

Anniversary Week To Mark 50-Year Growth

Program Announced for Special Observances February 22 to 25

Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of Fort Wayne Bible College is scheduled for Anniversary Week, February 22-25, with a program designed to pay tribute to the school's founders, to present the college as one of the progressive institutions in the city of Fort Wayne, to show the school's contribution to the field of Christian Education, and to reaffirm the faith clearly defined in the rich spiritual heritage of the college's half-century existence.

The events of the week are announced as follows: Tuesday — FOUNDERS DAY; Wednesday — FORT WAYNE DAY; Thursday — RECOGNITION DAY; and Friday — OUR HERITAGE DAY. Programs will be held each evening at 8:00 p.m. in Founders Memorial auditorium.

Details concerning these events are found throughout this issue.

Six Pioneers to be Commemorated on Founders Day

Six men, whose faith in God established the school now known as Fort Wayne Bible College, will be honored with a Founders Day commemoration on Tuesday, February 22, the first of the Anniversary Week events.

Principal speaker for the 8:00 p.m. program will be Rev. Jared F. Gerig, president of the Missionary Church Association, parent denomi-

nation of the college. Rev. Cornelius Vlot, pastor of the First Missionary Church of Fort Wayne, will also take part on the program. The church was established and grew concurrently with the college.

The program will recall the keen vision and deep faith of the founders who organized a Bible-centered institution which continues to train hundreds of young people for Christian ministries.

Open House, Civic Officials, Exhibits To Be Features of Fort Wayne Day

The citizens of Fort Wayne and friends from a wide area will be guests of the college at an open house, one of the main events of Fort Wayne Day, Wednesday, February 23.

From 7:00 to 10:30 p.m., all major buildings and most rooms will be open to visitors. Special attractions will be the historical and departmental exhibits. The historical display includes pictures of most of the senior classes of the college, together with old documents and pictures of life and people throughout the school's fifty-year span. The other exhibit will show current departmental and academic activities.

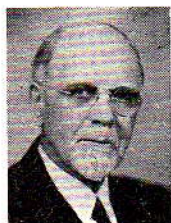
One building expected to draw great interest is Leightner Hall, recently acquired by the college. It includes the new faculty-staff lounge and girls dormitory rooms.

Representatives from government, business, and institutional life of Fort Wayne will be present at the 8:00 p.m. program, which will also include the showing of the college film "Bridgebuilders".

"Vine" Film Feature Of 'Our Heritage' Day

"A Vine of God's Own Planting", original sound-color motion picture of the fifty-year growth of Fort Wayne Bible College, will be the featured event of the Heritage Day program at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, February 25.

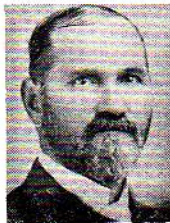
The film shows the complete history of the college through the chronology of an old scrap book, as Dr. S. A. Witmer leafs through the
(Continued on Page 4)



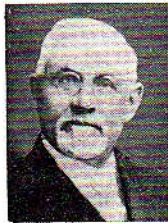
J. E. Ramseyer



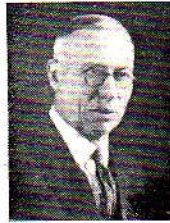
William Egle



B. P. Lugibihl



David Roth



Henry Roth



D. Y. Schultz

with the president . . .

Dr. S. A. Witmer



Checking Drift

Our fiftieth anniversary should be a time of heart searching. Perhaps it would be more to the point to say that it should be a time to search the Scriptures! That sounds a bit commonplace and needless for an institution that is called a Bible college and is dedicated to the teaching of the Word. But we might well search the Scriptures to see whether we measure up to its precepts.

A navigator periodically "shoots" the sun with his sextant to check on drift and error. The sun gives him a fixed point of reference. In the same way any Christian, any church, any service agency should periodically check its course. It should know its exact position with reference to the will of God. And for this a fixed point of reference is needed, which in the realm of moral navigation is the Word of God.

Armin R. Gesswein, in the current issue of *Eternity*, has a penetrating word on the nature of spiritual declension: "When Christians and churches decline, slip, and backslide, it is not so much that they decline, but that they *depart*, from Scripture. . . . The subtlety of this backsliding among Christians—those who are in need of revival—is that the sins that are hindering them are not murder, rape, robbery, crime, corruption, drunkenness, delinquency, divorce, etc. Rather, it is due to the subtler sins of *neglect*, of slipping, of sliding, of seepage, of lost motion, of creeping paralysis."

A fiftieth anniversary is an opportune time to check on an institution's course in reference to its beginnings. Is it still on the course charted by its founders? But of greater validity is the test of the Scriptures. How do we measure up to *its* standards? How faithfully do we follow *its* precepts? Does it continue to serve as the one guide for all matters pertaining to Christian faith and practice? Is it accepted with reverence as the very Word of God? Is human pride shattered in the presence of its majestic utterances? Is its revelation of God a rebuke to sin and to worldliness? Does the white light of its truth purge and sanctify? Is it permitted to speak its purifying message through consecrated lives?

Thank God, Fort Wayne Bible College has been spared the withering, damning effects of liberalism. May it also be spared the deadening effects of barren orthodoxy! May there be on this anniversary among all—college and constituency—a fresh commitment to the Word as life and power and the very breath of God! May God be pleased to revive His work in the midst of the years! Then God will be honored—and also the founders.

Fort Wayne Area Drive Pushes Building Fund To Total of \$114,000

At a final report meeting of Fort Wayne teams on January 18th, the Anniversary Building Project received an inspiring "boost." Thirty-eight additional pledges were reported, including one for \$50,000. This makes the total raised in Fort Wayne \$100,738.31. With a total of \$13,500 that has already come in from outside Fort Wayne, the total to date is a little over \$114,000.

While the first phase of the campaign in Fort Wayne has ended, there is still considerable follow-up work to be done. Mr. H. M. Curdy, recently appointed by the Board as Assistant to the President in financial promotion, has assumed direction of the campaign. Preliminary plans are being made for the presentation of the project in other areas.

With this fine beginning, it is evident that God's seal of approval is on the undertaking, and Building Committee, faculty, students, workers are all looking forward to continued blessing as the campaign continues.

Violinist Mary Canberg, New York Virtuoso, Here on February 12

Mary Canberg, New York violinist, will present a concert at Fort Wayne Bible College in Founders Memorial auditorium on Saturday, February 12, at 8:00 p.m.

Miss Canberg is a recognized professional violinist, having made her debut in New York's Town Hall



Mary Canberg

in 1947. She appeared there again only last month. She has studied with Michael Press, Max Fischel and Hans Letz, and is a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music where she held a fellowship four years.

She is a consecrated Christian artist. Since 1948 she has been instructor of violin at the Missionary Training Institute in Nyack, New York, and more recently has been teaching at Shelton College in New Jersey, as well.

There is no admission charge for the concert.

Half Century Sees College Grow From Ohio Home To Present Campus Size

On January 1st, 1904, a small group of students met in Bethany Home, Bluffton, Ohio, to begin a Bible school. By April 1st of that same year, a more strategic location was sought, and the school moved to its present location in Fort Wayne, and was called the Bible Training School.

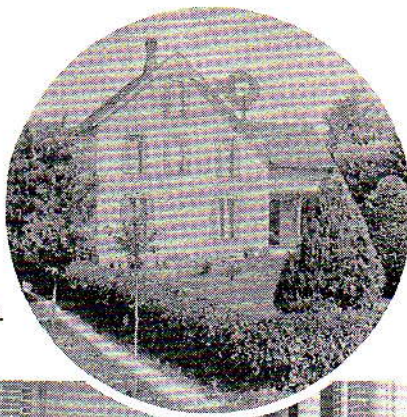
By May, 1905 — completion of the first year in Fort Wayne, about seventy students had enrolled. They attended in one building, now known as Schultz Hall, which had just been completed.

Under God's blessing and the consecrated guidance of faithful administrators, the school has grown to be known as Fort Wayne Bible College with five major buildings and a present enrollment of about 320.

Significantly, on its Fiftieth Anniversary, the college continues to grow. The anniversary expansion program calls for two more buildings to be erected as soon as possible to train even more young people for Christian ministries. We trust God for His continued blessings on the future of the college.

REMEMBER WHEN? Pictured, right, is the student body of 1904-05, the first year in Fort Wayne. Members of this class who will be present for the program on Friday, February 25, will be honored by the Alumni Association.

BETHANY HOME—
It was here the college had its beginning in January 1904.



PROGRAM FOR ANNIVERSARY WEEK February 22 to 25, 1955

Tuesday, February 22 — FOUNDERS DAY

8:00 P.M.—Commemoration of Founders
Address: Rev. Jared F. Gerig, president of the
Missionary Church Association

Wednesday, February 23 — FORT WAYNE DAY

7:00 P.M.—Open House
8:00 P.M.—Civic Observance
Representatives from:
City Council
Chamber of Commerce
City School Board
Service Institutions
Churches
Motion picture: "BRIDGEBUILDERS"

9:15-10:30 P.M.—Open House
Buildings and Dormitories
Historical and Department Exhibits
Souvenir Brochure
Refreshments

Thursday, February 24 — RECOGNITION DAY

8:00 P.M.—Program of Recognition
Address: Dr. Thomas Moseley, president of
Missionary Training Institute, Nyack, N. Y.

Representatives from:
Indiana University Center
Indiana Technical College
Concordia College
Huntington College
Taylor University
Bethel College
Marion College

Friday, February 25 — OUR HERITAGE DAY

8:00 P.M.—Heritage Program
Original sound-color motion picture, showing
the history of the college, "A VINE OF
GOD'S OWN PLANTING"
Recognitions and citations
First students honored by Alumni
Association
Representatives from co-operating groups

Here and There . . .

Alumni Notes

Greetings to you of the Alumni Association:

I'm glad to speak in your behalf as well as in my own and give hearty congratulations to our beloved Alma Mater on the occasion of her Jubilee celebration. The special events which are taking place this year and especially those which will take place in the days of February 22-25 will serve to refocus before us the ways in which God has led. From the vantage point of the present we can look back and see that our School was truly a "vine of God's own planting." His blessing and leadership has ever been apparent.

Recently I reviewed briefly the history of the School. Hundreds of men and women have passed through these halls—yes, gone out to serve the Lord Whom they came to know better while here. You know what I'm speaking about for you are they. You know how God blessed you with increased knowledge of His Word and increased power in the Spirit here in days past.

His blessing has been manifested through the years in yet another way—physical growth. To reread the accounts of the hardships and obstacles which God overcame in the financing and construction of the buildings on the campus is to see again the hand of a miracle-working God.

And He isn't through yet! His hand has begun to move again. Let us continually pray for His guidance upon the present leaders of the College as plans progress for the construction of much needed facilities which the present program supplies. We can help the Lord and our School by following His leadership as to our part in this project, and by upholding our cherished Alma Mater in prayer.

J. HARLAN WRIGHT, *President, Alumni Association*

Wedding Bells . . .

Florence Habegger ('44) was married to Clarence Braden on October 23, 1954.

Mary Howard ('52) and Charles Trusdle ('54) were married on November 30, 1954.

Bernadette Hower ('45-46) was married to Robert E. Newcomer on December 31, 1954.

Personnel . . .

A Christmas greeting was received from Wilfred and Grace Gulick (nee Grace Dye '26), who are missionaries in Haiti, West Indies, in which they expressed their thanks for the prayers of friends, especially during the time when the hurricane swept through the island.

Gleason and Kathryn Ledyard ('43-'46) reported in their Christmas letter that they are deeply thankful to the Lord for his protection this past year—they traveled 23,650 miles in their missionary plane reaching the Canadian Eskimos for Christ.

Dr. and Mrs. A. Stanley Dodgson ('21) are in Terre Haute, Indiana, where Dr. Dodgson is pastor of the First Baptist Church. Most of their family have gone into the curative professions—Kenneth is in a residency in surgery in New Jersey; Wilfred is interning in a Cincinnati hospital; Lucile is on the teaching staff at the Methodist School of Nursing in Indianapolis.

Mrs. Mary Deen Comer (nee Mary Dean Wright '42) moves when her husband, Lt. Col. Hubert Comer, a weather officer attached to the Air Force, gets his Special Orders. They have been at Langley A. F. Base in Virginia, but are now on their way to Germany. The Comers with Becky and Sue recently welcomed their third daughter, Sally Jo, into the family.

Four graduates of '54 are working together in Hawaii. June Takamoto and Evelyn Hamamoto have joined Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert Williams in their work at Lihue, Kauai, and are helping with teaching and evangelism.

Dr. Thomas Moseley Principal Speaker For Recognition Day

Dr. Thomas Moseley, president of the Missionary Training Institute, Nyack, New York, will be the featured speaker for the Anniversary Week Program of Recognition on Thursday, February 24, at 8:00 p.m.

Representing sister schools and colleges in the field of Christian Education, Dr. Moseley will extend anniversary greetings to Fort Wayne Bible College on behalf of Christian educators.



Dr. Thomas Moseley Other schools whose representatives will appear briefly on the program are Indiana University Center, Indiana Technical College, Concordia College, Huntington College, Taylor University, Bethel College, and Marion College.

"VINE" Film

(Continued from Page 1)

pages of the book for the viewer. Throughout, the school is likened to a growing vine, and the film's title is a phrase originally used by Rev. J. E. Ramseyer, many years president of the school.

During the program, recognition and citations will be extended to certain individuals and representatives from several groups who will be on the platform. The Alumni Association will honor those individuals who were members of the first class during 1904-05 who will be able to be present.

PLACEMENT SERVICE

With the end of another school year approaching in a few months, we will appreciate learning of openings in Christian service for the 1955 graduating class as well as other recent graduates.

Address all inquiries to C. H. Eicher, Director of Placement, Fort Wayne Bible College, Fort Wayne 6, Indiana.

The Vision
FORT WAYNE BIBLE COLLEGE

800 W. Rudisill Blvd.
Fort Wayne 6, Indiana

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gerig
3811 Indiana Ave.
Ft. Wayne 6, Ind.

Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Fort Wayne, Ind.
PERMIT No. 267