

Africo-American Presbyterian

"AND YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE YOU FREE."—John viii, 32.

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BY THE WAY

An Address Delivered Before the Faculty of Meisenhammer University
By Uncle Billie

Mr. President, members of the faculty, and tutors of dear old Meisenhammer:

The privilege it affords me to return to this classic spot cannot be expressed in frite language. But suffice it to say that it is a most coveted privilege that comes to the few and not to the many; therefore, it should go without saying that to me it is a joy unspeakable to greet you as a faculty, men representing such renowned universities as the University of Memphis, Moses' Alma Mater; I see before me today men holding degrees from the University of Westendorff, Margenhoff, Essendorff, Puckharber, Lodebar and others of no less fame and whose names savor of German, even old Meisenhammer.

I remember having read years ago that we Americans do things in a hurry; the people of England take more time to think; and that the Germans go about everything with patience and with the most scrutinizing investigation before concluding. When they hands-off the job is complete. This is no less true in the class room and lecture halls in German universities. But this does not, cannot, detract from the merits of the university that painted Lodebar on the map of the world. In Old Testament history, we only know Lodebar as the adopted home of Mephibosheth, the little invalid son of Jonathan, and the grandson of King Saul, whom David sought of the house of Saul to adopt into his family because of his love for Jonathan. You who hold degrees from this university reflect the University of odebar as being on a par with the strongest universities of the land. All honor to the University of Lodebar! You send out men with envied degrees and not degrees without men. But, gentlemen, my object is not to tell you in most pleasant words what you really are as to your preparation; but to suggest to you a few things that may serve you in your station as a guide.

Your object here is to make useful men of the various kinds of material as the products of many homes that are as different as one star is different from another. Your task is a tremendous one; for in the performance of your duty, in making men that will be useful, you will find it quite necessary to practice this text: "Watch ye; stand fast in the faith." You must watch your students while they are under your supervision lest you overlook the fact that certain natural, worthy bents in them must be trained that they might pursue their inclinations. Otherwise you destroy the student and break the hearts of parents or devoted guardians. Too often this is the sad case in many of our institutions. To subscribe to this course is nothing more nor less than studying your business to see what certain results will accrue in your business under certain conditions and pressures. The farmer, in studying his crop in its making makes certain applications to his growing crop in order that it may make a more healthy and rapid growth; and if it does not respond to this application, he tries another, and continues—if he wishes to succeed—until he is certain of that for which the plant is reaching out or thirsting; then he pushes the plant in its inclined direction by applying the remedy discovered.

This requires at times a little elbow touch with a student, if only for four or five minutes in a year. This elbow touch is very difficult in a large university like Meisenhammer. It is in the big universities where you are likely to lose sight of a student's individuality. But Meisenhammer faculty is sufficiently large

to take care of this situation. Think on it.

Then, gentlemen, you must watch yourselves most closely of all. In making men you are likely to become impatient and socially blunt. You are likely to become as conductors on the railroads or postal employees at the stamp or general delivery windows in the post office. At times they are the embodiment of gruffness because they have so many people of different temperaments and training to deal with daily. A poor fellow calls at the stamp window for a postal stamp, but has not sense enough to call for the stamp he needs. Simon Simple boards the train at a non-ticket station, hands the conductor a piece of money, but does not state his destination, or he does not know the exact station for which he is bound. This has the tendency to ruin a sweet disposition in one about ripe for the kingdom if he overlooks the fact that he is a workman to serve the public with patience, love and sympathy.

You are a stumbling block to your disciples if your manner makes them feel that they are a stench to your environment because they cannot grasp and master the subject like a student of the first water. Cultivate tolerance with the ignorant and less brilliant. The late Dr. Daniel Jackson Sanders, who was President of Biddle for sixteen years, in the class room, in business conversation, in contentions in church courts, or in an argument with a student about to be sent home to return no more, never grew the least gruff.

Woodrow Wilson was expelled from Davidson College for hazing, I was informed ten years ago by an old student of Davidson; but he went to Princeton and graduated and cut his swath through the world and left admirers in his wake. Davidson felt proud of him. The faculty of Davidson invited him to come to Davidson and address the student body after he became the Chief Magistrate of this country; but he found some reason (?) for not accepting the invitation, notwithstanding he was in Columbia, S. C., at the time he was invited to Davidson. Perhaps he deserved his punishment as a Davidson insubordinate. But evidently the understanding between him and the college authorities was not mutual. Allow no student to leave Meisenhammer, if possible, under a misunderstanding that is likely to lead to a breach in the friendship that exists between the faculty and the subordinate, if there was any friendship.

Watch yourselves, lest you find yourselves making the path difficult for some of your disciples because you cannot agree. Such may drive your boys from you only to cut off their future usefulness.

In my baccalaureate sermon to the graduating class of Meisenhammer, my text was: "Quit you like men; be strong." Today while not in the order written in I Cor. 16:13, I am speaking to you from the other two exhortations: "Watch ye; stand fast in the faith."

I exhort you to stand firmly in the faith, which is growing alarmingly weak in some of our orthodox universities. You are considered archaic now when you make an exhibition of your faith in the old college curricula, Greek, Latin, mathematics, and philosophy. No doubt this is because of the rapid development of scientific investigations. In fact, this is an age of the application of scientific investigations. Man is employing more each day the assistance of nature in most scientific ways to

"UP, MAKE US GODS": IDOL-MAKERS.

By Rev. Yorke Jones, D. D.,
Author "Gold and Incense," Dean School of Theology,
Johnson C. Smith University.

"And when the people saw that Moses
Delayed to come down from the Mount
The people gathered together unto Aaron
And said unto him,
Up, make us gods
Which shall go before us;
For as for this Moses, the man
That brought us up out of the land of Egypt,
We wot not what has become of him.

After he had made it a molten calf, they said,
These be thy gods, O Israel."—Ex. 32:1-4.

No! Never what is made is truth.
Moses is. God is. God's truth is—
Is never made. Man can make a lie:
Whoso makes a somewhat
And, unwilling to await
Revelation of what is,—
Whoso maketh, maketh a lie,
O, idol makers!

The Mother Idol-Maker.

The stork left in a home
A boy whom doting parents named Ben.
Ben was a male entity.
All his ancestors were in him.
Long clothes boy, though he was,
Laced, fleecy, frilled, his mother
Had him, as is custom old,
Christened in.
"O, is not he cute?" thrilled the mother.
He was.

"'Tis time he had on pants.
'Tis five years since Ben
Was held in arms in long clothes
And Christened."
"No! I don't want pants on him
So that he will play in the dirt
With rough boys," said the mother.
"He is so cute in skirts
And long curls, my darling!"

In like manner his mother,
Until he is in his teens,
Ignores the truth.
Ignores what he is,—
A male entity:
Seeks to make him,
Will not allow him to be,—
Until Ben is coddled,
Girdled and shielded into what?
Into what God did not make him—
A two-legged male creature
To curse God's earth!
O, idol-making mother!

The Maiden Idol-Maker.

Inez has met Walter.
Inez is a marriageable maiden.
"O girls," gushes Inez, "Walter
Has asked me! 'Tis to be in June!"

Three years after the marriage:
"O Mary," Inez, Mrs. Inez wails!
"Walter has broken my heart!"
"What is the matter, Inez?"
Mary asks.
"O, Walter is so different!"
No, wife, not different!
Walter is, as Walter is.
Inez, you made a Walter—
Set up an ideal—
An ideal which is an idol.
Now, child, set yourself a task—
Set yourself the task to learn,
And love, and live with
The real Walter,—
And away with your idol!

Agnostic Idol-Makers.

There be who say:
"Up, make us gods!
Who can understand
The God of the Book
Or the Book?"
How busy are some,
Making gods, understandable gods!
No mysteries about reason-made gods!
"Up, make us gods!"
Don't insult our intelligence—
Don't ask us to believe
What cannot be explained!

facilitate the means of transportation, communication, and common labor. A few years hence and there will be, perhaps, a royal road surveyed to geometry to which the philosophers declared centuries ago that there is no such road.

I realize with you that it is a herculean task to balance college curricula with the rapid development of science and a thirst for that which is materialistic. The presence of one seems to destroy the existence of the other. But in reality they do not under normal conditions. Be it borne

in mind that there are certain fundamentals which must not be placed among the archives of ancient dust lest we undermine our moral, intellectual, social, and religious foundation. These phases of one's life suffer and become dwarfed and narrow when one's life has been spent specializing in one subject at the expense of some one or two of the subjects as majors in the old curricula.

I may be stepping on dangerous grounds to say that specialists find it very difficult to fit

(Continued on page 2)

WEST TENNESSEE CONVENTION.

The West Tennessee Presbyterian Sunday School Convention convened in the Green Leaf Presbyterian church, Keeling, Tenn., Thursday, July 16, at 7:30 P. M., Prof. Chas. G. Hutchings presiding.

The program of welcome by the local committee, under the direction of Mrs. Carlton, was very inspiring. The response was made by Rev. G. E. Cooper, of Atako, Tenn., in behalf of the convention.

The opening address, "The Presbyterian Sunday School: Its Scope and Opportunity," was made by Prof. C. G. Hutchings.

"The Sabbath Schools of the Presbyterian Church," an address delivered by the Rev. J. B. Barber, was a vivid exposition of the work of the Church.

Devotional exercises Friday were a very unique feature of Maclin.

Addresses were delivered by the Revs. H. L. Peterson, D. D., G. E. Cooper, and M. J. Nelson, and were very helpful and instructive.

The Round Table discussions were a very unique feature of the convention since most of our intricate problems were discussed and solutions given.

The popular meeting of the convention was held Friday night and addresses were delivered by Rev. P. A. White, D. D., Rev. G. E. Cooper, Rev. J. B. Barber, Prof. A. M. Dobbins and C. G. Hutchings.

The business session of the convention was held Saturday morning.

The following officers were elected for the convention:

President, Rev. G. E. Cooper, Portersville church; Vice President, Mrs. T. F. Jones, Green Leaf church; Secretary, Miss Alberta Maclin, Green Leaf church; Asst. Secretary, Mr. D. H. Powell, Carroll Mission; Treasurer, Prof. C. G. Hutchings, Sabbath School Missionary.

A model Sunday school was conducted on Sunday morning under the leadership of Prof. C. G. Hutchings, followed by the convention sermon by Rev. J. B. Barber.

The convention was highly successful and helpful not only to the immediate community in which it was held, but to the entire field, and will doubtless result in a greater activity in the work.

WILSON AND DOTHAN CHAPELS AT MAXTON.

Wilson chapel and Dothan chapel which are pastored by Rev. R. C. Scriven are two developing fields in Cape Fear Presbytery. Especially should we note the fine Sunday school at Dothan chapel in Maxton, supervised by a competent and qualified superintendent, Mr. Lee Smith, with able teachers in all departments. Prof. Guy Leach is a real teacher of experience and is devoted to the class which he teaches. His son, Mr. David Leach, is also a very active young man in church and Sunday school affairs and makes one feel at home when at Maxton.

That the Daily Vacation Bible School is an asset on the fields this summer has been clearly shown in the increasing numbers that have come into our Sunday Schools in the various places where the D. V. B. S. has been held. Dothan has had the D. V. B. S. and great results are seen.

Reverend and Mrs. Scriven are doing fine in promoting a wholesome and high influence in the community and church.

The people love them and they are working hard for the building up of the Master's work. Mrs. Scriven is an exceptionally fine woman. They have a beautiful home and a nice family. May Wilson chapel and Dothan prosper under these forces.

"ONLOOKER."

C. S. C. & S. M. NOTES

(From the Office of the Dean.)

THE NINETEEN TWENTY-FIVE CURRICULUM.

Two courses in Bible Study will be offered. These courses will take up the entire first class period, and each delegate will be enrolled in one of the two groups.

The following courses will be of special interest to delegates from Missionary Societies and Westminster Guilds: The Foreign Mission Study Book, The National Mission Study Book and Missionary Education (Including Missionary Society Methods). Every Missionary Society in the Synod should have a representative present to get the wonderful messages that Mrs. Snively and the other instructors in this department will give.

Sunday schools that have organized Children's Divisions should send delegates from that Division to take the Course in "Children's Division Methods" that is being offered for the first time this year.

Those who have special interest in the Junior and Intermediate Departments will find the Classes in "Girls' Work" and "Boys' Work" very interesting and helpful.

Sunday School Superintendents will be attracted this year to our new course on "Sunday School Organization and Work."

Delegates from Young People's organizations such as Young People's Societies will find in the course on "Young People's Methods" much constructive information in this special field.

We are offering this year two classes in Teacher Training, an elementary and an advanced class. These classes will be of interest most especially to present teachers.

A course that should have a special appeal to all the delegates is "Stewardship Methods," and it is hoped that many will avail themselves of the opportunity of attending that class.

In order that we may get a greater grasp on the Project of the Daily Vacation Bible School there is available again this year a course in D. V. B. S. Methods.

Registrations are coming in fast. We appreciate very much the response the patrons are giving. One "Old Guard" writes that he does not think he can get here this year as he will be called away about that time; but he says that is not going to keep him from registering. That is a fine spirit and we commend him for his interest. Let others who can't come do likewise and we will be sure to raise our Budget of \$328.00.

Don't forget the date—Aug. 24-30.

DR. RUSSELL AT BELMONT.

Dr. I. H. Russell, our Synodical Evangelist, arrived in Belmont July 26th for a five days' meeting at Love's Chapel church. His sermon was from the 7th chapter of Judges and the 21st verse: "And they stood every man in his place, round about the camp; and all the host ran and cried and fled." The services were very inspiring and many expressed themselves as having been helped by this sermon.

At 7:30 P. M. a warm prayer meeting was conducted by Bro. G. W. Leeper, after which Dr. Russell took the pulpit and spoke from Malachi 3:1, "Behold, I will send my messenger and he shall prepare the way, and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall come." We are certain that there was not a single person in the house that did not enjoy this sermon. We thank God for this good man that He has sent to take charge of our meeting.

J. T. S.