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LOCALS AND PERSONALS.

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Mr. J. L. Clements of North Wilkesboro, N. C. visited his sister Miss Mary Ethel at West Dormitory during the past week.

Mrs. L. M. Clymer of Greensboro was with her daughter Miss Thelma Sunday evening at West Dormitory.

Mrs. Harper was glad to have her brother Mr. John M. Walker of Richmond, Virginia with her for a week end visit.

Mr. W. E. Lowe is home for several days with his family.

The many friends of Miss Thelma Clymer are glad to see her out again after a slight indisposition.

Mr. W. B. May of Lynchburg, Virginia spent Monday and Tuesday with his brother-in-law Rev. J. W. Williams of the village.

Miss Gussie Ingle of High Point, visited her parents Mr. and Mrs. Jas. L. Ingle in the village recently.

TENNIS.

Professors Lincoln and Douk representing the faculty and Messers J. A. Dickey and J. C. Stewart for the Senior class engaged in a tennis match on Tuesday evening May 21st resulting disastrously for the former. Dickey and Stewart put up a good game and showed training while their opponents were a little off color for want of practice. The event was, however interesting and held the crowd until finals.

Seniors won three straight sets.

SUNDAY SERVICE.

Preacher—Dr. J. U. Newman.

Scripture—Isaiah 42.

Text—"A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench;" first part of verse 3.

Subject—"Strength in weakness."

Dr. Newman spoke partly as follows:

When we are weak then we are strong. In our weakness we have the sympathy of God. A general idea is that the words "smoking flax" is just a repetition of what is meant by "bruised reed." The smoking flax is that flame that only a breath from God would quench. But as long as there is a spark, however small, of divine fire in us, God will never put it out. There is only one power that breaks the bruised reed, and that power is our own.

At the time when the text was spoken, Israel was in Babylon. Israel was God's chosen, yet they were captured—bruised. The people to which God's oracles had been given, the people of the greatest prophets were bruised, but not broken. The old land was in desolation, the temple had gone down and the people were in foreign lands. They had been murdered and divided—the nation once two million strong were scattered into one hundred and twenty-seven provinces. Yet the bruised reed was not broken, nor the smoking flax quenched, for God allowed forty-two thousand of that once great number to return. They returned to a

city in ashes, a land surrounded by the enemy, but God's promise was with them. And this bruised reed was to be the salvation of the world. "Israel is my servant."

God never breaks a bruised reed. A hope once implanted in the heart will never be broken by Him—if ever broken, it will be done by ourselves. Israel was a nation, yet God led them to conquer. With trowel in one hand and sword in the other they rebuilt the city. For a number of years they developed, but today they are scattered over the entire world. They are again a bruised reed. Israel shall turn when the time of the Gentiles is fulfilled.

The hope Christ's disciples had in Him was dead when Christ was crucified. It seemed the reed was more than bruised—it seemed broken. But Christ rose from the dead, ascended to heaven and when the day of pentecost the smoldering flax burst into a great flame, a flame which neither Nero's wrath, Rome's legions, nor Diocletian's order to destroy the Bible could quench. Nay, the bruised reed was not broken when the medal with these words was struck: "Christianity is destroyed." It seemed that the bruised reed was broken when the believers on Christ were dipped in oil, fastened on a high pole and lighted with a torch to light up the city.

There was once a boy of lofty hopes, of high ambitions. A boy who had a conscience of future; who had seen the stars obey him in a dream. Yet before this boy became a great man he must be sold a slave; he must be imprisoned falsely, and he must be bent, but not broken. Then too, there was Peter, a magnanimous soul, with great faith, the man whom Christ called a rock, denying Jesus—bent bruised but not broken.

Today the best preacher those who have been almost broken. The best laymen are men whose flame of hope has been almost quenched. The only two things that can break us or quench us are sin and ignorance. Agrippa's ignorance of God's reality, of Christ's mission did not allow him to yield to Paul's pleadings and his sin caused him to be broken, because the wife by his side was his sister. Yes, ignorance of God's purpose in us, ignorance of God's power over us, ignorance of God's light and love and law; and ignorance of what God can make of us has caused many a bruised reed to be broken, and many a flickering flame or smoking flax to be quenched. In life's experience we must realize somewhere what Jesus is, and what unselfishness is. There is no power in Heaven or earth that can hinder us, if we earnestly try, from living a Christian life, for "A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench."

What shall I say to immortal souls before me? If we are living unsatisfactory lives, come and get a vision of Christ. Get a vision, a vision. Life's bruising experiences come in order that God may

use us. We see now darkly, but the closer we get, the clearer we see. Our faith is stronger, our love is purer, and our work is easier. It is then, my friends, a joy to be a man and a woman—a joy to live. And, oh! if we live near the Cross, we shall be satisfied when we awake in His likeness, for we shall see Him as He is.

John G. Truitt.

FRESHMAN DEBATE.

The Annual Freshman Debate was held in the college auditorium Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock. Each year the freshman English class gives a public debate while they are studying argument in their text-book. This gives an excellent opportunity to put into practice the principles they learn. This year the class numbered sixty-five, so all could not speak, but twelve representatives were selected.

The question was a popular one, "Resolved, that the world is growing worse." Both sides did well. They had their work well-planned, each speaker taking one phase of the question and presenting it in a logical order. Some of the speeches would have done credit to upper classmen. Professor Lawrence should be congratulated on the excellent work his class is doing, and the members of the class should be proud of the privileges of being such an excellent class.

Mr. R. K. Hancock was president and Mr. H. E. Atkinson, secretary. Mr. Hancock in a few well chosen words welcomed the large audience and briefly outlined the work that the freshmen class is doing.

The first speaker on the affirmative was Mr. O. D. Poythress. He introduced the subject and outlined the field of argument that the affirmative intended to produce. Mr. Poythress has a good strong voice and with the exception of the mispronunciation of a few words, he had an excellent speech.

Mr. F. F. Myrick was first for the negative. He introduces the negative side, and shows that they intend to present their argument from five fundamental points—that the world is growing better scientifically, industrially, intellectually, religiously, and politically. Mr. Myrick spoke in a very interesting manner.

Second for the affirmative was Mr. C. C. Ward. He endeavored to show that the world is degenerating in the care of the body. He showed that the average life of a man had decreased. He also spoke of painting and architecture being in the decline. Mr. Ward has some talent as a speaker.

Second for the negative was Miss Frankie McNeal. She spoke on the industrial phase of the question, showing how inventions had revolutionized the world. She had a good speech, and read well.

Miss Oma Utley was the third speaker for the affirmative. She argued that the world is growing worse socially. She cited what fashions are doing to demoralize the homes. The harmful effect of

over indulgence in fashion was shown to be both a burden of the race financially and mentally.

Third for the negative was Mr. D. H. McKay. He took the scientific side of the question and presented some good, strong argument to show that the world was growing better. Some of his satire was good. His speech took well with the audience.

Fourth for the affirmative was Mr. W. A. Trivette. He argued the question from the scientific point of view, citing as an example of ardent scientific skill the building of Egyptian pyramids. He argued that we had no power now that could raise a rock weighing 500,000 tons 700 feet into the sky. He grew eloquent in his speech.

Miss Beatrice Mason next presented the intellectual side of the question for the negative. She showed that man has been in a state of continual progress and that each nation has been more intellectual than its predecessors. She read a charming and fluent manner that won the attention of her hearers. She was especially easy and graceful.

Fifth for the affirmative was Miss Isabelle McKay. She presented argument to show that the world is growing worse morally. She maintained that there were more atheists and infidels now than formerly and that the church were not as strick as of former times. A good logical speech that had weight with the judges.

Mr. J. V. Knight was fifth for the negative. He, also, dealt with the moral side of the question and produced argument to show the world is growing better. He gave the number of church members and the number of active workers. Mr. Knight is an experienced speaker and made a strong speech.

Mr. Henry Southard was the last speaker for the affirmative. He maintained that drunkenness was making the world worse. He showed that we have 100,000 deaths each year caused by strong drink. He also claimed that dishonesty and graft were making the world worse.

Mr. John G. Truitt was the last speaker for the negative. He maintained that the world is growing better politically. He mentioned improvements in the governments of the world and spoke of International Peace as being a great benefactor.

The debate was interesting throughout. Each speaker deserves credit for the excellent manner he maintained his side. The decision was unanimous in favor of the negative.

J. S. Truitt.

NOTE OF THANKS.

Words fail me when I try to express my heart-felt and sincere thanks to the good people of Elon College for the kindness they have shown me during my sickness, both at the College and at the Hospital. And especially the Sophomore and Expression classes. The flowers they sent me were beautiful, and I will always have a feeling of gratitude toward the people at Elon College. Ralph H. McCauley.