Ironside Library Dedication To Highlight Bible Conference

The new Ironside Memorial Library, which is scheduled for completion by the opening of the fall term, will be dedicated in special ceremonies planned for Thursday evening, October 25, during the fall Bible conference. Included in the ceremonies will be the unveiling of a portrait of Dr. Ironside given by Mrs. Ironside and a memorial bronze plaque. Full details concerning the plans for the dedication will be announced in the next issue of the Newsette.

Mrs. Ironside, who lives in Thomaston, Georgia, recently visited the campus and is expected to be among the special guests present for the dedication.

Official Opening of 27th year Scheduled for September 13

The official opening for the twenty-seventh year of Bryan University will be held Thursday evening, September 13, at 8:00 p.m. in the Memorial Chapel. The address for the opening of the new school year will be given by Bryan's new president, Dr. Theodcre C. Mercer. Preceding Dr. Mercer's address, representatives of the Board of Trustees, the faculty, the student body, the alumni, and the city of Dayton will be presented for brief remarks.

Prior to the September 13 opening, the faculty will hold their pre-school retreat beginning Saturday evening, September 8. Dormitories will open on Tuesday, September 11, when the freshmen will begin to arrive for orientation the next day, with registration to follow on the 14th. Returning students start registering on the 13th. Classes will begin Monday, September 17. Evangelistic services will be held on Wednesday and Friday evenings the first week with an all-college social hour Saturday.

A number of physical improvements made on the campus and buildings this summer will greet the students in September. Outstanding among these for the old students will be the new library quarters. As this goes to press, the painters are working in the library, which is the last job before installation of the partition between the stacks and reading room area, installation of the millwork, the stacks, and the furniture. Delivery on all these is promised by September 1.

The lobby at the main entrance and the business office to the left of the lobby will also add greatly to the beauty and efficiency of the building. Both of these are scheduled for completion also in the immediate future. It is hoped too that the new lounge will be ready for the opening of school. For the information of returning students, this is room 228 being converted from a classroom to a lounge. The old student lounge will continue in use as a recreation room with tables and chairs where students and faculty may be served from the concessions center.

The kitchen and dining room have already been repainted and the chapel is being redecorated. The latter project is being paid for in part by a gift of money from last year's freshman class. Other areas are on the list for a brightening up as time allows.
THE PRESIDENT’S COLUMN
Theodore C. Mercer

This is my first opportunity to communicate with the alumni and friends of Bryan since the introductory letter in June sent out along with the Board’s announcement of my election to the presidency here. I arrived here to go to work on July 6, and it is no exaggeration to say that the work has been almost overwhelming since that time.

First of all, I want to thank you for your prayerful support and for your financial gifts in response to the appeal made in my letter of June 11. The gifts, to be applied toward the cost of the Ironside Memorial Library equipment, stand now at approximately $2,000 with gifts still coming in. Thank you for the many letters and telephone calls of congratulations which were received. The fact that you are praying for me and the staff here and the knowledge that you are keenly interested in developments here are an encouragement in these days of getting organized for next year's work.

I wish to mention a number of matters to you so that you may pray the more intelligently for Bryan University.

1) Student enrollment—Bryan has had a small decrease in enrollment for the past two years and it does not appear that even an all-out effort at this late date can do more than barely meet last year's enrollment. What is known in business as the “unit cost” is tremendously high in any institution with as small an enrollment as Bryan's. It is imperative that Bryan broaden the base of its evangelical constituency so that the student body may increase in size. This effort must include a strong effort to enlist the interest of students in the local community and in the adjacent areas. Just as soon as school gets under way we will begin to work on the 1957 enrollment. You can help by sending the names and addresses of prospective students for next year. Students will also be admitted in January and March, at the beginning of the winter and spring quarters, and applications for the fall term are still being accepted.

2) Financial stability—It is of paramount importance that at the earliest possible time, Bryan University put its entire financial operations on a pay-as-we-go basis. Remarkable progress has been made in this direction in the past three years and credit is due all those who have directed that progress and who have had a part in it. This progress, however, must be extended if Bryan is to go forward and meet the challenge of the future in Christian education. To this end, we need your prayers and your gifts. Studies are being made in preparation for the Board meeting in October, after which certain announcements will be made to you.

3) Spiritual life—I have saved this topic for the third and last of this article because I believe it is our chief problem. When I use the term spiritual, however, I do not mean any holier-than-thou attitudes or any striving after a legalistic Christian walk made up primarily of “don'ts.” I use it in the Biblical sense of submission to the Lordship of Christ as the head of the church, which is His body, in which all the members fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord. Unless this is accomplished voluntarily and intelligently by the faculty and students of Bryan University, with the Holy Spirit being given His rightful place, we cannot hope to achieve educationally, financially, or in re-

FROM MY HEART TO YOU

We just said good-by to "Dean" Ryther and to Mr. and Mrs. Piper as they left Bryan University to assume new responsibilities at King's College in Briarcliff Manor, N. Y. Dean Ryther has been associated with me in this work these many years, except for his three years in the army, so perhaps you can imagine my feelings as we all met in Dr. Mercer’s office to pray God’s blessings on him and the Pipers.

In recent days as we face the future and plan on realizing the larger potential that there is for Bryan University under the blessings of God, I have been thinking of God’s dealings thus far and with those of us who have been associated in the work here. As I fingered through our file of Newsettes, especially the pictures refreshed my memory of the life and growth of the University.

In 1938 there was the picture of the first section of the second story of our main building where the boys had only muslin cloth for outside walls for nearly two months in their dormitory quarters until windows could be put in place. Another picture showed the homemade concrete mixer concocted out of a steel oil drum to furnish concrete for the floors of hallway areas enclosed in 1942 during wartime scarcity of building materials.

Significant too was the picture of the army chapel moved from Tullahoma to the Bryan campus in the summer of 1947. Then since 1949 there has been a continuous pictorial report of building progress. But the picture of greatest significance to me is the "Architect's Sketch of the Memorial Building Tower" which appeared on the front page of the August, 1946, Newsette under the title, "We Can—By God's Help." And now, ten years later, the vision has been realized, so that it is possible to carry an actual picture in this Newsette of the fulfillment of the architect's sketch.

This material progress, we believe, symbolizes the work of the Lord here at Bryan in continuing to build the lives of young people in this day when there is such a need among them. We are called to the ministry of Christian higher education and we must carry on wherever we are under the Lord's leading.

Judson A. Rudd
President Emeritus
Faculty and Staff Changes

Subtractions

Mr. David Heydenburk, who served on the music faculty since 1952, has joined the staff of the Bowery Mission in New York City. Mr. Heydenburk’s parents were city rescue mission workers and he has been planning for some time to go into such work.

Mrs. Erma (Herbert W.) Hill, former head of the boarding department, has accepted a secretarial position in the headquarters office of the Wycliffe Bible Translators at Glendale, California. Mrs. Hill and her husband, the late Herbert W. Hill, came to Bryan in 1938 and remained until 1941. In 1947 they returned and continued their work in the boarding department. Mr. Hill died in 1950, after which Mrs. Hill continued to run the department with the assistance of Dean Piper through commencement last June. Altogether Mrs. Hill served at Bryan for twelve years and a part of her compensation for those years will be the fond memories in the minds of her grateful students for her excellent work.

Dean ('53) and Helen ('55) Piper left the University in the early part of August for King’s College, where Dean will be the head of the food services. As a student, Dean worked in the boarding department and later became Mrs. Hill’s assistant.

Additions

Malcolm D. Woodard, M. A., of Pensacola, Florida, will be part-time teacher in the department of mathematics and physics. Mr. Woodard also plans to attend Tennessee Temple Seminary in Chattanooga on a part-time basis.

Earl R. Peck, Dayton, Tennessee, father of Rebecca Peck (’40), has been appointed maintenance engineer for the University. Mr. Peck is the manager of the Volunteer Book Service, which has headquarters in Dayton.

Dr. Willard L. Henning, associate professor of biology, and Frederick George Bedford, instructor in French, whose appointments were announced in the June Newsletter, arrived in Dayton in July and have been getting established in their homes here.

The appointments of Mr. and Mrs. John Bartlett and Miss Florence Miller are announced elsewhere in this issue.

DEAN RYTHER ACCEPTS POSITION AT KING’S COLLEGE

Dean Dwight W. Ryther, whose resignation as executive vice president and dean of Bryan University was announced at the June 5 commencement convocation, has accepted the position of registrar and assistant professor of English at King’s College, Briarcliff Manor, New York. Dean Ryther moved from Dayton early in August and assumed his new duties at King’s.

Dean Ryther came to Bryan in the summer of 1930 and assisted in the recruitment of Bryan’s first student body which met in the old Rhea County High School building. Except for thirty-eight months during World War II, he has been at Bryan, serving on the administrative staff and as a part-time member of the English faculty. He submitted his resignation to the Board of Trustees on May 25, 1955, shortly after Dr. Rudd’s resignation as president but continued on as interim head of the institution at the request of the Board until Dr. Rudd’s successor was chosen. He completed his work at Bryan on July 31.

TALBOT DIRECTS GOSPEL MESSENGERS’ TOUR IN NORTH

“Lord, I believe—Christ died for me!”

The words of this theme chorus set the tone for most of the seventy-five services in which the girls’ messengers team took part this summer. In nine weeks the group traveled 7,019 miles. Starting in South Carolina the team made its way northward to New York state, inland to Illinois, and up into northern Michigan. God’s evident blessing attended the musical selections and messages from day to day. Many old acquaintances were renewed and new friends made for Bryan University.

The team was composed of five students: Lois Ringler, first soprano, of Johnstown, Pa.; Norma Jenkins, second soprano, New Castle, Pa.; Pearl Rathbun, alto, Glen Ellyn, Ill.; Barbara Ridder, pianist, Lansing, Ill.; and Jim Reese, trombone and vocal soloist, Williamson, Mich. Mr. Gordon Talbot, instructor in Christian education, served as speaker and violinist. Although the girls’ trio formed the basis of the team, many combinations of voices and instruments were made.

In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings, the team assisted in tape recordings for radio, helping in Sunday school and young people’s services, and participating in a youth camp service. One of the most encouraging aspects of such a tour has been to note that God has His people doing His work wherever one goes. The messengers counted it a unique privilege to be able to give support to Christian leaders in ten states as they sought to reach the unsaved for Christ.

FREE BOOK

The University has more than 200 copies of Dr. Ironside’s Illustrations of Bible Truth, received through the courtesy of Mrs. Ironside. A copy of this book will be sent free to all donors to the library equipment fund as long as the supply lasts. Send your gift today and receive this free book by return mail. All such gifts received will be used to help pay for the equipment necessary to put the Ironside Memorial Library in operation.
Friends of the University who have funds to invest at interest are asked to prayerfully consider the University 4% notes being offered for sale to mature in either five or ten years from October 15. The proceeds from the sale of these notes will be used to retire shorter-term obligations as a result of the University capital improvement program. Those having funds to invest for a shorter period of time than five years should write to see if mutually satisfactory terms can be arranged.

Interest at 4% annually is paid semi-annually direct from the University office. All notes have the usual provisions for costs of collection, waiver of protest, and extension of time.

The anticipated general increase in college enrollment will undoubtedly tax the facilities of the University to the limit. Church, state, business, and education are all crying for youth of higher character, who have behind them training such as they receive at Bryan. We must not fall behind in this time of testing but, rather, must press forward. Surplus income must be used for equipment and further building, so indebtedness previously incurred for capital improvements must be refinanced.

Since June of 1952, assets of the University have been increased by $182,050.98 while, during the same period, liabilities have been decreased by $42,136.23, improving by a total of $224,187.21 the over-all financial position. With this record of accomplishment and the challenge of the future, it seems that friends of the University should want to help refinance all the short-term obligations including bank loans.

Please consider the matter earnestly and make it a subject for prayer. Keep in mind that every dollar loaned or given to Bryan University becomes an instrument in dedicated hands for the fashioning of young lives for the service of Christ. Help us provide adequate facilities for the higher education of our Christian youth.

If you have funds to invest either on a short or long-term basis, write the University. Further information may be secured upon request.

**PRESIDENT’S COLUMN**

(Continued from page 2)

spect to the religious program and testimony of the college. Bryan University faces a number of serious problems and only a clear spiritual foundation will provide a basis for adequately meeting these problems. It is the aim of this administration to give full information on all matters to the alumni and friends of the University. Your letters and inquiries are welcomed.

In closing, let me share with you the verse of Scripture to which my attention was directed the morning after my election to the Bryan presidency: Luke 5:4—“Now when he had left speaking, he said to Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.” This we are endeavoring to do, believing that God is able “to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us . . . by Christ Jesus.”

Pray for us, write us, and come to see us.

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**BEQUEST FROM ESTATE BOOSTS MISSIONARY FUND**

A bequest of $745.85 from the estate of Mary L. McKinley Redbough of Boston, Massachusetts, with other regular gifts made possible the mailing of thirty-six checks in the recent distribution of the Bryan Missionary Fund. Provision was made to include every missionary on the list, which is made up of former students and faculty members currently on the field and not on furlough. Where both husband and wife are on the list, only one check is sent.

The Bryan missionary fund is made up of voluntary gifts from faculty and students. Pledges are taken at the annual Foreign Missions Fellowship conference in January. Last year the pledges totaled $5,000.