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Fort Wayne Bible College Vision

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The Missionary Church Association voted by a large majority to refer proposed plans for merger with the Christian and Missionary Alliance to local churches for final approval. The M.C.A. General Conference met on campus in August. Churches will vote on Jan. 6. M.C.A. personnel and students at the college will vote on this important issue in chapel service on Monday, Jan. 7 if they have not voted in their local churches.

President Gerig expresses his views as follows: "F.W.B.C. would definitely benefit by a merger between the M.C.A. and the Christian and Missionary Alliance. The College is located geographically in the midst of a high concentration of both M.C.A. and C.& M.A. churches. This should benefit the college greatly from the standpoint of prayer and financial support as well as student recruitment."

Dr. Gerig, past-president of the M.C.A., says, "I personally favor merger in view of strengthening of the work of both churches and the cause of Christ throughout the world."

It was considered as a sign of God's approval on the merger at the general conference when the delegates voted 82 percent in favor of referral. This was identical to the vote cast earlier by the C.& M.A. Since a two-thirds majority of the aggregate members will be required to make the merger effective, we trust that you will earnestly pray for God's guidance for each member.

The Rev. Herald J. Welty, registrar and former pastor of the Mooresville M.C.A. church says, "The merger would be a real boon to the college. An appreciable number of C.& M.A. students are presently enrolled and merger would increase the number of prospective students from the central district in which we are located."

Parents are finding it increasingly difficult to meet costs of a college education for their children even though tuition at the Bible College is only half the national average. The Governing Board, recognizing this difficulty, has approved a plan for financing educational costs for parents who wish such a service.

Most families have not made adequate preparations to meet the high costs of education. A recent study for the Ford Foundation revealed that only 40 per cent of the parents who expect their children to go to college have been able to set up any savings plan to pay the costs. Out of those who do have such a plan, approximately one-half are putting aside no more than $150 a year (which in 16 years will only pay for two years of college at F.W.B.C. and for less than a year at many other colleges).

The plan approved by the board for recommendation to parents of prospective students is offered by Education Funds Incorporated. This plan provides parents with money in advance, at regular intervals. It is then applied by them to meet the large, periodic college expenses as they come due. The amount is repaid in sensible monthly installments.

In this plan the student and parents are insured against death or permanent disability. This guarantees that the student can continue to receive the amount as stipulated in the contract. All outstanding payments being cancelled, there need be no interruption in the education of the student for financial reasons. The plan is flexible enough to cover almost any situation. Amounts may be requested from $700 to $10,000. More information is available for those who wish it.

"Warfare & Victory"

The premier performance of Dr. Frank's "Warfare and Victory," composed to the text of the Pauline Epistles, will be performed by the Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne. The Concordia Male Chorus and brass will use the new composition at Reformation Day services Sunday, November 4 at 8 p.m. in the Concordia College Chapel.
The Conflict of the Ages

“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” (Gen. 3:15)

It is in nowise new that the present conflict in the world is a spiritual one, a battle between ideals and schools of thought, which certainly makes it no less a real struggle. It would be more fair to say that it is a conflict between truth and error, between light and darkness, between fact and fable. It is the continuation of the conflict of the ages, originated in the Garden of Eden, and traceable across the centuries in the lives of men and nations.

The Hon. Martin Dies well said as reported in Liberty: “As Christ symbolized the noblest and highest conceptions of spiritual perfection, so does Karl Marx represent the lowest form of materialism. The two, therefore, stand at opposite poles, and their teachings are as far apart as the sky and the earth. To Marx, man at his best was merely an intelligent animal, or no more important than the beasts of the field. To Christ, man was the noblest handiwork of God. Therefore I perceived some years ago that the irreconcilable conflict between the teachings of Christ and Marx constitutes the most serious and far-reaching issue of the day.”

These are meaningful days when Christians need to probe beneath the surface of things. Many are being swept off their feet by a flood tide of unspiritual enthusiasm, and the church is imbibing attitudes and habits which will do her no good and bid her much evil. We urge that the church keep to her God-appointed task, keep clear in her thinking and living the vital virtues of the Christian faith, and keep without compromise in deed or doctrine her loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ. She will bless the world now and in the days to come, if she does not imbibe the spirit of the seed of the serpent in this time of crisis.

Have you made a recent investment in God’s work?
25 Years on Board

Celebrated Chicago illustrator, J. Francis Chase, has been re-elected chairman of the board of directors of Fort Wayne Bible College. Mr. Chase, whose illustrations have appeared in Holiday, Colliers, the Woman's Home Companion, Sports Afield and many lesser known magazines, has been a member of the governing board of the Bible College for 25 years. He has been chairman of the board for the past five years.

After studying at night at the Art Institute of Chicago, Mr. Chase went to the American Academy of Art. Then he studied under special teachers such as Joseph Binder of Austria in the field of contemporary poster art and Raymond Breinin, a prominent painter in Chicago.

Mr. Chase was for many years a member of the Society of Illustrators in New York City. Commercial ads by Chase have appeared in Saturday Evening Post and in leading industrial magazines.

Along side of his ability as an artist, Chase is noted for his devotion to Jesus Christ. He has been on the Alliance Witness Magazine board of the Christian and Missionary Alliance for 30 years in association with Dr. A. W. Tozer. He has also taught a Bible class in Dr. Tozer's Alliance Church in Chicago for over 25 years. At times attendance in his class has reached 125.

At the semi-annual meeting of the board on Tuesday when Mr. Chase was re-elected chairman, M. M. Rupp, president of the Brotherhood Mutual Life Insurance Company was re-elected secretary. Mr. James Beltz, president and founder of J. B. Tool and Die Co. of Fort Wayne was re-elected treasurer.

Sing in “The Messiah”

A symbol of Christmas, “The Messiah” by Handel will be presented again this year by the Fort Wayne Bible College Oratorio Chorus and Orchestra, Sunday, December 9 at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Richard Elmer, Assistant Professor of Music, who directs the performance invites alumni and friends to join the chorus at rehearsals held each Monday evening 7-9 p.m.

at First Missionary Church. There is no cost unless you do not already have a copy of the Schirmer edition of the music.

Rehearsals began on Oct. 8, but you will be welcome if you contact Mr. Elmer as soon as possible. The chorus will be closed to membership after Oct. 29.

Two special rehearsals will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 5 and Saturday, Dec. 8 before the actual performance on Dec. 9.

Soloists participating are Mary Wright, soprano, Margaret Weber, alto, John Rechtelheimer, tenor, and Ira Gerig, bass.

The orchestra will be using a new orchestra which is thought to be closer to that used on the first occasion. It will use organ, harpsichord and orchestra. An Allen electronic harpsichord is being loaned to the college for the performance by Fred Myers Piano Co. of Fort Wayne.

Come and join the chorus if you can sing, or plan now to come and hear this praiseful performance.

Fall Auxiliary Meeting

The annual fall meeting of the F.W.B.C. Women's Auxiliary was held Oct. 9 in Founders lounge with Mrs. William Cox, president, presiding. An interesting program included a panel discussion by the college deans.

The highlight of the evening was presentation of two scholarships of $100 each to Mae Zigler, a senior from Frederick, Md., and Dave Dyck, a junior, son of missionaries Rev. and Mrs. Daniel Dyck in the Dominican Republic.

The women also donated many supplies for the Pantry Shelf. Mrs. S. D. Shanebeck, publicity chairman says, “It is the happy privilege of the Auxiliary to present scholarships twice a year to worthy students.”

The Auxiliary will carry out the prayer mother program again this year. It has proved to be a blessing to both prayer mother and student alike. Over 400 women participate in the Auxiliary work.

Student Teachers Praised

Supervising teachers, employed by the public school system in Fort Wayne, have rated student teachers from Fort Wayne Bible College very high. In the past five years only one student was not recommended for placement as a teacher, five were given recommendations with certain reservations and 43, almost 90 percent were given recommendations without any reservation. Grades earned by these students from their supervising instructors were as follows: 29-A, 16-B, 4-C.

Mr. Forest Weddle, Director of Research and Guidance, who compiled these statistics, found that practice teachers were rated “superior” more often than any lower rating in 6 categories, “very good” more often than any other rating in 11 categories and “good” more often than any other rating in one category.

Student teachers were most often superior in courtesy, reaction to criticism, dependability, promptness, understanding of children and general appearance.
In Memorium

Dr. S.A. Witmer went to be with the Lord on Sept. 11, 1962. Dr. Witmer graduated from the college and faithfully served as dean, instructor and president, the latter from 1945 through 1957.

Until the day before his death he was active in his capacity as Executive Director of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges.

At the funeral on Sept. 14, Dr. Gerig delivered a tribute from which the following are excerpts.

"There comes to all of us, and to me personally in a most disturbing way, a sense of great emptiness and loss. This loss to us is certainly heaven's gain and rejoicing.

"For the accomplishments and influence of such a life as we remember now, Dr. Witmer would be the first to cry out, 'Give God all the glory. Ascribe unto Him all the praise!' We do this knowing that the grace of God and the anointing of His Spirit can be the only answer for such a life, but there are things that we do well to remember that we might learn and be profited by such example.

"Dr. Witmer was a life-long student of the Word of God, of world affairs, and of education in general. He was a great teacher, a thorough administrator, a courageous leader and a devoted servant. In all of these things he was widely recognized and highly esteemed.

"The growth, progress and stability of the college must be identified with this man more than any other. In perplexing times such as the last 25 years have been, he has given this institution guidance and leadership which has saved it from the educational pitfalls into which many other schools have fallen."

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About his mission with the A.A.B.C. Mr. J. Francis Chase, chairman of the Board of the college has said, "One could easily discern that our brother's natural gifts and vigorous mind could have placed him at enviable heights in government, or law should he have sought this course. But his dedication to the Word of God led him to practically convince this nation, that the Bible College was a vital institution in the program of twentieth century contemporary education."

Dr. Gerig continued, "Dr. Witmer was a man of great intellectual strength and drive. He had penetrating insight, the ability to grasp facts quickly, to recognize error, and to make wise decisions. The future days will reveal how dependent we were upon him in these things.

"He was a man of strong spiritual courage. When he was convinced of the right he never surrendered his position or retreated from his stand. Something of this spirit was gripping him when he wrote the third stanza of the Fort Wayne Bible College Alma Mater several years ago:

God bless our Bible College!
Her halls enshrine with light;
Her teachers bless with courage;
Her cause endue with might.
God keep her sons and daughters
In faithfulness and love,
One day to serve the Master
Eternally above.

"Dr. Witmer is now serving the Master above whom he served so well here. There will be no interruption to this service. We bow without--lDurmur to th-f)_sovereign will of GO,d, and ascribe unto Him all the glory."

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Pres. Elected to 2 Boards

Dr. Jared F. Gerig, president of the college has been elected board member of two Christian organizations. Dr. Gerig is now board member of the Winona Lake Christian Assembly and the Israel-American Institute of Biblical Studies.


The Israel-American Institute is an educational institution in Israel, on the Protestant theological seminary level. It is dedicated to the study of the Bible, its land, languages and people and exploration of sites of the origin of Christianity. It is an independent, interdenominational organization founded in 1957 and incorporated in Minnesota and Illinois. Administration headquarters are in Evanston, Illinois though all teaching is done in or near Jerusalem.