We do not often see a reaction from the science classroom, answering Mr. Bryan and other opposers of evolutionary teaching, but Dr. William M. Goldsmith, professor of Biology in a Methodist college west of us, has come to the bat. His new book, "Evolution or Christianity?" tells us that all scientists of any consequence accept the doctrine of man's ascent from a primitive animal. He is near enough correct in his claim of majority to concede him the value of his point; though it is quite a human trait for one to accord scholarship only to those who agree with one's thesis.

The professor wastes much energy on an undisputed issue, as his class of writers usually do, by failing to take account of the fact that the conservatives really concerned with his book object to nothing that science has proved, and are not arguing against the growth of the earth and other facts of natural history more or less classible under the word evolution. The charge of ignorance against the other side is characteristic of certain highly modernized schools of thought when they get following enough to feel their oats. The writers on radical socialism and communism commonly contend that persons who reject their system are ignorant. The ecclesiastical new-thought that makes Maccabean fiction out of Daniel and denies the Mosaic authorship of the Pentateuch dismisses the other side with a charge of ignorance.

Professor Goldsmith gives selected quotations from his opponents to show how absurd they are and thus let them fall by their own weight. Some things he quotes are admissibly weak; others have a pungency or suggestiveness about them that will thwart the aims of his book with the average common sense reader. It may be very well to impugn the scholarship of some persons for whom loud claims are made in science and who indulge in a lot of high-sounding nonsense to prove a position as extreme in the opposite direction of literalism and occasionalism; but the professor himself relies more on common sense to shape his conclusions than he does on his scholarship. The fact is, the salient issues now before the Christian world revolve around terms that any ordinary jury can negotiate. There is no mysterious sanctum of private information that only the few doctors of philosophy can enter. All the terms have been translated; all the data has been thrown out on a common table; and humanity has awakened to the fact that degrees and book learning are one thing and brains and common sense are another.

The widely prevalent trend of thought to which Professor Goldsmith gives himself so ardently is failing to bear good fruit in the moral and religious stability of the second and third generation of students who yield to it. Its sequences are palpably wrong; there must therefore be something definitely wrong with its logic however well that logic may look in its printed syllogisms. It would be embarrassing to call specific attention to the havoc which has been wrought in individual lives, morally and religiously, as a result of influences at college or seminary under this new philosophy of life. Caroline Atwater Mason has recently written a novel, "The High Way," which exhibits the logic of results at this point in a most startling fashion; and if this or some other professor wishes to read that story and publish a rejoinder we will engage to name actual men and women to illustrate almost every character of the book. A tree is known by its fruits.

In every age, truth has lain between two extremes; but instances are not wanting when contemporary scholarship went in the direction of some erroneous philosophy like so many sheep. The middle-of-the-road conservatives must not be
confused with middle-age literalists. They recognize progressiveness in the universe of life; they are not blind to the gradual processes which geological research has laid bare. They simply represent the safe residue of humanity whom history in future centuries will point out as those who could not be stampeded into an overworked fad. Allegory in the Old Testament is not denied. There is no serious effort to prove that the days of the first of Genesis are other than geological periods. But underlying all the verbiage of Genesis is a true historic content, and there is no legend not even an allegory in the plain statement that “God made the beast of the earth after his kind” and “God created man in his own image.” We do not hold that it is necessary to contend about how God did it, excepting that we must avoid any hypothesis which in its sequences will annul the essential truths of sin and redemption that give character to the gospel of Christ. The brethren who deny the divine creative act in the origin of man are loud in denying that the logic of their position destroys the gospel, but it does destroy the gospel. The confession of faith, the posits of the supernatural, the compliments to Jesus Christ and the Bible which mark the teachings of men like Professor Goldsmith are hereditary. They retain them in spite of their “evolution.” Their inconsistency is a joke among non-Christian Darwinian scholars and a grief to their clear-eyed brethren of the evangelical faith. Their pabulum will produce atheists as certainly as absinthe will produce derelicts. The memory of their own Christian virtues cannot offset the inevitable deism of their logic. Blind must be the man who even now cannot see the anaemic results of current philosophy in the evangelical church; and Professor Goldsmith’s own denomination, with its staggering embarrassment on the mission field and its phosphorescent modernists in the schools and big pulpits at home is a distressing example.

THE BISHOPS VOTE ON THE COURSE OF STUDY REPORT


The Christian Advocate has called attention to the fact that the Board of Bishops approved the Course of Study by a majority vote, which is correct. However, the margin was very close. The texts against which the committee of ministers and laymen entered their protests are as follows: Rall’s “Modern Premillennialism and the Christian Hope,” also his “New Testament History,” Clarke’s “Outlines of Theology,” Walker’s “Church History” and Bowne’s “Studies in Christianity.” Against these five books there was a strong minority vote of disapproval in the Board of Bishops. Hayes’ “Introduction to Sociology,” which was the sixth volume against which the committee protested, was excluded.

The committee of ministers and laymen to which reference has been made above represented fourteen Annual Conferences. Eighteen men represented on books they had read. Nine were present in person. The others reported by letter. The committee included college presidents, district superintendents, leading pastors, a General Conference officer, and one layman. The men were almost without exception members of the last or of some preceding General Conference. The committee findings were in each instance unanimous. No book was examined by less than two men.

The law requires that every book must be in full and hearty accord with our constitutionally established standards. That a group of responsible leaders in the Methodist Church who actually examined the books in detail and made the report and protest they did, and that eight and nine of the Board of Bishops voted their agreement with this protest, clearly establishes the divergent character of the books in question.

THE BIG DAY IS APPROACHING.

A campmeeting of first importance, enriched by a world missionary conference will be held on the campus of Taylor, June 5 to 14. Workers now engaged are William H. Huff, Thomas Clark Henderson, Guy Wilson, John Thomas, Mrs. John Thomas, and Melvin J. Hill to lead the music. A choir of a hundred picked Taylor students will form the Gospel Team. Numbers of returned missionaries and other lecturers are expected.

Following this big event, beginning June 14, will be Taylor’s Commencement. Bishop Oldham has been invited as baccalaureate preacher, and Honorable Edward K. Taylor, of California, son of Bishop William Taylor, a distinguished Christian attorney, has been invited to deliver the commencement address.

The Legal Hundred meets at 9:00 a. m. on June 16th, and final exercises are at noon, June 17th. The Taylor prize orations and a number of edifying productions will be given commencement.

Board and lodging will not exceed a dollar a day. We expect a large number of attendants from many States and nations. Leave an opening in your slate and be with us all or part of the time.

THE NEW BUILDINGS.

Our north building will be known as the Stanley Magee Memorial, the middle building as the Campbell building, and the south building as the Wisconsin Building. They join each other forming an “H”. They are built and covered and much of the partitioning is in two of the buildings. We hope to have one of the buildings ready and the large dining room and kitchen to entertain our guests for the camp meeting and commencement. As a large part of the expense is on the interior finish, offerings will always be acceptable from our friends who care to take a share. Five hundred dollars names a single room as a memorial, and one thousand dollars names a double room; but whether one can name a memorial room or not, every little gift helps in paying for the buildings.
Enrolling for Next September

With the new buildings for women completed, Taylor can double its number of students next school year and give them better comforts than the present students are receiving. Diagrams of all rooms are now in the hands of Vice President Ayres, and room deposits are being received. We urge all who are considering Taylor for next year to settle their decisions, fasten their room assignments, and let us become partners early in an enterprise to make next school year at Taylor the best in the history of any school. Rate of all room deposits is $5.00.

Boys may make reservations in any of the buildings formerly used by girls. Swallow-Robin will be reserved for upperclassmen; graduate students and seniors and juniors. There is some advantage of cooperation in having people of similar attainment near each other.

Rates on all present rooms will remain the same. Swallow-Robin rates will prevail in the new buildings, with some variations in certain rooms. In the average double room each girl will pay $24.00 per term for room, light and heat, with holdover claim without charge, for the holidays. For the same concession in single room, $36.00 per term will be charged. The new rooms have the advantage of running water in each room.

IF YOU COME TO TAYLOR

You will Find:
A college course approved by the State Department, and having respectable rating in all States.
A variety of majors from which to select your bachelor’s course.
A Department of Education under State approval, specializing in training high school teachers.
One of the best rated Departments of Music, with choral work, band, orchestra, voice, piano.
A strong Department of Expression.
A good Department of Decorative Art.
A broad, beautiful campus on a hundred and sixty acre plot.
Two exhaustless water supplies, city and college, with sewage and light facilities equal to any city.
Happy and clean social life, wholesome and manly athletics.
A spiritual fellowship such as will help you maintain your integrity and gain ground if you need to do so.

THE TAYLOR FAMILY ANALYZED

In a poll of 217 of Taylor’s students January 1st, Rev. R. B. Cramer found seventeen different denominations represented, the vast majority of course being Methodist; but this illustrates the fact that Taylor is doing interdenominational work. Nor do we disturb anyone’s loyalty to his church. We aim to send them back to their own fields, loyal and efficient. Thirteen vocations were named, under the question, “What do you plan to do when you finish college?” The ministry and mission field ranked highest in the number of chosen pursuits, and educational work ranked second.

OUR MASTER’S COURSE

Taylor University offers the Master of Arts course in the theological major only. The prerequisite is a bachelor’s degree including certain standards noted on page 20 of our Catalogue. The course is strictly in residence. We do no correspondence extension work. This offers a superb opportunity for people who may not have been so fortunate as to enjoy such fellowship as Taylor during their under-graduate college work to come and have a splendid year here and light their torches from Taylor’s altar. A master’s degree has better standing in the mind of the world than the average theological degree. Some very superior persons are taking this work or making application for it now.

COSTS, AND HOW TO ENROLL

Send for Application Blank. Send for Catalogue also if you need it. Fill out Blank and send it in with five dollars for your room reservation. This is credited on your first term’s expenses. School opens with registration on September 23rd.

Cost for one year, board, room, light, literary tuition and fees, ranges from $324 to $342 according to price of room chosen. Usually the latter for girls, because their building has only the best rooms, with running water in each. Terms: One-third of this amount is payable at the opening of each term, fall, winter and spring.

MORE BONDS

There has been no additional bond issue, and yet Taylor University has more of its 6 per cent first mortgage bonds for sale now than when the last issue of the Bulletin was published. It comes about this way—fifteen thousand dollars worth of the bonds that were purchased have been returned to the school as gifts! These bonds, totaling only $100,000, are protected by a collateral which will be worth nearly $600,000 when the new buildings are completed. Friends interested in a place to invest their savings where they will work for them and for the kingdom of righteousness at the same time are invited to write our Treasurer and Business Manager, Mr. E. O. Rice, Upland, Indiana.
When Providence Smiles

Taylor's mission in the world is sure. Something is occurring every week to confirm our faith. There are gifts, bequests, wills; words of encouragement are spoken, and men and women of consequence ever and anon assure us that, regardless of the specious slogan that all schools look alike, they have thrown the weight of their influence in favor of Taylor, for good and sufficient reason. The right thing is happening to assure us that the school will abide. Our friends are helping to make Taylor go; but we must exercise a faith in prayer that faithful stewards of the Lord will hear a call for larger things, to complete the buildings that are needed and to provide the endowment that the law requires that this chosen school may measure up to the demands of the age and be a witness in that field—the college field—where coming generations are typed and the destinies of ages are shaped. No one makes a profit at Taylor. No one gets a commission on any gift or bequest. Salaries are modest, and a sober economy prevails in the administration of consecrated funds.

TAYLOR'S YESTERDAYS

The noble men and women who were trained in Taylor University under the administrations of Reade, Winchester, Vayhinger, Taylor, and Ayres, with some yet in evidence from earlier administrations would defy any attempt to disparage the Taylor University of yesterday as a means of exalting the present administration. Not one of them has failed to lay down foundation stones without which our present superstructure would be painfully lacking. The school's financial trouble culminating in 1923 grew out of misfortunes coincident with a noble effort to help deserving youth. Human mistakes and defective calculations no doubt contributed, but who of us can say we would have done better under similar circumstances.

Our recent announcement that the productive endowment of the school passed from zero to $200,000 during last school year was usually qualified with the statement that the school already had more than $100,000 of this in farm, greenhouse, and rentable residences, but that it was technically ineligible with standardizing agencies because of overbalancing encumbrances of debt. Dormitories are technically barred as endowment, yet for a school like Taylor they are the most helpful kind of endowment. We shall be allowed to list our dormitories as endowment after we have the required amount besides.

A SUGGESTION

(If so moved, clip and send to Mr. E. O. Rice, Treasurer, Upland, Indiana.)

In consideration of the work that is being done in and through Taylor University for a better world, I hereby consent to invest:

In a gift $ ____________________________

In annuity bonds $ ____________________________

Amount enclosed $ ____________________________

Date of later payment ____________________________

Address ____________________________

Name ____________________________