Fort Wayne Bible College Vision

Fort Wayne Bible College
Rev. William Allen
Named Spiritual Emphasis Speaker

Rev. William Allen, pastor of the Grace Gospel Church of Mansfield, Ohio, will be speaker for the winter spiritual emphasis series at the college February 12 to 15. Mr. Allen will address special chapel sessions at 9:30 a.m.

Evening programs will be combined with the First Missionary Church and will be held at the church. The evening sessions will extend over the full-week period of February 10 to 17, with the joint college-church sponsorship including the Tuesday through Friday period.

Rev. Allen has a special ministry among young people. He was formerly pastor of the Alliance Church of Rochester, N. Y.

“Crossroads”
Time Changed

Instead of the 11:30 p.m. time as announced in last month’s Vision for “Crossroads”, the program is now heard at 9:05 p.m. (CDST) each Sunday on WOWO, 1190 kc. The series began on January 13.

“Doorway”, the new television program, is now seen each Sunday at 2:15 p.m. on WKJG-TV, channel 33.

Magnavox Company Donates Radio-Phono Console

In mid-December, the college was pleasantly surprised to receive a letter from one of the officials of the Magnavox Company advising that the company was making “a gift of a radio-phonograph to your fine institution”. The letter continued, “You may expect delivery within the next several days, we hope in time for Christmas.”

Lansing Bulgin, director of the School of Music, explains that the unit, a Magnasonic model, is complete with a four-speed turntable and AM and FM radio. The equipment will be used for music appreciation classes, where it is greatly needed. The Magnavox factory and home offices are located in Fort Wayne.

The console did arrive before December 25, and the School of Music experienced a blessed Christmas.

Dr. S. A. Witmer, president and building committee chairman, points to the location of the proposed library scheduled for construction on the college’s south campus next summer. Walter E. King, assistant to the president in development, holds a picture of the library while James Beltz, college treasurer and building committee member, looks on. An education-administrative building is also to be constructed as soon as possible.

Building Fund Promotion Pushes Forward

Under the direction of Walter E. King, assistant to the president in development, promotion of the building project is picking up momentum.

While total giving has not been large, yet the need has been presented to quite a number of friends, and promising new contacts have been made.

Calling on individuals and philanthropic foundations, Mr. King conducted tours in four areas during the latter part of 1956. He presented the project in northern Illinois in September; in several eastern states in October and November; in Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas in November and December; and in the Elkhart and South Bend, Indiana, area in December.

Among other gifts during this time, an alumus of the college pledged $2500 to the project. Concerning foundation grants, Mr. King states: “The foundations are doing a tremendous job in assisting the privately supported educational institutions of our country. Most of them sincerely want to give help to deserving schools whenever available funds and established policies permit. Our work with the foundations has just begun and is, at present, largely a matter of cultivating interest and giving accurate information concerning Fort Wayne Bible College. A good percentage of the foundations called on have shown real interest in the advance program of the college. From some of these we expect significant help.”

Friends in the northeastern part of Indiana will be contacted in the near future. Mr. King expects to tour into the southern states in the spring. A little over $155,000 is pledged for the building project.
Fort Wayne Bible College in Prospect

A Message from the Heart of President S. A. Witmer

I am deeply grateful to God for the opportunity granted me these many years of serving Him in the education of Christian youth—years which have a way of adding up. Soon there will be 28 of them in service with Fort Wayne Bible College. For fifteen of those years it was my privilege to be associated with Rev. J. E. Ramseyer, godly co-founder and president. And throughout this rapidly passing time there has been the joy of fellowship with fellow workers and the inspiration of working with and for young people.

But never since I have been associated with the college, have the prospects for the future been as bright as they are now in January, 1957. I am thrilled with the possibilities ahead and I should like to use this page of Vision to share with our readers the basis for this outlook. And when we think of the future, we qualify all plans with the condition given by James, "the Lord willing" (Ch. 4:15).

I. Rich Heritage

Our college is endowed with a rich heritage. It was founded by men of God. It was established on the solid rock of Christian faith. From the very beginning it offered education for the heart as well as the mind. It has always given first place to the eternal word of God in its educational program.

We can thank God that this rich heritage has not been squandered by a lot of isms that have led many church colleges into the far country of secularism, naturalism, and pragmatism. Nor has the college steered its course by the prevailing winds of philosophy. It didn't become secular when it was popular to be secular nor does it now have to shift course when it is becoming popular to include "religion" in the college curriculum.

Besides a tradition of spiritual emphasis, missionary outlook, and honest education, the college has a heritage of financial integrity. Through God's faithfulness it can be said that it enjoys the confidence of the Christian public. It has never disappointed it by defaulting on its financial obligations. The credit of the college is such that it has been able to finance all of its improvements for the past fifteen years by loans from individuals at modest interest rates. Not a dollar has been borrowed from a bank since Founders Memorial was built in 1941-42.

The name of the college, now known in many parts of the world, is blessed with honor by its heritage and by the record of its alumni serving in many areas of human need.

II. Worthy Aim

The aim of the college can be expressed simply and clearly: it is to give students the best Christian education possible. That means education for heart, mind, and hand. It means education based on the eternal verities of the Christian faith. Its goal is to bring students into conformity with the will of God. Its ends are spiritual maturity, understanding of the Word of Truth, Christian culture, skills to serve, dedication to the Great Commission; in a word, Christ-like men and women geared to His purposes and motivated by His love.

In a recent book on higher education in America, it is pointed out that there is "progressive disorder" because education lacks a social goal. Without such a goal, it has become the servant of selfish aims. "There is no common faith, no common body of principles, no common body of knowledge, no common moral and intellectual discipline." Little wonder that confusion prevails and that for many students a college education is only a means to make more money.

We are convinced that this is the day of all days to steer straight ahead with true Christian aim. The college can be a witness to the truth as it is in Christ—the sum and center of all wisdom and knowledge. And doing this, it has been amazing to see what recognition secular educators are giving the college. One educator who visited the college said this: "At least, you know where you are going."

With clear aim and with God's help, we believe that Fort Wayne Bible College can have the best academic standards and at the same time maintain its devotion to Christ.

III. Effective Program

With the backing of its constituency and the endorsement of an overwhelming majority of alumni, the college is both broadening and deepening its program. It continues to hold to a strong content of Bible in every course. In fact, the Department of Bible and Theology is being strengthened in several ways. Both methods of instruction and content of courses are being im-
Frank, Wood To Give Recital February 6

Two members of the music faculty will appear in a piano-violin recital in Founders Memorial Auditorium on the campus on Wednesday, February 6, at 8:00 p.m. Dr. Rene Frank, professor of music, will be pianist, and Eloise Wood, instructor in instruments, will be violinist.

Dr. Frank will play the Sonata in B flat major by Mozart, together with three etudes and the Ballade in A flat major by Chopin.

Miss Wood will play three compositions, including Sonata in C Minor for Violin and Piano by Beethoven and Souvenir de Moscou by Wieniawski. Her third selection will be a composition by Dr. Frank, Sonata for Violin and Piano.

PROSPECT—Cont.

proved. Additional teachers are being added. The meaning of Biblio-centric education is being spelled out for all of the departments.

The college has in recent years enriched its curriculum to give students a broader general education and to prepare them for service in other fields. Besides strong departments in missions, pastoral training, Christian education, and sacred music, it now offers majors in elementary education, nursing, speech, social studies, and music education. Accredited by the Indiana State Department of Public Instruction, it offers a fine combination of training for service in mission schools, Christian day schools, and public schools.

This week a student enrolled in the elementary teaching program said to me: 'I'm so glad I found out about Fort Wayne. I wanted to go to a Bible school and I also wanted to prepare to teach. Then I found I could have both here at Fort Wayne.'

The prospects for this combination of education present almost limitless possibilities in the immediate future.

IV. Capable Leadership

Whenever God wants a mission accomplished, He looks for and calls men—men of vision, of dedication, of disciplined minds and hearts, of spiritual enduement. Men are His method. We can thank God as we think of the future that He is raising up a faculty of men and women who have the vision and the competence to develop a unique and vital program of Christian education. Under the leadership of the Dean of Education, the Student Deans, and the Department Heads, the faculty as a whole is challenged and thrilled with the possibilities before it.

We are also grateful for the other members of the team—God-called and divinely equipped members of the staff. And back of the whole institution are the trustees, including some fine Christian laymen, who are unselfishly giving time to the college. They share in the vision and prospects.

In a recent letter from the Chairman of the Board, Mr. J. Francis Chase of Chicago, he volunteered this word: "The Chairman and all members of the Board are especially pleased with the scholastic and spiritual strength coming to the school. Great things are in store for us by His grace. Thank God for the ever ascending scale of quality and usefulness. For brass I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood brass, and for stones iron (Is. 60:17)."

V. Unprecedented Opportunity

The great upsurge in college attendance is just ahead. It is conservatively estimated that in the next 13 years college attendance will double. The Indiana Council on Higher Education tells us that Fort Wayne Bible College should expect 800 students by 1970.

In any event, unprecedented opportunities of service in a world of need coupled with an unprecedented number of youth who will seek admission, make the years just ahead a period of unparalleled opportunity and obligation.

We must prepare now or opportunity will pass us by. We cannot fail the youth who want and need the kind of education offered by FWBC.

The buildings that are being planned are not the product of ambition or daydreaming. They are a must. The spacious south campus has been providentially provided for this day of advance. May God help us to catch the vision and to get in step with His unfolding purposes. This is the day of march and of victory.
What God Is To Me

W. Morrow Cook
Assistant Professor of Bible

"Jehovah is my strength and song, and He is become my salvation."—Ex. 15:2.

The words are the refrain of a song, the first song in the Bible. It was a song of victory for a mighty deliverance unmistakably wrought by God for his people. The words are more, however, than the expression of the exultant, grateful spirit of a people for a national deliverance. They may be and are the personal testimony of present experience of those who have come to know God. The personal pronouns are the marrow of divinity. It is a blessed thing to be able to say "my" and mean it.

The Lord is my strength. This is what we all need—strength of body and mind, heart and spirit. Strength to go on and not give in or give up, to resist evil, to overcome difficulties, to fight the good fight of faith. A student of sociology entered into a new experience of God and put his resolution thus: "More than ever before I am going to stop searching and let Christ permeate my life. He alone has the answer to life by giving us life itself—life abundant and real and not loaded with unanswerables."

The Lord is my song. Life may be a dreary, weary, burdensome affair. Such a life is not God's will for any of us. Life at its best is life set to music. Christianity is a religion of song. Christ's coming was heralded by angelic song. A friend of Hadyn asked him, "Why is it that your church music is so animating, and possesses such a festive spirit?" He replied, "I cannot make it otherwise. I write according to the thoughts I feel. When I think upon my God my heart is so full of joy that the notes dance and leap as it were from my pen. Since God has given me a cheerful heart, I will easily be forgiven for serving him with a cheerful spirit." Our hearts may be a nest of singing birds.

The Lord is my salvation. This fine, comprehensive word means essentially deliverance, wealth of space. It includes healing, soundness, forgiveness. It stands for all the redeeming processes of the Gospel. We cannot save ourselves, any more than we can give ourselves life. To find salvation from his sins Luther fasted and prayed, and mortified his flesh until he was wasted almost to a shadow. Staupitz his friend tried to help him. He recited the article in the creed, 'I believe in the forgiveness of sins', and added, "We must not only believe that the sins of David and Peter are forgiven. God's command is that we, each one of us, believe OUR sins are forgiven." That is the secret. Put "my" into the creed and the Gospel, and make it your own.