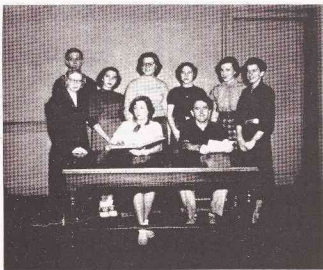


What Sort Of Education Does A Christian Student Need?

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THE YEARBOOK

The annual yearbook publication of Gardner-Webb College has a rich heritage. The smartly bound, brilliantly colored book of today follows precedents set forth by previous books which date as far back as the year 1938.

The subject matter of this book is as vast as the intricate college which it seeks to portray. It depicts the every-day lives of the students while they seek a fuller knowledge of life, as well as those of the faculty who guide this search.

The most important aspect of the yearbook is the individual photographs of the faculty and student body.

Seeking to give an all-around view of college life, the yearbook does not hesitate to depict the many extra-curricular activities that are so much a part of college life. The many clubs, fraternities, and athletic programs are prominent features in the book.

In the year 1938 the senior class of Boiling Springs College published the first yearbook in the institution's history. It was entitled *Bubbles*. This edition was dedicated to Mrs. Lillian Ritch, then dietitian of the college. At this time Mr. George Jackson Barnett was president of the Boiling Springs College, as it was called at that time.

A major highlight of this year was a fire which destroyed the Memorial Building on Armistice night. Pictures of the building before and after the fire graphically portray the great loss of the college.

This book also contained special features, including a senior class history, a class horoscope and a group of senior superlatives.

The book continued publication through the year 1942. In that year Gladys Brook was editor. R. W. Abrams was Business Manager, and John R. Cantwell was president of the college. In this year the Washburn Memorial Library, now called the Commercial Building, was dedicated.

Publication was suspended for the year 1943.

With a change in the name of the institution in 1944 from Boiling Springs College to Gardner-Webb College came also a change in the name of the college yearbook. Since 1944 the annual publication has been called the *Anchor*.

Of the 1944 editor Lolan Martin Kanipe was Editor and Guy Johnson was Business Manager.

The motto of the *Anchor* came to be: "To strive, to seek, to find, but not to yield."

It was this year that Dr. Phillip L. Elliott became president of the college.

Continuing through the most recent edition of 1953, the yearbook has increased in size, scope, and attractiveness. Each staff competes to make each edition better than the previous one.

Students of Gardner-Webb are in for a surprise when it comes time to receive this year's *Anchor*. Some of the most drastic changes to take place in the college annual since its name was changed from the *Bubbles* will appear in the '54 *Anchor*.

(Continued on Page 5)

Many students at Gardner-Webb seem to have an erroneous idea of the purpose of our college and the type of education it is supposed to offer. These students know that the institution here is called a Christian college and that it strives hard to live up to its name. But apparently some of them are rather confused about what is involved in the program of a college which calls itself "Christian." They seem to think that a "Christian education" can be achieved by some sort of academic structure which would substitute specialization in Biblical studies and church administration for the basic disciplines of the liberal arts. They are rather resentful when they are directed into courses in natural science, English, and history. Some of these students seem to think that their academic success hinges — or should hinge — upon the degree of fervent devotion they demonstrate toward religion, or that their success is measured — or ought to be measured — by their enthusiasm for service in certain religious organizations. They appear at times to be puzzled when they find the instructor of Biology or English has not rewarded them for their fervor, devotion, and enthusiasm. Many of them, no doubt, excuse such academic failures with the flippant observation that after all English and Biology have nothing to do with Christianity. When students make this response in apology for lack of scholarship, we can be reasonably certain that they do not know what college life at G-W is all about; we can be certain that they have the wrong view of Christian education.

To be sure, a Christian college will insist that the study of the Bible should have a prominent place in its curriculum. Christians recognize the Bible as the indispensable source of knowledge divinely revealed and absolutely necessary for a full understanding of God's plan for humankind. Christians, moreover, are keenly aware of their dependency upon God and seek through various attitudes and exercises to evidence their devotion to the Savior of Mankind. But true Christians be — are the sum total of the Christian life. True Christians will insist upon a whole, not a partial, involvement of Christ in their experience day by day and hour by hour. They will deny that there is any source of truth other than God. They will deny that there is any part of God's creation which cannot be utilized through the grace of God by those who have concern for the needs of their fellow-men. And because they believe that God is the source of all truth, both "revealed" and "natural" truth, and because they feel that all aspects of God's creation can be used in the furtherance of His design of love if men will put dedicate themselves to understand that design, the Christian God becomes ultimately the focus of all their intellectual endeavors. True Christians, therefore, are they who will to employ their divinely-given powers of reason to the task of knowing what they can know about God's eternal plan and purpose as revealed in the Bible, in human nature, and in the natural environment. True Christians maintain the physical creation to be the product of the Divine Will. They rightly assert that "the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handiwork." At the same time, they affirm the need of supernatural knowledge revealed in sacred Scripture, knowledge which was above the ken of natural man. Hence, they are able to discern that the Wisdom of God, (or, if you please, the Word or Logos) is revealed from many sources. Only a part — albeit an absolutely essential part — is offered to men in the Bible. The remainder of this great body of wisdom necessary for the full, effective, and happy life here on earth is revealed to us through the disciplines of natural science, social science, medicine, art, music, and all other fields of subject matter. We cannot help but feel humble indeed when we contemplate the scope of an education which a really dedicated Christian student would consider adequate in the face of all he ought to know about God's plan for him in this universe and in the life beyond.

Obviously, many students at Gardner-Webb need to make a re-evaluation of the significance of education in a Christian college.