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TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

This month the Toronto Bible College is twenty-five years old. This number of the Recorder is devoted to a review of these years. It contains a history of the work and a number of testimonies from students who have passed through the classes during that time.

No one is more familiar with the beginnings of the institution than Dr. McTavish, who tells of its origin and early history. He was not only associated with Dr. Harris on the Council, but took part also in the teaching of the early years.

No better idea of the nature of the work accomplished during these years can be obtained than from the testimonies written by the former students. They represent all parts of the foreign field and all departments of the work of the church at home. They come from ministers in city pastorates and in rural charges, from mission and social service workers, and from also the ranks of the ordinary membership of the church. We regret that limitations of space made it necessary to omit those of the classes of the last three years. We hope to publish these in a later issue.

It is expected that suitable anni-

versary services will be held on the 9th and 10th of October. On account of the alterations being made in the building it was found impossible to have these services at the opening of the session. The session will begin on the 16th of September.

ORIGIN AND EARLY HISTORY

By Rev. D. McTavish, D.Sc.

There is an almost universal interest in the origin of movements and institutions, and yet it is often extremely difficult to correctly trace these origins. There is one fact that will, I feel sure, never be disputed, viz.: that the Toronto Bible Training School—as it was originally designated—had its origin in the thought of the late Rev. Dr. Elmore Harris. With true sympathy and insight he saw there was need of an institution that would give a thorough knowledge of the English Bible and show the students how to use it in personal work and public addresses. He knew that such a course would be of special value for those who had not the opportunity of securing such preparatory training as is required for entering a theological college. The present writer had the privilege of many conversations with Dr. Harris when

the various aspects of the subject were considered. The results have more than justified his thought and expectation. After consultation with various persons individually, Dr. Harris called together a meeting at his own home on the evening of May 14th, 1894, when the following persons were present: Messrs. Cole, Kilgour, Hobson, Nasmith, Hooper, Meadows, Frost, Northway, Ferguson, Dr. Stewart, and the writer. Dr. Harris presided and Mr. Ferguson acted as Secretary. The Chairman explained fully his thought regarding the school, and asked for the opinion of those present in regard to it. All, without exception, warmly endorsed the scheme and it was by resolution unanimously agreed to proceed with it.

Dr. Harris had in the meantime drafted a Prospectus which was considered in detail and adopted. This Prospectus stated the design and character of the school, the requirements for admission, the course of study to be pursued for two years, together with other information. It was to be Biblical, interdenominational, and evangelistic. The officers elected were:

Rev. Elmore Harris, M.A., President.

J. N. Shenstone, Treasurer.

Wm. Ferguson, Secretary.

Rev. Dr. Stewart, Resident Instructor.

These, together with two others—Messrs. Urquhart and Nasmith—formed the first Executive Council. It was also decided to have a General Council consisting of the Executive and members in Toronto and from outside.

Then came up the question where would the school have its home? The Christian Institute on Richmond St. was suggested, but the location was not deemed suitable. Finally, it was agreed to accept the kind offer of Dr. Harris and the trustees of Walmer Road Church to use the school-

room of that church in the meantime. It continued in this place during the first four sessions.

The opening of the school was set for the 12th of September, 1894. In addition to Dr. Stewart and the President, Dr. Parsons, Mr. Frost, Mr. Hyde and the writer were asked to give courses of studies or lectures, which they all agreed to do. In the meantime the scheme was meeting with hearty approval from widely separated districts. It was evident from the first that such a school would meet a generally felt need.

It was thought wise to prepare a doctrinal statement setting forth clearly the position of the school.

On the 5th of September Dr. Stewart reported that ten candidates had applied to be admitted. Others were added later so that the session had over twenty students. It was agreed to engage Rev. Wm. MacWilliam, LL.B., to give instruction in Greek and English grammar to such as wished to receive it.

On the 12th of September the school began its auspicious career. One remembers well the keenness with which those first students did their work. It was a delight to teach them and to discuss with them any difficulties that arose in the course of study. One was surprised to find how some of these students by close application overcame the handicap of lack of sufficient previous training and their work as shown in the examinations would have done credit to those of far greater academic pretensions. From the very first a fine spirit of Christian comradeship sprang up in the school. This was fostered by the sympathetic attitude of Dr. Stewart and Mr. MacWilliam and the wise and helpful counsel of Dr. Harris. It has proved to be an increasingly potent factor in the life of the school from that day till now. Sometimes the devotional spirit and evangelistic enthusiasm are rather dulled than intensified during study;

with the Toronto Bible College the opposite is the effect.

The first issue of The Recorder was published in November and has continued ever since to be a very helpful auxiliary to the work. For a time a home was maintained where the students might live, but later on this was discontinued. During that first session, besides the local lectures, the school had the high privilege of a course of studies by that saint and scholar, Professor Moorehead, of Xenia, Ohio. None will ever forget the clearness and force with which he presented his subject.

The school closed its first session on the 31st of May, 1895, after having completed, what all agreed, was a most helpful and successful year. In the meantime the work of the evening classes also developed steadily and they have continued to be a marked feature of the work of the school.

It is very interesting to follow out the life history of an institution and note the different factors that entered into its development. In 1895 Rev. Dr. R. P. MacKay gave a course of lectures on missions. He afterwards became a member of the Executive and finally Vice-President. That year the esteemed Dr. Erdman gave the opening lecture. In 1896 Dr. Stiffer gave a series of valuable studies.

On the 24th of April, that year, Dr. Stewart reported that the first group of students had completed the two-years' course, and were granted diplomas. They were: Mrs. Watson, Misses Fraser, Ferguson, Johnston, Rutherford, Thatcher and Wells, and Messrs. Beave, Burnell, Finck, Robertson, Sirrell, Montgomery and Valiant—fourteen in all.

That year also Mr. Ferguson was obliged to resign the Secretaryship and was followed by Mr. Hobson, and in 1897 Mr. Hobson was succeeded by Mr. Thomas A. Rodgers.

The Council now entered definitely

upon the consideration of a new building where the school would have a permanent home. After much thought and prayer it resulted in the erection of the fine building on College Street that has been the home of the school ever since. While others were interested and contributed of their means and advice the building is due largely to the unselfish labors and generosity of Rev. Dr. Harris.

LATER DEVELOPMENT

The building erected for the School on College St. was opened in 1898, and the classes which had been meeting for a short time in Zion Congregational Church nearby were transferred to it during the session which began that fall. Early in the same year the institution had been incorporated in order to give it permanency and legal security. The original Board of Incorporation consisted of Revs. Elmore Harris, D.D.; R. P. Mackay, D.D.; Wm. Stewart, D.D.; and Messrs. J. D. Nasmith, J. N. Shenstone, Jas. Acton, T. A. Rodgers, E. Hooper, M.D., Elias Rogers, and Alex. Sampson.

In the new building the work continued to be carried on by Dr. Stewart, Dr. Harris and Mr. MacWilliam, with the assistance of occasional lecturers. The classes grew and the interest in the school widened. In 1901 some medical subjects were added to the Biblical course, especially to meet the needs of students who were preparing for missionary work, and for a number of years lectures in these subjects were given each session by several of the city doctors.

As the work developed the Board decided that the interests of the school required another regular lecturer, and at length Rev. John McNicol, of Ottawa, was secured and joined the staff in the fall of 1902. In the following year Mr. MacWilliam, whose health had been failing, withdrew from the work, his death occur-

ing not long afterwards. Dr. Stewart also was beginning to feel the burden of advancing years, and in 1906 he gave up the duties of the Principalship, which were then taken up by Mr. McNicol. Dr. Stewart continued as Secretary to share in the administration of the school for five years longer.

In the meantime the life of the student body was developing. Missionary interest had existed from the beginning; evangelistic work had also been carried on by each class of students' Executive Committee is apbody was organized in such a way as to give unity and continuity to the life and work of the school. A Students' Executive Committee is appointed at the end of each session to have general charge and oversight in association with the Principal of the practical work and the social and devotional life of the school for the next year. Under this general committee the students are organized in two departments of activity, as an Evangelistic Band to carry on practical Christian work while in college, and as a Missionary Society to foster the missionary spirit and to keep in touch by prayer and correspondence with former students on the foreign field.

It was felt also that the graduates and former students, who were now becoming very numerous, might be organized in order to conserve their fellowship and promote the interests of the school. For this purpose a meeting was called by the Principal in the spring of 1909, and an Alumni Association was formed to include all students, past and present. Subsequently this organization adopted the more appropriate name of the Students' Association, leaving the name Alumni Association to be given to the smaller group within it of those who have received the graduating diploma. This organization has shown a lively interest in the work and welfare of the institution and its future development. It

was in response to a suggestion made by the Alumni Association that the Board and Council at their annual meeting in April, 1911, decided to change the name of the School to "The Toronto Bible College."

The course of study was strengthened and expanded and new subjects were added from time to time, until a full three years' course was provided. The curriculum of the College is now so arranged that students who have taken a two years' course and received the Diploma can take a complete session of additional work.

This, of course, involved the enlargement of the teaching staff. In 1908 Rev. F. S. Weston, and in the following year Rev. Andrew Imrie, began work in the special departments of instruction, which they still continue to carry on. In 1911 Rev. Prof. W. H. Griffith Thomas, D.D., who had recently come to the city, became a special lecturer, and for the past eight years has given invaluable help both in the day and evening classes. In 1916 a new lectureship was added as the gift of Knox Church, Toronto, in memory of its late pastor, Rev. H. M. Parsons, D.D., who had taken a deep interest in the School from the beginning. To this new post Rev. W. G. Hanna was appointed, who now takes a good share of the instruction in the class room.

The College suffered a great loss in the sudden death of its President, Dr. Elmore Harris, on Dec. 19th, 1911. Dr. Harris had just been visiting the Baptist mission field in India and was attending the celebration of the Durbar in Delhi at the time. The venerable Dr. Stewart did not long survive him and passed away on the 5th of March following. He had retired from the office of Secretary in the previous year and it had been filled by the appointment of Rev. T. Bradley Hyde, late of the Northern Congregational Church, who had been actively connected with the institution

from the first. Since the death of Dr. Harris, the Vice-President, Rev. Dr. R. P. Mackay has presided over the affairs of the College; but the office of President still remains unfilled.

For a number of years the accommodation provided by the building has been found to be too small for the growing needs of the work. During

the past summer two new rooms have been added, which is the only enlargement the building will permit of. This will afford some relief for a while, but the time is not far distant when a much larger undertaking will be necessary in order that the Bible College may carry on the work for which it has been evidently raised up.

From the Bible College Family in the Foreign Field

Mrs. A. A. Scott (Miss Margaret Fisher) '03, India:—It is hard to realize that twenty-five years have passed since I sat with some of the first students of the Bible Training School, as it was then called, in the Wahner Road Baptist Church, and moved with them to Zion Congregational Church, and, later on, had the joy and privilege of entering with them into the new school home.

It would be utterly impossible for me to make known to you what the Bible College has through all these years meant to me. Sufficient to say that every moment of the hours spent there in quiet study of the Word, the discussions, the devotional hours, the missionary meetings, the social evenings, the warm Christian fellowship we enjoyed one with another and with our revered teachers, abide with me as a most precious memory and a moulding influence in my life. During our fifteen years of service here in India, my thoughts have often returned to the school and all that it meant, and lessons learned there have been put to the proof here, and a word of thanksgiving has gone up to Him who is the Giver of every good and perfect gift.

Miss Helen C. Millar, '14, Northern Nigeria:—I cannot express in words the value of the course at the Toronto Bible College. God opened my eyes to see and behold wondrous things in the Scriptures. I learned to accept the Bible as the

Word of God and to claim His precious promises as my Father's message for me. It was then I realized the power of prayer. I realized too, that unless we accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour, we are lost. Knowing this fact, I went forth in His name to win souls for His kingdom. I am glad to be in Africa. I have a wonderful Saviour, and a wonderful message to give to the people in this dark land. I do thank my Father for the privilege of spending three years in the Toronto Bible College.

Mr. Lloyd Rist, '09, Kansu, China:—First, I wish to say a word or two about my entering the College. After hearing the voice of God in my soul, calling me to prepare for His service, I began to inquire of my pastor, Christian friends, university men and professors, as to how I could quickly prepare myself for Gospel work. Their advice was all of one nature, take a preparation course of three or four years and then enter college, spending from five to seven years preparing for the ministry. They said also that no college provided a special course whereby one might fit himself for Christian work. Now, God led me to the T.B.C., and here I was told that I could enter as a student with the education I then had, that I could receive a Bible training which would fit me after two years of study to enter into many forms of Christian work. Had I taken the advice of others, I most likely would still

be preparing myself for the Gospel ministry, whereas I took the two years' course of study in the T.B.C., and have by God's grace, spent about nine years in home and foreign mission work, and for the past five years have been in charge of the oldest, largest, and in many ways the most progressive missionary work in the Province of Kansu, China.

Second, a word about what I learned during the two years at the T.B.C. Apart from learning the great doctrines of the Bible and the meaning of each separate book, I learned a great deal about prayer, by gathering with others every morning to wait upon God; also how to win souls and witness for Christ, by being connected with the Evangelistic Band of the College. The Bible became an open book to me, as it was opened day by day to us by the Holy Spirit through our instructors. The fundamental truths of Christianity were made clear, so were many of the prophecies. And the great truths concerning our Lord Jesus made Him more precious to us as we got to understand them.

Third, a word about the spiritual influence of the college course. Apart from the direct study of the Bible and the blessings connected with the general work and activities of the College, there was a spiritual atmosphere there which has greatly influenced one's life, and had much to do in preparing one for the Master's service. This spiritual atmosphere was very noticeable at times, often one was conscious of the presence of the Lord being very near. This spiritual atmosphere is not advertised as being included in the course of study, but it is there, and is one of the most important things in the course.

In conclusion I would like to say that the course of study at the T.B.C. has been of very much more value to me than I am able to explain. For instance, I am conscious of there being a great development in my mind

and spirit as a result of taking the course. I am altogether different from what I would be if I had not taken it. I would be glad if I had a college or university course besides, but I would much rather have taken the T.B.C. course than to have been able to take the very best university course without it.

Mr. Silas F. Fox, '16, South India:—My heart thrills as I recall those blessed days spent at the Toronto Bible College. Those men of God there taught me the Bible. By word of mouth and by daily walk they were used of God to kindle in my heart a flame that burns bright to this very moment. My heart is yet on fire that these dark souls of India may come under this blessed Word, as I did. Jesus Himself became more real every day. How He was present morning by morning, and, catching glimpses of that great salvation that He has wrought out for us, we worshipped Him. Then prayer: we met for prayer, we studied prayer, we prayed and God taught us there to pray. Further, the fellowship of the saints: we were truly all one in Christ Jesus. I pray that the Toronto Bible College may be kept of God, a light in the darkness, till Jesus comes.

Mr. Fred. W. E. Story, '11, South America:—I hardly know where to begin to speak of what the T.B.C. has meant to me. It has meant everything. To me it is the most sacred place on earth. Perhaps I think of it as Jacob thought of Bethel. How could it be otherwise? I sat at my Lord's feet listening to His living voice as He spoke to us from His living Word. Is it any wonder my life's work was settled there for foreign service?

Our teachers were always reverent, sane, conservative, and absolutely loyal to the sacred Book, their lives an adornment to its doctrines.

The College fellowship in prayer,

study and service, with brothers and sisters of other denominations broadened our sympathies and prepared us for similar fellowship and co-operation in after life. This has been invaluable, and is real church union.

The emphasis placed on the grace of God and all fundamental Bible doctrines cannot well be over estimated as to its value when so many are drifting from these things.

The practice in soul-winning, in prisons, hospitals and missions, was a constant joy and stimulus. The continued prayers of the student body, in no small way contribute to our success on the field.

May God's richest blessing rest upon all those who have in any way helped to keep this institution in its blessed place of service.

Rev. Ivory Jeffrey, '15, French Indo-China:—In a short testimony to the value of Toronto Bible College in my life, I mention three things which I value very much, and I believe I speak for many others at the same time.

The Toronto Bible College:

1. Gave me a new Bible. Days and weeks of Bible study with instructors who had facts to present, and a Bible that spoke for itself, revealed that this Book stood in the wisdom of God. It was indeed the same old Bible, but with the searchlight of facts and the presence of God's Spirit, it became to me a new authority.

2. Opened a new outlook on the Christian church. We went in loyal to our denominations and came out loyal to them. But we came from an atmosphere where professors and students of all evangelical denominations worked together in perfect harmony and absolute love. Loyalty in this atmosphere meant far more than denominationalism.

3. Revealed new possibilities for service. First came a glimpse of what might be accomplished in a life of study with the Bible as the centre;

second, a conviction of what might be accomplished in a life of prayer and then, as the challenge for service came, there was an assurance that "All things are possible with God."

Rev. George H. Booth, '16, Yunnan, China:—Question:—In what way did the Lord use the Toronto Bible College in preparing me for my present service?

1st. The written Word became the Living Word in me, so that the life I now live I live by the faith of the Son of God.

2nd. He said, "Be still," and His own stillness came in teaching me to ask, in response to which He says, "I will do." I learned that God can and does His own work better than I can do it. I learned to pray.

3rd. I beheld a throne "set in heaven," eternal, immovable. I came to know that He Who sits upon that throne is the author, upholder, and finisher of my life. I rejoice in a present, perfect victory, and an ultimate victory by His personal coming when Christ will be All and in all.

4th. I came to know that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, to-day and for evermore. That He is still able gloriously to meet our every need of body, soul, and spirit, and through us, every need of those He brings us in touch with.

Rev. Geo. A. Williams, '13, Formosa:—It is difficult to estimate with any degree of accuracy the far-reaching results of the course that I took at the Toronto Bible College. I look back upon it as one of the brightest spots in my life.

I recall a mental picture of myself as I first walked up the steps of the College, a green country lad, fresh from the farm, with nothing but a suitcase, a High School course, and a determination to invest my life in the service of God.

The first letter that bound me to the College was the fellowship of kin-

dred minds, which to me seemed "like to that above." The hard critical estimate and cold intellectualism too often found in colleges was conspicuous by its absence, and instead I found a warm, living bond of love that leveled all differences of education, denomination, and social position, and made us all one in Christ. It was a new and glorious experience to me, and gave me courage to attempt service that I would otherwise have been afraid to try.

Another bond of union was soon made between students and professors. Their kindliness, consideration, and pervading Christliness made an impression upon me that I shall not soon forget. They made us feel that here were men whose greatest joy in life was not to flaunt their learning in the faces of their students, but to be a humble channel of blessing to others.

A third strand was the high spiritual tone of the prescribed course. Every subject seemed a necessary subject, and had a direct bearing upon Christian life and service.

All these things being emphasized and impressed upon us from various

angles, a firm and deep foundation was laid for Christian usefulness. Like Isaiah, we caught a three-fold vision, first of God, of His work and His will, then of ourselves, as sinners saved by grace, lastly of others, the lost and needy world. The same call to service rang in our ears, "Whom shall we send and who will go for us," and like Isaiah we were constrained to say "Here am I, send me."

In conclusion, the course at the Toronto Bible College deepened my own Christian life and laid a foundation of truth that skeptical critics will never be able to shake. It quickened within my soul a zeal for the salvation of precious souls that burns with a steady flame as the years go by. In short it helped me to gird my Christian armour on (Eph. 6) and placed in my hand the sharp sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God and taught me how to use it.

I give unbounded gratitude to Almighty God, who has so signally blessed the College during these past twenty-five years, and I earnestly pray that "God Who has made her mighty will make her mightier yet."

From the Bible College Family in the Home Field

Rev. George Robertson, '96, Toronto:—It was my privilege to be present on the opening day of the Toronto Bible College in September, 1894, and I have always been most grateful to God for the kind providence that brought me under the influence of the institution and its instructors. At that time I had no particular thought of the Gospel ministry, but only desired to be fitted for a place of usefulness in the service of Christ. While engaged, however, in the study of the Book of books, a new vision of the needy world began to dawn upon me, and with that, a clearer conception of the Gospel as God's complete provision to meet that

need. Then there came a longing and a purpose to serve as a messenger of Christ. I discovered that my life could be invested in the business of the King.

The Bible College was also the means of awakening a new interest in missions, as I came to realize that it was not a question of *who* are to be missionaries—for all Christians are called to be such, but only *where* we are to serve.

The importance of soul-winning, too, was ever kept prominently before the minds of the students. The Bible teaching both by the extensive and intensive methods, was most valuable for instruction and training. Christ-

ian doctrines were established upon "what saith the Scriptures" rather than upon a human system of theology.

While I have had the privilege of taking a further course of study in preparation for the ministry, I regard the two years I spent in the Bible College as having a marked influence on my life.

Rev. Thos. G. R. Brownlow, B.D., '97, Cadillac, Mich.:—While visiting one evening with the late Dwight L. Moody, I told him of my call to the Christian ministry; he turned to me and said, "Why do you not avail yourself of the course of study offered at the Toronto Bible Training School." Following his advice a few weeks later I registered as a student.

I have never been sorry for my affiliation with that College. I greatly enjoyed the prescribed course of study, the Christian fellowship with my fellow-students, and the friendly counsel and advice of the members of the faculty. The time spent in preparation in this institution has been of great help to me in my ministry.

Rev. W. F. Roadhouse, '00, Toronto:—Four things, the Bible College has meant to me as I think back over the years:

(1) A return to systematic study—how we wrestled with that New Testament Greek, the first few weeks, especially "the vairb," as our dear old Scotch teacher called it.

(2) A foundation of Scripture Truth for subsequent building. How our Bible grew in scope and meaning and preciousness to us!

(3) A training in Methods of Christian Service—man to man evangelism, mission work, visitation, Gospel preaching, all these came to us with us a passion.

(4) A deepening of our personal spiritual life, and this by way of a once-for-all surrender to the Lord Jesus Christ, followed by a daily, maintained, yieldedness to Him.

And I have sought in the years since then to heed the apostolic injunction—"the things that thou hast heard . . . the same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also."

Major John Brown, M.D., '02, National Council Y.M.C.A.:—On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Toronto Bible College, I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to those who began and continued the work of this institution. Every day since I first attended the College in 1898, I have had occasion to thank God for the inspiration which I received during the two years of my active study. It is my earnest prayer that in the days to come the Toronto Bible College will mean more to the increasing number of students who are being benefitted in the preparation of their life work in Christian service in all parts of the world.

Rev. George Tester, '07, Elmhurst, Ill.:—It is now twelve years since I graduated, and as I look back I can still remember the joy with which I welcomed each new gem of truth from the mine of Holy Writ, led on in the search by our ever patient instructors and fellow-students of the Word.

It seems to me that the training I received during this period in the fundamental principles of Biblical truth may be likened to the blood, bone, brain, and brawn of my spiritual organism. Or to change the figure somewhat, to take it away would be to take away the steel structural framework and foundation of one of our modern reinforced concrete buildings. I got something permanent in spiritual value that has stood me in good stead many a time, when I might have been swayed by philosophy and vain deceit of men, or carried away by some new wind of doctrine.

Mr. M. T. K. Wou, '08, President Chinese Christian Association, To-

ronto:—In the year 1906 the Lord called me to His service, and I answered Him as Moses answered, "Oh, Lord, I am not eloquent neither heretofore nor since Thou hast spoken to thy servant, for I am slow of speech and of slow tongue." But by His mercy through His grace He accepted me to be His servant to work in His vineyard. His own guidance brought me to Toronto and led me to the Bible College. During the period of three years of study I enjoyed in every way the spirit of fellowship, of love, the value of the instruction by the various instructors. Since the completion of the course of study I have felt it was profitable to me and gave me power to preach His Word and deal with men. I have never been discouraged or downhearted, for the study has strengthened me to carry on the Lord's work and answer every man's questions.

Miss Helen I. Mair, '98, New York City:—My sense of appreciation and gratitude deepens daily for my course, and for our patient, kind teachers, the late Dr. E. Harris, Dr. Stewart, Mr. McWilliam, and others. And also for devotional reading and knowledge of fundamental doctrines of the Word of God, in the aid of my Christian work, the past twenty-three years, which otherwise I could not have had but for the school.

Miss Minnie L. Whitlock, '00, Toronto:—It is indeed a great pleasure to add my word of testimony to many others, and express my ever deepening gratitude to my Heavenly Father for the two years spent in the dear old Bible Training School under those revered and honored teachers, Drs. Harris, Stewart, and McWilliam.

The sound doctrine imparted to us through their teaching and example, is proving to be a veritable rock beneath my feet during these awful days. My earnest prayer and desire

is that my Alma Mater may always be kept pure and strong, and ever "Holding forth the Word of Truth."

Miss S. A. Windel, '03, Vegreville, Alta.:—My school education was received at a Ladies' College. I am a Household Science graduate, and these two courses have meant much to me. But none of them can compare with what I received at the Bible College.

Dr. Isaac H. Erb, '11, Toronto:—As a graduate of The Toronto Bible College, I cannot speak too highly of the work carried on in this institution. Not only is the knowledge of the English Bible as obtained here of inestimable value, but the general atmosphere of the College is such as to be the means of spiritual uplift to all who attend. The interdenominational character of the College, the devotional spirit and missionary zeal of both instructors and students, as well as the practical experience afforded in evangelistic work tend to make the College an institution which is unique in the training of Christian workers.

Rev. Frederick R. Vine, '12, Monroe, Mich.:—Thinking back upon the days spent in Toronto Bible College, that which calls for special mention as being of great value, was the atmosphere so consciously felt. It reminded one continually of the purpose that brought him there. It served to strengthen the conviction of the call to preach the Gospel of the blessed Lord. It was an atmosphere most distinctly Christian, conducive to the development of an earnest Christian life.

The course of instruction received at the College has served as an excellent foundation for further study of the Bible. In fact, I have found it to be decidedly useful for both the teaching and preaching ministry. The practical work, which forms a part of the course is of great value, inasmuch as it fits one for the difficult yet most

fruitful work of personal evangelism.

Rev. W. W. White, '13, Westford, Vt.:—I could not express in words even if I were to attempt such a thing, what the Toronto Bible College has meant to me, so I am giving forth each day a living testimony, because all the theology I have obtained, I owe to the Bible College. The influence of the prayer circle in the side room has been one of the abiding assets. I believe there is no place where a Christian worker can spend three years to better advantage than in the Toronto Bible College. The interdenominational spirit has been a great help to me in my field of labor here in Westford. When I came here six years ago, there were three churches, each supporting separate services, now we are united in one body, and I am ministering to the entire community. I am glad to be still wired up with the Toronto Bible College, and may the Master's blessing be the generating current.

Rev. H. W. Bower, '12, Major, Sask.:—My first knowledge of the Toronto Bible College was through a fellow student. He pleaded with me to come to Toronto, but I was planning to go elsewhere. My plans were not God's plans, however, and in the year 1910 I left my old home in Pennsylvania, and entered the Bible College to commence my training for His service. I was first impressed with the wonderful presence of God, the love for souls, and the power in prayer. The Bible became a new book, and I was settled in many doctrinal points, the assurance of my salvation, the coming of my Lord, and I learned to believe the old Book from cover to cover.

Mrs. H. W. Bower, '13, Major, Sask.:—After much chastening I was led to yield to the Lord; He clearly revealed to me that I should prepare for His service. In due time He opened the way, and provided every

need. In the course of the summer of 1912 I met two T.B.C. students. They tried to persuade me to consider the College, but my mind was fixed on another institution. When the time came for me to leave in order to start my studies, the way was suddenly closed, consequently I entered the T.B.C. with the intention of leaving as soon as possible to attend the institution of my own choice. "Man proposes, but God disposes." Day by day as the Word was unfolded to me by the Lord through the various instructors, I saw their purpose was so to uplift Christ to me that I might learn to place all my confidence in Him, and let Him have the pre-eminence in my life. Thus my life was transformed, the vision, purpose, and hope of my life were changed.

Mr. Mervin Ganton, '13, Hillsdale, Ont.:—My entrance to the T.B.C. was to me a definite experience of God's guidance. I heard of the institution for the first time only three days before I entered as a student. My first morning in the prayer room cleared away any misgivings I had.

I was deeply impressed by the emphasis laid upon thorough, systematic study of the Bible, upon the need and power of the life of prayer, and by the studies on the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. The studies on Missions and the training in personal and practical work, and in music were most interesting and helpful. The wider my experience, the higher the value I place on the T.B.C. training for the Master's service.

Rev. Glen Wardell, '13, Oshweken, Ont.:—As to the starting of my Christian life and service, I think I can truly say that it was the Toronto Bible College that put me on the right track. When a boy in my teens, I entered the night classes, and for two years had the foundation laid for my future life. My wife, who is a graduate of the night classes, started

when she was about fifteen, and for five years took the night lectures. Her life was changed by the study received there.

After two years in the evening classes, I entered the day sessions, and can say that the study received there gave me a good foundation for further study in the university. The Bible College takes the Bible as the Word of God and studies it as such, which is the only way to receive a message from it.

In my ministry the evangelical training was a great help. One young lady on a field where I was preaching said, "The first Sunday I heard you, I knew you were from the Bible College, because of the appeal in your message."

Misses Anna E. and Cora M. Darnude, '15, Fonthill, Ont.:—We are very grateful to the Toronto Bible College for two years of excellent training. It has been just what we have needed, as we each teach a large class of ladies, and have many questions and problems with which to deal. Our training there has given us confidence and perseverance, and a fund of knowledge from which to draw. The prayer life and Christian fellowship of the institution has left a deep impression on us, and we are trying to spread the spirit.

Miss Helen Struthers, '15, Galt, Ont.:—Previous to my Deaconess training and active service in a city church, it was my great privilege to attend the Toronto Bible College where the "foundation" was laid for further training, in preparation for Christian work.

One of our College mottoes, "Let the Word of God dwell in you rightly," continues to be a blessed reality because each day we made God's Word the subject of prayer and study, and through it heard God's voice speaking to us.

A deep spirit of prayerfulness was always felt throughout the College

life—strengthened by the prayerful attitude of our Principal and his associates, and the definite place given to it. The true value and power of prayer was known, when unitedly we upheld those who had left our midst and gone to the various mission fields, there to represent us in bearing the Gospel light to the millions in darkness.

Rev. S. M. Kanagy, B.Sc., '16, Toronto:—Of all the precious memories and experiences of my life, I prize that of leisurely studying the "Word," "The Book," from cover to cover above every other one. Salvation, the purpose of God in the world, His plan for the future, in vision, have all been wonderfully widened, deepened, and heightened by the study of the Bible from beginning to end. I am thankful to the Faculty, the Board, and the friends of the institution for their fellowship and prayer, and wish them all continued success "until He come."

Mr. Dixon Burns, '16, Todmorden:—For three years I was privileged to attend the Toronto Bible College and to participate in the fellowship of that Christian institution. I thank God that He ever directed me to go there.

There is a great deal of talk to-day about a re-vitalized Christianity; the Bible College never knew any other kind, and the reason is that Christ is central in that glorious place. From Him all things emanate, to Him all things point, for Him all things are attempted, and through Him all things are accomplished. I shall never be able to do for the Bible College what the Bible College has done for me. Its impress lingers with me, its fellowship still steals in upon my soul, its spirit still grips me. It was there I caught the real vision—the vision of the world's need—the vision of the all-sufficiency of Christ. May God continue to own and bless the ministry of the Toronto Bible College.