

(Editor's note: It is time on the Bryan calendar for both a NEWSLETTE and a report letter. It has been decided to combine the two functions in one mailing for this time. The double function will account for the temporarily altered style. A pictorial issue will come to you in May.)

The year of 1959 has proved to be a very busy time on Bryan Hill. First, let me share with you in miniature developments here at the college since the November-December issue.

TEACHER EDUCATION APPROVAL

On February 6, the Tennessee State Board of Education made final the approval of Bryan as a teacher education institution. Besides the general education and professional education courses required in all programs, the approval covers endorsements in grades 1-9 (elementary certificate) and endorsement in grades 7-12 (secondary certificate) in the following areas: Bible, general business, typewriting, shorthand, English, French, Spanish, mathematics, science, social studies, history. Although this approval technically covers Tennessee certification only, it will mean open doors in some other states where applicants for certification are accepted on the basis of the acceptance granted by the state department of education in the state where the college is located.

THE LIONETTE

In the last issue, you were informed of the new student center project called "From a Hole in the Wall to a Haven." The attractive new area was opened for business by the juniors on February 13 in time for the high school week end. You would have to be here to see just how attractive it really is and to sense how much it adds to the family life. The juniors, who raised their fund quota first, got the honor of naming the student center, using the analogy of the college athletic name, Bryan Lions.

ENROLLMENT

The second semester registrations at the end of January pushed the total enrollment for the year to 270, an increase of 15 over last year.

HIGH SCHOOL GUEST WEEK END OF FEB. 13-15

This new college event was a rousing success. Already applications have been received from a number of the students who came. Events for the week end included the taking of the College Qualifying Test by all '59 applicants, admissions and faculty conferences, a basketball game (The Lions won in an overtime!), a valentine dinner, presentation of the operetta *Hansel and Gretel*, the traditional crowning of the King and Queen of Valentine and vespers on Sunday with Don Rosenberger of the Washington, D.C., Christian Youth Crusade, as speaker.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE DINNER

The friends at a distance must be told of the splendid support given the college in the past year by the Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees. This group of twenty-four Rhea County citizens organized formally last June and immediately accepted the challenge to raise funds for the renovation of the college dining room and adjoining areas. That successful effort is now history.

On February 20, the Committee was host at its first annual dinner on Americanism with Dr. Andrew Holt

of the University of Tennessee as the speaker. Two hundred and fifty tickets at \$10 each were sold by the Committee and more than two hundred off-campus guests attended this friendship dinner for Bryan. Guests included friends from Chattanooga, Cleveland and Athens, as well as Rhea County.

The theme of Americanism was carried out as a celebration of the birthday anniversary of George Washington. The theme of Dr. Holt's address was "How To Spend a Million Dollars."

The first year of Advisory Committee activity has brought financial support in excess of nearly \$16,000 to the college. This is a generous local support. May this be a challenge to our friends at a distance.

MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

The Twelfth Annual Foreign Missions Fellowship conference featured two speakers, a missionary fair, the presentation of a Bryan alumni world missionary map, and the taking of the annual pledges for support of Bryan missionary alumni around the world. The missionary fair, a new project, was a splendid accomplishment, bringing together on display in the Ironside Memorial Library missionary literature, curios, and exhibits including an authentic African grass hut. Pictures in the May issue.

DAY OF PRAYER

Because the college believes in the primacy of the spiritual, official provision is made each semester in the calendar for a day of prayer completely apart from the regular class routine. March 12 was a day of spiritual renewal on Bryan Hill. The testimony of this experience is that everyone who asked received; those who knocked found the doors opening; and those who sought found!

BRYAN BIRTHDAY AND FOUNDERS' DAY COMMEMORATION

These two major events of the school year were held on March 14 and 15. The dinner on Saturday evening, the 14th, commemorated the 99th anniversary of the birthday of William Jennings Bryan, who was born March 19, 1860. A highlight of the Founders' Day program was the unveiling of a memorial portrait of the late Dr. Harris H. Gregg, Professor of Bible from 1939 until his death in December of 1943. The portrait was a gift of Mrs. Gregg, a Bryan trustee, and was painted by her sister, Miss Ava Wright of Chattanooga. Speaker for both these occasions was P.J. Zondervan, partner of the Zondervan Publishing House of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who is now serving his third term as International President of the Gideons.

SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE VISITS THE COLLEGE

Dr. Gordon Sweet, Executive Secretary of Commission of Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, spent Feb. 19-20 on Bryan campus

for the purpose of making an informal evaluation of the sort which a formal visitation committee might make when formal application is made for membership in the Association. A student-attended coffee hour, a faculty-staff-trustee dinner, and a faculty business session all furnished opportunity for the evaluation to proceed. Dr. Sweet spent many hours in informal consultation with persons from all segments of the college family. A detailed eight-page report has been made of this visit and is available on request.

Dr. Sweet's evaluation concerned itself primarily with those qualitative factors which the Seventeen Standards of the Association are intended to produce. In the light of these standards, Bryan has two specific needs in order to qualify for membership in the Southern Association—a minimum endowment of \$300,000 (\$108,000 at present) and a person holding the doctorate teaching in each field in which a major is given.

Before Bryan will reach the minimum level for making application for membership in the Southern Association, we must secure some \$192,000 in additional endowment and we must add 3-5 additional persons to the faculty holding the doctorate. The date at which we may file a second preliminary report and request a visitation committee depends strictly on the achievements of these objectives.

THE PRESENT NEED

The first step in the direction of Southern Association accreditation is balancing the present budget.

This is the picture for 1958-59:
 Total budget \$293,126
 Total expected income from student sources, auxiliary enterprises, etc. 207,767
 Total gifts needed to balance budget 85,359
 Received in operational gift income through February 28 50,666
 Needed by June 30 in the current operational fund (4 months) 34,693

These are the encouraging factors:
 Gift income in the operating fund for the first eight months of the fiscal year (which began July 1) is almost exactly the amount received in the entire twelve months of the previous fiscal year. Thus we are running about 50% ahead in operating gifts.

The financial operation for the first half of the present fiscal year showed an overall improvement of \$18,000 in the operating fund over the first half of the previous fiscal year—\$8,000 excess of income over expenses as over against a \$10,000 loss the first half of the previous year.

This is an additional need:
 An additional \$20,000 (above the \$34,000) needed by August 31 to wipe out **accounts payable** (a nice phrase for unpaid debts) so that the academic year can be started without this annual handicap.

THE CHALLENGE

At this time each year the college celebrates the birthday anniversary of William Jennings Bryan (this is the 99th) and asks its friends for gifts to help forward the cause of Christian education in the institution named for this great American. Time brings us also to the Easter season and glorious historical fact of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are assured by the infallible Word of God that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. This is not only the touchstone of the Christian life but the *raison d'être* of Bryan College. We have no spiritual right to exist or to advertise ourselves as a Christian institution except as we endeavor to give living testimony to the new life in Christ Jesus.

God's presence has been manifested in our midst this year. May His presence be real to you at this season. Thank you for whatever you can do in the way of financial help. Even if you cannot send a gift now, send the attached form indicating what you can and will do, God enabling you, by June 30. If we can balance that budget by June 30, we are going out to get that \$20,000 this summer to wipe out accounts payable.

Cordially yours,

Theodore C. Mercer

Faculty Needs for 1959-60

Teacher in English (Ph.D. preferred)
 Teacher in Elementary Education
 (M.A. or M.S. acceptable)
 Professional Librarian
 Secretary

Inquiries solicited

On Tour

While this is coming to you, the college Concert Choir is making a spring vacation tour in Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Ohio; and the Gospel Messengers are filling engagements at the same time in Florida and Georgia.

My Gift For Bryan

Christ Above All

In consideration of the gifts of others and because of my interest in Christian education, it is my intention to give the Operating Fund of Bryan College

the sum of \$ _____ between now and June 30, 1959.

Cash enclosed _____

I intend to pay the remainder _____

Date _____ Signed _____