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BASIC FOUNDATIONS

P. L. ELLIOTT, President

The junior college movement is considered by many educators to be the outstanding development in higher education in modern times. When Dr. Harper at Chicago conceived the idea of the upper and lower divisions in the university, the junior college was born. As late as 1919 there were only fifty-two junior colleges in America with a total enrollment of a bit over 8,000 students. At the present time the number of colleges is nearing 700 with a total enrollment some fifty times as great. Now Canada, England, and other countries are establishing such schools.

These schools vary greatly in size, in purpose, and program. The smallest has approximately fifty students; the largest one has more than 45,000. The offerings range from complete liberal arts to complete vocational work; from courses suitable for transfer to purely adult training. There is one junior college with an enrollment of more than 10,000 all of whom are employed by day and go to school at night.

They vary too in their organization. There are two, three, and four year junior colleges. The two year college teaches only the 12th and 14th grades; the three year, the 12th, 13th and 14th grades; the four year, the 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th grades. Some of these include vocational and terminal courses in their curricula.

There are a variety of opinions in basic notions of the place and function of the junior college. Some think it is the upper layer of the secondary school system. These are the ones now advocating expanding the present high school program to include the 13th and 14th grades. There are others who think the junior college is the lower division of the four-year college or university. On the other hand others think of the junior college as a unique and distinct institution in itself and not junior to anything. These people conceive the junior college program concerned only in part with preparation for transfer to other colleges. The task thus conceived is to elevate an area, not merely to train a few of its youth.

There comes now the persistent press of the peoples, or community college. For the most part even yet the community college is thought of as a vocational school. However, there is a growing conviction that the best community college may not be vocational at all, but liberal arts. From this point of view the liberal arts and preprofessional college can and should be community centered. The college thus seeks to become an indispensable part of the community by entering and enriching every phase of community life—both secular and religious.

No one yet can predict the future of the junior college movement. Most observers are watching it with intense interest and believe it to be the most significant step in higher education of this generation.

THANKSGIVING

Today, in many parts of our United States, the celebration of Thanksgiving has deteriorated into a farce, being either a time for unreasonable activities, or a time for un-Godly rest. However, in some places such as Gardner-Webb College, the true meaning of Thanksgiving is still remembered.

Gardner-Webb students know well and can appreciate this annual event. For on this day it is the duty and privilege of man to give humble thanks to Almighty God who has seen fit to guide and sustain each and every man.

Possibly some Gardner-Webb students are still in doubt about what to be thankful for, but I know that after attending this Christian college, they know whom to be thankful to. Fortunate indeed are we who call ourselves students of Gardner-Webb college. (Everyone may not be as fortunate as we, but still we are all fortunate.)

To understand better our God-given opportunities, let us state a few of them. We were fortunate enough to be born in a country settled by men who sought the opportunity of serving God as their soul should see fit. We became a part of the era known as the period of free Christian learning. We have parents and friends who realize that the hope of the future lies in the learning of the present. We are loved and watched over continually.

These few things, among many, have been our legacy from God. Let us never forget this, and never cease to give thanks to God, for with Him we are men, but without Him we are dust. We are all thankful. Let us show our thanks on the day set aside for that purpose. TOM WAUGH

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OUR APPRECIATION

We, the students of Gardner-Webb College, wish to confer our appreciation to Miss Janie Odum, our competent dietitian, for her well deserved accomplishment of recognizing students' birthdays. Once every month, at the evening meal a special table is set aside in the cafeteria for all Gardner-Webb students whose date of birth comes in that specific month. At this table the birthday meal is served family style, and during the meal, all of the other students sing "Happy Birthday" to this select group of the month. We wish to give recognition where recognition is due for this ceremony. Thank you, Miss Odum.