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Toronto Bible College



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The Fall Term

We have been privileged this autumn to welcome to the College a larger number of students in the regular three years' course than ever before. It is interesting to note that although a registration of ninety was the highest recorded in the Day Classes of any session during the first twenty-five years of the history of the College, there has been for the past twelve years a steady upward growth until we have this year an enrolment of 239, with a considerable number to enter in January.

The Evening Classes, with a registration of 297, are about thirty percent in advance of the Fall term last year. The new course on Teacher Training is proving very popular and will, we are quite sure when better known, attract large numbers. Our new building affords excellent facilities for the cultivation of a more intimate fellowship between the Day and Evening Classes, and the latter

are now entering much more fully into the life of the College and are becoming more and more associated with all its activities.

Our students come from seven provinces of the Dominion, and from the United States, Cuba, the British Isles, Europe, China, Formosa and South Africa. It is interesting to have groups from Canadian cities, including six from Montreal, six from Winnipeg, and fifteen from Hamilton, besides the usual large number from Toronto.

We continue to have a large proportion of our students looking to the Foreign Mission Field as their life work. Since the close of last session, thirteen of our graduates have sailed, two to China, five to South America, one to Central America and five to Africa. At least thirteen in addition are under appointment. The College has given over 340 missionaries to the Foreign Field. Our students are

erving in many capacities in the home land, and recently some of them have received important appointments.

The year's activities are in full

The Bible College System of Training

The Toronto Bible College is more than a teaching institution; is it also a training school. It not only provides a course of instruction for its students; it also surrounds them with a system of life in which Christian character is strengthened and developed. Two primary principles lie at the basis of the system under which the teaching and training of the College are carried on. These principles are student self-government within the College and constant personal contact with human life outside the College.

This explains why Toronto Bible College has no common residence or dormitory for its students. The residence system has certain manifest advantages but it has also certain limitations for the training of Christian workers. In some institutions it is necessary for the safety and protection of the individual student. But this is not the case in Toronto. We are specially favoured in this respect for the College building is located in a residential district close to the University where there is ample accommodation for students. Our students are distributed in homes or in boarding and rooming houses throughout this neighbourhood.

This does not mean, however, that the students are left to themselves in this matter. They are assisted and directed in securing suitable rooms, and they are required to live only under such conditions and in such places as are approved by the staff. We know where all our students live and a watchful supervision is exercised over their lives outside the College. Under this system the students of the Bible College are in much

swing and a large proportion of our students are engaged in some form of Christian work, in city missions, hospitals and factories, as well as in churches and Sunday Schools.

closer touch with the men and women of the world around than they would be in a separate College residence. They are living under conditions that are more like those in which they will have to carry on their Christian work afterwards. We find that this makes for the most efficient kind of training, for they are learning of human life while they are being trained for Christian service.

The common ground where the students meet is the College building with its fine accommodation for their fellowship. Here their self-government is exercised. Under their Cabinet, chosen by themselves, all the activities of the student body are organized and carried on week by week. These activities radiate out to all parts of the city in channels of practical service, and in these activities every student finds his or her place. In this common centre the Bible College fellowship becomes all the richer because of the vast variety of experience which the students contribute to it from their lives and contacts outside. Initiative is encouraged, sympathies are enlarged, and personalities are developed and expanded in a great variety of ways. This also makes for greater efficiency in Christian training.

Over all this system personal supervision is exercised continually by the members of the staff. Their purpose is to avoid standardization and to encourage the free personal development of the individual student. This personal supervision begins even before the student enters the College at all, for his application form and references pass under the careful eye of the Secretary. As soon as pos-

sible after entering the College, he appears personally before Dr. Waters to register, and is perhaps surprised to find how much Dr. Waters knows about him already. From this time on the personal interest of the other members of the staff in the student begins and extends not only to his course of studies in College but to all his life outside as well. Through a system of weekly reports we keep track of the way in which our students use their time day by day. We also watch over their health; the College is particularly fortunate in having on its staff one who can give the students expert help in the care of their health and in case of sickness.

When the practical work begins, the students come under the personal supervision of Mr. Burns, the Superintendent of Student Activities. He seeks to discover each student's capabilities and limitations so as to give him personal help and direction in the training. Then Mr. Hyde, in connection with the subject of personal evangelism, conducts a spiritual clinic every week in which the experiences of individual students are passed in review and are shared by the whole class. Besides all this the Principal is always glad to meet students in personal interviews and they are encouraged to come to his office for this purpose. Thus personal contact between students and instructors is maintained continuously as one of the most important and valuable fea-

tures of the Bible College system of training.

Government and discipline are exercised not by imposing rules and regulations upon the student body, but by keeping ever before them the great spiritual principles of Christian life and work. The students are perfectly free in the exercise of their common fellowship, but they are continually reminded of the common Lordship of Jesus Christ, and the unseen leadership of the Holy Spirit, and of the need of suppressing all self interest. And everything is bathed in the atmosphere of prayer. The background of all this system of training is an unflinching fellowship of prayer.

After many years' experience this system has been amply justified by the results. A servile spirit is avoided and there is developed instead the spirit of strong true Christian freedom. Year by year we have seen young men and women of many types of character opening up under it as a flower opens up to the sun. We have followed them as they have gone out to all parts of the world and into all kinds of Christian service. We have seen them holding their own amid service and searching tests, and maintaining a consistent Christian testimony in the midst of all sorts of circumstances. We know that the great Bible College family scattered abroad are making no unworthy contribution to the service of the Kingdom of God in these difficult and perplexing times.

My Course in the Toronto Bible College in the Light of my Experience as a Christian Worker

(An address delivered at the Alumni Conference in April, 1930 by Miss Hope Wallis '14)

It is a great pleasure to come back after so long an absence and meet with you teachers, Alumni, students, and friends of the Toronto Bible College, and to tell you how my course here was helpful in my preparation

for, and actual work on, the foreign field.

In St. John 11:38-45, we have the story of the raising of Lazarus, and in this course of the account we find two short clauses which I wish to

use as a basis for my few remarks. The first clause is, "Jesus said, Take ye away the stone", and the second is, "Jesus saith unto them, Loose him and let him go."

In this picture of Lazarus as he comes forth from the grave, I think, we have somewhat of a picture of every student entering the Bible College. Lazarus as he came forth was indeed alive, but he was hindered and hampered by the grave clothes. So we, as we enter, are "alive from the dead", having passed from death unto life, and we long to serve our Lord and Master; but we feel hindered and hampered by our ignorance, little faith, and lack of skill. And it is because we feel our limitations that we come to the Bible College. And Jesus says to our teachers and professors, "Loose them and let them go." So day by day our lives are enriched as our teachers open up the Word to us; and we are brought to some degree of skill in applying the knowledge that we have gained by entering into the practical work in which each student is led to engage.

In speaking of how the different departments are helpful, I should like to mention first the spiritual atmosphere of the College. In Romans 8:6, Paul tells us that to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Now, we all know how much easier it is to be spiritually minded when surrounded by the spiritual atmosphere which exists at the Toronto Bible College and when one's mind is constantly dwelling on spiritual and divine things. And I am sure that no one could be under the teaching and influence of such teachers without growing spiritually.

Then, in the second place, it was while at the Toronto Bible College that my faith grew until I was able to say, "Jesus, I'm going to Africa if you will open the way for me."

And all the subjects taught were helpful—studies in the Old and New Testaments, Christian Evidences, Christian Doctrine, etc. Even Homiletics, which some of us girls at least thought would not likely be of much use to us, proved to be very useful in later times when many services day after day had to be planned for.

But there was one subject especially that I wished in after years I had taken greater advantage of, and that was the subject of Vocal Music. The time came on the field when I had to lead the singing and teach others to sing the songs of Zion, and I wished heartily that I had taken more advantage of the privileges which I had had.

But all too soon, as it seems to us, the happy, useful days at the Toronto Bible College must end, and we hear the Master's command, bidding us go to those who are dead in trespasses and sins, and bidding us to take away the stones and to loose them and let them go.

Those who were present and did Jesus' bidding at the raising of Lazarus, when referring to the event in later years, would, I am sure, never say, "We raised Lazarus." It would always be, "Jesus did it." Nevertheless, they were given something to do. They took away the stone and loosed him and let him go. And we can no more give eternal life to the dead in trespasses and sins than they could have given life to Lazarus. But we too have something to do. We have to take away the stones and loose them and let them go. We who go to the foreign field have to take away the stones of suspicion, ignorance, and inability to understand spiritual things, before they will hear and obey the voice of the Son of God. Then, when they have heard and believed, and received eternal life, they must be loosed from their superstitions, religious customs and cruel practices which have bound

them for generations. In the great commission, Jesus bade his followers go and make disciples of every nation. But that was not all. Jesus also said, "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." And I dare say that workers, especially in the foreign field, find the latter the harder to do. What a blessing that we can rely upon the promise, "Lo, I am with you alway."

Now, I am thankful for all the help

which I received at the Toronto Bible College. I know I am far from perfect and have a long way to go before I can attain to the standard of a perfect workman for the Lord. But that is in no way the fault of the Bible College and its teachers. They can only teach us; we must learn. And I am glad that in the Toronto Bible College I learned to know better the One who said, "Learn of Me."

"My Ward Shall Not Return Unto Me Void"

(By Ruth MacLeod '32)

The purpose of this report is to give a representative account of the Christian work carried on during the summer months of 1931 by the students of the Toronto Bible College.

A number of the men were engaged as pastors in rural districts. Mr. Frank Dean ('32) who served under the Home Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church, had charge of two congregations in Northern Ontario; one at Bar River, the other at Laird. The work in connection with Laird was largely organization, as the church had been closed for years. Here the congregation and Sunday School increased steadily in attendance. At Bar River the church people were from established Christian homes, where family prayers were still maintained. Here the attendances in both church and Sunday School were much more encouraging. The people of these two appointments sought to show their appreciation of the preaching of the Gospel in words of genuine sympathy.

Mr. James Ferguson ('33) was stationed on a Presbyterian field about 150 miles west of Sudbury, the appointments being Sowerby and Thessalon. Here Mr. Ferguson gathered the boys and girls together and organized a Sunday School which was well maintained throughout the summer months. Making his head-

quarters at Sowerby, he made a systematic visitation of the district, gaining admission to the homes of the people and conducting family worship wherever opportunity presented itself. In these northern settlements, the people eagerly listen to the preached word and thus encourage the heart of the student pastor.

In the pretty little border town of Dunkin in Quebec, a very encouraging work was carried on by Mr. Dixon H. Gordon ('32). Mr. Gordon did not receive a very warm welcome when he arrived and so serious was the situation in which he found himself that he was almost prepared to withdraw, but God was managing everything and Sunday morning brought a goodly number to church, after which Mr. Gordon decided to stay. The town, like most border towns, is in a pitiable condition morally and spiritually. Fathers bring home to their children tobacco and liquor instead of candy and toys. However, with the sympathy and prayer of a few godly people, Mr. Gordon continued to preach the Gospel. Throughout the summer there was a marked increase in church attendance and a growing interest manifested, and several persons confessed the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

Another splendid type of work was done through evangelistic tours. Two

separate parties set out from Hamilton for the West. Our first party consisted of Mr. John Hadall ('31), Mr. Donald Sinclair ('32) and Mr. Allan Hathaway ('33). In a small car they travelled as far as Winnipeg. From there they decided to go on to Saskatchewan and make that province their special objective. They had large audiences sometimes gathered in tents and town halls, and many accepted salvation and professed conversion.

Of the second party of four, Mr. Frank Melbourne ('32) was the only student of the Bible College. The leader, a Christian brother in Hamilton, not only consecrated to the Lord's Service his large equipped house bus, but also paid all the expenses for the entire tour. After conference and prayer, the party decided to set out for the drought areas of southern Saskatchewan. To quote from Mr. Melbourne: "Here we found conditions indescribable: barren stretches of land resembling a desert, forsaken farms, people living in the midst of poverty and misery." That the hearts of these depressed people were indeed hungering and thirsting for the Bread and Water of Life was evidenced by the rich harvest of new decisions for Christ. Weekly meetings for prayer and fellowship were established in various places and from information received recently, are continuing to minister to the spiritual needs of these people.

Still another type of work is being effectively carried on by means of house visitation. Mr. Frank Ward ('32) working under the direction of the Toronto Jewish Mission, spent the summer months in visiting Jewish homes in the city. Mr. Ward carried with him the Old Testament and wherever permitted, traced from the Jewish Scriptures the passages pointing to the Messiah. At times entrance was gained to the homes and contacts established which resulted in a deep-

ening of interest in the truths of God's word.

Many of the T.B.C. girls, and a few men, served as helpers and leaders in summer camps. Miss Minnie Hubbel ('33) and Miss Florence Glover ('33) spent the summer in Bowmanville at the Memorial Institute Camp. Short services were held each day among the mothers and children who were gathered there for a holiday. Approximately 448 persons enjoyed a fortnight's holiday in this Christian atmosphere. In Bronte summer home of the Toronto City Mission, Miss Florence Shepherd ('32), Miss Bertha Belch ('32) and Mr. Earl Phillips ('33) did much to make the summer a memorable one for hundreds of other tired mothers and children there.

Mr. John McLeod ('32) in these words, gives an account of his summer's work: "While my work this summer was not primarily that of preaching, yet it was my privilege to witness for Christ in a Y.M.C.A. Camp is Muskoka for about two months. While one did meet with skepticism, yet on the whole, those to whom I spoke concerning the claims of Jesus Christ in their lives were at least interested. I am indebted to the Day School Gospel League for a number of copies of the Gospel of John which I distributed among the boys who greatly appreciated them and used them nightly in their devotions. Several came at different times to speak about these things and to talk about the problems of life."

In addition to these, scores of students of the College were engaged in ordinary occupations and in their own sphere, as opportunity afforded, gave their witness to the reality of the Christian life. Then on each Tuesday evening at eight the students of both day and evening classes remaining in the city gathered for prayer, thus sharing with those in active service the burdens and joys of the work.

The prayer meetings of the past summer exceeded in attendance any previous year. The prayer-room was well filled each Tuesday evening. A feature of these weekly meetings was the interest in missionary work and representatives from several of the larger mission fields brought interesting messages. In this way the

missionary spirit of Toronto Bible College continues to develop and the students who have gone from the school to all parts of the world are continually held in remembrance. As a result of these summer meetings the sum of \$100.00 was contributed to missions.

The Fall Devotional Evening

The College devotional service of Friday evening, November 20th, was one of real blessing to the many students and friends who attended. The earlier part of the evening was devoted to praise, prayer and testimony, the keynote being the Lord's tender and loving care for His children and the joy that is found in His service. Two vocal messages "I Am the Lord's" and "He is Altogether Lovely" were contributed by Madame Jones, and Mr. R. Greenaway, conductor of the T.B.C. orchestra, gave with his violin the Aberystwyth rendering of "Jesus Lover of My Soul."

Dr. Winchester of Knox Presbyterian Church gave a deeply inspirational message. He first of all paid tribute to the fact that for thirty-eight years the Bible College has stood four-square on the Word of God. He then added his own testimony—that for over fifty years he has known Whom he has believed and has found that Jesus alone can comfort, sustain and satisfy. In his address, which was based on the first chapter of the First Epistle of Peter, Dr. Winchester showed that we must see ourselves before God can use us, but we cannot see ourselves until we have seen God. He drew attention to Isaiah's three-fold vision—first of the holiness of God, then of the wretchedness of himself, and finally of the need of the world about him. Isaiah received

that vision when his lips were touched with the live coal sprinkled with blood from the altar, symbolizing that blood of Jesus Christ which cleanses from all sin.

The speaker pointed out that we have need, not only of conversion but also of cleansing in our personal lives. We sing, "My sins not in part but the whole are nailed to the tree." Pardon and cleansing are not synonymous. Though God has forgiven and blotted out our iniquities yet there is still the possibility of sin. The Holy Spirit while changing the moral nature has not changed the physical nature or the social environment, so there is constant danger of falling into sin. Our prayer should be, "Lord, I leave it all in Thy hands. Work through me the victory Thou hast won." Dr. Winchester also called attention to the danger of having a knowledge of things and a knowledge of the Bible without the cleansing.

In conclusion he showed that if we are to be used of God we must be willing, obedient and submissive to Him. We must "put on the whole armour of God" or as one saint has expressed it—"be enclosed in Christ." We are His light-bearers in this dark age bearing the whole Gospel, not forgetting the joyful hope of the Second Coming.—E.M.

**Cordial Christmas and New Year Greetings
to all our Friends and Former Students**

News of the U. B. C. Family

A daughter (Jean Ruby) was born on July 10th to Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bird ('30) at Haliburton, Ont.

A daughter (Dorothy Elaine) was born on October 12th to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schulte (Velma Turner '29).

On May 29th at Edmonton, Alberta, Russell Allan was married to Miss Willemyn Vanderwell ('29).

Sadie A. Lunn ('29) was married on September 15th to Rev. Gordon Elroy Lantz, B.A., at St. John, N.B.

Gladys M. Langley ('26) was married on October 17th to Mr. Mervyn Edward Morris, in Dufferin Street Baptist Church, Toronto.

Marion Ruth, the five year old daughter of Rev. John C. ('16) and Mrs. Procter of South Africa General Mission, died in Angola, Portuguese West Africa, on September 9th. Mr. and Mrs. Procter will have the prayers and sympathy of the Bible College family.

Rev. Chas. Waddell ('03) B.A., is now located at Ilderton, Ont., where he is pastor of the Baptist Church.

Dr. Sadie M. Cook ('15) and Miss Lucy Jones ('00) are home on furlough after having served their first and fourth terms respectively as missionaries under the Women's Board of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec.

Jane Goudie ('18) sailed from Montreal on November 28th for her home in Scotland to nurse a friend who is seriously ill.

Rev. Edward Hancox ('22) is sailing early in December for Liberia where he has been appointed to work under the Mission Board of the Regular Baptists of Canada.

Rev. G. W. H. Medley ('24) is now settled as pastor of the Baptist Church at Sparta, Ont.

Rev. Edgar Ferns ('25) is pastor of the Baptist Church at Dryden, Ont.

Stanley Baggett ('27) has been ordained to the work of the Gospel ministry and is now pastor of the Baptist Church at Listowel, Ontario.

Rev. L. S. ('30) and Mrs. Weber ('24) who have done such fine work in the Mennonite Mission in Danforth Avenue for so many years, have been appointed to the South American field of the Mennonite Board. They sailed from New York on October 31st.

Fred Bregman ('30) has been appointed by The Shantymen's Christian Association to carry on independent work in Goulais River District, Northern Ontario.

Jas. N. Hepburn ('31) is pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Woodstock, N.B.

Ernest Thompson ('31) is in charge of the Advent Christian Church at Woodstock, N.B.

Samuel A. Robinson, a former student of the College, was ordained a sub-deacon in the African Orthodox Episcopal Church in New York, on September 6th.

THE THIRD ANNUAL SERVICE OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC BY THE COLLEGE CHOIR WILL BE HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, AT 8 P.M. ALL FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE ARE CORDIALLY INVITED.