

The NEWSLETTER . Echoes from Bryan Hill

Vol. IV

Quartette Tours Florida

Rolling out of bed at 3 o'clock, the morning after a joyful Christmas, was probably the most painful moment of the male quartet's sojourn in the land of sunshine and warm winters. After all, one does feel the need of a certain amount of sleep, even during vacation periods.

With a brief stop-over at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Currens in Atlanta, another at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fenley Ryther, the dean's brother and sister-in-law, living in Macon, Georgia, to break the monotony of the long trip south, the four singers, Forrest Foru, Ty Pray, Dean Geary, and Edward Paul, Miss Yancey, their accompanist, and Dean Ryther arrived in Tampa in plenty of time for their initial service, held at the Gospel Center of that city on the night of the 27th. Another service was held in Tampa on the following night at the Palm Avenue Baptist Church, of which a former Dayton pastor, Carl A. Howell, is pastor.

In the Berea Baptist Church, just outside of Plant City, the group enjoyed the fellowship of Pastor C. D. Cole and his congregation.

The open date of the thirtieth, though not altogether welcome, provided ample time for the long trip down the West coast, through Sarasota, the home of the Ringling Art Museum, which houses the priceless treasures of many painters, across the Everglades, through Coral Gables, and into Miami for a testimony at the Alliance Tabernacle. On the evening of the thirtieth the group enjoyed a delightful buffet supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Barrett in Miami. Saturday was spent enjoying the scenery of Miami and its environs, with Mr. Barrett as guide. This visit was particularly enjoyed because Mrs. Barrett is a close friend

Continued on Page 3

GOOD-BYE, CEDAR HILL!

(For the first time since the opening of the University in 1930, when there was nothing at all on Bryan Hill other than the foundation, the entire school is now at home on the campus.) Although most of the members of the University "family" have been living on Bryan Hill since the first of this session, President and Mrs. Rudd and other faculty and staff members continued to have their quarters at the old Cedar Hill Dormitory, former home of the young ladies.

But during Christmas vacation efforts to enclose additional rooms in the new dormitory were successful, so all are now really "at home"—on our own 82-acre campus, Bryan Hill. Though the new-comers must, along with the others, live under somewhat inconvenient conditions in their new quarters, the sacrifice is gladly made for the good of the entire school.

Another forward step has been taken. How gracious the Lord is to us in making such steps possible! The road has been long—at times rough. Yet, because of this roughness, we have felt more and more His presence and have learned the blessing of being fully dependent upon His hand for the supplying of all needs. Truly, we can join Paul in saying with joy: "My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

"THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM" PRESENTED TO LARGE CROWDS

On Sunday evening, December 11, the newly-formed Bryan University Choir made its first public appearance, singing, in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the beautiful Christmas cantata by F. Flaxington Harker, "The Star of Bethlehem." On the next Sunday evening, the same presentation was offered in Dayton's other Methodist Church. Both concerts were given to well-filled houses.

In the cantata, which employs the language of Scripture throughout, the birth of the Lord Jesus is set forth, beginning with the prophecies of Isaiah and David and continuing with the story of His first advent as recorded in Luke. Solo parts were sung by Connie Penick (soprano), Ruth Toliver (mezzo-soprano), Alvin Hall (tenor), Ralph Penick (tenor), Harold Fuss (bass), and Edward Paul (bass).

The choir is composed of twenty-eight voices, seven of which are sopranos, six altos, seven tenors, and eight basses. For its highly creditable work, commendations are due both to the members of the choir and to Mrs. A. W. Lynip, the director. Mrs. Lynip joined the University faculty last September as instructor in voice and piano.

THE NEWSETTE

Rebecca Peck.....Editor
Mabel Arnold.....Circulation Manager
Ruth Toliver.....Reporter
Charles Shirley.....Reporter
Constance Penick.....Reporter
D. W. Ryther.....Adviser

REV. RALPH TOLIVER WRITES FROM CHINA

From the land of chop-sticks and rice and coolies pulling rickshas comes a letter from a Bryan alumnus, Ralph Toliver, now a missionary un-

"FOR BETTER PROGRAMS"

"How many would like to have really interesting and worthwhile programs in our daily assembly?" asked Dean Ryther of the student body on a recent occasion. He received an enthusiastic affirmative answer.

During past years it has been the custom for students or faculty to provide programs for the daily half-hour assembly, more frequently called "chapel." Many of these programs have proved beneficial through their spiritual blessings or their entertaining or cultural features. As was suggested by the vote of the students, an earnest effort is to be put forth to make every program a good program.

The new plan, as outlined by Dean Ryther, is to provide a tangible reward for the organization presenting the best program each month. This is in the form of a beautiful small loving-cup, possession of which is to be awarded the group presenting the best program of the month, in the judgment of a faculty committee. The trophy will be in the possession of the group chosen for the ensuing month. At the conclusion of the school year the name of the organization winning the greatest number of monthly awards will be engraved on the silver cup.

As the members of each organization are looking forward to the pleasure of holding the trophy for at least one or two times this year, it is expected that a keen rivalry will develop among the groups competing.

During the past month several programs were of special interest. Clifford Ashley, representing the Ministerial Association, spoke of God's plan for the Christian, using Romans 12:1 as his text and pointing out the Christian's need for Bible study, prayer, and daily service. In the second ministerial chapel of the month Clarence Blackburn spoke

The Seniors' program for the month on the theme, "Be still and know that I am God," was well-planned and thoroughly enjoyed, as well as being helpful to everyone present. The program included the Scripture reading by Janet Webb; a solo by Harold Fuss; the message by William Kerr; and the final feature, a solo by Ty Pray. Looking forward to a joyous Christmas, the Freshmen presented Dickens' "Christmas Carol" as a playlet in the last program of the first quarter.

Bryan University

has to have his dwelling-place off the campus! That means much in the way of convenience. But more important to us is the matter of economy. No longer will it be necessary for faculty and staff to drive or walk a mile to school in the morning and then another mile back after dinner in the evening, with the resultant inconvenience and expense. No more will the school treasurer have to pay out dollars for rent that could quite well have been used for any one of a dozen other purposes. No wonder we rejoiced!

Our friends will be glad to know, too, that steam heat has been installed throughout the entire dormitory constructed this summer and fall. This has been completed just in the past few weeks, while students were away on their well-earned Christmas vacation. Our quarters are now quite comfortable, albeit rather rough and crude. We are all looking forward now to the time when walls can be plastered and our rooms made really attractive. In the meantime we disregard the crudities, being thankful that from now on the progress of the University, it seems assured, will be more rapid than in the past.

At this time, we recall the prophecies of those who said that Bryan University was "destined to be short-lived," and we lift grateful hearts to God, remembering that, but for His care, those prophecies would doubtless have been fulfilled.

for his problems. . . .

"Chinese street life . . . Here is a fellow cutting hair on the street; a cobbler mends shoes at the edge of the sidewalk; a miniature drug store is spread out on a newspaper; an old man is carrying a large, pasty, sick-looking cake suspended in a basket on a pole across his shoulder . . . queer European and Japanese cars mixing with Fords, all going dangerously fast through the crowded street on the lefthand side. . . .

"On Monday, I had the honor of being the very first graduate of the William Jennings Bryan University ever to set foot on a foreign shore as a missionary. I pray God to grant that the coming of myself and Miss Haeger . . . will be but the beginning of a great host of 'sent ones' from Bryan!"

MR. FISH COMES HOME

A pleasure to all who stayed at the University during the vacation period was the return from Wheaton College of Mr. Lloyd E. Fish, assistant treasurer and instructor in psychology. Mr. Fish found that on his vacation he had stepped right back into the harness, there being some work of pressing importance in electrical wiring and plumbing which he was immediately called upon to do.

Mr. Fish has returned to Wheaton, where he is taking graduate work looking toward a master's degree.

COLD SPELL HITS UNIVERSITY

It was the beginning of a four-day cold snap when Paul Wells, a student fireman, reported at a Sunday evening supper not so long ago that the boiler had sprung a leak and was gradually putting out the fire in the furnace. Despite all-night work on the part of two executives and three students, the prediction that an early trip to Chattanooga with the boiler section would enable speedy repairs proved to be entirely false. For in Chattanooga it was learned the repairs would take at least twenty-four hours—actually took four days and necessitated another whole night up for the workers. It was reported later that the work crew were the only ones in the University who managed to keep warm during the forced

vacation period.

Class work was an impossibility, as was real study in the frosty rooms in the men's dormitory. The dining hall was moved to the kitchen, fortunately commodious enough to handle the entire "family" in two settings.

Testing times in the University bring something other than tribulation: one learns that all life is not a bed of roses and also learns to adjust himself to the inconveniences of life before being responsible personally for overcoming those inconveniences. One learns, too, that the Lord has many who are interested in His work on Bryan Hill and whom He leads to give of their material possessions to care for the unexpected financial burdens.

. . . The Seniors . . .

Sixty Second Interviews

FORREST S. FORD

Forrest "Rhody" Ford . . . from Warfield, Kentucky . . . was going to be a dentist. Told his mother he wouldn't be a Christian . . . walking up hill after attending downtown church, a student led him to the Lord Jesus . . . began to preach when a sophomore. Sang first tenor with the Male Trio, touring several Northern states last summer, giving strong testimony.



Still sings first tenor, now with the Male Quartet . . . just home from an extensive Florida tour.

One of two seniors on Men's Student Council . . . Circulation Manager of *The Commoner*. Majors: English and Bible.

Finances none too easy, has worked for most of his expenses at Bryan. . . After graduating in June, plans to attend seminary, then enter ministry.

Says, "Looking back over the past few years, I can surely see how God has been bringing things to pass in my life."

The Newsette

TY OWEN PRAY

Ty O. Pray . . . of Marenisco, Michigan . . . attended Western State Teachers' College at Kalamazoo for one year. Went to Florida . . . met a Bryan student there and decided to come to Bryan. Has sung in nearly every musical organization here—besides solos. Toured the east last summer with the Male Trio . . . just back with the Male Quartet from the sunny South.



Sang with the Trio at the Cross Tabernacle in Huntington, West Virginia, so they asked him to come back at the conclusion of the tour . . . was there the rest of the summer as Director of Music . . . did a good deal of radio work.

Plans to attend seminary after graduation . . . may go to a foreign mission field.

Has been chef in Bryan Boarding Club kitchen since coming here, to pay his way through school . . . likes to make pastries . . . students like to eat them.

QUARTET TOURS FLORIDA

Continued from Page 1

of Mrs. Lloyd E. Fish, secretary to President Rudd. Another greatly enjoyed visit while in Miami was with Mr. and Mrs. George Haeger, parents of a Bryan alumna, Rebecca, now in the China Inland Mission field.

Sunday morning, the first day of the new year, found the party at the Royal Poincianna Chapel in Palm Beach, where Rev. William E. Biederwolf is pastor.

A service at the prison in West Palm Beach with Mr. F. B. Huston brought to some, because of Mr. Huston's association with that organization, pleasant memories of the summer's visit to the Eighth Avenue Mission of New York City. That night the message went out in song and testimony before the congregation of Brother J. P. Rodgers at the Northwood Baptist Church.

Another open date made possible an interesting trip to Iron Mountain, highest point in Florida (about as high above the surrounding country as Bryan Hill, though some seven hundred feet nearer sea level), Lake Wales, the Bok Singing Tower and bird sanctuary! This, one of Florida's major attractions, proved of lasting interest and pleasure to the group.

On the third—St. Cloud, with Brother John W. Pearce and numerous unmet friends of long "correspondence" standing, and on the third, also, an opportunity to witness in the church of Brother Fayette Hall, brother to Ben Hall (a former student) and Alvin, now a sophomore in the University. Then the final service at the First Baptist Church in Eustis, where friendship and fellowship were renewed with Brother and Mrs. John Hay, former missionary and speaker at the University on one or two occasions.

The visit to Silver Springs, Tarpon Springs, and other points of worldwide interest will live long in the memories of the travelers. Outliving them will be the joy of Christian fellowship wherever they went, of Christian service to Him, and—perhaps longest—the service behind prison walls, a testimony to those whose unhappy places, were it not for the grace of the Lord and His unending mercy to us, we might even now be filling.

Page Three



**WILLIAM
JENNINGS
BRYAN**
Said—

"You must have faith in God. I am not a preacher; I am but a layman; yet, I am not willing that the minister shall monopolize the blessings of Christianity, and I do not know of any moral precept binding upon the preacher behind the pulpit that is not binding upon the Christian and whose acceptance would not be helpful to every one. I am not speaking from the minister's standpoint but from the observation of every-day life when I say that there is a wide difference between the desire to live so that men will applaud you and the desire to live so that God will be satisfied with you. Man needs the inner strength that comes from faith in God and belief in His constant presence."

COMMONER STAFF BEGINS WORK ON ANNUAL

A bigger, better, more interesting annual is the aim of this year's *Commoner* staff. Work has been begun in earnest, now that the Christmas vacation is a thing of the past. Advertisements are being sold, photograph pages planned, more interesting features developed.

The 1938-39 staff, all seniors, of course, consists of: Sara Llewellyn, editor-in-chief; William Kerr, associate editor; James Darrell, business manager; Harold Fuss, advertising manager; Forrest Ford, circulation manager; Janet Webb, art editor; and Anne Walton, photograph editor. Faculty adviser is Miss Julia Anna Yancey.

Newsette readers may have copies of *The Commoner* sent them on approval when published. The price will probably be, as in the past, \$1.50 per copy. If you would like a copy reserved for you when ready, just address a postal to the circulation manager, Forrest Ford, in care of the University.

The Commoner, annual publication of the current senior class, takes its name from the famous newspaper, *The Commoner*, published by Mr. Bryan for many years.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Eighth Article in a Series

By Charles H. Currens
Professor of Bible

In the last article we endeavored to set forth, at least in part, what we believe the Bible teaches concerning the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are now to set forth in part—

I. WHAT THE SCRIPTURES AFFIRM CONCERNING HIS ASCENSION.

1. "He ascended up on high," Eph. 4:8.
2. His disciples beheld as "He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight," Ac. 1:9.
3. "While He blessed them, He was carried up into heaven," Lu. 24:51, where He "sat down on the right hand of God," Heb. 10:12; Eph. 1:20; Col. 3:1.

II. WHAT THE SCRIPTURES AFFIRM CONCERNING HIS EXALTATION.

1. "Him hath God exalted to be a prince and a Saviour," Ac. 5:31.
2. He has been exalted "far above all principalities and powers, and might, and dominion, and every name," Eph. 1:21; Heb. 1:3, 4; I Pet. 2:22.
3. He has been exalted that He might appear in the presence of God on behalf of His believing ones, Heb. 9:24; 4:14-16.
4. He has gone to prepare a home for us, John 14:1, 2.
5. Because of His exaltation every knee shall ultimately bow before Him and confess Him as Lord, Phil. 2:9-11.

III. WHAT THE SCRIPTURES AFFIRM CONCERNING HIS COMING AGAIN.

1. The fact of His coming is clearly stated, John 14:3; Heb. 9:28; Phil. 3:20, 21, R. V.; I Thess. 4:16, 17; Ac. 1:11.
2. The Scriptures never intimate that the coming of the Lord means death, Jn. 21:23.
 - (1) It is not certain that any living believer will die, I Cor. 15:51, 52.
 - (2) The believer is not to watch for death, but for the coming of Jesus Christ, Mk. 13:35.
3. The coming of Christ does not mean the coming of the Holy Spirit, not any other event, but His literal, personal return, Jn. 14:3; Ac. 1:11; Ac. 3:20, 21;

CHRISTIAN SERVICE ASSN. IS ORGANIZED

To improve the efficiency of the various groups of Christian workers, both student and faculty, going out each Sunday into the neighboring communities, the Christian Service Association was recently formed.

For years both students and faculty have been active in missionary service in communities surrounding Dayton. Until this year, supervision by the George E. Guille Ministerial Association, with the assistance of a faculty adviser, has seemed to be sufficient. This year, however, with the increased student body, as well as greater opportunities for service, it has seemed desirable to have a coordinating organization.

The Christian Service Association will be open to all members of the University "family" and will provide both fellowship and direction in the Lord's work. This work will include preaching services in numerous country communities, teaching in Sunday schools, witnessing at street meetings, and visiting in homes. The work of the association will be directed by a faculty-student council. Members will meet every two weeks for an hour of fellowship in planning the work for the succeeding period.

It is the purpose of the organization to aid in proclaiming the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ by arranging a place of service for every one who desires to give his testimony.

- I Cor. 15:23; Phil. 3:20; Col. 3:4; Rev. 1:7.
4. Earth conditions will be universally bad, not righteous, at the time of His coming, 2 Tim. 3:1-5, 13; 4:1-4; 2 Pet. 3:3, 4; Mt. 13:24-30; Lu. 18:8.
5. Events attending our Lord's coming.
 - (1) The holy dead shall be raised, I Thess. 4:13-16; I Cor. 15:23.
 - (2) All living believers shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air without dying, I Thess. 4:17; I Cor. 15:51-53; Phil. 3:20, 21, R. V.; I Thess. 1:10.
6. His coming is near at hand, Phil. 4:5; I Thess. 5:2-4; II Thess. 2:2; Heb. 10:25; Jas. 5:8, 9; I Pet. 4:7; Rev. 22:7.
7. The prayer of the Bible-taught believer is for His coming, Rev. 22:20.