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# The NEWSLETTE • Echoes from Bryan Hill

Volume III

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Number 1

## University to Celebrate Bryan Day

The anniversary of the birth of William Jennings Bryan will be celebrated by the University on March nineteenth, when students, faculty and friends will assemble for a special program of prayer and praise. The celebration will mark the conclusion of a campaign to liquidate all debts outstanding prior to June, 1933, amounting—exclusive of obligations to present and former teachers—to not quite eight thousand dollars.

As visiting speaker for the occasion, Dr. T. W. Callaway, pastor of the St. Elmo Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee, will bring the message Mr. Bryan had prepared for delivery at the local Methodist Church on the night of the day on which he died. Dr. Callaway, at the time in Dayton as a Fundamentalist reporter for a Chattanooga paper, was given the outline of Mr. Bryan's talk for publication. "The Trial of Jesus, or, Was Jesus Mobbed?" is the topic of the message.

Having been so closely and personally associated with Mr. Bryan during his last days, Dr. Callaway is, we believe, an appropriate choice, and the University is to be congratulated on securing his services for the program of the day.

The assembly, opening at 10 o'clock, will mark the conclusion of the second quarter of the regular school session, class work being resumed at the opening of the third quarter on Monday, March twenty-second.

## GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP DEBATED

"Resolved, that the government should own and operate all electric utilities," was the first of the inter-class debates scheduled for the Winter Quarter.

The freshman team, Charlotte Sapp and Hugh Gallagher, won the judges' decision from the junior team, Virginia Barger and Parker Mishkoff.



Let's Join Hands  
in Prayer...

## DAY OF PRAYER

(At Bryan University the eleventh day of March will be a day set aside for a time of praise, prayer, and thanksgiving to the Lord, who has so mightily and graciously sustained us and to whom we now look in faith to supply the funds needed to wipe out obligations of long standing.)

The morning will be given over to a praise and song service, followed at 9:30 by a study of prayer under Dr. Currens, Professor of Bible, then by a general prayer circle. In the afternoon, beginning at 1:15, will be held a testimonial meeting, following which a message on praise and thanksgiving will be brought by a speaker not yet secured.

Between the closing of the afternoon session and supper will be a time of individual and group prayer. After supper, the services of the day will conclude with special prayer meetings for the men and women in their respective dormitories.

Our friends are urged to set aside, if not all, at least a portion of one day in their own homes for the purpose of definite prayer that our Father will remove from the institution the burden of debt and liberate us for greater opportunities of growth and service in His name.

## "OWE NO MAN ANYTHING"

ROM. 13:8  
(By a Student)

This command from Paul's pen of inspiration—simple, straightforward, sufficient—is, nevertheless, one of the verses of Scripture to which Christian people are indifferent. During His earthly life, the Lord Jesus set the example for us: His business was evidently on a cash and carry basis, for John 13:29 speaks of "the bag," from which expenses were paid and alms were given.

Bryan University is in debt. Opening its doors for the first student body in 1930, just a short time after the Wall Street crash, the fundamentalist school found itself caught in the whirlpool of depression, owing several thousand dollars. The marvel and miracle is that the University, like a babe shouldering a heavy burden, has

been able to breast the depression waters, hampered as it has been by debt.

Since 1933 the University has been on a "pay as you go" basis. The result: a hand-to-mouth experience. Yet—praise God—it has been our mouth, but His hand.

But there remain those old outside debts to be cleared away. That burden—on an institution founded on the fact that the Bible is the Word of God—is a reproach to His Holy Name. Neh. 2:17. Bryan University should be free from this load, not, primarily, to ease the weight on the shoulders of the Bryan family, but because it is the will of God. It is as plain as the black and white of these words—"Owe no man any thing."



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THE NEWSLETTE

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**Editorial**  
**NEWSLETTE**

Quite in keeping with the present age and the tendency to be up to date, NEWSLETTE, with this issue, goes modern. Discarding her cloak of many colors, casting aside the liberties of the mimeographed sheet, with its "strikeover" letters, and its prominent if not numerous typographical errors, she slips forth in all the beauty and clearness of cold-cut type. Offering, as the printed sheet does, its inviting opportunities to display half-tones, its relief from work on the part of the staff, and its professional gown of printer's ink, it is with somewhat the feeling of joy and expectancy that the staff foregoes the pleasure of cranking the mimeograph through the day and into the "wee sma' hours of the bonny night." Yes, we welcome the opportunity for a greater circulation and its resultant gain in making it possible for us to keep before our subscribers and friends a more graphic picture of the work of the school. And we are not overcome with sorrow at the prospects of a real news sheet in place of our own humble page.

And yet . . . NEWSLETTE, the simple, unaffected little girl with whom we entered the news world over a year ago, has won for herself a very tender and loving spot in our heart of hearts. After all, is one not prone to love most the child he labors hardest over? We shall miss that little personal touch which comes from hand-made illustrations, hand-type articles, and hand-produced copies. However much we shall love our rapidly growing

**WHAT BRYAN MEANS TO ME**

by Rebecca Peck, Elyria, Ohio

When I look back over the five short months spent at Bryan, my mind is filled with happy and pleasant memories of the many events that have crowded into that brief time.

Since the Lord has directed me in an unusual way, I can the more appreciate benefits I have received. Having graduated from high school, I was faced with the problem of higher education. As a Christian, interested in the Lord's service, I sought a school within my financial reach, necessarily, but primarily one having high spiritual standards. Upon learning that Bryan was grounded on the Word of God in honor of the great defender of the Faith, William Jennings Bryan, I sought for more information and was finally led to school here.

With respect to social enjoyment I can truly say I have been well pleased, especially since I never enjoyed the worldly pleasures of my high school companions. There is really joy in associating with Christians in social pleasures and in continual daily living.

Being desirous of a better knowledge of the Bible, I find again a wonderful blessing in the Bible course taught by Dr. Currens, who knows and teaches the Bible without misconstruing it, as so many false teachers do.

Indeed, my school days at Bryan have in all respects been happy ones, and I look forward to three more years of such blessed relationships.

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young lady of the future, we shall never forget nor cease to dream of the days when she was a wee baby, toddling about on all-too-small legs, or when, with prancing feet and flying curls, she danced away from the University and into the homes and hearts of you, our friends.

Not altogether with sadness, nor any more with joy, perhaps, we turn our backs on the little girl of before and look forward down the years of time, through which, with the new NEWSLETTE, we shall sedately, yet joyfully, endeavor to serve in the work of our Lord.

**SUCCESS**

Elmer R. Walton, Field Representative

A college teacher, who is also a Sunday School teacher, told his Sunday School Class that success depended upon three things—first, character; second, education; and, third, work.

It is important that the college student's character be strengthened, rather than weakened. He has, in many instances, left home for the first time and cannot be protected from all temptations.

At the William Jennings Bryan University the first week of school is devoted to a Bible Conference. During the entire session, thirty minutes each school day is taken for chapel exercises, three hours each week for Bible study and lectures. On Sunday each student attends the Sunday School and Church of his choice, many teaching and preaching. A special effort is made to see that each student is certain of his own salvation and knows how to help others to be saved.

Among the hills and valleys near Dayton are eleven community churches to which students go each Sunday and strive to put into practice the instruction which they have received. This weekly gospel work is largely responsible for the friendly and helpful spirit pervading the institution.

Spiritual training is given to strengthen the character and does not weaken the academic training in any way; in fact, adds to its effectiveness. Nine teachers are employed for training sixty students, every teacher being an enthusiastic believer of the Bible and a specialist in his department.

There being no servants, all work is done by faculty and students, and valuable training is given in practical work. The success of the graduates of the University in service and business proves that this practical experience is beneficial.

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**CREWE AT PRESBYTERIAN**

The pulpit of the local Cumberland Presbyterian Church is now being supplied on Sunday mornings by Harry Crewe. "Joseph, a Type of Christ," "Faith, the Test of a Christian," and "The Church" are a few of the topics that have been discussed.

A sophomore, Harry is a native of Rockledge, Philadelphia.

## Blessings for Bryan

Entirely unexpected, though greatly desired and long prayed for, was the revival which broke out in a recent chapel period and which prolonged the usual thirty-minute worship time into a three-hour blessing of confession and testimony.

At a special meeting of the faculty, the Lord moved to bring a time of confession, forgiveness, and reconsecration, at the same time placing into the hearts of a number of students attending a local revival service the desire to confess faults before the student group.

Since this glorious period of refreshing and renewing of fellowship, several have laid their all upon the altar or have reconsecrated themselves to full-time service. At least one has been led to "believe in his heart and confess with his mouth" the Lord Jesus as his personal Saviour.

Praise the Lord for answered prayer and for a greater, more spiritual fellowship at Bryan University! Truly, we have felt His presence, and desire to give Him the glory.

### CLINE—WOOLLEN

An announcement of interest to the Bryan group was that made on Feb. 27, of the marriage of Ralph Cline, a member of the Sophomore class, and Miss Marion Woollen, of Dayton. The announcement was made at a party given by Misses Bernice and Lois Knight.

The ceremony was said on June 22, 1936, in Cleveland, Tenn., with the Rev. E. M. Boyd, a former pastor of the Dayton M. E. Church, officiating.

Mrs. Cline, a member of the faculty of the Dayton Grammar School, is the daughter of Mrs. Alma Woollen, of Dayton, and the sister of Miss Jo Pearl Woollen, a former Bryan student.

Mr. and Mrs. Cline are making their home in Graysville, five miles south of Dayton, where Mr. Cline is pastor of the Methodist Church.

## STUDENTS STUDY PERSONAL EVANGELISM

Miss R. Iona Lyster, director of religious activities, is giving a course of lectures at the Monday evening meetings of the George E. Guille Ministerial Association on personal evangelism.

Among the students who have recently spoken to the chapel group at the Association's Monday morning period are Edgerton Reid, Julius Reeves, Ralph Toliver, and Charlotte Sapp.

Despite the bad weather of the last few weeks, the ministerial association and the gospel groups have been able to keep the Sunday School and Church work going steadily in most of the eleven points near Dayton at which the regular services are held. Street meetings, to be held in the courthouse yard as soon as weather permits, have been planned.

### CHORUSES DEDICATED TO SCHOOL

The University wishes to thank Rev. Henry Murdock, Jr., pastor of the Mullen Memorial Baptist Church, Belpre, Ohio, for his dedication of the two new choruses, "We Wait for the Lord" and "Peace," to the University and to the Faculty of the University.

Rev. and Mrs. Murdock were visitors on the Bryan campus during the sixth annual Bible Conference last fall.

### AN ODE TO WATER

by William Jennings Bryan

Water—the daily need of every living thing. It rises from the earth obedient to the summons of the sun, and descends in showers of blessings. It gives of its beauty to the fragrant flowers. It is the alchemy that transmutes base clay into golden grain. It is the canvas on which the finger of the Infinite traces the radiant bow of promise. It is the drink that cheers and brings no sorrow with it. Jehovah looked upon it at Creation's dawn and said "It is good."

## ATHLETES,

### ATTENTION!



Under the guiding hand of Mr. Fish, two new tennis courts, a shuffle board alley, and horse shoe pitching grounds are being constructed on Bryan Hill. The tennis courts are situated on the north-western edge of Bryan Hill, overlooking the valley of Richland Creek, which will become an arm of the Chicamauga Lake when the dam now under construction near Chattanooga is completed. The location for the courts was graded by county highway equipment and is being brought into shape by the Octagon boys.

The shuffle board alley has been painted atop the north end of the foundation; horse shoe pitching is being enjoyed at the north end of the building.

### EASTER CANTATA TO BE PRESENTED

The Easter cantata, "Everlasting Life," words by Helen J. Thompson and music by Mrs. R. R. Forman, will be presented by the University singers on Easter night, March 28. The cantata is under the direction of Miss Yancey; Mrs. Fish is the accompanist.

Soloists will be Miss Beekman, Constance Penick, Lloyd Fish, Edward Paul, Harold Fuss, Vinton Fish, and Ty Pray. The complete chorus follows: Sopranos: Constance Penick, Ruth Toliver, Mabel Arnold, Miss Beekman, and Miss Yancey. Altos: Lillian Hummell, Elizabeth Moore, Rebecca Peck, Helen Penick, and Miss Lyster. Tenors: Lloyd and Vinton Fish, Ty Pray, and Ralph Penick. Basses: Edward Paul, Harold Fuss, and Mr. Ryther.

## CANON HOWITT, REV. OVERHOLTZER, DR. HUGHES AMONG SPEAKERS OF LAST MONTH

On Friday, February 26, Canon Fred Howitt, of Hamilton, Ontario, was the visiting speaker. The Canon, who was a speaker last year, spoke from the text, I Cor. 3:16, comparing the body of the Christian to the temple of Solomon. The stone, he said, symbolizes the Divine in the believer's make-up, the wood represents the human, and the gold typifies the "glory that shall be revealed in us."

The principles and methods of child evangelism were the theme of the message brought by the Rev. J. Irwin Overholtzer, of Chicago, Director of the Child Evangelism Fellowship, when he spoke to the chapel group on Thursday, Feb. 18. The scripture which Rev. Overholtzer read was Matt. 18: 1-5. The child evangelism leader told of the joy and success of working with children—even of pre-school age—and presented a challenge for a more consecrated effort along this line.

On the previous day, Dr. Samuel Fisk, head of the Bible Department of the John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Ark., spoke on "The Scientific Method." He told of his own conversion to Christianity by an open-minded approach to the Word of God, and of his extensive travels.

Dr. Albert Hughes, well-known Bible conference speaker and teacher, was the visiting speaker earlier in the month. His subject was the three invitations that Christ gives—to come to Christ, to come unto Him, and to follow after Him. Speaking from Matt. 16:21, Dr. Hughes declared that "the cross is not the harrassing, bothering, fretting details of every-day life," but that "yours is the same as mine," the Cross of Christ. Dr. Hughes pointed out that the New Testament never speaks of "crosses," the plural, but that the word is always in the singular.

The Rev. L. J. King, evangelist of Toledo, Ohio, spoke on Lazarus, at a recent chapel period. A member of

## SOCIAL SQUIBBES

In celebration of Valentine Day the Bryan girls sponsored a party at Cedar Hill Dormitory for students and faculty. Games were played in rotation by each of twelve teams of four members each, the program being directed by Sara Idleman. Dainty refreshments were served in colorful arrangement at the close of a joyful evening of fellowship.

Miss Mona Flerl, office secretary, was pleasantly surprised when a farewell party was given in her honor at the Octagon. A small gift was presented to Miss Flerl as a token of appreciation for her long and faithful service at Bryan. She left the following week to enroll in the Edmondson School of Business, in Chattanooga.

Recent visitors at the University were the mother and sister of Miss Bertha Beekman, and her relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Cotrell, all of St. Petersburg, Florida.

Among other welcome visitors were Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Lewis, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

the Fundamental Ministers' Association of North America, the Rev. Mr. King has been holding a series of services in the local Four Square Church.

Other visitors who have spoken on Bryan Hill since the Winter Quarter opened are Miss Roxie Jacobs, field worker of the Tennessee Baptist Convention; Dr. Fred L. Brooks, well-known Bible Conference speaker and pastor of the White Oak Baptist Church, Chattanooga; Bro. Roy Austin, of the Chattanooga Bible Institute; and Dr. Harry Rimmer, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Duluth, Minn., and well-known speaker.

Another event of this quarter was the local appearance of the Student League of Many Nations, from the Practical Bible Training School, N. Y., who gave their program in the local high school under the auspices of the University.

## ANNUAL GOES TO PRESS

THE COMMONER, 1937, is scheduled to go to press the latter part of this month. The bright little book will be ready for distribution among students, faculty members, and friends of the school by the middle of May.

Printed by the offset process by the W. M. Welch Co., Chicago, the year-book features a series of original pen-and-ink drawings by the members of Miss Yancey's art classes which depict the history of Bryan University from its inception during the closing days of Mr. Bryan's life in Dayton to the present progress that has been made in establishing a living, breathing memorial to the Great Commoner here on wooded Bryan Hill.

THE COMMONER promises to have the same sprightliness and cheer that have made the book the pride of the school for the last two years. Comic pages and a multitude of ingenious snapshots top off the more formal pages of portraits, write-ups, and drawings.

## CCC CAMPS VISITED

On February 18 a quartet of Bryan students — namely, Mabel Arnold, Helen Penick, Vinton Fish, and Edward Paul—went with Miss Yancey to the CCC camp at Sale Creek, where they were to sing at services being held by a local pastor, Rev. Jess Benton. After being entertained for supper, the quartet sang and gave personal testimonies.

On the 26th the girls' sextet and three other students, Charlotte Sapp, Edgerton Reid, and Howard Kee, chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. Fish, journeyed with Chaplain Driscoll to the camp near Pikeville.

The program, presented to an audience of some 250 men, was composed of secular and religious music and two humorous readings. A number of the Bryan group gave personal testimonies.