87
1,845 21

Total.....\$3,811 08

JOSEPH N. SHENSTONE, *Treas.*

Rev. H. M. Parsons, D.D.

The Bible College lost a true and valued friend in the death of the late Rev. H. M. Parsons, D.D., who passed away at his home in Toronto on Jan. 14, 1913. He was a loyal exponent of the Scriptures as the "Word of God," and was in the closest fellowship with the work of the Bible College from its organization. He took a personal interest in the students and attended many of their meetings. His presence and advice on our Council was greatly valued, and we are sensible of a great loss through his death.