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*Recorder* (Toronto Bible College), 38, no. 4 (December 1932)

Cordial Christmas Greetings to all friends and former students.

# Toronto Bible College



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## Recorder

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### The Present Session

All previous records were surpassed in last year's enrolment, but already this session our registration of 271 in the Day Classes is thirty-two in advance of the corresponding date last year, while the enrolment of 372 in the Evening Classes is forty-six in advance of the total registration for last year.

With our present numbers it would have been practically impossible for us to carry on the work in the Old College, and at the present rate of increase even our fine new building will soon be taxed to capacity.

Although the majority of students come from Ontario, six other provinces are represented, three coming from British Columbia and fifteen from Quebec. Students are here also from the United States, European

countries, Africa and China.

It is gratifying to note that an increasing number of students have completed their senior or junior matriculation, while others have the ambition to do so, and are attending night classes for that purpose. Our enrolment includes six graduate nurses and an equal number of public school teachers.

This year we have started a Preparatory Course for students who have been unable to acquire a high school education. After the first hour in the day, spent in the study of the New Testament, their time is devoted to high school subjects, such as English, Geography, History and Arithmetic. This will lengthen their course to four years, making it much more effective.

## Revival in the College

It started on Nov. 3rd. God broke through, setting aside the usual order and round of activity and revealed His presence to many of us in a clearer way than ever before. We didn't pray for it; we didn't plan for it; we didn't work for it; we experienced it. It is not a revival of preaching for nobody preached: it is not a renewal of organization for nobody arranged for it. It is a free movement of the Spirit of God in accordance with the teaching of our Lord. "Thou hearest the sound thereof but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth, so is everyone that is born of the Spirit". God sent it and like all that God does it came quietly and struck deeply.

The bell called the senior class to the Assembly Hall for the second lecture of the morning and, after prayer, a member of the College family volunteered to relate some things that God recently did in him as well as certain things that God did for others. He told of how in meetings with other Christian men he was led to confess certain things in his life and conduct that were wrong and of how others were led in similar gatherings to take the same action. The peace, joy and overwhelming sense of God's presence which followed these confessions and restitutions were beyond anything ever before experienced. This was followed in almost all cases by a great desire to win souls for Christ and to share with others these experiences of joy and peace.

A dozen minutes only were occupied in the telling of these things and then a unanimous desire was voiced by the students to be in the Lord's way of blessing. The spirit of prayer and confession laid hold upon every heart, lectures were cancelled and the day given to waiting in the presence of the Lord. God came near, so near at

times, that one would not have been surprised if he had stepped out of the unseen into our immediate presence. Then came confession.

Here is a young lady who rises and with tears streaming down her cheeks tells of how she had stolen from her sister's purse over a period of days small sums of money. She returned to the meeting after having secured her sister's forgiveness and making restitution. Mr. A., prior to his conversion, a few years ago, had stolen twenty dollars. He left the meeting to write confessing his sin to the party wronged who lives at a distance and enclosed a cheque. Miss B. confesses that for years she carried a grudge and an unforgiving spirit, but now she is writing to confess and seeking forgiveness. Miss C. had refused to yield the key of the boarding house in which she lived last winter because of spite and jealousy. She left the meeting to return the key, seek forgiveness and returned happy. Mr. D. confessed he had fed the sin of envy and malice against some fellow students. He now confessed and secured peace. At 5.45 the meeting closed, over 200 students having taken part during the day, but in the evening similar blessing came to certain of the evening classes and in much the same way.

With the Bible College as the radiating centre blessing was taken by groups of students to churches inside the city and in one or two cases outside as well. On the following Sunday night in a west end church after the minister had finished his discourse and had called for testimony, several of the students who were present told of the recent blessing and as a result it was 11 o'clock before the service concluded. In another church from which twelve of the young people are

enrolled in the Evening Classes when the minister made his appeal for decision for Christ, eighteen walked down the aisle and were dealt with by eighteen members of the church. The meeting continued till almost midnight. In an east end church the blessing came in the following way; one member of the managing board had come into contact with blessing in another church and when the meeting of his board of management in his own church was called he requested the privilege of telling something of his experience, and in relating this he discovered that his fellow-members of the Board were longing for something similar. The result was that instead of having a business session as was planned, the evening was given to prayer and confession, and not until 12 o'clock were they able to rise from their knees. On the following Sunday evening when the minister made his appeal 70 came to the front to take his hand. In a church in the north end of the city the pastor was requested by his young people to meet

them and to answer certain questions about which they were anxious. He gladly responded to their request, and on entering their meeting the first question that was asked was "What does it mean to be filled by the Holy Spirit?" He was greatly surprised to find that among the young people there was a group of more than twenty-five who were longing for the deeper things of the Spirit and who are now meeting once or twice each week under his leadership to study such things from the Word of God. A group of students were asked to visit a certain church about 100 miles from Toronto to conduct evangelistic services over the week-end. To that centre they carried blessing and as a result a number definitely received Jesus Christ and many others gave themselves afresh to Him for service.

And so the work goes on; from day to day we are hearing of blessing coming to many centres and to many of our former students who are engaged in Christ's work in various parts of the world.

### Fort William Students at Toronto Bible College

A little over a quarter of a century ago, adventurous souls left eastern homes to push westward to the district of Thunder Bay at the "Head of the Lakes." There they hewed out homes for themselves among the charming wooded hills in the vicinity of the "Twin Cities" of Port Arthur and Fort William, the gateway of the West, where the wheat pauses for a short time on its long journey from western fields to eastern cities. Though thoroughly enjoying pioneering in this new country, memories of the more mellow east were fondly cherished in the hearts of these people. To their children they told stories of "the east" with its "orchards," "the oaks" and "happy Christian congregations."

In our homes among the evergreens, and as we walked quiet country roads, God spoke to our hearts and led us eastward to Toronto Bible College. We have seen the orchards; the oaks in their beautiful autumn colours have delighted us. But above all we have found in this beloved College that for which our hearts longed.

We are going to leave its walls with increased knowledge. Instruction has been freely and graciously given us. We cannot adequately express our praise and appreciation of our instructors for their patience and wisdom, their giving of themselves that we might appropriate more fully the riches of God in Christ Jesus, and tell forth to better advantage the old, old story of Jesus and His love. Won-

derful it is to us, as we sit in class, to hear problems we have pondered and puzzled over in solitude, analysed and placed clearly before us, by those of broader experience, deeper study, and clearer spiritual insight. God's Word is being opened to us and its treasures laid before us in their wonderful wealth. Truly we have been inspired to study to show ourselves approved unto God, workmen that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Our vision has broadened. We have caught a glimpse of the great plan of God, moving down through the ages, and at work all over the world. Petty grievances and denominational differences have faded into insignificance. Toronto Bible College sends us forth to take our place bravely, even proudly, in the conflict for the cause of Jesus Christ.

We go forth with our personalities immeasurably enriched largely because of the family atmosphere of T. B.C. We have been privileged to know our teachers as friends. We have had the pleasure and benefit of many consultations with our "beloved physician." With our fellow students we have mingled in helpful fellowship. Exactly what each has given us we cannot say, but we do know, that through such contacts we have learned many worthwhile lessons.

Lastly and yet foremost of all, we have been led into a closer humbler walk with our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. He has come to be our Divine Friend. T.B.C. has made Him real to us. He walks by our side caring for the details of everyday life, things for which we once did not trust Him. We have learned to take Him into our confidence regarding our work.



We have tasted the joy and gladness of realizing His presence in our social life. The unspeakable sweetness of fellowship together in prayer we will never forget.

That T.B.C. has greatly exceeded our expectations is obvious, and we hesitate to even suggest we have found any lack. But we mention our one disappointment — scarcity of snow.

However, our fondest hopes along that line have lately been realized in this first white blanket which has covered lawns and fences. This token of God's providence in nature always reminds us of David's snow prayer—"Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow," and turns our thoughts to the God who said, "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow."

## Sault Ste. Marie Students at Toronto Bible College

When we eight students from Sault Ste. Marie came to the Bible College the other morning and, instead of the usual sight, saw the building embedded in the first snow of the season and the snow-laden trees around glistening in the sunlight, we thought the College looked more homelike and more inviting than ever. Not that this was a new thought, because we have often felt that even the very locality and the structure itself express something of the spirit that prevails within these walls. But every new aspect and setting of the familiar building seem to deepen the feeling and make this place more dear to us than before.

This was also our first impression as we arrived in Toronto in September, and it even exceeded the eager expectations of those of our group who, after a motor ride of five hundred miles and in spite of the fact that it was 11 p.m. and already dark, wanted first of all, even before they sought a lodging for themselves, to see the goal of their journey.

Those of us who have the privilege of attending the College for the second year can only say that we are more than ever thankful for what the teaching and the fellowship of the school has done for us. Above all other things we have found that this is a place where we learn to know



God. This is the secret of the sweetness of the College Fellowship.

Especially helpful have we found the Principal's lectures on the New Testament. As we have gone through the Gospels and studied the life of Jesus our eyes have been opened. We have contemplated this perfect life in all its wondrous beauty and holiness and have come to understand that the motive power of His life may also be the motive power of our lives. We have more and more felt the necessity

of a full surrender to the will of God and of making the denial of self the rule of our lives. We have more and more understood that the springs of our being are in God. Thus in a way that we never believed possible before we have come to see the realities and the possibilities of Spirit-filled Christian life. This same Spirit that guided our Lord in all His doings and all His sayings is the Leader of this Christian College, and all the inspiration that the School has given to us has come

from Him. This has been our experience this year more than ever before and has united us ever more firmly in the bonds of Christian fellowship.

In comparing our impressions of the Bible College this was the point each of us stressed. "The Holy Spirit who permeates the place and brings us closer to God is very precious to all of us; so also is the love and unity of the fellow students. I thank God that He has led me here and pray that He may have complete control over my life and that I may be better fitted in every way to carry out His will as He leads the way. Though at times the way may seem very difficult yet we can praise Him for the assurance that His grace is sufficient and His strength is made perfect in weakness." This testimony of one of the group is one to which the rest of us can say "Amen". Now listen to the next: "The thing that impressed me most is the spiritual atmosphere that prevails in the College. No one seems to do anything in his own power but only as the Holy Spirit leads him. The outpouring of the Spirit which we all experienced some time ago pointed out to us our secret sins and made us

all yield our whole lives to Him. Since then we have been learning what it is to live by the Spirit. I have received a new passion for lost souls."

Most of all we are thankful to God for the stream of blessing that flows from the Toronto Bible College and because He has made us partakers of it in a measure more than we can realize. We have also learned to regard the Bible College as a great family of which we all are a part and this has caused us to understand in a new way that fellowship among Christians is first of all a fellowship in Christ, sharing the blessings and the power that proceed from Him.

Thus the Bible College has in a practical way given us a lesson in Christian living that will remain with us forever. We who have had the privilege of sharing the life of the College will always endeavor to keep that sense of the presence of the Holy Spirit that makes this Bible College life so wonderfully rich and inspiring, and it has brought out in us a desire to do our best in taking it with us first of all to our home city and then wheresoever in the world God may lead us.

### Rev. Robert Wallace

One of the oldest friends of the Bible College passed away on Oct. 18th in the person of Rev. Robert Wallace, who for many years was the Treasurer of the China Inland Mission in Toronto. He had been a member of the Advisory Council of the College from the very beginning, and, until his health failed two or three years ago, he was never absent from the annual meetings. No one took a keener interest in the work of the College, or followed its progress with greater pleasure.

When he was a young man Mr.

Wallace offered himself for service in China but for physical reasons he was not permitted to go. While his life was spent in the service of Christ in home lands, his heart was in the great cause of world evangelization and in the calling out and training of young men and women for this purpose. His kindly and sympathetic co-operation in the work of the College throughout the past years was of great help and encouragement to his fellow members on the Council and to the Board of Governors. They treasure his memory with gratitude to God.

## Rev. George Robertson

A worthy member of the first class to graduate, 1896, in the old Walmer Road Church classrooms, passed away recently in the person of the Rev. George Robertson. A sister, Miss L. Robertson, graduated in 1900. Mr. Robertson went to Jamaica as a missionary for a year, but owing to poor health returned to Canada. After further studies, he was ordained to the Baptist Ministry and served churches in Welland, Toronto (Dufferin Street), Thornbury and other places. His was a quiet, unobtrusive ministry, but deep and abiding.

This writer held evangelistic meetings with him in one of his congregations years ago. Mr. Robertson had the overwhelming respect and love of that entire community as none other had, not because of brilliant preaching nor any sort of self-advertising, but by the downright goodness and reality and self-sacrifice of his Christian life and witness. It was he who visited the men in gaol and to whom they

came for help when their term expired; to whom the distressed came, seeking solace and comfort; it was he in whom the hard-headed business men believed because of his selfless service to all irrespective of denominational connection. We never once—not once, heard him express a harsh or critical word concerning a brother-minister. He was a keen, virile thinker, too. What a benediction it was to be near him for a few days—he savoured so of Christ! He was greatly beloved by his ministerial brethren and the churches he served so self-forgetfully.

Mrs. Robertson, who survives him, was one of like mind and character with her husband in all his work. His last pastorate was at Kensal Park, London, that city was his early home, and there he was buried, his funeral service being conducted by the Rev. Dr. C. H. Schutt, and other ministers. George Robertson surely and splendidly “adorned the doctrine of God our Saviour.”

W.F.R.

## Mrs. N. J. Amos

Those who were present at the Graduation Exercises in 1924 will remember the glow in the bright young face of Miss Olive Atkinson as she spoke on “The Sufficiency of Jesus Christ,” before the crowded congregation in Walmer Road Church. This proved to be the keynote of her life of devoted service, which came to an end, in China on the third of September.

She went out in 1925 under the China Inland Mission, and after the usual period of language study was appointed to the province of Szechwan. During the “evacuation” she was married, and subsequently returned with her husband to the province, and there they spent a few years of happy, fruitful service to-

gether. Mrs. Amos had early gained a remarkable facility with the Chinese language, and could use it with great fluency. She loved to talk of the glory and greatness of the Lord Jesus Christ either with her fellow missionaries or with the Chinese women among whom she carried on her evangelizing work.

Last summer she narrowly escaped drowning as the result of a bus accident. After that the words of Revelation 22:3, 4, were much upon her mind, “His servants shall serve Him and they shall see His face,” and she spoke at one of the meetings in which she took part of the entire absence in her mind of any fear of death. Two months afterwards the plague of cholera which was raging in that part



of China, laid hold on her, and in twelve hours she passed into the presence of her Lord.

The funeral service in the C.I.M. Church in Chengtu was conducted by Bishop Mowll, formerly of Wycliffe College, Toronto, and while the flow-

ers were still fresh on her grave, her little daughter, seventeen months old, joined her. The sympathy of all those who knew her in the College goes out to her husband and the two older children who are left.

### News of U. B. C. Family

On October 18th. a daughter, Elizabeth Ellen, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur C. Thompson (Grace Pierce '22).

A daughter, Lois Ruth, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stitt, of 1231 Cloverdale Ave., Los Angeles, California, on November 2nd.

On November 12th. at Scarborough Baptist Church, by Rev. Glen Wardell ('13) Rose E. Olsen ('31) was united in marriage to Ronald Bonner.

On November 21st. Fred E. Darnell '30 was married to Margaret Jackson ('32) by Rev. Leland Gregory at Sudbury.

In April last Rev. Jas. Desson, '98, of Nanton, Alberta, passed away.

On July 11th. the death of Ruth Murphy occurred in China.

The sympathy of the Bible College Family goes out to Mrs. Harry Taylor nee Olive Redfern ('29) of Long Branch, Ont., whose husband passed away on Sept. 20th, and also to Dr. and Mrs. E. J. Graham of Hangkow, China, whose little son died on Sept. 18th.

Few members of the Bible College family have been called to pass through such a sudden and severe bereavement as Mrs. Gordon Lantz (Sadie Lunn '29). Married in September of last year she and her husband had just finished a year of happy and fruitful service in the pastorate of a circuit in the heart of New Brunswick and were on their holidays, motoring in Nova Scotia. In some unaccountable way their car went out of control and Mr. Lantz was instantly killed. Mrs. Lantz was

unhurt, but her father-in-law who was with them was so seriously injured that he died the next day. Deep sympathy goes out to Mrs. Lantz in the great loss that has come into her life.

Rev. W. F. Roadhouse ('00), who has just resigned the pastorate of Avenue Road Tabernacle, Toronto, has published a new exposition of the Book of Revelation under the title "Seeing the Revelation." In a foreword, Rev. Dr. Masee of Atlanta, Ga., writes, "There can be little doubt that this contribution to the many volumes on the Apocalypse will prove a blessing to many readers."

Rev. Wm. McLean ('24) of South Mountain, Ont., has accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church in Outremont, Montreal.

Miss Constance Knight, who left early in the term for China, has reached Shanghai, and Mr. and Mrs. Melbourne, who left for Spain later in the term, are now in Madrid, learning the language.

Misses E. A. Zimmerman ('28), Martha Johnston ('32) and Marie Timpany ('33) have been accepted for service in Africa by the Sudan Interior Mission and Miss Bermeda Sanderson ('32) has been accepted by the Sudan United Mission.

John A. Trewin ('31) sailed from Montreal on Nov. 17th on his way to his field of service in Abyssinia which he expects to reach before Christmas.

Miss Mary Suttie ('32) sailed from Montreal on Nov. 30th for Nigeria under the Sudan Interior Mission with Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Forth who are returning to the field.