The Ayres-Alumni Memorial Library has advanced from the planning stage to a point where the foundation is completed. Shown here are Dean A. Leland Forrest and President Clyde W. Meredith discussing the blueprints. It is believed that the work on the building will be completed about December, 1949. The building should be furnished and ready for use by September, 1950.
The President Reports

It is easy to set down the meaning of SUPPORTER as one finds it listed in the dictionary. A supporter is “one who supports.” To support is “to bear the weight of, especially by holding up from underneath; buoy up; keep from falling.” The real supporters of Taylor University are the people who do just that for this historic Christian center where college students pursue their studies under the tutelage of Christian men and women.

Prayer Partners

Certainly our prayer partners keep this institution from falling. Recently an Alumnus remarked to me, “Dr. Meredith, every morning my wife and I lift Taylor before the throne of grace.” They along with thousands more beseeching God for His blessings upon the work here account very specifically for the victories won and evident progress realized.

Every father and mother who felt that Taylor University was the place for their son or daughter helped us bear the weight of the burden upon us in carrying on this past year. These fathers and mothers were prayer partners and likewise the monies expended for the education of their children carried the greater part of our financial load. Not all, of course, for expense incurred in the education of each student is approximately $100.00 more than the student is charged in tuition, fees, board and room.

The many friends who contributed toward our operating expenses by their gifts and memberships in the William Taylor Foundation were buoys of the most necessary sort. Gifts of $5.00 and $10.00 from people with limited incomes helped to enlarge the totals along with $2,000.00 gifts from those more able to give.

The Alumni memberships in the Foundation, along with substantial gifts, indicate that when we check among those who are “holding up from underneath” they are playing an increasingly important part.

A Great Need

Our great need is an enlarging of these various groups who have supported us this past year. Each group is indispensable to the support. We give God thanks for each individual. To enlist someone else in your group for next year will be a distinct service to this College which can live only as you do your part. May we take this means of thanking each of you personally for the support you have given during this past year? God alone knows the far reaching effects of your prayers and the extent to which your assistance brought us. It is the encouragement from you constantly that lifts our load and makes us feel that God is for us.

Progress

The progress of the past year can be cited in various ways. The enrollment reached an all time high with 578 different students being registered for College courses during the two semesters of the regular academic year. The spiritual tone of the year can best be reflected in the reports to be made of our fall revival and our Spring youth conference. A movement of God among College students is not a regular occurrence any more, and College student bodies could be multiplied by many hundreds who have never seen a revival and who would consider a movement of the Holy Spirit in convicting and saving power a strange and even weird happening. But this mother of all the full salvation schools continues to precipitate revivals. Our students not only expect them, they participate in them.

AYRES-ALUMNI MEMORIAL LIBRARY
WILL BE ERECTED ON THIS SITE
MAY 1949
A PROMISE FULFILLED
Pastors Attend Conference

Many ministers of all denominations attended the Rural Pastors Conference held at Taylor University, July 19 and 20.

This conference was arranged by a committee headed by Rev. Butler Sparks of Upland; Dr. A. Leland Forrest, Rev. Hubert Clevenger, Albany; and Rev. G. C. Mitchell, North Vernon. Dr. Harry Denman of the Board of Evangelism, cooperated with Taylor in securing the principal speaker, Rev. Albert E. Weittenhiller.

Rev. Weittenhiller, Director of Rural Evangelism in West Wisconsin Conference of the Methodist Church, opened the conference at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday.

Other speakers were Dr. W. Dale Oldham, speaker on the National Christian Brotherhood Hour; Dr. Forrest, Taylor University dean; Willis J. Dunn, director of public relations; Don J. Odle, athletic director; and Milo A. Rediger, head of the department of religion.

The three topics discussed at the conference were evangelism, means of cultivating the spiritual life, and rural church public relations. These topics were selected after receiving questionnaires which were sent to pastors in this area.

Accommodations were provided in the campus dormitories for those who attended. Invitations were extended to rural pastors in Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Kentucky and Illinois.

The complete program was as follows:

“Evangelism in Rural Areas,” Mr. Weittenhiller; “Public Relations for Rural Church,” Mr. Dunn; “Developing Youth Services in Rural Churches,” Dr. Forrest; “Evangelism in the Rural Areas,” Mr. Weittenhiller; “Recreation for the Youth,” Mr. Odle; “Future of Rural Churches,” Mr. Dunn; “The Minister’s Spiritual Life,” Dr. Rediger; “The Church and the Rural Home,” Mr. Weittenhiller.

The conference will be an annual event.

and assist greatly in precipitating them. There are scores and scores of nominal Christians who register in the fall who become positive Christians with a burning testimony and zeal for God before the week of the fall revival closes.

We have on Taylor's campus as fine a group of scholarly consecrated people as may be found anywhere. They are experienced teachers, qualified with graduate degrees and committed to the objectives of the founding fathers.

Advance Registration

The prospects are heartening for next year in the number of advance registrations. We are seeking to screen our applicants until what they are able to do in college will not be the one and only criterion of acceptance. Students who might have to be sent home later are actual barriers to other students who would be staying through the year. Increasingly we are aware that many of our students accepted prefer Taylor although they have filed applications in a number of schools for fear they might not get in here. This should be significant to you who have an abiding interest that Taylor remain firm in her convictions and emphases. A prayer for all of us this year might well be, “O God, make the impact of Taylor to be felt around the world, in a new and larger way.”

Development Fund

The Development Fund Drive launched during the year was received with enthusiastic support among the staff, faculty and students. Sacrificial pledging resulted. The library must be built, they said. For eight long years this building has been in the offing, but a comparatively small amount of cash was on hand with which to build. The nature of the plans were such that a unit at a time could not be completed. It was finally decided to borrow $65,000.00 on the strength of pledges made and pledges which will be made. We believe this is an act of faith. We have faith to believe that God will see us through—that He will lay it upon your hearts and that you will not be disobedient unto the heavenly vision. We must find this $65,000.00 in actual money if we dedicate the library in 1950 free from debt. Contracts have been awarded and we shall be spending about $150,000.00 within the next twelve months—only $85,000.00 of which we now have. Every pledger should strive to get his pledge in as quickly as possible. He should seek to enlist others to give to this very worthy cause. We are indeed workers together with God in this.
New Board Members Elected

Evan H. Bergwall has been chosen by the alumni as their representative on the board of directors of the William Taylor Foundation. Rev. Bergwall is now pastor of the First Methodist Church in Kendallville, Indiana. Prior to this pastorate he had been on the staff of High Street Methodist Church in Muncie. He has served other charges in Ansonia and Waterbury, Connecticut, Brooklyn and New York City.

After graduating from Taylor University in 1939 where he shared in the University scholarship each year, he entered the divinity school of Yale University in 1939 from which he was awarded the B.D. degree graduating the highest in his class. He also studied at New York University and Emory University.

During his pastorate in New York City, Rev. Bergwall served as president of the Board of Directors of the Bethel Methodist Home for the Aged and was active in the Federation of Social Agencies of New York. He also held positions of leadership in the New York Conference particularly in relationship to youth restudy work which endeavored to re-evaluate and strengthen youth work in that conference. In conjunction with that responsibility, he negotiated the itinerary of a Mission of Fellowship to Europe in 1947.

Ford S. Mason, the second newly elected board member, is founder and president of Ford Gum and Machine Company, Lockport, New York, which manufactures penny ball gum and the penny machines that dispense it. He is also president of the National Automatic Merchandising Association.

A member of the board and a deacon of Cazenovia Baptist Church in Buffalo, New York, Mr. Mason is active in philanthropic and church activities. He will keep in direct touch with Taylor by flying to the campus in a DC-3 plane, "The Fordway Executive," which he uses to keep in contact with company representatives and operators.

The company is merchandising its brightly-colored ball gum through more than 200 "distributorships" or operators, independent business men who operate a minimum of 500 machines on an exclusive basis. Clubs and civic groups arrange for location of the machines in the best-paying spots. Income earned from the sale of gum in each area must be devoted exclusively to the charitable activities stated on the sponsoring club's label, which is attached to each machine.

You Should Read

"THE WAY TO PENTECOST"

By

DR. SAMUEL CHADWICK

Introduction By Dr. Clyde W. Meredith

Because of special arrangement with the publisher, Taylor offers this book which was formerly one dollar for only fifty cents. Epitomizing the personal experiences to be associated with the believer and the Holy Spirit in the working out of God's redeeming love, the book is recommended to all Christian readers.

Order From

The Bookstore Taylor University Upland, Indiana