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FACING THE IMPLICATIONS OF AN INAUGURAL

The President Discusses His Philosophy of Education

In the April issue this year of the North Central Association Quarterly there is an article by Dr. A. J. Brumbaugh entitled, "Why Be a College President?" About 100 college presidents are inaugurated each year; and in the Association, of which Dr. Brumbaugh tabulates statistics, the average life of a college president is 12 years. One might rightfully ask, "Had you read his article, and had you seen the precarious position which he assigns to a college president, would you have accepted this responsibility?" I think I would. And it is for that reason I want to share with you some of my thoughts which have clustered around my acceptance of a position which is reputedly one of the most hazardous, lonely, and yet strenuous jobs into which a man may pour his life.

A Christian college has a number of unique differentia, not the least of which is that its history has specific correlation with what we may term the Providences of God. It would be inconsistent to believe that any vine of His planting with a history of pious prayers for Divine guidance and help across a series of decades would have no record of incidents in which the ruling and overruling hand of a gracious God had been evidenced. No secular institution makes any pretense at attempting to discover the mind of God for its decisions. Men are chosen and policies are determined by methods of human equations and strategic moves which have no place for a prayer for God's interposition. This is one of the grounds upon which we distinguish the strictly sacred from the purely secular. I am not one to profess that everything that has ever been done in Taylor University has been "of the Lord," but I am careful to add this observation that when the records are opened of the first 100 years of Taylor's unique and worthy service, we shall discover that the men who have come and gone across the years were both men of



Faculty and Students as the Processional was forming for the Baccalaureate services on Sunday morning, June 2nd. (A Centennial Photo.)

God and men, by and large, who were here in God's will.

Why am I here? I too believe that God is leading in the affairs of this splendid institution and that in providences inscrutibly manipulated, I have been asked to serve as president. At least, without conscious endeavors I discovered myself in a picture of consideration for a position which I neither sought nor from which I felt free to flee. Had I been a party, either to an attempt to flee or a design to secure the position, I fear I would have lost my fulcrum in prayer long ago. An indefinable and unexplainable thrust of divine providence must be reckoned

with as I give any rational consideration to my being here. It is not hard, therefore, for me to believe that an institution as wholly the Lord's as Taylor professes and desires to be is not without a future if those who are entrusted with administrative responsibilities persistently and consistently follow Him. That has been true of previous administrations; and I make the observation only on the point of the never failing care of God for His own. With this observation, therefore, I face a difficult task with grounds for faith.

Political parties ride into power on platforms which they may or may not

observe during their tenure of office according to their integrity or the circumstances which may or may not obviate the possibility of execution. Colleges run, or should, on principles which obtain across the years and administrators are ordinarily chosen on their profession of adherence to those principles. The organization of the institution, when ideally set up, provides for the realization of those principles through any administrator who is sympathetic with them; and likewise, when the administrator is not sympathetic with those principles the organization should be sure to bring this fact to light without too much disruption to the life of the institution. The trustees of Taylor University in the articles of the Foundation have safeguarded Taylor in a fashion by which this sort of an organization obtains. The question, "Will Taylor hold true?" is a correct one to ask, but the answer is not hard to find. She cannot do otherwise and remain Taylor; and she caured change without an open deciaration against her traditions by the Board as well as the administrative officers. Yes, we are on the side of Taylor as we find her in her traditions which are both sacred and also worthy of careful guardianship. You must rest assured of this.

There is more to our pattern of thought than a reflection upon Divine Providence and a sincere commitment to an ideal in Christian education. The future should be charted as far as possible with a program to which we can urge wholehearted cooperation. That is, the look must be a forward one and, the past should serve, not merely as a glorious past in which we are content to bask, but rather as a basis upon which greater objectives must challenge our powers. Toward what are we striving? Here the formulators of the "aims" as set forth in our catalog may be called to witness: "Taylor University aims to provide excellent liberal arts and pre-professional training leading to the A. B. and B. S. in Education degrees in a student-faculty relationship wholesome and physically healthful. The emphasis upon the union of high scholarship and Christian experience and life is unique." The excellency of that training is not conditioned upon Regional Accreditation alone, but one could hardly ignore this and span the area of excellency. It is the purpose of the institution to live up to its aims irrespective of outside recognition. It is our purpose also to secure as much outside recognition as it is humanly possible to bring to Taylor. There is a philosophy of education held by many Christians to which we do not subscribe. It is that true education is merely a regularly prescribed course of instruction as may be found in the curriculum of any non-religious school plus a Chris-



A scene during the Commencement occasion when a representative of the Senior Centennial Class had presented the Senior Class gift to Taylor. Standing beside President Meredith is Alva J. Swarner, representative of the Senior Class. (A Centennial Photo.)

tian atmosphere made up by Christian instructors and Christian youth. Rather, it is our point of view that an entire curriculum must be fused with a Christian interpretation of truth and life. A Christo-centric philosophy, if you please—even above the Theo-centric point of view. There is nothing in a young man's College training, regardless of his major interests, which is so unimportant as not to need tying in with the claims of Christ and a Christian orientation into the sum total of human knowledge.

Taylor must ever stand for Christ in education, and never merely for Christ and education. The difference in these two points of view may be seen on many campuses where instead of a deliberate effort to bring students to Christ and then into a Christo-centric presentation of truth as discovered and revealed, there is a friendly tolerance of religious services and Christian organizations; while at the same time there are blatant denials of the Christian tradition tolerated from many classrooms. A tolerance of Christianity leads to an attempted refutation of it and finally to an open conflict. After a century of witnessing many institutions begin as did she, Taylor University has observed the sad spectacle of many of those same institutions repudiate the convictions which gave them birth and yet persist in calling themselves Christian. I am reminded of an observation made of the American line of action by a chapel speaker years ago. Said he: "The American line of action follows this pattern. First, we embrace an ideal. Second, we establish an institution to perpetuate that ideal. Third, we allow the institution to vitiate the ideal. Fourth. we continue to support the institution." Taylor University has been an institution that has run counter to the American line of action, if that gentleman's observations are to be considered reliable.

Besides a philosophy of education it is essential that we have certain practical ideas around which we can incite concentrated efforts upon the part of all those interested in the welfare of Taylor. No school like Taylor can hope to succeed without worthy objectives to which a host of friends, the Alumni, the staff and administrative officers unitedly give their unstinted support.

A new day can dawn for Taylor-not because I'm here but because we are all here under God in heart and in cooperative endeavor. You have heard again and again about our evaluation of Taylor's specific and immediate needs. Do you realize that if Taylor flounders now she may never again reach the opportunity that now offers itself? It is not difficult to visualize-without being visionary-a Taylor with a new library, a boy's dormitory (Sammy Morris Hall?) and a science hall and 700 students enrolled. That is not an impossible advance. The first step may be our hardest. It is, doubtless, for we do not have momentum. But sacrifice will produce it and loyalty will direct it into the proper channel. Let Taylor gain ground in this library drive until the examiners are satisfied and we shall be on our way to the realization of a school as large as Taylor can afford to be without sacrificing some essentials which she must not if she remains true. Let us make sure that the school shall indeed experience a second century of greater service, beginning now.

WHERE ARE YOU MOVING?

In almost every mailing of the Bulletin there are copies returned by the Postal Department, which leave us in the dark about certain addresses. It is true that it takes some time to correct a number of addresses; and sometimes while the process is under way another Bulletin is in the mail, or a letter has gone out to the old address. We are introducing extra careful methods here in the office, all of which will reduce the wrong addresses to a minimum provided we have genuinely prompt assistance from any and all who, knowing of a change in address, will write in with whatever information they have.

Taylor University Varsity Quartet



"EVAN"

"HERB"

"OLLIE"

"BUZZ"

The Taylor University Varsity Quartet began its summer tour Monday, June 10, at Galesville, Wisconsin. From there the boys went to the Asbury Camp in Washburn, North Dakota where they had charge of the music. Then they went to the Jamestown Camp in Almont, North Dakota and from there to Wheatland, North Dakota. July 3 and 4 the quartet was at the Red Rock Camp Meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota. July 5 and 6 were spent at the Des Moines, Iowa, Camp Meeting. July 8 they gave a concert in Magnolia and July 9 in Gridley, Illinois.

From July 18-28 they were at Ossining Heights Camp Grounds in Ossinging, New York where they were in complete charge of the music.

Their tentative schedule will take them to Newcastle, Pennsylvania for a Youth for Christ Meeting, to Conneautville, Ohio camp and to Simpson Park Camp Grounds at Romeo, Michigan.

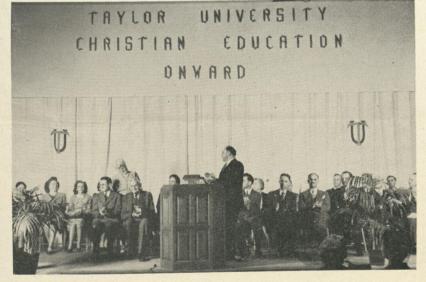
They will end their summer tour on August 18 after visiting the Brown City (Michigan) Camp Grounds August

The personnel of the quartet is as follows:

Mr. Evan Bertsche of Gridley, Ill. Mr. Herbert Buwalda of Grand Rapids, Michigan

Mr. Oliver Steiner of Pioneer, Ohio Mr. Russell Van Vleet of Galesville, Wisconsin.

Many letters of commendation of the work of the Quartet have been received from Camp Meeting leaders, also many prospective students have been contacted in this manner.



View from the last scene of the Centennial Pageant, at which time Mrs. Mayme English-Lillotte, of the Department of Speech and Dramatics, stood for recognition as the one responsible for the entire production. (A Centennial Photo.)

THE FACULTY

The peak enrollment which we face has made it necessary that the University provide an enlarged staff to care for the demands of the student body in courses offered. The staff personnel now is back to the pre-war level when the student body numbered a few over 300. We believe that with careful planning our student body, which will be nearer 400 than 300, can be taken care

In the May issue we announced the coming of a new Coach, Professor Dodd, and also that the supply English teacher had been asked to remain on the staff permanently. Previous commitments to another institution, if an opening should occur, resulted in her decision to accept the offer to which she had committed herself. By the time we were forced to look for a teacher it became apparent that one English teacher would be unable to handle the load. With the prospects of 200 Freshmen this is evident now to all! Accordingly, we have contracted for the services of Dr. Florence M. A. Hilbish, and Miss Hazel Butz to teach in the department of English. Dr. Hilbish has her doctor's degree in English from the University of Pennsylvania, with her undergraduate work having been done in Dickinson College and the University of Pittsburgh. She has been head of the Department of English in Westmont College for a number of years and the record of her work there commends her ability indeed. Miss Hazel Butz, an alumna of the Class of 1939, has been in the Indiana University graduate school of English since last fall. She will secure her M. A. from that institution this summer, and will teach Freshmen composition to several sections of Freshmen, and some other courses if her schedule permits.

Professor Sander J. Kleis comes to Taylor from Michigan where he has held a very brief pastorate in the Methodist Church following his discharge from the U.S. Navy, in which he served as a Chaplain for about three years. Prior to Professor Kleis' Chaplaincy he taught Greek and Philosophy at Greenville College. He holds his A. B. degree from Hope College. He has attended Western and Winona Lake Seminaries, and has completed his residence requirements for the Ph. D. degree at both Indiana and Boston Universities. He will teach Greek and

Philosophy.

Professor A. Leland Forrest has been added also to the division of Philosophy and Religion. He has been doing some part time teaching at Cutler Academy in Los Angeles while completing his Ph. D. degree at the University of Southern California. He expects to complete all his work for the degree before assuming his duties with Taylor this fall. He will teach courses in Bible and Religious Education.

Miss Alice Holcombe has been secured as our new Librarian. She is an alumna of Taylor and has, since her graduation, completed requirements in Ball State Teachers College qualifying her to do public library work. After some time in public library work in Ohio, Miss Holcombe became associated with the University of Michigan as cataloger. During the past few years she has pursued her studies in library science and this summer will take her A. B. in Library Science.

For the past two years Dr. Fred D. Mohr has been the head of the Fine Arts department of Asbury College. His work as an organ teacher, and his work with the a capella choir of that institution has been outstanding, resulting in an enlarged, widely known department. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Capitol College and Great Lakes College. Dr. Mohr will head the Fine Arts department in Taylor and will instruct in organ besides having charge of orchestra, band and a capella

We feel grateful for the blessing of the Lord which we believe has attended our efforts to secure staff members for the new year. An effort has been made to combine scholarship and a definite commitment to our ideals in all the new additions, and we trust that the future will fulfill our present expectations.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Since the last Bulletin went out from the President's office there have been some changes made in the personnel of the Board of Directors of the University. It has been some time since the names have been published, and for that reason we herewith present the names in the order of their term expiration.

President Clyde W. Meredith-Member Ex-Officio

TERM EXPIRES 1947 Clement Laird Arthur-Redkey, Ind. W. H. Polhemus-Daleville, Ind. Rev. James F. Stephenson-Greenfield,

Ground Broken for New Library Building



Scene viewed on Commencement morning where a large crowd was gathered at the site chosen for the new library. The ceremonies preceded the Commencement Exercises on June 4th. (A Centennial Photo.)

Gerald E. Wesche, M. D.-Nampa, Idaho

*Mrs. Ella G. Magee (Deceased)

TERM EXPIRES 1948 S. E. Breaden-Greenville, Ohio Herbert M. Lyon, M. D.—Buffalo, N.Y. Rev. F. Hazen Sparks-Mishawaka, Ind.

Rev. S. H. Turbeville, D. D.-Winona Lake, Ind.

Linton A. Wood-Worthington, Ohio

TERM EXPIRES 1949 John C. Bontrager-Elkhart, Ind. P. J. Fisher, M. D.-Marion, Ind Harlowe Evans, Ph. D.-Bloomington, 111.

Peter Olson-Racine, Wisc. D. Marion Lochner-Ft. Wayne, Ind. *Name carried in memory of this benefactress of Taylor University

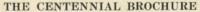
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THE DAY OF PRAYER

The Annual Day of Prayer observed by the great Taylor family in all parts of the world is set for Thursday, August 29th. A day set apart for prayer connotes a number of factors, not the least of which is that this institution recognizes and confesses a genuine need for the Divine help of Almighty God. Institutions may become as guilty as individuals, and perfunctorily observe some special day without any particular benefit. But we cannot be half-hearted now! The world has never needed the impact of godly young men and women any more than now. Christian institutions must lead the way for a lethargic church and a blind world to escape the subtle clutches of godless influences which would rob us of our faith and destroy our Christian civilization. Among other things which the Lord may lay upon your heart to pray concerning Taylor may I be permitted to insert this one request as your newly elected leader here? Please pray that this may be a year of great spiritual power manifested in the salvation of every student in the student body, and in the cleansing and empowering of every life, until holy living becomes a recognized norm on Taylor's campus. Discipline problems, social problems, academic problems-yes, and financial problems, may grow out of laxities in the spiritual realm. Let us recognize God in His desire to "save to the uttermost all that come unto God by him (Christ)". Remember, August 29th!

SAMUEL LOGAN BRENGLE by C. W. Hall

This book is in its seventh printing. A biography of an outstanding Salvation Army leader. Price \$1.00





Giving the history of Taylor University, The Centennial Program and many pictorial illustrations. Price 25¢ illustrations.

THE WAY TO PENTECOST

by Samuel Chadwick An outstanding book written by the late principal of Cliff College, Sheffield England. Price 75¢

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