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C. M. Copeland

On June 25th, the Board of Governors suffered a great loss in the sudden death of its Vice-President, Mr. C. M. Copeland. Mr. Copeland began his active Christian work as a pioneer missionary in western Canada under the Presbyterian Church, but his life was devoted to the Young Men's Christian Association. He was called to become the first General Secretary of the Winnipeg Y. M. C. A. through Mr. R. D. Richardson, one of the founders of that Association, who is now a member of our Board of Governors. He was afterwards travelling secretary for Manitoba and the



Courtesy of the Toronto Star

west, and in 1901 he became provincial secretary for Ontario and Quebec.

Immediately after coming to Toronto, Mr. Copeland began to take a deep interest in the work of the Bible College, and became a member of the Advisory Council. In 1926, having retired from the active work of the Y.M.C.A., he was invited to become a member of the Board of Governors, and three years ago he was elected Vice-President.

Mr. Copeland was one of the wisest of counsellors. His spiritual insight, practical wisdom and wide and long experience were of untold value to

his fellow members on the Board. He had followed the growth of the College with the keenest and most sympathetic interest, and shared in the joy all felt in the successful transfer of the site from College Street to Spadina Road. The future development of the work in the new building was very much upon his heart and mind, and at one of the meetings in

the fellowship of the Board during the past session, he outlined the course he believed that development should take. He had a clear and sane appreciation of the kind of work the College is called to do and of the way it is being led. Less than two weeks before his death he presided at the last regular meeting of the Board for the session.

The Coming Session

On September 20th the College will open its doors to the incoming classes. The session will begin with a devotional service at 10 o'clock in which students and instructors will unite in a renewed dedication to God before the work of the College is resumed. The new students will be welcomed into the College fellowship and all friends are heartily invited to be present at this meeting.

The first day will be devoted to the registration of students; and old students who are returning, as well as the new students, should enroll in the office with the Secretary. Those who come from outside the city will be assisted in securing suitable boarding houses.

A number of changes have been made in the time-table. New students who have not high school training or its equivalent will take the preparatory year. They will meet with the entire student body for the study of the English Bible each morning at 9 o'clock, after which they will assemble apart for classes in history, English grammar and composition. As a preparation for the study of church history, the junior class will study European history. The senior class will work out the great apocalyptic ideas of the Book of Revelation. Other subjects will follow the lines of former years.

The Evening Classes will begin on Tuesday, September 20th, at 7.45

o'clock. The Principal will lecture on the Life of Christ and on the Book of Revelation. Professor T. W. Isherwood will take up the Doctrines of God and Man, and Rev. D. A. Burns will take up Studies in Practical Christianity.

The Teacher Training Course which was commenced last year and which met with such favour, will be continued. Dr. Waters will lecture on Missions, and Mr. Burns on Personal Evangelism, Department Specialization and Bible Story-Telling.

It is a little early to state with precision just how large the enrolment for the term will be, but it is probable, owing to the continuance of dull times and the failure of students to secure employment during the summer months, that a number of students will be prevented from returning and a number of those who had planned to enroll will find it impossible to attend. This is quite to be expected. The Bible College has reported an increasing attendance from year to year without abatement. Last year the accommodation was taxed to its utmost capacity, so much so, that during the summer extra seats were placed in the lecture rooms. The new building is already well filled and those who have the welfare of the College at heart are praying and thinking much about its future development.

The Background of the Bible

An address given by Dixon H. Gordon at the Graduation Exercises, April 29th.

Introduction:

The real background of the Bible is the unseen world. The first words of Scripture bear out this fact, for without any explanation whatever, they imply the existence of an unseen God. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." That is all we are told. But out of the unseen, we hear Him speak and see Him work.

From this point on, throughout the whole Bible, we have God speaking out again and again from behind the veil and revealing Himself from that unseen background. The Lord revealed Himself to Abram in a vision, and it was in a vision Abram learned the great secret of faith. In the giving of the law to Israel at Mount Sinai, God spoke, but was not seen. His voice was heard, but His form was hidden by the thick cloud which was all that the people saw.

Elijah, too, had a revelation from God in another supernatural event in which God answered from heaven by fire. Greatest of all, though, we find that God has given us a much fuller revelation of Himself and His ways from that world which is beyond our ken. "God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son." There we have it as the mountain-peak of revelation, and we see that God sets aside all other revelation as being only secondary and speaks finally through His Son. And it is this Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom He now speaks, who has become for us in the Bible College the ultimate Reality and the true background of the Bible. "We look not at the things which are seen but at the things which are

not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

1. *His Entrance to the Unseen:*

The Incarnation, without doubt, is one of the greatest and most important events in history. We speak of the importance of the Cross, the Resurrection and the Ascension; but these three events, great as they are, and important as they surely are, would not have been possible without the Incarnation. If there had been no Incarnation, with all its implications, there could have been no Cross, no Resurrection and no Ascension. The Incarnation took place in order that He might identify Himself with humanity and go to the Cross and die, and then pass through the gateway of the Resurrection and Ascension into the Unseen again.

The story is told, that during the Great War in one of the larger American cities, a man was walking down the street with his little son. It was in the early evening and the little boy noticed that in several windows, as they went along, there were hanging illuminated stars. He asked his father the reason for this, and his father explained that it was the privilege of every home from which a son had been given to the war to place an illumined star in the window as a testimony. This was all very interesting to the little boy and he took great delight in pointing them out and as they went along he kept exclaiming, "Look, Daddy, there's one, and there's another; oh! there are two of them there!" Very soon they came to a gap in the row of houses and between the houses there shone very clearly the evening star. The little lad looked up at his father and said, "Look, Daddy, God has a star in His

window, too. Did He give His Son?" Yes, indeed, in the Incarnation God gave His Son.

When we gave our fathers and our brothers and our sons to the war we trusted that they would come back again victorious. When God gave His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to this world, He knew that He would come back again, and come back victorious. But He knew also that the price of that victory was His death on the Cross. The Cross was the reason for our Lord's advent.

From the Cross He was placed in the tomb and after His resurrection, He was seen of the Apostles by many infallible proofs for the space of forty days. Then, He assembled them together and promised them that the Holy Ghost would come upon them,—“And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld He was taken up and a cloud received Him out of their sight.” Right then He passed through the gateway back into the Unseen.

2. *His Work in the Unseen.*

But possibly there comes to us, as I am sure there must have come to that company of disciples who had gathered about Him, this question, “But where has He gone? What has He gone for? What is He doing now?”

Scripture says of Him: “When He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.” He went back into heaven on completion of the work of redemption and there He is now doing the work of a Priest, in intercession before the Father on our behalf.

It is a striking fact that the last glimpse we have of Him in this world shows Him in the attitude of blessing. He had been talking with His disciples as He led them out, and then He lifted up His hands and blessed them; and while He was blessing

them He was parted from them and received up into heaven. Surely there could be no truer picture of Jesus at any point in His life than as He appeared in that last view of Him as He left this world. In heaven now He is still a Saviour imparting blessing, holding up pierced hands before God in intercession, and reaching down gracious hands full of benediction for our sad, sinful earth.

What do we see as we look into the unseen tonight? We see an ascended and glorified Saviour who, because He has finished the work of redemption on earth, is seated behind the veil, as the Administrator of redemption. There He sits enthroned and by the power of His will He once more directs and oversees all things.

It is the picture of the man who from the lowest place in a great manufacturing plant, takes his place at last after much toil and stress at the desk of the president. It is from him that orders come and by his will that the tremendous life of the great concern goes on through its course. He does not himself pour the molten ore into the mould nor does he do any of the work which follows in the manufacture of the finished product, but all the time he is the power that is behind the whole process. So Christ Jesus our Lord is the One who though not seen, is the Power that controls and operates all the machinery of our present Christian system. “We look not at the things which are seen but at the things which are not seen.”

3. *His Return from the Unseen.*

The Apostle Paul, in speaking of our blessings in Christ in the Epistle to the Ephesians, says, “He hath raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.” There, though we are still in the flesh and on this earth, is the Christian's real place of abode. We really exist with Christ in the Unseen.

Again in Philippians, he says, "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ; who shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself." Our conversation, our citizenship, or commonwealth, is there, in the heavens where God is and it is from there that we look for the Saviour.

This is the true hope of the church. In our attitude towards the Lord's return we are not merely looking into the future; we are also looking into the Unseen world. The event lies in

the future, of course, but its springs are not there. These lie in the world of unseen realities into which Christ has gone. It is this feature of the blessed hope that accounts for that sense of the nearness of the Lord which pervaded the lives of those early Christians: it was His nearness in the unseen rather than His nearness in the future. Behind the veil of that world the Lord is always "at hand". And so, while we work and wait for the Master, "We look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."

The Toronto Bible College in Summer

Walking north on Spadina Road the other morning beneath the leafy vault of oaks and maples, I suddenly realized that I was in front of the buildings of the Toronto Bible College. Being in a meditative frame of mind, I began to note the different impressions the College made upon me in July and in January. The contrast is that occasioned by the change of season and, as everything is beautiful in its season, the College has a summer beauty which is missed by those who only know it in its winter activity. The conviction which most strongly impressed me that morning was that in summer as in winter, there was something about the College which draws one's thoughts toward God. The ivy is clinging more tenaciously to the walls; the sun must find his way through an abundance of foliage to the lecture-rooms and library; the grass is clothed in her summer garb and the shrubs all vie with each other as to which is going to drink most deeply the gentle July raindrops, but God is present, manifesting His power and glory, making known His presence in as real a way as when in January, we gather in the

lecture room for prayer. It is the hem of His garment and it has wonderful healing power.

One misses the bustle of student life: the multitudinous activities of the students and the personal interviews which so greatly enrich the lives of interviewer and interviewed. Sometimes, in the stress of the session, the sense of the presence of the divine is allowed to fade out in the presence of the human and I was taught this lesson afresh on this July morning, that after all the human personalities had withdrawn, God is here and when, in the fall the students reassemble, they will enter an atmosphere from which God is never absent. We depart but He remains and His presence greets us on our return.

Of course, a certain amount of activity is necessary between sessions. The office is open each day, from nine until five o'clock. The calendars and Recorders are sent forward with their messages of cheer and their pages of information. Hundreds of letters go out to graduates and enquirers: reports of the individual students are tabulated and filed: library books are catalogued and all necessary repairs

made to the building. Things are set in order for the commencement of another College session.

Former students revisit the building, missionaries on furlough and pastors on holiday come home to greet Alma Mater. Sturdy-stepping youths call to consult some member of the Faculty about the College course and visitors who have heard of the institution pay us a friendly call. Amongst those who have called since the close of last session are Rev. Martyn Lloyd Jones, M.D., of Wales; Mr. Alfred G. S. Walford, of Montreal; Mrs. (Rev.) W. O. Rothney (Agnes B. Linklater '10) of Lennoxville, Que., Miss Ellen

Callender '31 of Guelph, and Rev. and Mrs. A. Burgess ('15) of Kingsville, Ontario.

The lamp of prayer maintains its glow uninterrupted by the passing of classes from the halls. The present summer season has witnessed fine meetings each Tuesday evening in the Prayer Room, so that from the opening of the present building, there has never been a week in which some group of students has not met for prayer. That is the basis of the impression of the presence of God one receives when entering T.B.C. God is here in the quiet of summer as in the quests of winter.

The Social Life of the Bible College

The Word of God has much to say about the social life of the Christian society, and since the English Bible is the regulating center of the Bible College curriculum, it is to be expected that its principles would find expression in the daily round of student life and such is the case. Personal contacts are all pervaded by the atmosphere of the Divine Spirit, the Inspirer alike of Holy Writ and of Christian testimony.

In this environment, the social life of the College finds natural expression. In the common rooms, happy elevating intercourse is mingled with the prayers and praises of the students. Keen interest is manifested in the problems that affect the great world of life outside its halls and the far-flung battle lines of missionary activity are constantly kept in view.

The College "campus" to the rear of the building is a frequently visited "spot" between lectures as well as in the spare periods of the afternoons.

Here the students are able to engage in healthful exercise. Although the space is very limited, yet it has been so arranged as to provide accommodation for volley ball and badminton. Many interesting contests are waged here.

Then several times during the session, the Day and Evening Classes come together in a social evening. The program usually commences with praise and testimony, after which adjournment is made to the dining hall and common rooms where games are played. Refreshments are then served prior to the reassembling of the several hundred students in the Assembly Hall for the concluding item of family worship. It is evident to those who visit the College and watch the outflow of the student life, that the students believe that God is interested in every phase of their daily lives and that every activity finds its place in God's plan for the individual and the College.

News of the U. B. C. Family

A daughter (Joyce Marie), was born to Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Downing (Lena Hoogstad '26) on July 9th.

A son (Vernon Walter) was born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rice, Toronto, on August 4th. Mr. Rice is an Evening Class graduate of 1924.

Doris Brown and Harold Warren, former students of the College, were married in Olivet Congregational Church, Toronto, on June 11th by Rev. G. W. Hunter.

On Friday, May 20th at the Lutheran Church, Ottawa, Louis Daigle ('31) was married to Gladys Panhery.

Rev. Fred Bregman ('30) is to be married on September 22nd to Marion Marsh, R.N. He is doing evangelistic work at Bellevue in Northern Ontario.

Dr. E. Warren Knight of the China Inland Mission who was a student in the Evening Classes a number of years ago, was married at Tientsin, China, in June to Miss D. G. Horsman.

Rev. W. J. Hanna ('99) was appointed C.I.M. Superintendent of Anhwei Province at the June meetings of the Shanghai Council.

Rev. Elmer M. Loney, B.Th. ('22) has resigned his pastorate at Humber Bay Baptist Church to accept a unanimous call to the Baptist Church at Preston, Ontario. He will begin his new duties early in September.

Rev. J. K. Holland ('23) visited his old home in Scotland during July and August. He will return to his work in Orillia early in September.

R. H. Chappell ('26), the Vice-president of the Alumni Association, according to the Toronto "Evening Telegram" of June 4th, has received the degree, M.G. (Master of Glass-Blowing) from the University of Leyden, Holland. Mr. Chappell is the only English-speaking person in the world, and at present is the only

person on the American Continent to hold this degree. For his final examinations Mr. Chappell had to travel to Holland two years in succession before acquiring the coveted prize. He is employed at the University of Toronto, and was special assistant to Prof. McLennan in some of his unique experiments.

Constance M. Bissex ('26) graduated from the Buffalo City Hospital on June 9th.

Constance Knight ('28) who has been secretary for four years of the Pembroke Street Y.W.C.A., Toronto, has been accepted for service in China by the C.I.M. and will be sailing in October. She is a sister of Dr. E. Warren Knight.

Dorothy E. Palmer, '29, graduated in nursing from the Isolation Hospital, Toronto, on June 16th, receiving the Riverdale Isolation Hospital Alumnae Association Prize for highest standing in examinations during the course.

Bertha M. Belch ('32) expects to enter the Nursing-at-Home Mission this Fall.

Florence Shepherd ('32) has been accepted by the European Christian Mission.

Evelyn Underhill ('32) expects to enter the Nursing-at-Home Mission in September.

Rev. F. E. Manktelow who attended the evening classes a number of years ago, has resigned the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Kirkland Lake to accept a call to Capreol.

R. E. Bonner is now working under the Toronto Jewish Mission.

Principal McNicol will conduct a series of studies in the Book of Ephesians at the ninth assembly of the College in the Woods at Camp Onawa, Lake Vernon, Huntsville, from August 30th to September 8th.

Tom Devers ('33) and George Wör-ling ('33) are on an evangelistic tour in Western Canada

Ken Miles '34 and De Loss Scott '34 are conducting an evangelistic campaign in Brunel township, near Huntsville, Ontario, under the auspices of the F.B.Y.P.A. They report a number of definite decisions for Christ.

Stanley Beard ('34) helped with a seven week's evangelistic campaign

conducted under the auspices of the One-By-One Band of Montreal, and had the joy of leading two young people to Christ.

Rev. M. A. J. Waters, son of Dr. J. M. Waters, our College secretary, sailed for Britain early in August. He is making a first-hand study of methods of church work in the British Isles before commencing his pastorate at First United Church, London, Ontario, on January 1st, 1933.

The Palestine Trip

Principal and Mrs. McNicol would like to extend to the Alumni and former students the world over their most grateful thanks for the gift which makes it possible for them now to plan a visit to the Holy Land. The trip is still in the future, as it was too late to make arrangements for it this year, and the summer is not the best time to be in Palestine. They are hoping, however, to go next spring. The present plan is to wait until the main work of the session is over and leave perhaps early in March.

They desire to make the most of this trip for the sake of the College. Mrs. S. B. Rohold, of Mount Carmel Bible School, who is a personal friend of Mr. and Mrs. McNicol, has most kindly invited them to her home and offered to plan their tour of Palestine for them. Mrs. Rohold is continuing

the splendid mission work which her husband established at Haifa after the country came under the British mandate. No man knew Palestine better than Rev. S. B. Rohold, or was more highly respected and trusted by all classes. He was born in Jerusalem and he died a year and a half ago, worn out with his labours in behalf of the land and the people he loved.

It would be a great joy to both Mr. and Mrs. McNicol if they could extend this trip, as many have requested them to do, and visit their old students who are scattered over the mission fields of the world. But this would mean such a prolonged absence that it has not been found practicable. They trust, however, that they may be able in some way to share their experiences in the Holy Land with the whole Bible College family.

Recorder File

The Alumni Association decided at its last conference to have copies of the College quarterly, "The Recorder", bound for future reference. Before proceeding with the work, the office is anxious to complete its Recorder file and would appreciate receiving copies of the following num-

bers:—March 1896; June 1896; December 1896; March 1897; June 1897; December 1897; March 1898; December 1898; March 1899; June 1899; March 1900; December 1900; March 1901; December 1901; March 1905; March 1909; December 1925.