Taylor University Bulletin (June 1923)

Taylor University
Where Shall We Get Preachers?

By John Paul, President, Taylor University

A recent event has jostled the composure of the best church editors, and some have spoken their alarm as loudly as they dare, to avoid rocking the boat. Here it is: The Methodist Episcopal Church with over four million communicants in the United States closed the year 1922 with eight fewer ministers than it reported for 1921. The Presbyterian Church gained but forty-five ministers in all branches combined. Good membership gains are shown, yet it is notable that Methodism, the greatest evangelizing agency of history, this year surrenders to the Baptists its distinction for being numerically the largest evangelical church in America or the world—8,207,704 to 8,303,824.

It is true from our standpoint that Methodism has the most preachable gospel message and, in its charter doctrines of the witness of the Spirit and entire sanctification, the most wonderful apprehension of the secret of the Lord. It is therefore not tempered to do business upon certain slogans with which other ecclesiastical bodies can succeed. The old fashioned revival has made it the greatest church in the world, and only the old fashioned revival can keep it in the lead. We do not mean that the revival must be conducted by exactly the same methods in every generation; the only essential is that it shall get exactly the same results in the salvation and sanctification of souls.

The most alarming symptom for Methodism is not in the Baptist numerical lead. If we are in God’s order and doing His work, our first interest is the success of His cause and the success of all gospel agencies is a pleasure to us in proportion as we are able to believe they are doing Scriptural work—building according to the pattern shown them in the mount. The sure prophecy of denominational disaster is in allowing a continued shortage of recruits for the gospel ministry.

The splendid editor of The Christian Advocate (New York) regrets this ministerial shortage in his leading editorial of April 12. He alludes to the many reasons assigned for the shortage, and then assigns one more, in his estimation, the outstanding reason.

He says: “The reasons assigned for the scarcity of candidates for the ministry are various and exceedingly varied. From the purely prudential excuse of inadequate compensation to the crassly materialistic spirit of the time, the causes claimed run the whole gamut of human life and experience. It is exceedingly doubtful, however, whether the finger of the expert diagnostian has been put on the real sore spot and kept there long enough to impress the public with the fact and its importance.

“There are relatively fewer of our most promising young men choosing the ministry as their life work because there are fewer homes in which the ministry is exalted as the greatest privilege and biggest business on earth. And that change of attitude has taken place because of a complete reversal of values. In the case of a great many good people, that reversal is unconscious, but, for that very reason, it is more complete.”

Let us make a point in concrete. Dr. Carroll’s (Continued on page 3.)

COMING TO THE UPLAND CONFERENCE, JUNE 17-25.
COME TO THE UPLAND CONFERENCE

The lively program of Taylor’s commencement season will be intertwined with a splendid Conference on Christian Experience and World Evangelism. Something will be going on from the 14th to the 25th of June. The high days will be the 17th, 20th and 21st. There will be programs of unusual interest also on the 18th and 19th. Just a few samples: Dr. W. G. Nixon preaches the baccalaureate sermon on Sunday the 17th, which will be followed with splendid services in the afternoon and evening. Dr. E. C. Wareing of the Western Christian Advocate will deliver the commencement address and the President of the University will confer the degrees, from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 on the 20th. On the program throughout these days will be Dr. I. M. Hargrett, Reverend T. C. Henderson, editor of the Christian Witness, Oswald J. Smith of Toronto, John Thomas of England, Mrs. Iva Durham Vennard, Joseph Owen and probably John Owen, J. B. McBride, Dr. G. F. Oliver, George J. Kunz, Miss Ruth Harris the gifted vocalist, Dr. Newton Wray and Dr. John Paul of Taylor University. Full program sent on request.

A cafeteria at the dining hall will render service at moderate rates. Our local committee will undertake to secure room accommodations at nominal cost, and if possible without cost, for all who will write ahead stating their needs and the time they will arrive.

EDWARD O. RICE, BUSINESS MANAGER

An important feature of this issue of our Bulletin is the introduction of Mr. E. O. Rice who upon the retirement of our faithful Brother A. Dickerson, May 1st, assumed the position of Business Manager of Taylor University. Mr. Rice, now a licensed preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has had a remarkable business career for a young man in possession of no personal fortune of his own. His transparent honesty and absolute loyalty to duty were discovered in the business circles of Chicago when he was little more than a child, and he passed rapidly from the position of cash boy for Marshall Field and Company to Baldwin and Farnum messenger on the Board of Trade; then Paymaster for George L. Thompson Manufacturing Company; then Currency Teller of the Admissions Department for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis; then Manager of the Credit Department of the Commercial National Bank; then Chicago Manager for the note brokers, Holbrook, Corey and Company of New York; then Vice President, First National Bank, St. Paul; then Vice President and director at once of two Detroit Banks, Bank of Detroit and Highland Park State Bank.

At this point Mr. Rice felt a call to step out into Christian work. Without capital to sustain him he stepped out in faith like Abraham leaving Ur of the Chaldees. He turned his back on flattering salaries, facing the criticism even of his consecrated friends as well as his financial friends who believed he was spoiling a great banker to make a poor preacher. The winds of difficulty have been blowing severe in his face ever since he left the business world, but he has been growing and seasoning like a young oak tree. A faithful providence has given him just the practical training he needed to become Business Manager of Taylor University. We bespeak for him the prayers and encouragement of his friends in the church and in the financial world. It is our judgment that none of them will have cause to regret any of their good letters of commendation and encouragement.

Mr. Rice is a son of the late Reverend S. Rice, a leader of full salvation evangelism in the last generation. He therefore inherits an intelligent appreciation of the movement aside from the fact that he is himself a sane and exemplary witness to the fullness of the blessing. It looks as if Taylor University ought to be a good place for him to exercise his business talent and at the same time fulfill his calling by multiplying himself in the multitude of ministers and Christian workers who are being trained at this old school.

OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF EVANGELISM

It is a matter of no small interest when we announce to the world that Reverend Myron E. Taylor of Wisconsin has accepted the relationship of Director of Evangelism in Taylor University. Mr. Taylor was educated in Northwestern University, but his education has been supplemented by a remarkable ministerial career in his own State. The character of his evangelism is indicated in the fact that he has confined himself seven years consecutively to evangelistic campaigns in one conference. The slogans of his work are: “No sensationalism; no fanaticism; no rat-trap methods.” “Everything backed by the authority of the Word of God.” He preaches a full gospel and believes the Bible.

Mr. Taylor will take some vital interest in the financial needs of the institution while organizing and marshalling its yet unmeasured evangelistic forces. His experience in the pastorate also will serve to make him a well balanced leader of young preachers. Much of his work will be in the field where he will look after the interests of a definite evangelistic organization centering in the institution; but he will also give some valuable lectures and instruction to the pastors and evangelists in training.
TAYLOR UNIVERSITY'S POSITION

I.
We accept the sixty-six books of the Holy Scriptures as God's word, authoritatively inspired by the Holy Spirit; the final authority in every matter on which it speaks, and the sufficient rule for every man's faith and practice.

II.
We accept the fundamental doctrines of Christianity as set forth in the Apostle's creed.

III.
We stand for full salvation from all sin for all men on the merits of Jesus' blood; by the processes of repentance, justification by faith and, after justification, entire sanctification by faith, through the baptism and fullness of the Holy Spirit. We believe in world evangelism as a sequence to this; but we hold that all who die in wilful rebellion against God shall be eternally lost. We believe in intercessory prayer as a means, under God, for reaching lost souls.

TAYLOR AND METHODISM

The relation of a college to a church is not determined by charters. Charters only define the mode of control, and they are more or less for technical consumption. The true relation is determined by: (1) The way the college fosters the essential standards of the church. (2) The contribution the college makes to the life of the church through its membership and ministry, especially through its ministry, upon which the quality and quantity of its membership depend. (3) The way the college is able to meet any demands peculiar to the constituency of the church and secure a reaction of patronage. (4) The measure of official recognition the college receives, based upon the above.

Taylor University could qualify under this as an ally of several denominations; but the fact that a fourth of the student body this year are preparing for the ministry or mission field of the Methodist Church must be disconcerting to the rumor that Taylor turned against Methodism.

The change effected last year by which the

Methodist Local Preachers Association transferred the patronage of Taylor University to its own Alumni Association made the school no more interdenominational and no less Methodist than it was before. The Taylor Alumni are quite as Methodistic as the lay preachers of the church. It matters little to the present administration which should be the patronizing body, as both associations are worthy of the fellowship; but the Local Preachers' Association in legal session has signed it over to the Alumni Association; and, so long as the latter prefers to assume the trust, the action cannot be changed.

John Paul.

(Continued from page 1.)

NEW CATALOGUES ARE READY

Our general catalogue is ready, announcing Taylor University for 1923-1924. They will be sent out free to all making request.
Several Things That Look Good

THE DEBT RAISING CAMPAIGN

In honor of Bishop Taylor's birthday, May 2nd, this institution began a debt raising campaign. Straining itself through the years to help scores of young people into an education and a life of usefulness the institution has been allowed to sink gradually into heavy indebtedness. The wisdom of this is frankly questioned and the supporters of the school are given the assurance of a different policy hereafter. Despite the large overhead the debt has not increased this school year and it has been a school year of wonderful enthusiasm and peace and blessing. While the debt is great it need not be alarming. The assets of the school are more than four times its liabilities. Yet it remains that we need $100,000 at once payable on these debts as early as possible and not later than October 1st. Though this call has just been made, something like $5,000 has been pledged on it. The friends of Taylor are anxious for its honor and we believe they will take our word in the statement that nothing will cause it to thrive with one hundred per cent usefulness like the settlement of its debts. We ask each one who reads these lines and who is able to do it to send us $500 on the debt raising campaign. We are frankly requesting that everyone in sympathy, however small his resources, will cast a vote for the cause by sending at least $1.00.

THE FORWARD MOVEMENT

Previous issues of this bulletin have announced the Forward Movement of Taylor University in which $500,000 has been called for, payable in two years, and $1,000,000 in estate notes and deferred payments in order that Taylor University may render the world service which seems intended for it in the providence of God. On this the neighboring city of Marion has cast the first vote of confidence by signing up for $20,000. Our main appeal for the major part of this important fund will be to the consecrated people of God everywhere who believe the Bible and know how needful it is that Taylor University fill its place in the educational world. If we can get people to pray about this matter we believe that there will be no trouble in securing the necessary funds. It grows plainer every day that the establishment of this work is according to the will of God and that if it fails it will be because some of us fail to obey his voice.

Our student groups and state representatives in Pennsylvania and Michigan are setting out to raise $100,000 in their respective states, and in Wisconsin, $50,000. Other states where our gospel teams are ministering in spiritual things will no doubt show their appreciation by responding to the material needs of the school.

A GREAT CONVENTION

There has arisen a demand for a general convention for the promotion of holiness, and fifty representative leaders of the nation have signed the call. The date has been set for September 11-16, and the place Cadle Tabernacle, Indianapolis, Indiana. Dr. John Paul, President of Taylor University, has been designated as the chairman of a committee of twelve to prepare the program and direct the convention. The committee is national in its representation and the first steps of the preparation have already begun. It is believed that this will be one of the most significant spiritual events of this generation. Our readers are invited to reserve this date and be in Indianapolis.

WILL YOU WANT THE BULLETIN LONGER?

This Bulletin comes to you free, and we enjoy sending it if it is of interest to anyone. Our mailing list has reached the proportion of eighty thousand. It is self sustaining, as we get more than enough in voluntary offerings to pay for it, but we shall reduce the list hereafter; and, since secretaries do not always know, we fear that some may be dropped who want to keep in touch with the school. Will you not write us a word of cheer at once and authorize the Bulletin to continue?

 "A Book Much Needed"  "WHAT IS NEW THEOLOGY?"
By John Paul, D.D.  By John Paul, D.D.
President, Taylor University. President, Taylor University.

It sounds a clear note, and captures a vote.
For the old-fashioned plan of salvation;
It reveals the dead root and the fictitious fruit
Of the Biblical critic's plantation.

The editor of a General Conference organ says that "every minister of the gospel today needs to read it."

A leading missionary journal of the Orient says: "Such a reply to the so called new theology is much needed at this time."

Price $1.00. Taylor University Press, Upland, Indiana.

MY VOTE FOR TAYLOR UNIVERSITY

(Our hope is to hear this time from every reader of the Bulletin. Fill out and draw a circle around the figure you enclose.)

Taylor University, Upland, Indiana.

I enclose the amount marked ($1,000 $500 | $200 | $100 | $50 | $25 | $10 | $5 | $2 | $1.)

I wish you to understand that the institution is remembered in sympathy and prayer, and you will be welcome to continue sending the Bulletin.

NAME

ADDRESS