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### The Fellowship Circle Bulletin: July 1934

Fort Wayne Bible Training School

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# The Fellowship Circle Bulletin

## OF THE FORT WAYNE BIBLE INSTITUTE

"Truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with the Son Jesus"

VOL. XIV.

BERNE, IND., AND FORT WAYNE, IND., JULY, 1934.

NO. 2

Established, Mrs. Bertha  
Bible Inst  
FORT WAYNE IND  
1:3.

## Obituary of Byron G. Smith

**B**YRON GARY SMITH was born May 3, 1883, in Denver, Colorado. He was the eldest child of Gary Byron and Dora Bell Smith. He came from a long line of preachers on both his maternal and paternal side of the family. His grandfather was the founder of the first log M. E. Church in Chicago where now stands the Methodist Temple. When he was eight years old, his mother died, after which the family moved to New York State. After living there a short time, they moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where Brother Smith spent most of his youth. Again the family moved to Minneapolis, which city he left when he was married to live in Columbus.

It was while living in Cleveland that he gave his heart to the Lord at the age of seventeen and felt a definite call to the ministry. From the time of his conversion he was steadfast and unmovable in his Christian experience, always loyal and faithful to his Lord. Not long after his conversion, he began to preach wherever opportunity offered and finally became engaged in evangelistic work, being called the Boy Preacher. In 1907, he united with the Free Methodist Church and was soon afterward ordained and licensed to preach. His first pastorate was in Celina, Ohio, where he remained for two years. At the close of his pastorate there he changed his church and conference relation, joining the Indiana Conference of the Evangelical Church and was appointed by the District Superintendent to Wabash, Indiana, to his first pastorate in the Evangelical Church. In 1912, he was stationed by the Conference at Kokomo, where he labored for three years, then to Salem and Linn Grove for three years and to Avilla for seven.

In 1926, he left the pastorate to teach in the Fort Wayne Bible Institute to which he was appointed by his conference each year and with which he was connected at the time of his death. For five years while he was teaching, he also, in addition, served as a supply to the Columbia City Circuit until the Conference of 1933. He taught in the School nine years in all, preached in the Indiana Conference twen-



Byron G. Smith

ty-three years, and preached altogether over thirty years. He was faithful and loyal to his Conference even when there were offered attractive inducements to leave.

As a preacher, he was exposition- al and evangelistic, burdened with a definite message, which he felt compelled to deliver. He was not content to merely fill a pulpit. His love for right and truth permeated his sermons as well as his life otherwise. There was no compromise with evil, and he preached what he believed to be the truth, irrespective

of the consequences. He loved to plan sermons and to preach them. He was inspirational, original, and a deep thinker; and he had creative ability. This quality he also manifested in fields other than teaching and preaching, such as in poetry, drafting, mechanics, and invention. He lived neither in the past nor in the future. His was an active present. And his life was too full of activities for his health. Besides his busy life at the Institute, he engaged in some evangelistic work, frequently preached for other ministers, taught a weekly class in Bible Exposition at the Old Time Religion Tabernacle, spoke frequently over the radio program of the Tabernacle, and was chairman of the program committee of the Bible Institute Radio Hour, in which capacity he frequently spoke.

He was a man of sterling principle and of strong conviction. If he felt that he was in the right, nothing could move him and he not only clung to his convictions **negatively**, but he defended them **positively**. He was loyal to a cause, an organization, a friend, if he felt they were right, even if it meant loss of position, the good opinion of others, or the loss of friendship. He was a lover of truth, not being able by nature to dissemble; in this respect he kept the spirit of the law, not the letter only. He was tender-hearted, sympathetic, and always willing to help others in any way that he could. He had the ability to follow or to lead, and while he possessed the power of leadership, yet he had the unusual gift of being a helper and could be trusted to the limit with another's interests and would not take advantage.

In 1907, he was united in marriage to Effie Irene Bridge. To them were given three children,

(Continued on page 8)

## THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE BULLETIN

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Send all reports and matters intended for publication to Cyril H. Eicher, Grabill, Ind.

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## Editorials

"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil."—Eph. 5:16.

If there ever was a time when Christians needed this exhortation, it is now. With worldliness and error running amuck through the ranks of professing Christendom, many of us are asleep and unheeding of the many opportunities knocking at our doors. It is high time that we awake out of our deep sleep and lethargy and "fight the good fight" against the forces of evil.

We have many opportunities for service, both great and small, and these opportunities bring great responsibilities. Someone has given us this formula, A plus O equals R, or Ability plus Opportunity equals Responsibility. To each of us God has given the ability to do at least one thing well, and when He also gives us the opportunity to exercise this talent, He expects us to do it. We can all witness to His saving grace, whenever and wherever the opportunity presents itself, and by doing this we may bring some wandering and hungry soul to the Lord. But if we fail, we will not only lose a great blessing for ourselves, but it may be that we will keep some one else from experiencing the joy of salvation. Some day we will have to give an account of our stewardship, so it is very important that we "redeem the time".

As we enter upon our duties as Editor of the Bulletin this year, it is with a feeling of dependence upon God for His guidance, and with a prayer that He will make this Bulletin a source of help and blessing to every member. But in order to accomplish this end, we must also have the co-operation of every member of the Cir-

cle. In the first place, be sure to notify us of any change in your name or address, so that the Bulletin will come to you regularly. Then let each one write us a few lines of testimony, telling us about your work and ministry. Articles and other matters for publication are always welcome, so please do not wait for a personal request from us. This is **your** request.

## Greetings from the President

Dear Co-Workers:

Greetings in Jesus' name. "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him who hath chosen him to be a soldier." II Tim. 2:3.

We have been quite busy in the Lords work this year, thus far, and still have quite a full schedule before us. We are starting our eighth campaign tonight, June 22nd, at Coldwater, Michigan. These meetings have been interdenominational, being held in United Brethren, Missionary, Methodist Protestant and Evangelical churches, and the three tent meetings this summer are all union meetings.

The Lord gave us a good tent campaign at Melmore, Ohio. Many souls were won for the Master, and a number were led out into the deeper things of God. We closed last Sunday night, June 17th, with a good crowd and souls at the altar. We have never been in a place where people seemed to be so ignorant about the New Birth as they were there. It hardly seems possible, with all the light we have in America today. It proves the great strides that "MODERNISM" has made in this fair land of ours. It's high time that the CHURCH PUT OFF THE SOCIAL PROGRAM and put on sackcloth and ashes and start calling on God. We had thought that the **monster Evolution** was about dead, but he had a resurrection at Melmore. The young people were all taken up with it and still tried to hold their faith in the Bible. We tried to show them that this was impossible. We expect to help in a campaign at Groveland, Ill., July 29 to Aug. 19th. We also have been helping with the "Old Time Religion" radio program with Rev. Howard Paschal here in Fort Wayne. We feel more like pressing the battle for Full Salvation than ever before.

Yours in His Service,

Carl I. Parlee, President.

## Report of Annual Meeting

On May 23, 1934 the Fellowship Circle of the Bible Institute held its regular annual meeting at the First Missionary Church in Fort Wayne.

The service was opened with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Parlee in charge of the music and Mr. Loyal Ringenberg presiding. Everyone joined heartily in singing, "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow," followed by an informal handshaking with those at our side. Another hymn was sung and then we met at the Throne in a season of voluntary prayers. We were favored with a very beautiful number in song by Rev. and Mrs. Norman Zimmerman.

A unique feature of the evening was the recognition of former graduates by classes. It was found that the earliest class represented was the class of 1909.

Reports by the Secretary, Editor and Treasurer were given and accepted.

The proposed revisions to the constitution were presented and accepted.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President: Carl Parlee  
Vice President: Clinton Moser  
Secretary: Luella Miller  
Treasurer: Paul Steiner  
Editor: Cyril Eicher  
Nominating Committee:  
S. A. Witmer  
Rhoda Lehman  
Albert Oyer

The message of the evening was given by our dear Rev. J. E. Ramseyer. He emphasized "Fellowship" with others and with God. He used as his text Zeph. 3:14-17; I Cor. 1:9 and I John 1:3, 4. He said in part that the deeper we go in fellowship with God the more we will desire to fellowship with God's people. Such fellowship makes us unselfish. Fellowship prepares us for partnership and the two prepare us for rulership with God, His ultimate object for His own. Such a relationship brings us the **joy** of fellowship with God, the **power** of partnership with our Lord and the **glory** of rulership which shall **never** end.

This blessed message was followed by a testimony and praise service in which we were made to realize anew that God's hand had been upon us during the past year. God has been good to us even though not all our paths had led through sunny days at

all times yet God was in the clouds as of old as He led the children of Israel.

Everyone joined in singing "Blest be the tie that binds" not forgetting those who could not meet with us in person. Rev. Leightner led us in the closing prayer after which greetings were expressed to those we had not seen for sometime. Luella Miller, Sec'y.

Acceptable Offering

"She hath done what she could."

This was a wonderful commendation to come from the lips of Jesus. Mary could not have done better than this if she had been a thousand times as gifted. From this scene we learn two lessons. One is that all Christ wants is what we have ability and opportunity to do. Our Lord asks no impossibilities. The poorest things, the smallest offerings, are acceptable, if they are our best.

A child in a mission school offered her teacher a handful of weeds and grasses, wilted and soiled, which she called a bouquet. Did the teacher refuse the gift? No; but thanked the little girl as though she had been the recipient of a gorgeous bouquet. The child did what she could. So it is that Christ accepts our poorest gifts, if it is our best.

The other side of the lesson is this, "She did what she could." This is the step of action that pleases Christ. Do we give Him our best gifts? Or do we give Him faded flowers? If we are only doing half our ability, we cannot take the comfort of Christ's commendation. The widow's mites were acceptable, because she gave all.

Paul D. Steiner, '32, Treasurer.

From the Secretary

I am so glad to send greetings in the name of our all-sufficient Saviour and Lord. He has been so precious to my soul and am happy to state that He grows sweeter every step of the way. May there be no gaps in our Fellowship Circle when He sees fit to call us around the Throne is my prayer.

Luella Miller, '33, Secretary.

THE BEGINNING

The Fellowship Circle was formed May 18, 1916. J. E. Lauby was elected as first President, B. F. Leightner, Vice President, Ida Rogers, Corresponding Secretary, Daisy Roth, Recording Secretary and Mrs. D. C. Stucky, Treasurer.

Are You Lifting?

Why should the Institute continue its radio broadcast while its instructors and workers are receiving only half-allowances? This question is not infrequently heard by the Radio Committee. What answer can be given?

In the first place, the Institute Hour has been initiated by the instructors and workers themselves as a means of extending the ministry of the school. There has been real self-giving in this. Believing that the radio is a means of enlarging the student body the Institute staff have been "sowing" their last dollar.

The Institute plant and its staff of workers are here. These represent an investment and the responsibility resting upon all of us which is definite. We must occupy, that is, fully utilize these facilities in the ministry for which they were intended. It was a work of faith for our predecessors, many of whom have gone to their reward, to bring the Institute through the years of its primary growth. There were earnest prayer and a spirit of sacrifice and cooperation which it pleased God to honor. In the course of the years 475 students have been graduated, 93 of whom have gone as missionaries to foreign lands. Eternity alone will reveal the blessing which has flown through the channels of the Institute.

Is it not a challenge to our faith, to our prayers, and to our sacrifice that there are many young people in our midst whom we have not inspired with a vision to give their lives to the service of Christ; or that there are those who are eager for an opportunity to prepare themselves but have not the means; that our own Institute is not fully utilized; and that in the face

of these facts God's heart continues to bleed for the needs of those to whom He has commanded us to carry the Bread of Life?

Seeing things in this light you will surely not ask why we are striving to extend the Institute's program of thrusting more trained workers forth into the harvest field. Rather, you will enquire, "What can I do to share in the work of the Institute?"

The radio broadcast is our best means of reaching the young people who should be enlisted in Christian training. The burden of this work now rests upon the teachers and workers of the Institute. The appeal is now for you to give us a lift. We are making this appeal to a sufficiently large number of those who in times past have supported Institute interests so that if only half of the number were to respond with a moderate monthly subscription to the radio fund, the need would be met. A subscription of a dollar or fifty cents per month would not cause you great hardship but it would with others greatly help the Institute workers. We are praying that a large number may catch a vision of the Institute work and then with a spirit of cooperation put their shoulders to the wheel.

Will you not sincerely ask God what you should do? Then without putting the matter off fill out the gift form below. Monthly pledges are ideal for they assure us that others are under the burden, but if you are not free to pledge regular support we do not urge. We do believe firmly that if you will counsel with God and then obey that you will do something. Find Pledge in lower right hand corner of this page.

BIBLE INSTITUTE RADIO PLEDGE

I am supporting the Bible Institute with my prayers. I also hereby heartily pledge my financial support and will pay to the Radio Fund as follows:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Each month

Name .....

Address .....

Date .....

Note: Make gifts payable to P. L. Eicher, Treasurer of Radio Fund.

## Summarized Treasurer's Report

1933-1934

May 8, 1934

Bal. in Treasury, May 27, '33 \$46.22  
 Received from contributors .. 77.96  
 Released, frozen bank deposit 16.24  
 Int. on present deposit ..... .39

Total receipts .....\$140.81

### Disbursements:

Printing of three Bulletins .... \$81.35  
 Editor for postage ..... 1.50  
 L. R. Ringenb'g, for Gov. cards 2.73  
 Gov. post cards for Treas. ... .20  
 Money orders ..... .60  
 Bible Institute-needy students 25.00

Total disbursements.. \$111.38

Total receipts .....\$140.81

Total disbursements.. \$111.38

Balance in treasury .. \$29.43

Russel Sloat, '32.

### MISSIONARY BUYS HOME

The Rev. and Mrs. Omar Sutton have purchased the residence at 2218 Ontario Street, an attractive five room

## News from Peru, South America

(Excerpts from letter addressed to Bible Institute family).

April 3, 1934.

Dear Members of the Bible Institute Family:

This finds us still at Huanuco, our Mission Headquarters of Central Peru. The Lord's blessing has been resting upon us and we are deeply grateful to Him for every evidence of His unmeasured love upon us. He is very precious to our souls and we find in Him our daily delight. But, oh, how good it would seem to attend a service at home and hear a real Spirit-directed message! Often our hearts crave fellowship and communion with God's children in the homeland. Here we cannot drink at the fountain of truth by hearing others preach but it seems we must continually give out to others. But, thanks be to God that we can be renewed in our inner man daily and that He gives the joy and assurance, so necessary in our everyday lives.

In the month of November we had to make an emergency trip to Lima.

bungalow. The Rev. Mr. Sutton is a foreign missionary and has just returned from the Belgian Congo in Central Africa. He will spend several months in Fort Wayne on a furlough.

Casilla 137, Quito,  
 Ecuador, S. A.  
 April 13, 1934

Miss Myrle Gaskill,

Bible Institute,  
 Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Dear Miss Gaskill:

Just a line of appreciation of THE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE BULLETIN which has been forwarded to me regularly, although you have not had my latest address as given above.

I am completing my first term of service in Ecuador this year and, D. V., expect to leave for the U. S. A. about the first of August. These have been five happy years of service in the land of my adoption and, while I am looking forward to seeing those whom I know and love in the States, it is not going to be easy to leave my friends here.

With sincere Christian greetings, I am

Cordially yours,  
 Edna W. Figg.

Ruth Pauline, our oldest girl, had an attack which we thought might be acute appendicitis. The doctors of this town would not commit themselves but seemed rather uncertain as to what it might be. After waiting a reasonable time without seeing any improvement we decided to take her to the British-American Hospital in the capital city. The trip was anything but easy. All of it was made by motor car. All along the way in our twenty-two hours of continual driving we were very conscious of God's presence. He gave strength and protection while we crossed over the altitudes which scale about sixteen thousand feet above sea level. As soon as we had gotten down to a fairly low altitude Pauline started to feel greatly improved. The examinations in the hospital revealed that she had an infection of the kidneys and through the Lord's goodness she was granted a speedy recovery. We do thank God for having heard our cry and for having spared her life.

Our stay in Lima was unexpectedly

prolonged. For a number of weeks I helped get ready for the opening of a new school year for the Bible Institute and then, too, I did some teaching. Fifteen young men from various villages of the coast and of the mountain region enrolled as students. Of these four were entering the year's course of study.

Since coming back to Huanuco I have not been able to do any itinerating, due to the heavy rains which are also very frequent. I was hoping to start out this week for a town called Monzo. It is a village seven days' journey from here by mule-back and is nestled in dense jungle forest. But just a few days ago the brethren of the region sent me a telegram, stating that the semi-annual convention has been postponed for two weeks due to the heavy rains and the impassable condition of the mule trail. Thus, there will be about two weeks of quietness here in Huanuco.

A number of weeks ago three Indians came just a little before our prayer service and wondered whether there would be a meeting that night. I answered them in the affirmative and then they began to look at each other and muttered some words in Quechua. I waited patiently for I felt they had something more they wanted to say or ask. So, finally, one courageously asked me how much money they would receive if they attended that night and "endured" my preaching. Of course I told them without deliberation that they would receive nothing. They then stated that others told them we pay those who come to our service. Such is the propaganda the Catholic priests circulate most freely. Nearly everywhere we go we have similar accusations thrust in our faces. But the question of these three gave me a splendid opening such as Peter had when he told the beggar, "Silver and gold have I none . . ." and then offered the heavenly treasures which are beyond comparison.

Yours in Him,

Clayton D. Steiner and Family.

The devil has robbed many souls of heavenly riches by getting them to run after earthly riches. Sel.

In God's Kingdom the greatest are those who serve others the most. Sel.

## Paul, the Master Preacher

By Byron G. Smith

(Note: The following is the last sermon ever preached by our beloved teacher and friend and was delivered on Baccalaureate Sunday, May 20, just six days before his homegoing.)

Addressing myself to the Senior Class especially, and to all the members of the Bible Institute as well as to the members of the congregation, I realize that I am speaking to you on an exceedingly familiar subject. Most always we try to instruct the students in the specific instead of the general in subjects. However, I have a subject that is very, very general. By the way, the Baccalaureate is not the easiest sermon to deliver, and the difficulty is made greater when a teacher of homiletics is standing before the students whom he has tried to teach how to preach.

This subject which I have selected is not closely connected with the subject of the evening message and yet it is vitally connected. The text will be three verses taken out of Paul's second letter to Timothy. II Timothy 4:6-8—"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

These phrases are the epitome of a life; not an epitaph for a tombstone. To those who know that life these words vibrate within us, they thrill with tragedy, they throb with pathos, but they also resound with victory. They include every road, every move of the Apostle Paul from the Damascus road experience to his Arabian training, three years later to Damascus and Jerusalem, then starting as a world-wide missionary. Some of us are quite familiar with the labors of this great man. We know that he crossed and re-crossed the Mediterranean Sea. He went from Palestine into Macedonia and back into Palestine, and to Rome for execution. There is nothing in that life that is not included in these words, for these words were spoken just before the head of this man was laid upon the execution block and fell upon the opposite side.

Paul was a master preacher in every sense of the word. His early training was peculiarly a great asset to him in his after ministry, for under the tutelage of the greatest teacher of the Jews, Paul became an expert in matters of law and relations. His counsel was accepted and even sought after by the fathers of Israel who sat with him in the Sanhedrin. There was a great deal in that early training which contributed to his success in later years. I have been thinking about Paul and comparing him with some of the rest of the folks who went out into the ministry, and little do we know how much our earliest training shapes our lives and our work. Sometimes it may work the exact opposite to helpfulness. There are many things in this man's life that he learned in this early career that I believe made him a great preacher. I will not take time to mention them, but one was his educational standing. He said he laid it aside and counted it as nothing. He did not abandon it, but subjugated it. He used the art of listening. He was a wonderful man of logic.

Another thing was the great Damascus road experience when he surrendered his rebellious arms which he had been using against Christ and gave up to this most wonderful experience.

It might not be amiss to mention at this point that many of our crises in after life are settled by certain decisions in early life. Many a person, having been carried over a tempest, says, "Have Thy way" and lets the Lord have His way in their lives.

There is another experience that contributed to his life of preaching. In Galatians we read that he went into Arabia and there got his new system of theology. He was thoroughly versed in Jewish theology, but he must have another course in theological training. He did not go to Jerusalem, but to Arabia. It is generally conceded that while in Arabia under the tutelage of the Holy Spirit, he learned his great lessons and doctrines of the New Testament theology.

Another thing that contributed to Paul's preaching is found in the chapter which was read in your hearing as the lesson this evening. Philippians 3:13-14—" . . . But this one thing I do, . . . I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God

in Christ Jesus." God can do nothing unless that is the criterion of our lives. We know the expression, "Jack of all trades and master of none". I should say that Paul's trade was concentration, consecration, and conquest. He concentrated on that one purpose. He consecrated himself to that purpose and eliminated from his life everything that would not contribute to that life. He separated himself further that he might not have any interest which would be against or would detract from that one thing.

When a man or woman begins to make a business of living the New Testament standard of Christ, it involves everything that is within them coupled up with the Holy Ghost. It broadens us instead of narrowing us. There is something in this great experience for every man. Sometimes it takes all the manhood and all the womanhood, all the courage, all the intelligence, all the adaptability we can muster to bring ourselves to it. It's a wonderful thing to be able to do one thing and do it successfully. Paul had been preaching for thirty-two years. He is not looking forward to the tomb. His view is retrospective. He says, "I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course." I am wondering what went through the mind of the apostle as he said those words. "I have kept the faith." He is not taking the pessimistic view of life. He is looking back over his life. What I want to do tonight is to change the point of view. Paul was looking back over his life and these words sum up his feelings. What I would like to have us do is to have the other view—look forward.

Paul's life was practically finished; our lives lie ahead of us. We listen to the symphonies of the masters until our spirits are subdued. What I want you to do tonight is to stand before the picture of the great master preacher as he is about to turn from this life. Some other world is to burst upon his vision. The old world is to be eliminated from his vision. I want you to see this man with the testimony of his life, and here we stand looking at that picture. Study it. Analyze it and see, not the great preacher, but what will make us great men and women unto God. What is there in the picture that will make us unto God? In other words, I am not going to speak so much of Paul as a master preacher, and he was one—a master

in preaching, a master in theology, in the realm of education, in logic. I want us to see what is in the picture that becomes instructive to us. Can we look to such an end of our career? Would we like to do so? What can we get out of Paul's life that will help us to come up to the same point in the same way? I don't mean that we should imitate Paul. You can't become a great teacher, missionary, or Sunday School teacher by imitating someone else who is great. There are plenty of imitators. It is easy to take on the mannerisms of some man who looms up to us as great. We can have only the fibers of our being, and those people have only the fibers of their being. The only way God could use Paul was to knock him down. You can have the content of his experience. You don't have to have all that went with it. You do not have to do that to become a great missionary. What is in the picture? Let us notice three things.

"I have fought a good fight." There was something of the soldier element in Paul. He knew how to fight. We won't amount to very much today if we don't have some of the soldier in us, something that will stand by and defeat the enemy. Some of the people are on dress parade, but they are not concerned about getting the enemy off the field. We have to have something in us that will not take account of circumstances. We are in this thing, not as a uniformed soldier, but as a fighting soldier. If you want to know what to fight, read Paul's letter to Timothy in which Paul has given him some very definite instructions. He has brought some indictments that we have to contend with in the modern age as well as in the age in which Timothy lived.

"I have finished my course." There is the other element of running the course. I have been a little baffled in analyzing that. It seems to bear out the idea of a life planned by God and revealed to the individual; and as soon as Paul knew what direction he was to go, he started out. When he started to go into Galatia, and again when he started to go into Bithynia, he was forbidden by the Holy Spirit, and instructed to go to Troas. There he received the Macedonian call and answered it. When Paul knew God's plan for his life, not a word kept him from marching up to the line. I believe there is a plan for every life, for

your life. Let us look forward to the time by the grace of God when we can say, "I have finished the course, I have walked in the paths in which He has led, I have fulfilled the purpose, I have kept the faith."

The apostles were witnesses. A witness only has to know one thing. He has to know what he knows and know that he knows it. We have to have such a grasp on this Book that we will not be swayed by false doctrines, but will be alert. I realize one thing, that if there was ever a day when young people and out-going preachers and missionaries needed encouragement, it is now. When you get tried on the field some place alone, just live in the light of Paul's life for awhile. See his manner of dealing with error. Absorb from him impressions, stamina, courage. That will hold you until the doubt is passed. There was a time in my life when I was assailed by doubt when I was preaching the Gospel. It seemed as though every bit of faith I had was whiffed away. Had I not held on to the things I knew to be the convictions of God I do not have the least doubt that I would be an infidel or an unbeliever. What the devil can do with one, he can do with everyone. I will say this, it will either be **fight** or **flight**. You know it is a high privilege to stand our ground, to live our lives, to face the world, and then to gaze upon eternity's happiness. In this sense let us look at Paul's life and let that be the forward look for us; so that we, by the grace of God, may stand where he stood.

May God make every one of you a good soldier, a good course-keeper, and give you a good depository with your Heavenly Father.

### **Dr. E. W. Praetorius Brings the Commencement Address to the Class of 1934**

Speaking on the subject, "An Early Page in Church History," Rev. Praetorius brought to our minds the apostolic evangelism as fundamental to true Christianity. Evangelism was the business of this early group of Christians. For this ministry they prayed, labored, spent time, and money; it was the center of their interests and the circumference of all they ever hoped to do. It occupied their time and life;

it was the interest of all, laity as well as Apostles. "Therefore, they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." Acts 8:6.

Evangelism, as emphasized by Dr. Praetorius is every Christian's work. Not only the anointed apostles, but all were called. Stephen, Philip, Huss, Wesley, Whitefield, Finney, Moody, and many others eminent in evangelical Christianity were laymen who felt they were debtors to all men, in all places, at all times. Some of the greatest evangelistic movements have been started by laymen. The first martyr to die for the cause was Stephen, a layman. The light shone so brightly in these Christians that they felt if this light were put out, it would exterminate this Christianity. The Church, before reaching the height to which it has been called in evangelism, will not get very far until every layman feels his responsibility.

In pointing out the true character of the apostolic evangelists it was shown that they had a real message. It was a personal message—they told what they knew. It was a "double-star" message. When a "double-star" message is given to a messenger boy, it must be delivered at once to the very person to whom it is addressed without delay, and signed by that very person who receives it. The early Church had just this kind of a message. There had been a death in the family, and the news of the inheritance must be brought to the heirs. It must be delivered without delay. It must be carried to all for whom it was intended—they were debtors.

The message itself was not a system of Ethics, although that was included. It was not basic principles. Positively speaking, it was a name, a person. "Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead." Acts 3:10. He was the only one who chose to come into our race and voluntarily laid down His life for us. His death not only meant something, but it effected something—our redemption.

It was not by lawyers' reasoning that this message was carried; it was carried by witnessing. Lawyers can be hired, but witnesses can never be hired. Lawyers do not bring conviction, but it is the testimony of a witness that brings conviction. It has been said that "experience is the best teacher," but I want to make it stronger than that and say, "experience is the **only**

teacher and the only preacher." This message was delivered by heralding and by personal work. The Spirit has a lot of confidence in personal work. It was by this method that Philip won the Ethiopian.

Dr. Praetorius, though an educator, believes more in the power of prayer as a qualification for the ministry than in mere human personality and technique. The early Church group were prepared to carry this message. They had no buildings, no missionary organizations, and few influential personalities; but they had the presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. With His presence they dared go through death, sword, fire, and water. Paul and Silas sang songs in the night, after they had been beaten for the cause of Christ and put to jail with their feet in stocks. You cannot kill a movement as long as it can sing; and when the Church of today comes out of her pensive mood and can sing with sore backs and with

feet in stocks, there will be an earthquake too. The secret of power in the early Church lay in the fact that there was always an unusual personal presence. Modern Christianity is in many parts pagan. It talks beautiful words but opposes truth; in fact, it ignores the Spirit of Truth. Truth in the day of Pilate was a novelty and is quite so now. With paganism settling down over our government, and every corner a deadly paganism which talks beautiful words but with no life at its center, and conditions around us like one seething mass, we have only one way through and that is the way of this early group, the way through Him—His way.

In closing his address Dr. Praetorius contended that the way of the early Church is the only way for the modern Church. Our message of today is just as vital as that of this early group, but the question is, Are we going?

## Resume of Commencement Week

The Thirtieth Annual Commencement of the Fort Wayne Bible Institute was initiated in the Baccalaureate Sermon by the now sainted Rev. Byron G. Smith, a member of the Institute Faculty. His sermon topic was "Paul, the Master Preacher" and his text, II Tim. 4:7,8. Many of us, after his sudden homegoing, recalled his opening sentence after announcing his text, for he said, "I know that this is a funeral text, but I'm not going to preach a funeral sermon tonight." It was his last public address and is printed elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin.

Senior Night was enjoyed by a large number of visiting friends and relatives, and proved a time of refreshing to all. Personal testimony of the class members was interspersed with music and the comments of the beloved class president, George Condit, known to the boys as "Dad" and the girls as "Uncle George." One student spoke of the service in training that had been entrusted to him, and closed with these thought-provoking words, "God forbid that we should do our practical work as practice." The class motto, "Dead unto Self, but Alive unto God" was interpreted for us by another member of the class. The class gift to the school was most practical and was presented to the Dean at the close of the program. Three new rugs and a

fresh coat of varnish transformed the chapel platform from an eyesore to a pleasant spot. We trust the new Seniors will find this softer understanding conducive to ease in delivering their chapel messages.

The Annual Concert was given on Tuesday night at the First Missionary Church and was well attended. Professor and Mrs. Howard Skinner assisted Professor C. A. Gerber and the Special Chorus in a delightful evening of music. Mrs. Skinner sang "Gethsemane" by Salter and Professor Skinner sang the solo in one of the chorus numbers. Mr. Gerber deserves much credit for his unwearying patience in training the chorus, as does also Mr. Skinner for his constant sympathetic support of the chorus at the piano. When he began playing, the members of the chorus instinctively sat up, took a deep breath, and plunged into the work with new vigor and enthusiasm.

The Student Recital on Wednesday afternoon presented piano and vocal students in a varied program.

Wednesday evening the Fellowship Circle Meeting in the Missionary Church opened with a song service under the direction of Carl Parlee. A refreshing season of prayer followed. Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman sang, "Living for Jesus." The revision of the Constitution was taken up, Article by Article, and after some discussion,

voted on by the Circle. Some amusing incidents arose during the election of officers. It would save the president some embarrassment in the future, if the nominees for office could all be present at the Circle Meeting. Some lively testimonies from the group, and brief reports from each class back to 1909 were interesting to all. A season of prayer closed the service after the report of the election was read.

We awakened to a pouring rain on Thursday morning. It was hard for the Seniors to have a bad day, but we all joined in praising the Lord for the much-needed and earnestly prayed-for showers on the parched earth. May the heavenly showers soon fall on the thirsting soul of the church. Dr. E. W. Praetorius, Educational Secretary of the Evangelical Church, of Cleveland, gave an inspirational address to the Class on "An Early Page of Church History," stressing the fact that to have early Church results we must have early Church power and early Church methods. Mr. Skinner sang "The Great Awakening" after giving us the setting of the song. A quintet from the class, composed of the Misses Alethe Mills, Frieda Wahli, Ina Norquist, Mrs. Mildred N. Eicher and Mr. Blanchard Leightner also sang for us. Diplomas were presented by the Dean, B. F. Leightner. An excellent, hot dinner served to the Class, Faculty, and visitors at the School dining room officially closed the Commencement week.

On Saturday evening, May 26th, after one day of intense suffering, Rev. Byron G. Smith passed from the scene of his labors into the presence of the Lord he loved and served so faithfully. May each of us so live that our last message to the world may also be, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

Myra I. Martin, '35.

## NEWS ITEMS

On Thursday, June 28th, a reunion of former students was held on the grounds of the Bible Institute. Approximately forty seven former students were present. They reported a very enjoyable time. In the evening they attended the tent meeting in progress at Grasmere Heights Missionary Church where Rev. George C. Condit, class of '34, has been preaching for three weeks.



## REVISED CONSTITUTION OF THE BIBLE INSTITUTE FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE

### ARTICLE I—Name

The name of this association shall be The Bible Institute Fellowship Circle.

### ARTICLE II—Object

The objects of the Fellowship Circle shall be as follows:

To maintain and promote the fellowship which was begun in the Institute.

To foster a spirit of prayer on behalf of one another and of the Institute.

To encourage every member of the Fellowship Circle to be a true representative of the Institute; to be active in distributing its literature and in soliciting new students; and to assist the Institute in every proper way.

### ARTICLE III—Membership

Section 1. The following shall be eligible for membership:

- (a) All graduates of the Bible Institute.
- (b) All former and present students who have completed one term of the school year.
- (c) Members of the Institute Board, teachers, and other workers engaged in the work of the Institute.
- (d) Any teacher or other worker no longer connected with the Institute, who may be named for membership by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Conditions of membership:

- (a) Application for membership shall be made on blanks provided for the purpose, in which the application shall subscribe to the principles of the Fellowship Circle.
- (b) All applications for membership shall be passed upon by the Executive Committee.

### ARTICLE IV—Officers

The following shall constitute the officers of the Fellowship Circle, and shall be chosen from among the graduates only:

Section 1. President.—The President shall preside at all meetings of the body, and perform such other duties as usually devolve upon such office.

Section 2. Vice President.—The Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President in his absence, and assist him at any time he may be called upon to do so.

Section 3. Editor.—The Editor shall keep an accurate list of the membership; shall seek up-to-date addresses of all members in order to revise the mailing list; shall edit the Fellowship Circle Bulletin quarterly.

Section 4. Secretary.—The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all the proceedings of the Annual Meetings of the Fellowship Circle, and of all meetings of the Executive Committee; shall receive all applications for membership and lay the same before the Executive Committee, and make all necessary replies regarding the same; and shall conduct such correspondence as may be committed to him by the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Treasurer.—The Treasurer shall receive all monies accruing to the Fellowship Circle from whatsoever source, unless otherwise provided; shall give a receipt for same; and shall pay out the same on the order of the President, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. He shall keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements, and shall submit his books each year to a regularly appointed auditor.

Section 6. Each officer shall submit a report of the week of his department to the Annual Meeting of the Fellowship Circle.

### ARTICLE V—Annual Meeting

Section 1. The Fellowship Circle shall hold an annual meeting during Commencement week at the Bible Institute; at which time it shall receive reports from the various officers and committees; elect officers for the ensuing year; conduct such other business as may be found necessary or advisable for the maintenance and extension of the work; and carry out such programs as may be arranged for it by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. A report of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting shall be published in the Fellowship Circle Bulletin.

### ARTICLE VI—Committees

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Editor, Secretary, Treasurer, and two members of the

Faculty; the latter to be appointed by the Institute Board.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to meet at the call of the President, or of any three of its members; to approve names submitted for membership; to remove from membership any who, after proper investigation shall be found to have departed from the faith, either in doctrine or conduct; to devise and put into execution plans for the fulfilling of the objects of this organization, to arrange a program for the Annual Meeting such as will best promote the objects of the body; to maintain an oversight of the work in general; and to transact such business pertaining to the Fellowship Circle as is not provided for elsewhere.

Section 3. A Nominating Committee shall be chosen each year at the Annual Meeting, whose duty it shall be to nominate the officers and committee members for the following election. They shall meet and perform their work not less than four months before the date of the next Annual Meeting of the Fellowship Circle.

Section 4. Any member of the Fellowship Circle shall be eligible for membership on the Nominating Committee, provided he be not an officer, or nominated for office for the ensuing year. No member of the Nominating Committee may be nominated for an executive office.

### ARTICLE VII—Elections

Section 1. All Officers and Committees shall be elected by ballot vote at the Annual Meeting of the Fellowship Circle.

Section 2. Nominations shall be submitted for all offices by the Nominating Committee, with the exception of those persons who are proposed for the Nominating Committee for the following year. Candidates for the Nominating Committee shall be nominated by the Executive Committee. The nominations for President and Editor shall be submitted to the Executive Committee not later than four months before the date of the next Annual Meeting.

Section 3. A ballot containing the nominations for President and Editor shall be prepared by the Editor and published in the Fellowship Circle Bulletin in ample time to allow them to reply before the date of the Annual Meeting. Each member is requested to submit their ballot for these two offices by mail if they cannot be present in person at the Annual Meeting. Only those present at the Annual Meeting shall be entitled to vote on other elections or questions.

Section 4. Before any votes are cast in the election of any officer or committee member the presiding officer shall give opportunity for additional nomination other than those submitted by the Nominating Committee; and such nominations shall be placed on the ticket with the other names submitted.

### ARTICLE VIII—Quorums

Section 1. Fifty members shall constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Four members shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee.

### ARTICLE IX—Amendments and By-Laws

Section 1. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present at any Annual Meeting, provided notice of the purpose to amend shall have been given previously.

Section 2. The Annual Meeting may adopt such by-laws from time to time as may be advisable, provided they do not conflict with the spirit of this constitution.

### ARTICLE X—Offerings

The expenses of the Fellowship Circle shall be met by voluntary contributions, except as it may seem desirable to charge a regular subscription rate for an official organ of the Circle that is regularly entered as a second class periodical. Each member is urged to contribute at least annually as the Lord may lay it on his heart.

## OBITUARY

(Continued from page 1)

Byron Wade, Esther Frances, and Margaret Lenore. He was a kind and considerate husband, ever mindful of the little courtesies which he thought were due a woman, especially a wife. To his children, he was unselfish, and no sacrifice or inconvenience was too great for him to make. He was very hospitable and appreciated and loved his home and family life. He had a high ideal of family life and looked upon the family as a circle and often prayed at the family altar that the circle might not be broken.

But the circle was broken on May 26, when he died at his home from a severe heart attack. Although he had not been in normal health for two years, he was sick only a day, yet suffered greatly. He was fifty-one years of age. He leaves beside his wife and children, four sisters and one brother: Mrs. Dora Wright of Portland, Oregon; Mrs. Grace Royal of Los Angeles, California; Mrs. Ruth Scheuermeyer and Mrs. Lois Smith of Chicago; and Albert Smith of Freeport, Illinois. He also leaves a large number of friends. He made friends easily and through his talks over the radio, and through his preaching and teaching, and through personal contact he formed many lasting friendships.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

### THE JOYFULNESS OF CHRISTIANITY

There is a quality in the character and life of Christ which is liable to be overlooked, but which is of supreme value. It is the spirit of gladness. While the Lord Jesus was never hilarious or unrestrained in the expression of His joy, yet He was uniformly cheerful, and the life that copies Him will always be known by the shining face, the springing step, and the atmosphere of cheerfulness. Even when His heart was breaking, the Master rose victorious over the agony of the cross, and "for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame." We cannot rise triumphant over any trial until we see the victory beyond. There is nothing that more commends the glorious Captain of our salvation to the admiration and imitation of every suffering soldier in life's battle than the victoriousness of His spirit. There is no touch of craven fear; there is no shade of morbidity and gloom. He is the triumphant Christ, and He is leading us on to be "more than conquerors through him that loved us." "In the world," He says, "ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."