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Toronto Bible College



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[No. 1

A QUARTER CENTURY

The services in connection with our twenty-fifth anniversary were all that could be desired. A deep spirit of thankfulness for the gracious way in which the Lord has led and sustained the work of the College pervaded all the gatherings and was manifest in all the addresses.

Under the direction of our Vice-President, Rev. R. P. Mackay, D.D., the public meeting felt the impress of hearts and minds thoroughly seized by the fact that this institution came into existence twenty-five years ago to meet a real need in our religious education, and has amply justified itself by its past record and by the place it still occupies as an auxiliary to the Christian church.

The chairman bore testimony to his personal interest in the College because of its clear and uncompromising loyalty to the Scriptures as the inspired and authoritative Word of God, its emphasis on the need and practice of personal evangelism, and the prominent place it gives to the missionary claims on the lives of its students. The fact that at least 176 have given themselves to service on

the foreign field, and about 100 have gone into the Christian ministry as a result of an interest aroused during their course of study in the College, is a record of large importance, and justifies a claim on the sympathy and support of Christian stewardship.

Stimulating addresses were delivered by Principal O'Meara, LL.D., of Wycliffe College, and the Rev. John MacNeill, D.D., pastor of Walmer Road Baptist Church, where the College had its first home under the presidency of the late Dr. Elmore Harris, and the principalship of the late Dr. Wm. Stewart. The substance of these addresses will be found on another page.

The Student Association of the College commemorated the occasion by a banquet and reunion in the Assembly Hall, when the gathering taxed the capacity of the building and was characterized by a spirit of loyalty and devotion to the mater. Representatives of most of the classes were present, some home on furlough from the foreign field, and others from distant parts of our home land; and all imbued with the same spirit of gratitude that they were privileged to share in the train-

ing for Christian service provided by the College, for as one stated, "The training you get here works when you get out into the world."

ADDRESS BY PRINCIPAL O'MEARA, LL.D.

It is a very real privilege and pleasure to come to-night on such a very interesting and memorable occasion as that which has gathered us all together in this place. I bear the warm and affectionate greetings of a sister institution, and trust that this College may long be spared in ever increasing usefulness and breadth of service to carry on the important work for which it was founded twenty-five years ago.

If we are to take advantage of the opportunities which God is giving to us, we must take advantage of them very quickly, for there is no time to spare. I don't suppose that there has ever been such an opportunity in the whole history of the world as that which is within our reach to-day. Take the widest outlook on the world and you find it in a state of unprecedented chaos, and yet, never have there been such wide open doors and such a challenge from every nation to the Christian Church at home. And of all the world, I doubt if there is any part that offers a greater or more glorious opportunity than does our fair Dominion.

I spent some weeks this summer in England, and what I thought before I went over there has been confirmed, that in the immediate future, we are going to get in this Dominion a tide of immigration unprecedented in past years. If we receive these men and women from the old world, and are not able to evangelize them, and send well-trained Christian workers to live among them, it is a sorry outlook for our Dominion.

We have within our reach a God-given chance for Christian service.

The one great regret I have in living and working to-day, is that I cannot start over again where these young men and women who are members of this Bible College are starting, with the whole of their life and ministry before them. The one outstanding need of the world to-day in the hearts and the homes right round us here in Toronto, in our own great country up yonder, and over the ocean in the great unevangelized lands, our one great need to-day is Jesus Christ, and the one place where we are to find out about Christ is in the Bible, for Jesus Himself is the centre of the book.

Talk about modern literature, there is no book published to-day as intensely modern as this old book upon which your College is founded. The Psalmist tells us that this book is a lantern that shineth in a dark night. The prophet tells us that this book is the great hammer to break the stony heart of unbelief. The Apostle tells us that this book is a sword with which the great warrior is to fight. But you may have the lantern, you may have the hammer, you may have even the sharp and mighty sword, and yet they are little or no use to you unless you understand how to use them, and so such an institution as this exists in order that men and women may learn from a practical standpoint how to handle and apply the wondrous teaching of the living Word of God.

I want in the few minutes I have at my disposal to say that in my humble esteem there are four great requisites for every successful Christian institution. First of all, let me say that I believe we who are engaged in College work and are members of institutions like this, must always be careful to keep from day to day, a fresh vision of God. We cannot go out and preach something that is stale, something that we learned out of the book last year. Unless we get a new vision of the Lord Christ Himself in the

glory, we have not much of a message for anybody.

I suppose that one of the greatest men that God ever raised up was the evangelist prophet Isaiah. Read his own account of how his whole wondrous ministry started. In the year that King Uzziah died—"I saw the Lord high and lifted up." He got a vision of God. Students and graduates of this College, friends of this work gathered here to-night, I plead with you that as you love your College and love your cause, take time in all the hurry and the pressure of these busy days, to be quiet, take time to get alone, and look up yonder, and let the Lord Himself reveal His glory to you. You will go to your Sunday school, your evangelistic service, your mission work afterwards fresh with the radiance of the vision in your soul.

Then secondly, if we are to have power and a message worth proclaiming, we must have in our individual hearts a personal love for the Lord Jesus Christ. We are getting so over-organized, and there are so many things coming in to take the place of the old message. But if we are to have power and give something out to people, we must have a personal love for the Lord Jesus Christ in our hearts and manifest it in our ministry. An evangelist must be on fire. If he has not got fire he cannot recommend Christ. We must have that personal love for Jesus which enables us to go to others and say, "I know Jesus, and I love Him as I love no one else in all the world." We may not be able to define or explain it, but we must feel it. A man or woman cannot have the love of Christ in his heart without letting it out in ministry and service to others. It is expansive and contagious, you catch it one from the other, and the person who goes to preach or to teach, and does not carry the love of Jesus is not going to do much in the ministry.

This love is irresistible, it is like the sunshine. In your ministry you will come across lots of icebergs, and you cannot reach them without the irresistible warmth of the love of Christ.

Another need of the hour is the power of God. We have tremendous organization, and yet we have little spiritual power. Is it not because we have been emphasizing the mechanics of the Christian life to the depreciation of the dynamics? We have been going ahead with the organization of the work and ignoring the need of waiting upon God for the power. Do not let us run away with the idea that this power of God is something that we have to develop in ourselves; some great experience that we have to work up. The power is not in us; it is an applied power.

I remember as a boy attending Spurgeon's Tabernacle in London. Thousands of people were gathered there in the worship of God. The place was electric with power, and he preached in the very demonstration of the Holy Spirit. What was the secret? Down in the basement his chosen people had met to pray for the power of God to come down. If I had my own ministry to go over again, I would do far less work and far less preaching, and try by God's grace to do far more praying. Peter failed hopelessly before the servant maid; only a few days afterwards he stood alone before the whole Sanhedrim and acknowledged Christ fearlessly. What made the change? Why, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit transformed that man from what he was in the early part of his ministry to what he was afterwards when he received the Holy Ghost. That is what we want in our colleges and in our churches, and we all need to wait upon God for His power.

Before I close I want to say that there is another requisite for real success and blessing in Christian work to-day—an uplifted Christ. We have

got our buildings, and our organizations; we have got numbers, and money, and the good will of the people. But do not let us get away from the very heart and centre of the whole thing, the uplifting of Jesus Christ in every act of ministry, in every sermon we preach. "I, if I be lifted up will draw all men unto Me." "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world." "Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith." These other things I have mentioned, are all good. Yet all put together cannot help us unless Jesus Christ is honored and exalted.

I remember some years ago sitting in the private office of Sir George Williams, the founder of the Y.M.C.A. He was then over eighty years old. "I am an old man," he said, "near the end of my journey. I want you to tell the young men and women in Canada for me, always to uplift Jesus Christ." I pass on this message to you, students and graduates of the Toronto Bible College, from one who is now yonder in the glory. There is the book; take it anew on this twenty-fifth anniversary; get your feet solidly upon the Word of the living God. Study it, make it your own, go and live it, teach it, preach it, recommend it everywhere, and by the grace of God you will do a work for Canada and for the great, needy world.

ADDRESS BY REV. JOHN MacNEILL, D.D.

I am very glad and feel greatly honored to assist in the exercises of this occasion. I should like to convey my very warm congratulations to the Toronto Bible College on their twenty-fifth anniversary; and express the hope that God may abundantly bless this institution in the days to come. This institution has been very signally blessed of God already; many lives have been touched here by His Spirit and trained for His service.

There is a great need for service such as is rendered by the Toronto Bible College, and the past is a guarantee for still wider influence in the future. Perhaps it may not be altogether unfitting that the pastor of Walmer Road Church should be present. This institution had its first four sessions in that church. The President, Dr. Harris, the Treasurer, Mr. Shenstone, and the first Principal, Dr. Stewart, and at least four of its executive, were all members of Walmer Road Church, and of course having that good solid beginning, it could not be a failure! For this reason, Walmer Road Church will always have a warm interest in the Toronto Bible College. It was in the warm heart of the man who founded Walmer Road Church that this institution had its origin. In the untiring efforts of Dr. Harris, with his great generosity, his missionary enthusiasm, this place had its origin. It owed more to him than to any other, not only in its origin, but in its growth and its success. Dr. Harris was a man who loved his Bible and deeply loved His Saviour, a man who passionately loved the souls of men, and his great ambition was to extend the Kingdom of Christ.

Canon O'Meara has come armed with four points in his address, and I have come with three; therefore, we have the perfect number, and a message completely rounded. You who know anything of the story of the battle of Waterloo, will remember how there were three important points round which the battle waged, and how they were assailed all day by Napoleon, but at the end of the day still remained in the grip of Wellington. There are three storm centres round which the fight is raging today in the Christian world, and it is these I want to speak of.

First, the supremacy of the spiritual over the material. This institution stands in the front of the battle and bears testimony to this

fact. Twenty-five years ago you gave the Spirit the supreme place in the founding of the Toronto Bible College. The spiritual is the one great abiding reality, and this is the supreme object of the church's testimony. His kingdom is established on spiritual principles and is governed by spiritual laws. The events of the past five years have illustrated the supremacy of the spiritual. It was the spiritual appeal that summoned men to the defence of right at the beginning of the war, and it was the spiritual ends of righteousness and justice which triumphed. God's message makes its appeal to the heart of man along spiritual lines, and it is when we give the spiritual the supreme place in life that victory comes.

Second, another storm centre round which the battle rages is the person of Jesus Christ. The evil one has massed his forces to-day against the Eternal Son of God. This is the very centre of the conflict. I hope you will not misunderstand me when I say that the storm centre is not the Bible so much as Christ Himself, who is greater than His book. Christianity did not come out of the Bible, but the Bible came out of Christianity, and Christ is the centre and sum of both. Christianity is Christ or it is nothing. Either God has manifested Himself for the redemption of the world in Christ Jesus, or there is no redemption at all.

The third storm centre of the battlefield to-day is the missionary imperative of the Gospel. The great world needs the message of Christ and the redemptive power of His Cross. It was my privilege to spend two years with the forces overseas, up against the great realities of life and death, and I never found it difficult to make men believe that the cross was the central and necessary thing. Twenty-five years ago this institution set up the cross of Christ in the centre

of its message to the world, and the message of this institution has not failed. It is the great task of the Christian church to give this message to the world. Christianity arose at the beginning in obedience to the Master's command "Go ye into all the world and make disciples of all nations." True Christianity must be aggressive and militant before it can be triumphant. Dr. A. G. Gordon said that the church that is not militant is a dead church. As one who comes to you from the outside, let me say, go out as servants of Jesus Christ to the sphere of work to which you are called, and be true to your spiritual mission, loyal to the person of Christ, and faithful to the missionary message of His cross.

THE REST ROOM

The most popular spot to the fair sex of the College these days is the beautiful new Rest Room in the upper left wing of the building, which has recently been completed, and is now very much in use.

This bright, attractive room, with its pleasant, suitable equipment, and its restful, home-like atmosphere, adds greatly to the comfort and convenience of the girls. Already it has proved, as more than one has expressed it, "a veritable haven of rest, a boon to tired body and brain."

Much credit and thanks are due our good friends of the College, Mrs. McNicol and Mrs. Blake, for the time and energy they spent in purchasing and preparing the furnishings, and attending to the details of the work. The rug which adorns the floor, the rug on the lounge, the writing table, and the aluminum kettle on the gas stove were gifts from several friends, in addition to the furniture which was contributed by the classes of 1918 and 1919. We congratulate the present students in thus securing the supply of a long-felt need and rejoice

with the staff and friends of the College in the increased facilities and prosperity of our beloved institution.

PERSONALS

Rev. Geo. and Mrs. Williams, with their two children, sailed early in the fall for Formosa, where they are now laboring under the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

Rev. Duncan and Mrs. McDonald have returned with their family to Central India. Mr. McDonald took a special course of study in Knox College during his furlough.

Miss M. E. Standen, who has been home for some time on furlough, is soon to return to her field of service under the China Inland Mission.

Mr. Geo. Sanderson and Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Rice, missionaries of the

Sudan Interior Mission, have recently returned on furlough from Northern Nigeria.

Miss Jane B. Powell, of last year's class, was accepted this fall by the China Inland Mission, and left last month for her field of service.

Rev. Thomas and Mrs. Cook are now in Britain visiting friends before returning to their work in West China under the China Inland Mission.

Mr. F. E. Abrey, who attended the College last session, and who is the architect of the Methodist Mission in Szechuan, West China, has gone back to his work in that field.

Mr. Sidney Cooper, '15, of Birmingham, England, was married recently. He and his wife are expecting to enter mission service in the Canary Islands.

From the Bible College Family

Miss Edith M. Code, '18, Saskatoon, Sask.:—Words cannot express just what the training given in the Toronto Bible College means to one receiving it. Even before taking up my present work as "Girls' Work Secretary" in the Y.W.C.A., the difference my Bible training made in my Sunday School work was great indeed. Up to that time I had been fearful of teaching older girls, or even of 'teen-age girls, but I soon got over that, and was able to teach Bible classes, and even conduct a study period for the teachers, which for me was a great triumph, due entirely to the Bible College.

Since commencing work among girls, I cannot tell the value of my training there, and you can be sure that I talk about the Bible College at every opportunity. Personally, I shall never cease being thankful that the Lord led me there.

Miss Annie Mason, '17, Brazil:—

We have many advantages of civilization here; a train passes every day four miles from us, but in four months I've only seen it twice. We have 34 miles to go for our mail, needless to say we do not get it three times a day. We haven't heard from the outside world for over four weeks. Things do move quietly here, and very slowly.

Our work is among the Terreno Indians of Matto Grosso. The government has given them a reservation. We are not allowed to live in it, but have a house just outside. This means a two mile ride on horseback every time we want to go to Bananal. In the school we have over 60 pupils enrolled. Many are young men and women. The children all go in their bare feet, and the girls in their bare heads. They do

look so old fashioned with their hair done up in a tight knob. They all have jet black hair and dark eyes. Quite a few have their upper front teeth filled in a V shape. It puts me in mind of the teeth a pumpkin has on Hallowe'en night. But folks here must be in style as well as folks at home.

Our school building is made of sticks and clay, whitewashed. The roof is thatched with grass, and how the bats delight to swing over our heads while we are teaching. Big spiders crawl around the desks, much to my disgust and to the great amusement of the children as I hastily beat a retreat. We have everything grand here, big ants, big frogs, big spiders, snakes, cockroaches. This is "great Brazil" as the natives will tell you.

Mr. E. Fred. Page, '19, Kansu, China:—How dearly I would love to be with you as you meet again for another term, although by the time you receive this letter you will almost be getting ready for examinations, unless you, like myself, are so slow that you leave it all to the last few weeks, and as soon as you have scraped through one examination, you must haste to your room to finish off another. How often we said, "next term I will be ready, I will do better."

One day we saw a small procession on the street, centering round an idol in a sedan chair. Four men were taking their god for an airing. Sometimes when there is no rain, the idol is put out in the sun, so that he may do better. Have you read in the beginning of human history of a man who walked with God; then God dwelt among men, in the tabernacle; then He walked with men, going about doing good, and dying on the cross for the express purpose that He might walk in men. How different is our God, the Living One, from these dumb

idols. But the heathen realize there is something behind the idol; they have a keener sense of the unseen than many who were brought up in Christian homes.

Mrs. Elsie Grosart, Shansi, N. China:—Often when I am seeking guidance in difficult problems, I find my thoughts racing back to the Bible College and wondering "what would they have me do," and in the very thought of that, I seem to hear God's voice giving clear guidance, and so I can go forward unhesitatingly. I use my T.B.C. notes constantly, translating them into Chinese to teach these Chinese Christians here, and they are so much blessed of God. I simply cannot express the deep joy there is in teaching these dear people, and witnessing their simple, beautiful faith in God as they learn more and more of the deep spiritual meaning of His Word. And then the mighty joy of telling the story of salvation for the first time to those who have never heard of it before. For the past year and more we have had great and unusual opportunities of preaching the Gospel in this Province. The people seem willing to be taught, and give us a hearty welcome to their homes. Our present Governor is very aggressive for Western learning etc., and he has sent out orders that all the women must unbind their feet, and that all are to burn their idols and only worship "the heavenly Ruler" God. So they are asking now "how shall we worship God?" How can we get near to Him?" So it is our great privilege to tell them "the way, the truth, and the life" in Christ Jesus. And, oh! how they listen, and what eager questions are asked, "the heavenly Ruler gave His only Son that we might be saved?" And then when we preach of the resurrection and second coming, the eager question comes "when is Jesus coming back again?"

Miss Winnifred Parker, '16, North Nigeria:—I like Africa, it is lonely, cruelly so at first; there is no shock like the sudden change from civilization to blank paganism. No one can explain it, but it seems as if every line of communication was cut, and one was marooned. However, when one gets acquainted and the people begin to tolerate one, it makes a difference. We have seen many answers to prayer lately. If it were not for the power of God and the fellowship and communion of the Holy Spirit, we could not work or remain here, but "where Jesus is 'tis heaven," as I have often proved many times, and never more so than now.

I often live over in memory the past few years, from the time I started to train for the field. I really didn't live before that. How much the sacred memories that entwined themselves about the Bible College mean to me! I can see the new students gathering in the little prayer room every morning to meet God. It was in that prayer room that I learned to pray, I mean intercede for souls. I had never seen it done before. It was in the Evangelistic Band that I did my first platform praying, and it nearly finished me, I thought, on several occasions. Though I had done considerable speaking before attending the College, I had my first experience of a Gospel evangelistic message in Yonge Street Mission, when I held forth on the call of Moses. Mr. Ivory Jeffrey, now in China, followed, and said all I should have, and didn't; but Yonge Street people are long suffering, and sometimes asked when the girls were going to speak again.

AN OLD LANDMARK GONE

During the gale that swept over Toronto on Saturday, Nov. 29th, the old and beautiful elm in front of the College was laid low. We regret this loss to our frontage, as the stately shade furnished by the giant arms of that tree were very welcome during the heat of the summer months. Fortunately little damage was done, as the overhead electric wire guided the fall, and the monarch of the forest of other days lay prostrate along the sidewalk.

RECEIPTS FOR GENERAL FUND

Donations received from April 28th to Nov. 25th, 1919:

No. 1.....	\$ 5 00	No. 38.....	\$ 5 00
" 2.....	10 00	" 39.....	5 00
" 3.....	5 00	" 40.....	10 00
" 4.....	1 00	" 41.....	5 00
" 5.....	1 00	" 42.....	50 00
" 6.....	10 00	" 43.....	50 00
" 7.....	1 00	" 44.....	5 00
" 8.....	25 00	" 45.....	10 00
" 9.....	15 00	" 46.....	5 00
" 10.....	5 00	" 47.....	50 00
" 11.....	5 00	" 48.....	2 00
" 12.....	5 00	" 49.....	5 00
" 13.....	2 00	" 50.....	10 00
" 14.....	25 00	" 51.....	25 00
" 15.....	20 00	" 52.....	4 50
" 16.....	15 00	" 53.....	4 00
" 17.....	5 00	" 54.....	5 00
" 18.....	5 00	" 55.....	10 00
" 19.....	3 00	" 56.....	10 00
" 20.....	10 00	" 57.....	1 00
" 21.....	10 00	" 58.....	20 00
" 22.....	25 00	" 59.....	8 00
" 23.....	47 30	" 60.....	15 00
" 24.....	5 00	" 61.....	50 00
" 25.....	10 00	" 62.....	10 00
" 26.....	27 00	" 63.....	10 00
" 27.....	15 00	" 64.....	10 00
" 28.....	5 00	" 65.....	200 00
" 28A.....	10 00	" 66.....	12 00
" 29.....	5 00	" 67.....	10 00
" 30.....	2 00	" 68.....	5 00
" 31.....	5 00	" 69.....	2 00
" 32.....	5 00	" 70.....	25 00
" 33.....	5 00	" 71.....	1 00
" 34.....	5 00	" 72.....	20 00
" 35.....	5 00	" 73.....	7 15
" 36.....	10 00	" 74.....	5 00
" 37.....	100 00	" 75.....	5 00
" 37A.....	25 00	" 76.....	100 00
" 37B.....	100 00	" 77.....	10 00
		" 78.....	25 00