Testimony, September/October 1952

Baptist Bible Institute of Cleveland
B.B.I. Welcomes
New Dean

When I was first invited to consider becoming a part of the B.B.I. family, I was immediately interested in the official title, “Baptist Bible Institute.”

Yes, I could really stand behind this name. First of all, I am a “Baptist” by deep conviction. When I was saved twenty-five years ago, I united with a church that was not Baptist. I had been brought up in that Sunday School and had been very faithful in church attendance. My father and mother were tireless workers in the church. So when I was called into the gospel ministry, I went to Princeton Theological Seminary and later became a Presbyterian minister.

But as I studied and preached the Word of God I became convinced of two facts: (1) Scriptural baptism is by immersion and there is no basis in the Bible for sprinkling. I have a church that is not Baptist, I had been brought up in that Sunday School and had been very faithful in church attendance. My father and mother were tireless workers in the church. So when I was called into the gospel ministry, I went to Princeton Theological Seminary and later became a Presbyterian minister.

I could also stand behind the name “Bible.” It was because I believe that the Word of God is infallible and supreme in authority that I was led to leave a church where “creed” took the place of authority. Yes, I wanted to be associated with a school that believed the Word of God, accepted it as the infallible and final authority.

I was also challenged by the word, “Institute.” I am not only a Bible-believing Baptist, but I want to have a part in training young people in the Word of God to go out and serve Him. I believe that an Institute should send forth graduates who not only believe the Word of God, but are prepared to teach the Word to others.

I praise God for the opportunity to serve Him at the Baptist Bible Institute.

Praise God for a school committed to this standard: “For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

—Dr. Leonard Webster
Acting Dean

“We believe that the task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.”

I thank the Lord for my salvation and for giving me the privilege of coming to B.B.I.

B.B.I. Family Picnic

All the boys and girls and moms and dads of the B.B.I. family packed up a good picnic lunch and headed for Forest Hills park. This was probably the largest family that had ever set foot there but I believe the happiest.

Soon after everyone arrived several activities were started. The student boys and faculty members started a big league baseball game. Of course the girls felt rather hurt because they weren’t asked to play so they started one of their own. A few miscellaneous games were played, such as basketball and badminton. I for one can say that you really got your exercise that day.

We then seated ourselves under a tree and listened to a short devotional talk brought to us by Dr. MacKay who had been a real blessing to everyone during the youth conference.

As any normal family we immediately began to wonder about the food. Some of the dear faculty mothers had seen to that and everything was ready for us to eat.

A good time was had by all and I am sure we are in favor of having one next year. A family is a wonderful thing and ours especially so because we not only love each other but most important we love Him who so loved us that He gave Himself for us. Let us pray that we will ever be a happy and united family in Him.

Ed.

New School Officers

The Baptist Bible Institute is proud to announce the new officers of the school. Truly the Lord has blessed the School in giving us such fine Christian men to guide our School and lead us on to greater things for Him. Shall we make it our earnest prayer that truly Col. 1:10 will be our testimony. Let us pray that through the guidance of these men and our willingness to walk worthy of the Lord, our School might go forward for Him.

President ********** Allan F. Lewis
Vice President ********** John G. Bennett
Acting Dean ********** Dr. Leonard Webster
Treasurer ********** George S. Milner

Books Needed in Library

A. J. Gordon - Things As They Are
Wm. Patton - The Holy Spirit and Missions
A. Murray - Alexander Duff, Pioneer of Missionary Education
Mrs. H. Taylor - Pastor Hsi
P. Wilkes - The Dynamics of Missions
C. A. Clark - The Nevius Plan for Mission Work
Soltan, T. S. - Korea, The Hermit Nation
Mary L. Shedd - The Measure of a Man
Amy W. Carmichael - A Century of Jewish Missions
Weedon - The Unfinished Task of South America
J. E. Hutton - The Story of Moravian Missions
Apostle to Islam
J. Christy Wilson

Ed.
Dear George,

Happy New Year, Happy New Year! I'll bet you thought I had forgotten you; well, I tried hard enough but I just couldn't do it. Maybe I will have better luck the next time. I heard you had a bad case of indigestion. Too bad that you weren't eating at the Dorm. But I guess it's just as well because we wouldn't have had enough money to buy flowers for you. I heard the Love-Lorn column that you wrote to didn't pan out. Well, you are in no worse circumstances than I am. Cheer up! Remember, the worst is yet to come. Did you ever talk in your sleep? Some people do. I wake up in the middle of the night finding myself counting dishes. Some friends of mine seem to have the same trouble with Greek. Can't understand what would make us do that, can you? Boy, this Indian summer surely does things to me. Maybe it's the Indian coming out of me. Ugh! Ugh! Although, it does affect some people a little bit differently. Just notice a girl with long dark tresses who is acting more like Pocahontas, than an Indian on the warpath. If I didn't say this before I meant to, so I will say it now. Come and visit Homiletics Class. Did you know that the Wrigley Gum Company was going out of business? Can't understand why. Well, I guess I had better close for now. If you don't receive this letter, just write and let me know and I'll send you another. Adios Amigo.

Ed.

Pictured above are all the new students of B.B.I. Most of them are freshmen with a few second year and special students. Truly we do praise the Lord for each one of them and are certain that they will be a strong testimony for the Lord and also for B.B.I. The day school enrollment is the largest in the School's history with 85. The night school enrollment is 120.
Is Christ Worth Living?

Many reading this would say yes without thinking. Many were the times I agreed not realizing what it actually meant.

At the age of seven, the Holy spirit convicted me that I was a sinner: Rom. 3:23. I did not want to go to hell. I found in God's word that all I needed to do was trust in Jesus Christ to take me to heaven: Acts 16:31. Believing, I knew I was born again. Not because I thought so but because God said so: I John 5:11, 12. This made me justified in God's sight.

Sad to say I neglected reading God's word and praying. This was how I tried to live a Christ centered life: I figured out in my mind how a Christian should live. Then I tried to fit God's will into my selfish will. God finally, through a chain of experiences, brought me to a place where I saw that only his perfect will was important: Rom. 6:16, 11, 13. I found how to be sanctified in God's sight. Rom. 12:1, 2.

I have found a new life living in God's will. Through personal experience I've realized that living for Christ is worthwhile. My earnest prayer is that I may continually seek God's will in my life.

— George Young
Freshman Class

B.B.I. Students Have Street Meeting

Saturday, September 27, 1952, approximately 20 students met at the dormitory before going down to the public square for a street meeting. Before we left, we had a short time of prayer asking the Lord's blessing and guidance as we went. Last minute arrangements were made and a small pump organ was taken along to aid in the music and was very ably played by Bernie Coon. We started off by singing some well known hymns led by Lynn Rogers. Sam Kalmus gave his testimony in song, followed by a short but to the point gospel talk. The group sang a few more hymns and then Bob & Lynn Rogers sang a duet. Jim Taylor, leader of the group, gave a short sermon and closed with prayer telling the group that had been listening that if they wanted to talk to anyone about their soul's condition to feel free to do so. The group then broke up and went about giving tracts to whoever would take them and talking to them about God's Plan of Salvation. Results were seen even that night as some came to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their own personal Savior. Some results may occur through the tracts that we will never know about until we get to glory. Let us pray that God will continue to use the street meeting as a way in which we can witness and testify for Him and lost sinners may come to know Him even as you and I do.

Youth Conference

Dr. Donald MacKay, Executive Vice-President of the Association of Baptist World Evangelism was guest speaker at the 1952 Youth Conference held from September 7th through 12th. The theme of the messages was "Treasures From the Word — As Challenges." Following the messages on three evenings, colored motion pictures of Dr. MacKay's recent missionary trip around the world were shown. The pictures were an aid to help emphasize the theme of the messages.

The daily meditations in the chapel period during the period of the Youth Conference were presented by Dr. MacKay in a series of four Messages centered around "The Challenge of World-Wide Missions." In addition to his inspiring and challenging messages, Dr. MacKay lectured in several classes and counselled with numerous students about problems relating to missions and missionary work.

Brother Mackay supplied the pulpit at both services of the Hough Avenue Baptist Church on the opening day of the conference. Many that were unable to be present heard his message over radio station WSRS, Cleveland, and a portion of his evening message over WDOK, Cleveland.

Special music was provided on Monday evening by Donna Anderson (50) and Kenneth Andrus (51) of Warren, Ohio. Tuesday evening a musical message was presented by Sam Kalmus, a senior student. A duet composed of Lynn and Bob Rogers, students of B.B.I. brought the message in song on Thursday evening. Vernon Weber (51) of Decatur, Illinois brought a stirring message in song at the final conference meeting on Friday.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday sessions were designated as East Side Churches', Hough Sunday School, and West Side Churches' night, respectively. Special recognition was made of each group on the designated evening.

Truly the Youth Conference brought a real blessing to all who attended and brought the vision of world-wide missions to a personal application.

I was saved as a little girl going to D.V.B.S. in Adrian, Michigan. After the death of my mother it was necessary that I go to a children's home for about 3 years where it was rather hard to live a Christian life, being with a group of about 40 others who were there for various reasons, having no Christian background whatsoever. By attending a fundamental church there I was restored to fellowship, but when I went back to Adrian in 1949 not knowing many people there I was rather lost and started attending a modernistic church. However, being hungry for the Word I attended the Brotherhood Tabernacle in the evenings where in February, 1951, I gave up all my worldly desires and dedicated my life anew. I rejoice that the Lord has promised He will never leave us nor forsake us and since He has done so much for us, should we not give our best to Him?

I thank the Lord for B.B.I. and hope to be out in full time service for Him soon.

— Doris Dekan
Freshman Class

CLASSES ELECT OFFICIALS

With the beginning of a new fall term here at B.B.I., each class had their business meeting. They elected officers to lead their respective classes through the coming year. The following is a list of the officers and we feel sure that they will not only a great help to their class but to the school as well.

Third Year

President .................. Edward Helmick
Vice President ............ Charles Owens
Secretary .................... Matilda Blanton
Treasurer ................... Nancy Kalmus
Advisor ...................... Donald Woody

Second Year

President .................... William Carter
Vice President ............... Donald Collins
Secretary .................... Patricia Stockin
Treasurer ................... Florence Keene
Advisor ....................... John Stoll

First Year

President .................. Nelson Collins
Vice President ............ Paul Schenck
Secretary & Treasurer .... Carol Wilson
Advisor .................... Charles Butlin

"If you can't get what you like, learn to like what you get."
B.B.I. Welcomes
New Professor

G. H. Davis

Faculty Retreat

About the middle of August, a letter was sent to each member of the faculty of the Baptist Bible Institute inviting them to attend a Faculty Retreat at Camp Kidron, Kidron, Ohio. The invitation was extended by Brother John Stoll through the courtesy of the Cleveland Hebrew Mission of which Brother Gerald Smelser is Director and, in that capacity, Director of Camp Kidron, the summer camp of the Cleveland Hebrew Mission.

In the late forenoon and early afternoon of September 2nd the majority of the faculty and a few officers of the school gathered at Camp Kidron in response to the aforementioned invitation. After partaking of a hearty noon meal, prepared by Mrs. Gerald Smelser and Mrs. Glenn Davis, members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Mission, presented Preliminary examinations were given to each student and trustee and members of the Board of Trustees and the faculty to acquaint each other.

The first message from God's word as the brethren, presented the first message from God's word as found in Isa. 6. The spirit of this session and of all the sessions that followed was a source of joy to each one attending the Retreat.

When next we met, Brother Earl Wellites ministered to our hearts from the first Psalm. The business session that followed was again, quite obviously conducted under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

When last we met, Brother Edwin Miller called our attention to "Jesus The Teacher." The word at this time, as throughout the Retreat, was precious to our hearts. Once again, the Lord wonderfully blessed in the business session that followed the delivery of this message.

In addition to being a time of preparation for the school year, the Retreat was also a time of rest as the brethren, despite much rain, enjoyed several games of volley ball and other forms of relaxation. Before dismissing, as of noon, September 3rd, it was unanimously voted to enjoy another Faculty Retreat next year, should our Lord tarry.

TESTIMONY BY C. BUTRIN

These opening days at B.B.I. are happy days for me also because the Lord has heard my prayer of several years standing. I have been praying and preparing for some eight years that the Lord might use me in the capacity of a Bible Institute Instructor. He has clearly and wonderfully led Mrs. Butrin and me here, so that we can assuredly say "This is the Lord's doing and it is marvellous in our eyes."

My Bible School days in Minneapolis, Minnesota were the happiest days of my "single life." No schooling since has afforded the blessings which were mine at Bible School. In order to be better fitted for this task which I have been called, I have taken other school training in such schools as Ohio State University, Wheaton College and Columbia Bible College. It was at Wheaton that I learned a new romance language. I enjoyed the study so much that I dropped Spanish and married the Spanish teacher. Later Mrs. Butrin proved to be an excellent private tutor by helping me through the four years at Ohio State University. At Columbia Bible College (South Carolina) Mrs. Butrin and I were running a very close race in winding up our education. I beat her by about a week for I got my M.A. one week and she became "Ma" the next.

Just before leaving the country pastorate at LaPorte, Indiana Clyde Albertson's & Bob Crawford's home town we had a farewell service for several of our young people who also were going off to Bible School. May I take the text I chose for that parting occasion and make it the basis of a prayer for our student body in the coming year:

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

I Corinthians 15:58A

Freshman Days

Saturday, September 6th, marked the beginning of a new school year. Another new year means a lot of new students and a lot of activity for those new students. The Freshman class entered with great zest, into a week-end of activities not soon to be forgotten. Registration and payment of fees were the first things on the agenda. These activities, along with situating those students who were to stay at the dorms, took most of the morning and the better part of the afternoon. Meals were served for the new students; the highlight being the Faculty dinner and Variety Program that took place in the evening. Students and faculty members had a chance to get acquainted and a good time was had by all.

Sunday School and Church services were attended by the students at Hough Avenue Baptist Church, which also houses B.B.I. This time of spiritual uplift was thoroughly appreciated by each student. Dinner was provided at the dorm. An informal tea was given later in the afternoon to enable the students, members of the Board of Trustees and the faculty to get acquainted with each other. We had a friendly and intimate atmosphere between each student and trustee and faculty member who attended. Evening services were attended at Hough Avenue Baptist Church.

Preliminary examinations were given Monday. This took the first part of the morning; after the school procedure was explained to each student. The remainder of the afternoon was used for the students, members of the Board of Trustees and the faculty to get acquainted with each other. We had a friendly and intimate atmosphere between each student and trustee and faculty member who attended. Evening services were attended at Hough Avenue Baptist Church.

A TALL ENOUGH PREACHER

A steward came to the presiding elder and asked for a preacher, "How big a man do you want?" asked the elder. "I do not care so much about his size," said the steward, "but I want him to be tall enough to reach heaven when he is on his knees."

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