

## SOME ADMISSIONS and AFFIRMATIONS about Bethany

For the sake of a better understanding, I should like to assess the value of Bethany Bible College by putting some significant admissions over against some significant affirmations.

Bethany is not a liberal arts college; nor does it profess to be. It is a Bible college specializing in the field of religious education and preparing ministers, missionaries, and Christian workers for their particular work. Bethany, however, does have enough breadth in its curriculum to acquaint the student with several of the fields of learning: philosophy, ethics, psychology, literature, and music.

Bethany does not give a degree, but it is endeavouring to maintain a high academic standard. Texts, assignments, and tests are college level. While there is some value in one's having a degree, it is only a symbol of education—and, in these days of give-away degrees, not always a true symbol. Such noted schools as Moody Bible Institute, Toronto Bible College, and Prairie Bible Institute do not grant degrees, but they provide an education that is superior to that of many degree-granting colleges. In the final analysis, it is the education that counts.

For some, Bethany is not the proper place to prepare. The student contemplating a life-time profession other than the ministry should take a liberal arts course as a foundation for graduate study. Even so, he can begin his course here as a grade-twelve student and transfer to second-year university in such schools as the University of New Brunswick or Dalhousie University.

Bible students transferring to Canadian Nazarene College or to certain American colleges are granted credits for work taken at Bethany.

For the future minister, missionary, or Christian worker, Bethany is a good place to prepare—especially if he can not attend both college and seminary. Bethany prepares such a person for his particular ministry more adequately than the liberal arts college that does not allow as many Biblical, theological, and practical courses. Further, Bethany and Bible schools in general often contribute more to the development of the Christian life than liberal arts colleges. The environment and emphasis of a Bible college are no small factors in its strength and success. Saintliness, as well as scholarship, is a qualification for Christian service.

Certain evidence is before us: Graduates of Bethany and other Bible colleges are taking their places alongside those of us who have college degrees and in many instances are "out-preaching" us and "out-pastoring" us.

Bethany has a particular contribution to make to the Reformed Baptist ministerial or missionary candidate. It can give him a knowledge of our work and develop a loyalty to it that no other school can.

But Bethany can do much more. It can give a spiritual grounding to every youth whatever his future may be. If he is going on to university or going out to work, first of all he needs a grounding in his faith. For this reason I believe (and others share this conviction) that every one of our youth ought to spend a year at Bethany.

Space does not permit an evaluation of the worth of our high school department to the Christian cause, but briefly Bethany offers the provincial course of studies plus all that Christian teaching, example, and environment contribute to one's life.

I believe that Bethany is worth all it costs. I trust that you believe as I do. Your Bethany offering—as an individual or a church—will be an expression of your faith in Bethany and in the faculty who sacrifice to serve.

On February 14th, give generously. C.E.S.

## SOME FACTS and FIGURES about Bethany

The committee of the Alliance responsible for the sale of surplus buildings at Sussex has realized six thousand dollars in sales and is presently negotiating further sales. Part of this money has been applied to the Alliance loan; part has been paid on insurance on the Sussex buildings; part has been used for expenses relative to sale. There has been no difficulty in selling the buildings, but the coming of winter and the absence of Sales Manager Stevens from the area have impeded further sales until Spring.

Present enrollment at Bethany is seventy-five, including eight special students.

The increase in enrollment has necessitated extra expenditure for room renovations and furniture. The Christmas offering has fallen far short of covering the amount. Some envelopes are still coming in and a final report can not be given yet.

The salary total exceeds last year's by almost three thousand dollars due to much-deserved raises and the addition of a music instructor. (Married men now receive an average of \$2400. and pay their own rent; single teachers receive \$1800. and pay their own room and board.)

If the School is to progress, we need an expanding income. We need another instructor, a full-time dean of women, an enlarged library—to mention a few needs. And regardless of location, we have to build in the near future. School business is big business today, and we have been operating on a "shoe string" compared to schools all around us.

Bethany is dying to grow and will die if it does not grow.

As Dr. Safara Witmer has said—"Where is the vision, the imagination, the sense of urgency, the devotion and self-sacrifice that moved circuit riders and their kin a century ago to bring forth colleges out of poverty?"

P.S. Posters for Bethany Day are being sent to all churches.

## STARTLING STATEMENTS

by Christian Educators

From an editorial in "Christianity Today" we quote: "Of all danger areas facing religion and education today, the Western world's college and university campuses are situated most vulnerably of all. Their neglect of Christianity has established them as vast temples of spiritual ignorance." (May 11, 1959)

From an article by Edmond Perry in "Motive," the Methodist Student Movement magazine, we quote:

"Campus culture is not only not Christian, it is anti-Christian... In fact, life and values on our campuses are further away from Christ and his church than those on the mission fields or Asia, since in the minds of student and faculty the church and the Christian faith have been left behind..." (February, 1957)

From an article in "Christianity Today" by Dr. Safara Witmer (former President of Fort Wayne Bible College and present Executive Director of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges) we quote:

"The need for evangelical witness in the educational world has never been more urgent. In our day more than casual interest and dollars are needed to meet the crisis in education. Where is the vision, the imagination, the sense of urgency, the devotion and self-sacrifice that moved circuit riders and their kin a century ago to bring forth colleges out of poverty?"

Bethany Sunday Feb. 14 — Give Liberally