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The New Site

For several months past the Board of Governors have been earnestly and prayerfully seeking a suitable site for the new College building, and a thorough canvass has been made of the whole district from College Street to Bloor Street, and from Yonge Street to Spadina Avenue. Bloor Street was thought of first as giving the College the greatest publicity and being easily accessible from all parts of the city. One or two sites on this street were for a time considered favourably. Several other locations elsewhere had also much to commend them, but for some very good reason in each case we were led to abandon them.

By a process of elimination we have been finally led to decide upon an available lot of suitable size in the vicinity of Spadina Avenue and Bloor Street. It is near enough to Bloor

Street to give us all the advantages of that cross-city thoroughfare and just far enough away to avoid the noise of its ever-increasing traffic.

This corner is geographically and in point of population very near the centre of Toronto, and our prayer is that the influence that has radiated from the College during all these years may continue to be a source of mighty blessing, not only to this great city, but to the whole wide world.

Now that the site has been decided upon, we are able to face more definitely the much larger task of the erection of the new building, and we would ask our friends to continue in earnest intercession that we may be very definitely guided in all our further plans, and that the necessary funds may be contributed.

Principal's Report

Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Board and Council on the afternoon of April 27th

This summary of the work of the thirty-fourth session is presented with grateful acknowledgment of the goodness of God throughout another year.

1 Registration of Students

The total number of students enrolled in all classes during the session was 410.

The Regular Course.

In the regular classes the total registration was 162 as against 197 last year and 167 the year before. These students were distributed among the three years of the course as follows: First Year 67 (32 men, 35 women); Second Year 44 (16 men, 28 women); Third Year 51 (16 men, 35 women). Among these were 6 graduates of the College, returned from the mission field, who came to attend some of its classes again.

A comparison of these figures with last year's shows that the falling off took place mainly between the first and the second year. Of 100 students registered in the first year last session only 44 returned to the College for this session. When this fact was noticed last fall letters of enquiry were sent out from the office, but the answers did not indicate that it was due to any special reason. Last session's first year class was unusually large and probably some members of it did not expect to attend the College for more than one year. Many students who start the course have not the means to continue and cannot get work in Toronto to support them. The raising of the standard, too, in the College course may have deterred a few from returning, and the disturbed state of church life in some quarters may have turned others aside.

Over against this falling off in the second year is to be set the fact that the third year figures are larger than

last year and the present graduating class, that is, the number of those who will receive the College diploma, is the largest since the three years course came into force. It is also to be noted that the proportion of men continues to increase, the number of men in the present first year being almost equal to the number of women.

The geographical distribution of this body of students is as follows: 36 come from Toronto, 89 from other parts of Ontario, 5 from Quebec, 2 from New Brunswick, 1 from Nova Scotia, 1 from Manitoba, 7 from Alberta, 1 from British Columbia, 4 from England, 1 from Scotland, 1 from Wales, 3 from the United States, 3 from missionary families in China, and 7 were returned missionaries at home on furlough—1 from Africa and 6 from China.

Their denominational classification is as follows: Anglican 5, Baptist 78, Presbyterian 12, United Church 18, Associated Gospel Churches 13, Mennonite 8, Evangelical 4, Brethren 4, Christian and Missionary Alliance 3, Pentecostal 2, Disciples of Christ 1, Apostolic 1, Undenominational 12. It will be seen that more than two-thirds of the student body belong to the four major denominations in Canada, while the others are distributed among nine of the smaller, but not less important, branches of the Christian Church.

The Evening Classes.

The enrolment in the Evening Classes was 248 as against 244 last year. Here, too, we note an increase in the number of men, there being 63 men and 185 women this session as against 48 men and 196 women last year.

This body of young people was distributed denominationally as follows: Anglican 20, Baptist 120, Presbyterian

ian 40, United Church 36, Mennonite 3, Congregational 3, Christian and Missionary Alliance 3, Apostolic 4, Salvation Army 2, Disciples of Christ 1, Associated Gospel Churches 1, Pentecostal 1, Undenominational 14.

These earnest and eager young men and women come from upwards of 90 separate churches in all parts of the city including 8 Anglican churches, 28 Baptist churches, 13 Presbyterian churches, and 24 United churches and at least 18 other congregations.

These figures show that the Bible College is making its continued and undiminished contribution to all sections of church life in Toronto. These Evening Classes are widely representative. Eighty-seven per cent. of the present enrolment come from the four major denominations which probably comprise the same percentage of the entire Protestant Church in Toronto, while thirteen per cent. come from the smaller bodies which are doing their own effective work in various parts of the city.

Besides the service they are rendering to the spiritual life and Christian training of young people in the churches, these Evening Classes form an important recruiting ground for the regular course of the College. Four of the young women who graduate this year hold certificates of the Evening Course. As an illustration of the influence which the Evening Classes exert in moulding young life, let me quote from a note which one of these young women wrote in the course of the examination on one of Mr. Hyde's subjects. "I shall never cease to praise the Lord for what this study has meant to me. About four years ago I took the subject in the Evening Classes, and during that time I came to realize that God had a will and plan for my life. It came with such force as I shall never forget. I began to pray that the Lord would show me if I was in His will. I had no thought then of going into

any kind of Christian work. The result was that I came to the Day Classes, and the Lord has led me on. Now I hope to go out and take further training and ultimately serve the Lord in the foreign field."

2 Work of the Staff

The curriculum of the College was carried out by the teaching staff on the plan which has been followed since the course was extended to three years. This plan was explained in the annual report two years ago and need not be repeated here.

We have to record the fact, however, and we do so with deep sorrow, that the College has suffered a great loss in the death of Rev. W. C. McKendry who had been added to the staff two years ago. Mr. McKendry carried on his work throughout the fall term in the face of evident ill health. His high sense of duty and his devotion to the interests of the students led him to continue at his post until the end of the term, in the hope that he would get the necessary treatment and rest during the holiday season. When he went to his home at Westport it was found that he was suffering from fever due to some serious infection. Every means was taken for his recovery and earnest prayer was offered up continuously by the staff and the student body for his restoration to the work that he loved and for which he was so well fitted. But after three months of patient suffering he was called home to his rest.

When it was known that Mr. McKendry would not be able to return to the College after the New Year, the other members of the staff gladly undertook to carry on his work. Dr. Waters took over Religious Pedagogy and the whole of the English work. Mr. Hyde took an additional hour with the Senior Class, and Dr. Weston the whole of Thursday evening with the Evening Class. The Principal took over Church History and New

Testament Greek. Dr. McFavish came to the assistance of the staff and gave a course of lectures to the Senior Class on the Teaching of Paul. Thus all the work was carried on to the end of the session without any serious loss in the efficiency of the course.

Mr. McKendry's death leaves an important place in the staff to be filled. We would suggest, however, that no permanent appointment be made until the present plans for the future have been completed and the College is established in a new building. The work can be carried on in the meantime by the present staff, with the help of special lectures.

3 Student Activities

The various activities were all efficiently maintained under the wise and watchful leadership of the Students' Executive Committee, usually known as the College Cabinet, of which Mr. Harry Moore was President and Miss Grace Ferris was Head of the Girls' Department. In this connection the following summary may be of interest.

The Evangelistic Society.

From the reports of the evangelistic work, which was under the leadership of Mr. Ernest Tatham, we gather the following summaries:

Church Services conducted by individual students, 105 Sunday Services and 101 Week Day Services.

Gospel Services conducted by bands of students, 47.

Factory Meetings conducted by small groups of students, 80.

Miscellaneous Appointments, 108.

Sunday School work—101 regular teachers (34 men, 67 women) and 49 special supply teachers were provided for 53 churches and missions in the city.

Hospital work—324 visits were made on week days by individual students with 1,188 personal interviews. 62 Sunday Morning Services were conducted in the wards of two of the

largest hospitals by small bands of students. The hospital work this year has been specially blessed. No finer work has been done during the session than that which has been so faithfully and patiently carried on by the devoted band of students who have given themselves week by week to hospital visitation.

The practical work records of the College for the past session show that 2,060 persons have been dealt with, and that 299 of these have made a decision for Jesus Christ as a result of the personal work of the students.

The Missionary Society.

The Missionary Society, under the leadership of Mr. John Harvey, carried on the following activities:

26 Wednesday afternoon meetings, addressed by 19 missionaries representing the whole world field, including especially China, Korea, India, Africa, South America, Mohammedan lands, the Arctic Regions and the Jews.

25 Thursday morning prayer meetings, when the whole world was interceded for and special prayer made for members of the T.B.C. family on the field.

135 noon prayer meetings, when the world field was divided into sections and groups averaging 10 students each, met separately to pray for stated fields in which they were specially interested.

26 meetings of the Student Volunteer Band for the special study of the missionary's work and the lives of great missionaries.

The Lunch Room.

The lunch hour has become one of the most important features of the daily life of the College. The lunch room work was carried on under the superintendence of Miss Dorothy Whiting and Miss Lena Elliott. Lunches were provided each school day and suppers for the evening students twice a week. A total of 7,924 individual meals were served during

the session. This was accomplished with a charge of 15 cents a meal, and a substantial balance of about \$90.00 remained at the end.

Outings and Socials.

The recreational and social side of the student life is not overlooked. One of the committees appointed by the Cabinet had the responsibility of arranging for Saturday Outings, and twenty of these took place during the session.

For the purpose of maintaining and cultivating the fellowship and friendship which exists among the whole student body, two social evenings were held during the session, one each term, in which both the day and evening classes united. These gatherings taxed the capacity of our Assembly Hall, the attendance on each occasion being well over 300.

Such is a brief and partial summary of the life and activity that has gone on in this place during the session now closing. It reveals, on the one hand, something of the earnestness and singleness of purpose which characterize the students of the College, and, on the other hand, the sanity and well-balanced character of their Christian life. A sense of deep and genuine joy pervades the whole Bible College fellowship.

4 The Enlargement of Opportunity

For several years the need of more accommodation for the growing work of the College has been pressing upon us and the question was whether we should rebuild on our present site or move to another location. The recent announcement of the University of Toronto that our site will be required for one of their new buildings has decided the question for us and has brought the matter to an immediate issue. The College is now faced with the necessity of moving, and a new era in its history is about to open. This naturally raises the question whether this institution, being inde-

pendent and unrelated to any of the denominations, has justified its right to exist and its right to an enlargement of its opportunities. We desire to rest the case of the College on three unique features of its work.

1. This institution gives the Bible the supreme place in its scheme of education and training. It puts the Bible squarely in the central and dominating position in its curriculum. Every student who passes through the three years' course is required to read the Bible all through from beginning to end and to study what is written therein book by book. The Bible is made to stand upon its own feet before the student and allowed to speak for itself. To this central discipline one hour is devoted every day throughout the course, and all the other subjects of the curriculum are vitally correlated to it, each contributing to the mastery of the Bible or drawing upon it for its materials.

After watching the effects of this method of training for many years, we have seen with increasing wonder and delight a two-fold result being produced. In the first place, the character of the living God rises up out of the pages of the Bible and grows upon the mind of the faithful student. As he follows the majestic march of the historic revelation of God to man recorded there, he comes to realize more and more the profound significance of God's redeeming purpose for the world. In the second place, the personality of the student develops in response to this revelation as a flower opens to the sun. He is being truly educated, not standardized according to a pattern, but drawn out in the true exercise of his own God-given qualities and endowments. There is no more commanding educational and cultural discipline than this kind of Bible study, and there can be no complete equipment for Christian work without it.

2. The Bible College gives prayer the primary place in all its life and work. It is in the atmosphere of prayer that all the work is carried on, both by the staff and by the student body. Each school day begins with a group of students meeting in the prayer room and waiting on God before the regular work of the class room opens. At each noon hour small groups meet for prayer for specific objects. On Saturday evening a group of the girls meet in their own room for prayer about matters concerning themselves, and then join the men in the prayer room, when the student body as a whole wait upon God for His blessing upon their work during the coming Lord's day. Throughout the whole past session a small group of eight or ten of the young men gathered every Wednesday at 7 o'clock in the morning in a room in the basement set apart for the men's own use, and there waited on God for special spiritual revival. When the College Cabinet met each week to consider questions relating to the student government, they always spent half-an-hour in prayer before transacting any business. Is it any wonder that the life of the College moves along with such steadiness and peace, undisturbed by anything that may happen around. Here the students are learning to live in the presence of the great unseen realities; here their lives are taking root in the deep and eternal foundations.

3. The Bible College puts the salvation of souls in the forefront as the definite object of Christian work. We do not specialize in departments of Christian service; nor do we profess to train experts in any department; but we do specialize on the essential feature of all Christian work, and the College does seek to train experts in the supreme business of bringing men and women to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The summary of their activities given above shows something of what the students have been doing in this respect and something of the results that have been recorded. But this does not tell all the story. Some of the finest results cannot be tabulated. No estimate could be made of the contribution which the College is making year by year to the aggressive evangelizing forces of the city. Let me illustrate this by referring to two unsolicited tributes that have been paid to the work of the students this year.

The Board of the Yonge Street Mission, the most outstanding Rescue Mission in the city, at their annual meeting this month passed a resolution which was sent to the leader of the Evangelistic Band in a letter from the Superintendent of the Mission in the following terms: "On motion duly seconded at our Annual Board meeting, it was resolved that the warm thanks of the members be extended to you and to the student body for your splendid co-operation with the Yonge Street Mission during the past season. Your weekly meetings and your valiant assistance at the noon lunches have been a great blessing to the work, and we have greatly enjoyed all your fellowship and earnest effort here." The remarkable story published in the last number of the "Recorder" of the conversion of a veteran of the Great War, who, after wandering all over the world in sin and shame, had drifted into the Yonge Street Mission one night last fall and was arrested by the happy faces of the Bible College students on the platform, is a testimony even to the silent influence of the lives of these young people.

The other tribute was contained in a letter sent to the Principal last week from the Sunday School Teachers' Association in a mission carried on by the United Church in the north-west of the city. The minister in charge of this mission had appealed to the

College early in the session for Sunday School teachers, and four students had been sent, one young man and three young women. This letter was an expression of gratitude to the Bible College for the work these students had done. After describing in terms of warm appreciation the assistance which all these students had given both in the Sunday School and in the Children's services on Sunday morning, the letter went on to speak particularly of the work of the young man in the group. Let me quote part of the passage.

"We feel the work of Mr. Harold Brown is deserving of special mention. In bringing back into the Sunday School and holding a class of young men who had not been attending any service for a year or more, he has laid the groundwork for a Young Men's Bible Class which has been entirely lacking in the past. . . On March the 4th the Minister of the Church requested that a Decision Day be held and Mr. Brown was chosen as the leader. The teachers met several times for conference and prayer. On April 1st, the formal Decision Day, Mr. Brown gave his message and dur-

ing the prayer that followed the children were asked to make public confession of Christ as their Saviour by coming to the front of the room. Eighty-two children responded. In spite of the greatness of this number the teachers are unanimous in believing that this was the work of the Holy Spirit. There was nothing emotional or sensational and the children were restrained rather than urged to come forward. The response was immediate, spontaneous, quiet and orderly." The letter closed with praise and thankfulness to God for this proof of His redeeming power.

An institution which can equip and inspire its students to do this kind of work for the churches has surely justified its existence. And not that only. The blessing of the past and the opportunity of the present constitute a solemn call for the future. The need of a deeper spiritual life in the Church at home and of a wider evangelism in the mission fields of the world adds still further emphasis to this call. May the Toronto Bible College be found ready and worthy to enter upon the new era which is now opening before it.

The Graduation Exercises

Reported by D. A. W.

Another regiment has marched forth from training headquarters to take its place in the King's army. The "send off" was from Knox Church, Spadina Avenue, on Friday evening, April 27th. And what a gathering! Every nook and corner of the great building was crammed with interested human beings. Every denomination was represented, showing the enlarging place the Bible College occupies in the thought of the entire Christian constituency. Unfortunately about two hundred persons were unable to gain admission to the building, while as many more

were compelled to stand throughout the exercises.

The evening was most inspiring. A choir of some sixty voices responded faithfully to the baton of Mr. Ernest Shildrick in presenting two beautiful anthems. Rev. R. P. Mackay, D.D., presided in his own inimitable manner, guiding the proceedings in that quiet, reverential way which is a characteristic of all the work of the College. Expression of thanks for Dr. Mackay's ministry and for his life-long interest in those high things for which the College stands was given during the evening. After Scripture reading and prayer by Rev.

Dr. Inkster, minister of Knox Church, Principal McNeil gave a concise view of the year's work, and pointed out the special and unique features of the College which justify its further development and enlargement.

The three addresses by members of the graduating class were worthy deliverances. None of the speakers need worry about a place of usefulness in the church of God with such messages as these as the passion of their lives. And the College has just right to feel proud of its children. We hope that the pages of "The Recorder" will carry these messages to all our friends for they are truly indicative of the high type of work in which the College is engaged. After the presentation of Diplomas and Certificates,

Rev. Dr. MacTavish led in a prayer of dedication for those who were stepping out into their various fields of service from their College home.

There is no doubt that many people were touched, not alone by the addresses and the graduation, but by the spirit and atmosphere of the service. There was a dignity, a depth, a reverence about the entire evening's proceedings that made one realize that God was near. The service closed with the College hymn:

Help me, O Lord, the God of my salvation!

I have no hope, no refuge but in Thee;

Help me to make this perfect consecration,

In life and death Thine evermore to be.

The Last Alumni Meeting at the Old Headquarters

The most representative of all Alumni gatherings of the College convened in the Assembly Hall on the afternoon and evening of April 26th to discuss the common interests of the larger College family. A roll-call of Graduating Classes revealed the fact that members of the years 1897 and 1898 were present, and every class from 1903 to 1928, in unbroken succession, responded in the person of one or more of its members. They came from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south, to sit down once more in the "Old College Hall."

There was a solemnity about this occasion, a tinge of sadness, as all realized that the gathering would probably be the last of the kind to assemble at the old headquarters. But as the possibilities of the future opened up before us, a note of joy and of Christian optimism prevailed, for our College Mother is embarking upon an enlarged career of usefulness. It is not in the heart of any member of the Alumni Association to attempt

to stop the wheels of Christian progress that God sets in motion. His hand is beckoning on. This was the sure conviction of this great gathering, and we gave ourselves afresh to Him to follow His leadership into the "large place" in which He is setting our feet.

It is one distinctive mark of the Toronto Bible College that it follows no leadership but that of the Divine Spirit; that it does not attempt a work of standardization in its curriculum; that it seeks to beat out its own path under divine guidance; that it believes it has a distinctive place to occupy and a distinctive work to do which can be done only by an institution which stands apart, and which, while recognizing the value of higher education, puts the Word of God in the centre of its system.

Well, those of you who were not privileged to attend this happy reunion will desire to know something of what transpired. The president, Rev. George Booth ('16) of China, conducted opening worship, after

which routine business was completed. Two items of special importance were thoroughly explained and discussed, namely, the new Constitution of the Alumni Association (this will be found on another page) and the part which that Association ought to take in the new building scheme.

1928 is to be for this great family "the beginning of years." Our College must move. A new and larger building is to be erected somewhere in the heart of Toronto. And we, as graduates and students, must share this burden and responsibility. We hereby sound a clarion call to prayer on behalf of the College at this turning-point in its history. Begin to-day to pray daily that those charged with this responsibility may be guided in detail by the Divine Spirit. A thoughtful discussion centered around the obligation of the Alumni to the College, and it was decided to refer the matter to the Executive with power to act. It seemed, however, to be the opinion of all present that we should undertake to furnish our new College home. You will be kept in touch with the progress of the campaign. Meanwhile, as you pray, begin to think of what you ought to give during the next few years to help the Alumni equip the College for real, aggressive work.

The topic for the Alumni Conference this year was, "The Enlarging Opportunity of The Toronto Bible College," and it was ably presented by Rev. W. T. Steven, M.A., of Immanuel Baptist Church, from the theological side, and by Rev. O. G. Dale, D.D., of Dovercourt Presbyterian Church from the practical side. Mr. Steven pointed out that the great group of students who had attended the College during the years of its ministry and are now bearing their testimony to the truth for which the College stands must exercise a conservative influence on the theology of the church universal. The text of

the motto over the platform, taken in its completeness, "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom", was used and applied by Mr. Steven to explain the secret of this influence. There was much unbelief abroad to-day but the sanest and surest way to combat it was to spread the truth and exemplify it in Christlike lives, and this the Bible College was doing.

Dr. Dale suggested that the Bible College stood preeminently for four things, and these he enlarged upon: (1) The development of the spiritual life of the student, that is, the development of the individual in his own personal experience. (2) The mastery of the English Bible, as an introduction to theology and as an essential equipment for the ministry. (3) The art of soul winning as fundamental to preparation for Christian service. (4) Training for expository preaching and teaching.

About 200 persons enjoyed the delightful lunch, planned and prepared by two members of the T.B.C. family from the foreign field, and served by the students of the College. The evening meeting was in the hands of our Principal and it is always a pleasure to be in a meeting over which he presides. The graduating class of 1928 was welcomed into the fellowship of the Alumni, and the newly elected Honorary President, Rev. Dr. Brownlow of Eaton Rapids, Mich., commended them to God in prayer. Rev. George Booth delivered the President's address in which he explained that the Bible College course of training produces in its students the two great spiritual qualities of quietness and confidence. He illustrated this from his own experience in China.

The reports of the student activities for the year were then presented. A summary of them is contained in the Principal's report in this issue. Following this, brief addresses were

given by Miss Brimstin of West China, who was present at the laying of the corner stone of the building we are now vacating, Miss Helen McDougall of Honan, China, Miss Marguerite Booth of Yunnan, China, Miss Inez Botterell of South Africa, Mrs. Duncan McDonald of Central India, Mr. F. W. Story of South America, and ex-Rabbi Bregman of Israel.

After a few remarks by Dr. Waters, the College Secretary, and prayer by Mr. Hyde for the widow and family of Mr. McKendry who had been called into the eternal home during the session, Principal McNicol, at the request of one of the old graduates, conducted "family worship", reading Psalm 91 and closing with prayer.

D. A. B.

The New Constitution of the Alumni Association

Hitherto two distinct organizations have existed side by side, the Alumni and the Students' Associations. The action of the meeting in April joins these two bodies, and does away with the name, Students' Association. All graduates of the day or evening classes become active members in the Alumni Association, and all others associate members, provided they have been regularly registered in the College Course. The ideal that the committee has sought to realize is to have all graduates and former students united in one big College family—*The Bible College at work in the World*. All who read these lines should write immediately for membership in the Association, providing they can fulfil the conditions.

The constitution as now operative is as follows:

1.—Name

The name shall be "The Alumni Association of the Toronto Bible College."

2.—Object

The organization of all regularly registered students of the day or evening classes, for the purpose of conserving their fellowship and furthering the interests of the Toronto Bible College.

3.—Membership

(a) Active members: They shall be graduates of the day or evening classes.

(b) Associate members: All others than graduates shall be considered as associate members.

(c) Others may be voted to fellowship in (a) or (b) by action of the Executive Committee.

(d) Honourary: Honourary members may be appointed at the discretion of Executive Committee.

(e) An initial fee of one dollar is expected from each person on becoming a member of the Association which entitles said member to receive thereafter the College Quarterly, "The Recorder."

4.—Officers

The officers shall be a president, two or more vice-presidents, honorary president, secretary-treasurer, councillors representing (1) the day class graduates; (2) the evening class graduates; (3) the non-graduates; (4) the under-graduates (represented by the president of the Student Body and the Head Girl). Other committees may be appointed as required.

(a) The president and the secretary shall be day-class graduates.

(b) Duties of officers: Each officer shall work in his or her office to the best interest of the organization as a whole.

(c) Executive Committee: The officers as above, together with the Principal and Secretary of the College.

5.—*Meetings*

(a) A nominating committee shall be appointed at each annual meeting, and other committees may be appointed as required.

(b) An annual meeting shall be held in the week of the College closing, at which time shall be presented:

(1) Report of the Executive's work for the year.

(2) Report of the Nominating Committee.

(3) New Business.

(4) Addresses and conference on some topic arranged before-hand by the Executive.

(c) Executive meetings may be called by the president or secretary.

The Officers elected for the next year are as follows:

Honourary President—Rev. T. G. R. Brownlow, Ph.D. ('97), Eaton Rapids, Mich.

President—Rev. George Booth ('16), of China.

Vice-Presidents—Rev. Wm. Yates ('12), Toronto; Hamilton J. Jackman ('24), Toronto; Miss A. E. Locke ('26), Toronto.

Secretary-Treasurer—Rev. D. A. Burns ('16), Toronto.

Councillors—Day Classes—Charles Patterson ('15), Mimico; Rev. J. J. Roberts ('17), Burlington.

Evening Classes—Miss L. Armstrong ('25); Reuben H. Chappell ('26).

Non-Graduates—Martin Love, J. H. Hunter, Miss Eva C. Meen.

Servants of Christ

The Inaugural Address delivered by Miss Constance Knight at the Graduation Exercises on April 27th

“Servants of Christ doing the will of God from the heart.” Eph. 6:6.

This is the text that we as a graduating class have chosen for our class motto. As we leave the Bible College, where for three years we have been preparing for the Master's work, it is our prayer that we may be worthy, “servants of Christ doing the will of God from the heart.”

It is a great privilege to be “servants of Christ”, for our Lord has said, “If any man serve me, him will my Father honour.” Not only is it an honour and a privilege but it is also a great joy. The Psalmist tells us to “serve the Lord with gladness.” Our service does not end with this life. We shall continue to serve Him in the life to come. In Revelation we read, “His servants shall serve him: and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.”

The prophet Isaiah, centuries before the birth of Christ, announced the coming of One whom he called, “the Servant of the Lord.” Jesus Christ was the fulfilment of this

prophecy, for it is said of Him, “That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, Behold my Servant, whom I have chosen.” Our Lord left His home in glory and came to this earth with a particular work to do. He said, “My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.” Again He said, “The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

I. Jesus was a perfect Servant, and He has left us, His servants, an example that we should follow in His steps.

(1) He was an *obedient* Servant.

The Apostle Paul writes to the Philippians, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a Servant and was made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as

a man, he humbled himself, and became *obedient* unto death even the death of the Cross."

In every walk of life we know that obedience is a necessity. In the Christian life, if we make Jesus Christ the Lord and Master of our lives, we must obey Him. "His servants ye are whom ye *obey*." The Master has a place and purpose for each one of His servants. The servant does not choose his own work, and make his own plans; he merely does as His master commands, and goes where his Master sends. But he must be ready and willing to hear his Master's voice. So we must have our spiritual ears open to hear the Lord's voice that we may know His will. Like Samuel, may we be ready to say, "Speak, for thy servant heareth." If we surrender our wills to His will and live in a continual attitude of surrender, we shall be, "servants of Christ, doing the will of God."

(2) Secondly, Jesus was a *faithful* Servant.

The writer to the Hebrews said, "Consider the apostle and high priest of our profession, Jesus Christ, who was faithful to him that appointed him."

You will remember that in the parable of the talents the master called his servants together and gave to "every man according to his several ability." The Lord has given to each one of us different capacities and gifts. Let us not covet the ability or opportunities of some one else, but using the gifts that we have let us do our best in the Master's service. Mary of Bethany offered the very best she had when she broke the alabaster box of ointment of spikenard "very precious." The children of Israel were told to use the very best materials in making the tabernacle; and even insignificant vessels in Solomon's temple were made of "perfect gold."

"God wants our best. He in the far-off ages

Once claimed the firstling of the flock, the finest of the wheat; And still He asks His own, with gentle pleading,

To lay their highest hopes and brightest talents at His feet.

He'll not forget the feeblest service, humblest love;

He only asks that of our store we give the best we have."

To do our best service we must be faithful in even the smallest details. "He that is faithful in that which is least, is faithful also in much." A faithful servant never leaves any unfinished work. So often in our Christian service we start off with great enthusiasm, then we become half-hearted and careless. Jesus the perfect Servant, our great example, said, "I have glorified thee on earth, I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do."

Perhaps faithfulness to the Lord may lead us into personal danger or difficulty. Then may we not be found wanting. You will remember that when Absalom rebelled against king David, David's servants remained loyal to their king. Though they endangered their lives they said, "Behold thy servants are ready to do whatsoever my lord the king shall appoint."

(3) Not only was our Lord obedient and faithful but He was a *loving* Servant. His whole ministry was one of love and compassion and mercy. His was the greater love. "For greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends."

We cannot do effectual service unless our hearts are full of love for our Lord, and love for all those for whom He died. "There is no service like his who serves because he loves." The elder brother in the parable of the prodigal son was an example of one who rendered dutiful, but love-

less, service. He said, "Lo, these many years do I serve thee." But he had missed the essential element of true service. There was no understanding of the father's heart, no communion of spirit, or fellowship of feeling. He had crowded love out of his life and enthroned cold, hard duty.

If we are to be "servants of Christ doing the will of God *from the heart*" we must render loving, heartfelt service. Wordsworth speaks of

"That best portion of a good man's life,

His little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love."

The natural outcome of love to Christ is a constraining love for all men. "The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost." Paul said to the Galatians, "By love serve one another." John in his Epistle says, "This commandment have we from him that he who loveth God love his brother also." "Let us not love in word neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth."

II. Our Lord was strengthened for His ministry by the Holy Spirit.

Before He began His public ministry at all the Holy Spirit came upon Him and He was endued with power from on high. All that He said and did was in the power of the Spirit.

We read that, "Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from the Jordan," and again, "Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee."

We may have the very same power for service as Jesus had. God said through the prophet Joel, "On my servants and my handmaidens will I pour out in those days of my Spirit." This was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost, when a great transformation was wrought in the lives of the disciples. Jesus had said to them, "Tarry at Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high."

When the power of the Holy Spirit came upon them they were completely changed. Whereas they had been timid and fearful, forsaking the Lord or following afar off, they were now "filled with the Holy Spirit and spake the word with boldness." The apostle Paul, one of the greatest servants of Christ, one who delighted to call himself the "bond-slave of Jesus Christ", realized that his strength was only in the Holy Spirit. He prayed that the Ephesians might, "be strengthened with might by his spirit in the inner man."

As "servants of Christ" we are engaged in a spiritual or supernatural conflict. "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." But we may summon to our aid a spiritual and supernatural force. We have all the resources and might of God Himself upon which we may rely. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

If we try as "servants of Christ" to work in our own strength we shall fail, because of ourselves we can do nothing. An electric light bulb may be perfectly made and fitted in every way to shed a bright light, but unless the electricity is turned on and power flows into the bulb there will be no light at all. We must have the Holy Spirit within us, then shall we have strength, wisdom and grace for any service that may be given us.

Let us not think so much of our getting the power of the Spirit and using it, but rather let us think of the Holy Spirit getting full possession of us and using us. We must completely abandon ourselves to Him, and abide in Him and live the new life which is hid with Christ in God. Our fellowship with the Lord is really more important than all our good

works. A good servant seeks his Master's interest rather than his own interest. We must die to self and sin, and give Jesus Christ the pre-eminence in all things. If we can say, "I live, yet no longer I, but Christ liveth in me", then shall we be effectual servants of Christ.

III. We have spoken of the qualities of a servant, and the special power given us for service. Let us now consider for a few moments the reasons why we should be servants of Christ.

St. Paul says in the 12th chapter of Romans, "I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." The apostle speaks of service for Christ as a *reasonable* thing. It is reasonable, because "we are not our own, we are bought with a price." "Ye are not redeemed with corruptible things such as silver and gold, . . . but with the precious blood of Christ." Jesus Christ has poured out His own life's blood to save us from our sins because He has loved us with an everlasting love. If, then,

Christ has redeemed us at such infinite cost, is it not reasonable that we should give our lives for His service?

"I gave my life for thee,
My precious blood I shed,
That thou might'st ransomed be
And quickened from the dead.
I gave my life for thee,
What hast thou given for me?"

It is a great responsibility to be a Christian, because we are told to minister the grace of God to others. "For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required." There are millions who have never heard of the full and free redemption we have in Christ Jesus. There are numbers who have heard but are utterly indifferent to the Saviour's love. It is nothing to them; they pass by. The fields are white unto harvest, and we know not when our Lord may return to gather His own unto Himself. His servants must be ready and willing to serve Him now, "for the night cometh when no man can work." God grant that when our task is done we may hear the Master's voice saying to each one of us, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Rev. W. C. McKendry

Reference is made in the Principal's Report to the great loss which the College suffered during the past session in the death of Mr. McKendry. He passed away on March 19th at Westport, Ontario. The funeral took place two days afterwards from the home of his brother, Dr. McKendry, at Winchester, which is not far from the old family homestead.

A public service was held in the Presbyterian Church, the Baptist Church being too small for the purpose, and the congregation which filled it was a manifestation of the high esteem in which Mr. McKendry was held throughout the whole community. The service was conducted

by the Baptist pastor, Rev. Ernest Butcher, who is an alumnus of the Bible College. Both the Presbyterian and the United Church minister took part. Addresses were given by Mr. Judson, missionary to the sailors on the Welland Canal, one of Mr. McKendry's closest friends, and Mr. McNicol who represented the Bible College.

Mr. McKendry's place in the College will be hard to fill. But greater far is the gap that has been left in the home; and the deep and prayerful sympathy of the Bible College family goes out to the widow and her four children.

Treasurer's Report

| Receipts | | Disbursements | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Balance on hand 30th April, 1927.... | \$ 1,019.63 | Salaries | \$14,330.00 |
| Contributions for Maintenance | 11,142.10 | Ground Rent | 280.00 |
| Registration Fees | 1,523.00 | Rent for use Zion Chapel | 200.00 |
| Knox Church— | | Coal | 887.50 |
| "Parsons Memorial Lectureship" | 2,500.00 | Telephone | 121.70 |
| Jessie McNab Estate | 1,736.52 | Light | 152.28 |
| Sundry—For use of Hall | 15.00 | Water and Gas | 23.95 |
| Interest on Investments | 1,559.72 | Postage | 145.63 |
| | <u> </u> | Revenue Stamps and | |
| | \$18,476.34 | Exchange | 17.54 |
| | | Printing & Stationery | 741.58 |
| | | Caretaker's supplies | 108.64 |
| | | Repairs & Renewals | 56.45 |
| | | Unclassified expenses | 97.90 |
| | | Advertising | 83.75 |
| | | | <u> </u> |
| | | Interest (Annuity) | 160.00 |
| | | | <u> </u> |
| | | Office Equipment purchased | 185.00 |
| | | | <u> </u> |
| | | Balance on hand and in Bank | 1,904.05 |
| | | | <u> </u> |
| | <u> </u> | | \$19,495.97 |

I have audited the books and accounts of the Toronto Bible College for the year ending April 30th, 1928, and certify that the above statement of Receipts and Disbursements is correct.
 WILSON FENTON,
 Chartered Accountant.

News of the Bible College Family

A daughter (Zelma Ruth) was born on February 9th at Coniston, Ont., to Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Thompson (Zelma Turner, '20).

A son (Donald Goforth) was born at the Women's College Hospital, Toronto, on April 2nd, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moyman ('23).

A daughter (Agnes Marjorie) was born at Toronto, on May 5th, to Mr. and Mrs. George Bell, of Kansu, West China.

Milchie Henry ('27), pastor of the Medina Baptist Church, was married on March 23rd to Miss Hilda John of the Six Nations Reserve.

Malinda Bechtel ('21) was married on January 5th to Mr. Lovegrove. Their home is at 40 Rich Avenue, Galt.

Gertrude Thompson ('28) was married on April 28th to Mr. Wm. Hartwick of Kitchener.

Nellie Hagey ('22) has removed from Lima, Ohio, to 46 Queen Street West, Galt, Ont.

Godfrey Coombs has opened a Bible and Tract Depot in London in the Women's Christian Temperance Union Building on Clarence Street.

Rowland Simpkins is on a summer mission field of the United Church at Weyburn, Sask.

Harold Brown is on a summer mission field of the United Church at Wabowden, Man. This is on the Hudson's Bay Railway in the northern part of the province.

James N. Hepburn has been appointed to a mission field of the United Church at Fishburn, near Pincher Creek, Alberta.

Alfred Owen has been appointed to a United Church mission field in Northern Ontario.

Moir A. J. Waters, son of Dr. J. M. Waters, is on the United Church mission field of Colleson, Sask.

Rev. J. K. Holland ('23), who received his degree in theology last month at McMaster University, has been called to the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Orillia, Ont.

Elsie Wood ('23) has won the gold medal for the highest standing at the graduation exercises of Grace Hospital this month.

Constance Knight ('28) has been doing deputation work with her mother for the China Inland Mission during May and June.

Harry Moore ('28) is on a summer field of the Baptist Home Mission Board at Emo, on the Rainy River, Ontario.

Harold Phillips ('28) is on a Baptist mission field in Alberta.

David Guthrie ('28) has been called to the pastorate of the Courtland Baptist Church.

Harold Chambers is acting as pastor of the Baptist Church at Lindsay.

Fred Bregman has gone to New York City to assist in the work of the New York Jewish Evangelization Society.

David Hanna will be at Bigwin Inn on Lake-of-the-Bays during July and August.

Miranda Brown and Aileen Ratz will be at the Fresh Air Camp of Memorial Institute, at Bowmanville during July and August.

Ernest Tatham is conducting evangelistic services at various points in central and northern Ontario.

Mabel Davies ('28), Olive Redfern and Dorothea Jestin are in the Nursing-at-Home Mission, Toronto.

Elvin Snyder ('24), who finished his course at Goshen College this spring, and Mary Fretz, another former T.B.C. student, have been appointed to foreign service at Pehuajo, Argentina, under the Mennonite Board of Missions and Charities.

Rev. Henry Hellyer ('03) of Philadelphia is preparing to return to Poland in July and settle there with his family as a missionary to the Jews.

The entire staff at the Bronte Fresh Air Home of the Toronto City Mission is composed of members of the T.B.C. family. The following students of the past session are there this summer: Dorothy Whiting, Jessie Manning, Evelyn Harrow, and Orville Thamer, together with Ella Muirhead ('26), Miss Record, the matron, and Rev. George Finch, the superintendent.

In the last number of the Recorder a statement occurred that the class of 1922 had given a brand-new piano to the College. This was an error; it was the class of 1923, who changed the piano they had given before for a new one during the past session.

The address given by Dorothy Richardson at the graduation exercises on "The Pre-eminence of the Word" so impressed one of the directors of "The Globe" who was present that it was requested for publication in full in the columns of that paper, where it appeared in the Saturday issue of the next week. We hope to print it in the next number of the Recorder.

The summer prayer-meeting, held in the College every Tuesday evening by the students who are in the city, is being well attended. The prayer room has been filled each week since the session closed. Mr. James G. Aitken is in charge, and Mr. Reuben Chappell is the Secretary.