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The Fellowship Circle Bulletin: February 1920

Fort Wayne Bible Training School

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MISS SALOME SCHUG
MISS SARAH STEINER
REV. B. F. LEIGHTNER
REV. J. H. ALLEN
REV. C. W. OYER

The Fort Wayne Bible Training School



HOLY BIBLE

Fellowship Circle

—THAT YE ALSO MAY HAVE FELLOWSHIP WITH US
AND TRULY OUR FELLOWSHIP IS WITH THE FATHER, AND
WITH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.—1 JOHN 1:3

OFFICES
FORT WAYNE BIBLE TRAINING
SCHOOL

FORT WAYNE, IND.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO THE
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

FORT WAYNE, IND., _____ 19__

To the Members of the
Fort Wayne Bible Training School Fellowship Circle:

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus!

We again come to the members of our Circle with a word of Fellowship. As always, so now the primary purpose of our letters is to maintain and increase the true spirit for which our Circle exists; namely that we may all be strengthened in the double fellowship which Paul expresses in his letter to the Philippians, when he speaks of the "Fellowship of the Gospel" and of the "Fellowship in the Spirit". Phil.1:5;2:1.

We are glad to report quite an increase in the membership of the Circle within the last year. The present enrollment is 295, and we hope to have it reach 400 by the time of our next annual meeting which will be held on the evening of Commencement Day, May the 20th. Your personal effort, along with any other help you might be able to give in the way of securing new members, will be appreciated. We will be glad, at your request, to furnish you with copies of the Constitution of the Circle and application blanks for this purpose.

We wish to say a word regarding the changes of addresses. Kindly report such changes to the Corresponding Secretary. This will aid greatly in keeping the list more accurate.

Coming now to the School proper, the present enrollment of the School is seventy-five, the graduating class numbers fifteen. Let us here remind you that one of the most helpful activities of the Circle is its efforts to bring in new students. Each year's graduating class leaves a vacancy which must be filled by new faces, and beside these there are always others who have to drop out for some reason or other. Past records show that we must have between thirty and forty new students every year to maintain our present enrollment without marking any advance. Those who have been at the School and know what its life and teaching has meant to them can influence others to come as no one else could.

At present the students are assisting in a series of revival meetings that are conducted under the auspices of the First Missionary Church. Several weeks before the meetings began there was a spirit of prayer manifested among the students which gradually increased as the time of the meetings drew near. Just prior to the opening of the services the students spent a number of evenings in prayer until midnight. God wonderfully answered prayer by real heart-searchings which led to confessions on the part of many. The Spirit is continuing His work in the saving of souls and in leading believers to yield their lives to the Lord.

NEWS FROM FORMER STUDENTS:

The Misses DeGarmo, Baltzer, and Baumgartner arrived safely in China on December 28th. Miss DeGarmo writes to the Circle: "Ex. 33:14 was the verse the Lord gave me for my journey *****. He went before and smoothed the crooked and rough places. It is wonderful the rest He gives amid hurrying crowds and things that otherwise would excite and cause worry. To this, for the ocean trip, He added, 'And underneath are the everlasting arms'. One could lie down in peace and sleep even on the ocean with such a promise beneath one. ***** We feel sure it was the many prayers from God's children that He answered in our behalf. We praise Him for such a band of praying friends who are standing behind us." Let us continue to pray for these who have gone forth as they take up the study of the language.

Rev. and Mrs. John R. Regier of Lake Charles, La., members of the 1908-1909 class, write that they are well and happy and enjoy the Fellowship Circle letters very much. They also request prayer for the work entrusted to them.

Rev. and Mrs. S. D. Burkey of Los Angeles, Cal. write that the Lord is blessing them in their work on the Coast. They send greetings to all the members of the Fellowship Circle.

Miss Anna M. Regier has changed her name to Mrs. A.B. Becker. She resides at 301 Harrison, Newton, Kansas. She says, "I am always glad to receive the letters, for through them I hear from the different ones that were dear to me while at the B.T.S."

Mr. and Mrs. P. P. Baltzer, members of classes 1911-1912 and 1910-1911 respectively, of Lan Feng, Honan, China send Christian greetings to all the members of the Circle and wish each one a "blessed and happy New Year in His service." The Lord has been wonderfully meeting all their needs and giving them souls, but they desire us to join with them in earnest prayer that God through His Holy Spirit will soon move upon many hearts at their station to forsake their sins and accept Jesus as their Savior and Friend".

Just as this letter is being written a cablegram bearing the sad news of the death of Mrs. Charles Roberts, nee Florence Suter, reached us. We extend to our Brother Mr. Roberts and the children, our deepest sympathy in this hour of bereavement, and we feel sure we are voicing the sentiment of the entire Circle in this. May the words of the Psalmist, "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him", (Psalm 126:6) comfort our brother's heart. Both Mr. and Mrs. Roberts are graduates of the 1913-1914 class.

Edison O. Steiner, class of 1914-1915 is assisting at the Lima Rescue Mission.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Sharp of 1915-1916 and 1914-1915 classes respectively, send Christian greetings in the name of Jesus. They write "We are on the fourth year of our ministry in the United Brethren church. God has blessed our every effort in the work for His glory. We are happy and busy, and His fellowship is real". They are laboring at Donaldson, Ind.

Rev. H. W. Roth, member of the class of 1916-1917, is located at Peoria, Ill. as pastor of the Mount Olive Missionary church. During the past summer he baptized thirty converts. Attendance and interest in church has been increasing. During a recent revival twenty-two were saved, half of which were adults and most of them parents in homes. Members of the church and friends yielded themselves fully to the Lord and renewed their covenant with the Lord. Another baptismal service is to be held in the spring.

In a letter to the Circle from Miss M. M. Kesselring of New York City she writes: 'I am keeping these Fellowship Circle letters, and from time to time read them over to keep fresh in mind the names of some of God's dear children I had the privilege of meeting when at the school. ***** The Bible Training School is dear to my heart and daily remembered at the throne of grace! ***** The Lord has been graciously blessing us in the work ***** and we are steadily going on preaching the Gospel to poor blinded Israel. ***** May His continued blessings rest upon the whole family of the B.T.S.'" Prayer is requested for this work.

Omar L. Sutton, class 1917-1918, who arrived at Djoko Punda, Africa on April 5th, writes that he has been teaching a Sunday School class since the first of August. He will soon begin to preach in the native tongue. He has been living mostly on native food because the foodstuffs he ordered over a year ago failed to arrive.

Miss Mary Oyer, class 1917-1918, writes from Fresno, Cal., "Am now at the Fairmount Mission where we have a Sunday School on Sunday P.M. and Bible class Wednesday night. Wednesday P.M. is my afternoon in this section of town. I'm so glad for the little experience in visitation work I had in Fort Wayne. ***** Since I came to Fresno the Lord has given me a special joy in it. ***** I've learned one little secret in it; letting Him lead me to the homes, the right houses at the right times. It takes lots of time waiting on Him but it always pays. This Sunday School is right in a Catholic section and since we started it, the 'sisters' have also been busy. An Italian has also been looking at this store property which we rent, with intentions of buying it, and I wouldn't be the least surprised if the Catholics are at the bottom of the business. Praise the Lord, He is able to find another place if they take this, thinking they can get rid of us". Miss Oyer also stated that she met a former student by name of Miss Minnie Thompson, who is nursing in the City Hospital preparing herself for service in Africa.

Miss Barbara Wanner, class 1916-1917, is working among children in Mennonite Orphanage of Flanagan, Ill. Miss E. Luella Benz, class 1918-1919 is working in the Moody church Children's Home in Chicago. She requests prayer for salvation of the children under her care.

Miss Grace Murbach, class 1918-1919, is in charge of the Christian Missionary Alliance Mission Hall at Maumee, Ohio. She preaches twice on Sunday, conducts two prayer meetings a week, and does visitation work. She writes, "I am happy in His service". Requests prayer for her work.

We are sorry to give you only extracts of the many letters received for the Circle, but space does not permit us to give them in full. Come to the Annual Meeting and you will hear them read.

In our last letter we told you of the Mission Band and their financial goal of \$175.00. The Lord truly blessed the Band during the past term, and this naturally told on the finances, for instead of \$175.00 they raised \$208.74.

At the beginning of the new term they re-organized under the leadership of Jesse Ringenberg with their motto, "With good will doing service as to the Lord and not unto men". Encouraged by the Lord's blessing in the past term, they have decided to seek to pray in not less than \$200.00 before the close of the school year.

This leads us to speak of our own aim. You will remember that we undertook, at our last Annual Meeting, to seek to raise enough above our expenses to support at least one student in the School. So far we have paid in \$40.50 on a student's support and have about \$50.00 in the treasury available for this purpose, which makes a total of approximately \$90.00 toward our goal with our school year more than two-thirds gone. It will require a total income for the year of not less than \$200.00 to support our student and meet current expenses. We are sure we need only let you know the situation that you may pray and the Lord's stewards will respond.

The following verses were composed by a present senior student:

Our Circle.

'Midst toils of life when blest ties perish
 We love our "Circle" none the less;
 Tho bands do break we'll ever cherish
 Sweet mem'ries of the B. T. S.

There oft' we've met at Jesus' feet
 And sought to learn with one accord;
 That we might know just how to meet
 The needy with The Living Word.

When harvest's o'er, the vict'ry's won,
 We shall with those across the foam
 Meet yonder, with a glad "Well done
 Thou faithful servant, " welcome home.
 E.W.S.

We are attaching hereto, a ballot containing the names of the nominees for the offices of President and Corresponding Secretary of the Fellowship Circle for the ensuing year. If it is not possible for you to be present, mark the ballot and mail it to the Corresponding Secretary so as to reach her before the date of the Annual Meeting.

We take this opportunity of extending to you a hearty invitation to attend the Commencement Exercises the afternoon of May 20th. The Annual Meeting of the Fellowship Circle will be held the evening of that date. We expect a time of rich blessing and hope you can attend. Let us hear from you, whether you can come, also write us of your work and any items you think would be of interest for our Annual Meeting, including requests for prayer.

Yours in Christian Fellowship,

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Per

Corresponding Secretary.

Address:

Bible Training School,
 Fort Wayne, Ind.

BALLOT:

Detach, mark, and either bring to Annual Meeting or mail to Miss Salome Schug, Bible Training School, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

For

PRESIDENT

Arthur Albro,
 Woodburn, Ind.
 John Clasper,
 Spencerville, Ohio.
 H. E. Tropf,
 Detroit, Michigan.

For

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Dersie Quince,
 Fort Wayne, Ind.
 Nina Schlatter,
 Swanton, Ohio.
 Salome Schug,
 Berne, Indiana.