

## A LAYMAN'S VIEW OF BETHANY

Schools, like all worthy institutions, need financial support. Our public schools are supported by public taxation; our land grant colleges, by government grants in addition to student fees and tuition; most private schools receive large endowments. Very few of them receive full support through student assessments. Now, Bethany Bible College does not fall under any of the categories mentioned above. How does it receive its support? The answer can be found, in part at least, in the report of the Budget Committee of the Alliance. This, in turn, can be supplemented by the report from the college president in behalf of the college board. Each church is assessed by the Budget Committee commensurate with its ability to pay based upon its membership, etc.

In drawing up an operating budget for any school for a year you have certain constant costs. But, on the other hand, you have many variable costs. In addition to these, there are several outstanding obligations which have, of necessity, been incurred over the years at Bethany.

It is difficult to ascertain at Bethany, before the budget is drafted, just how many students will be enrolled. We have no definite source with which to supply our student enrollment and our pre-registration policy does not supply adequate data. In as much as fees and tuition from our student enrollment furnishes a greater part of the revenue for operating the school, this becomes practically an unknown factor until registration has been completed in the fall. This places a tremendous burden of responsibility upon the administrators of our school. They are faced with the task of caring for the expenses with an uncertainty as to where a great part of the money will come from. The burden could be eased immeasurably if each of our churches would pay their budgets when due or in advance when possible.

The constant costs mentioned above are almost independent of the size of enrollment. Such expenses as salaries, fuel, electricity, and administration cost will vary minutely. However, the variable costs are almost entirely dependent upon the enrollment; food, laundry, cleaning, etc. being the big items here. It goes without saying that the larger our enrollment, the more our constant costs will be absorbed.

Perhaps it would be well to evaluate our school. Is it performing the function adequately that we expect it to; that its founders intended that it should? Just what do we expect of the school? Have you examined the course of study, the curriculum? At the high school level, does it give a well-rounded education with a spiritual emphasis, in a good spiritual atmosphere? I believe it does. At the college level, does it train and prepare our students to become ministers of the gospel, missionaries, youth workers, and christian lay people? Again, I believe that we have evidence to convince us that it does.

It is my understanding that most Christian schools must look to their representative churches and other interested individuals for a part of their support. A program of Dime Cards has been recently instituted at Bethany whereby individuals and youth societies of our churches may contribute to this support. Also many people can well afford to give a day's pay to the support of Bethany. So when we are asked to contribute through the Day's Pay Envelopes or the Dime Folders let us remember the cause of Christ and the outreach of Bethany. This part of our church program needs to be given our prayerful

consideration at the present as well as from a long-term point of view.

May we have some of the insight of Maltbie Babcock when he wrote,

"Back of the loaf is the snowy flour,
And back of the flour the mill;
And back of the mill the wheat, and the shower,
And the sun, and the Father's will."

bas another bases Stora W. Emmett.

## MARRIAGE CEMENT . . . From Page 3

by love. Love produces results that nothing else can. It melts hard hearts, breaks stubborn wills, transforms lives, rights others' wrongs, covers others' failings and mistakes. Love suffers long, and is kind, and blind! It is not the abundance of things, but love that makes happy homes.

To what length, someone may ask, is this love to go? God gives the answer—'Even as Christ loved the church, and gave Himself for it"—all the way. Love knows no limit. The giving of oneself in love to the noble achievement—an unbroken marriage—is the assurance of success, by God's grace. But, asks another, "Do I have to take all I take?" No, divorce is the way out, but it is not the victorious way of love. It is the way of defeat and failure.

God, who is love, will restore, maintain, and increase this love in all who are willing to obey Him in the matter of keeping their chief marriage vow—to love—for it is His own unfailing marriage cement!

## Revival Fellowship

Laywomen, Students, Pastors from every area of our Zion unite in prayer for revival.

A laywoman in N. B. writes: "I would like to enter into a revival fellowship. I desire so much to see a Holy Ghost revival. I know God is able if we as Christians are willing to pay the price. My daily prayer is, 'Send a great revival in my soul.' I pray so often for a fresh vision of Calvary. My Lord suffered so much. I desire to go down before Him in humility, seeking His face, and turning from my coldness and neglect. 'Give me a passion for souls, dear Lord.'"

A student in N. S. writes: "Having read your article in Revival Fellowship, I would like to add my letter to the others. I, too, am concerned about revival and have been making it a matter of special prayer. I feel we need revival, want revival, and can have revival if we meet God's conditions."

A pastor in Maine writes: "I want to assure you that I am praying for revival. Brother C. D. Sanders, while in Canada, helped to open my eyes to the need of a revival in our work in Africa as well as the homeland. Since the time of fellowship with Brother Sanders, I have been praying for revival both in home and foreign fields. I continue to pray for revival in my own life."

Would it not be helpful for those of us who have a burden for revival to seek out prayer companions in our own churches and communities? A revival prayer circle could be formed which would intensify concern and inspire faith. Many revivals can be traced to such prayer circles.

Exactly one hundred years ago a small group of New York business men started the Fulton Street prayer meetings. They grew and grew until 10,000 were meeting daily for prayer in New York. In response to the passionate plea, tre dry grounds were flooded in revival rains. In two years a million converts were added to the churches of America.

Let us hear from pastors, clerks, or prayer group leaders of special prayer circles (as well as individuals). Write Rev. C. E. Stairs, 38 Pleasant Street, Truro, N. S...