

NAZARENE MESSENGER

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF NORTHWEST NAZARENE COLLEGE

VOLUME VIII.

NAMPA, IDAHO, MARCH, 1925.

No. 3

THE QUEST OF TRUTH

CALVIN EMERSON, '25

"YE shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." No, I am neither going to write a sermon, nor to enter into a philosophical discussion of truth. On the contrary I am going to give you what I believe is an argument for our Nazarene Colleges.

The question has ever been asked, What is truth; and men, realizing the potent energy and value of truth, if once they might attain it, have sought far and wide and have investigated numberless theories and systems in the hope, oftentimes vain, of obtaining this seemingly elusive something we call truth. The question of what to believe has always been vital to the mind of the thinking man, and sooner or later, in it's search has led him to some explanation and very often has left him there, holding a portion of the truth in his hand and believing that he has attained the sum-total of knowledge. It is one of the tragedies of human experience that the mind of man in its constitutional thirst for knowledge, will so often bring him to trust in a shadow and to believe that he has at last found and touched reality.

Why is this, and why the magnitude of error and the multiplicity of doctrines, the most of which are false entirely or at the best merely half truths, partly real and partly unreal? The answer comes to us—simply because man has tried for himself and in his own strength and effort has endeavored to reach truth but has forgotten or neglected the Guide—"the Spirit of truth,—who will guide you into all truth."

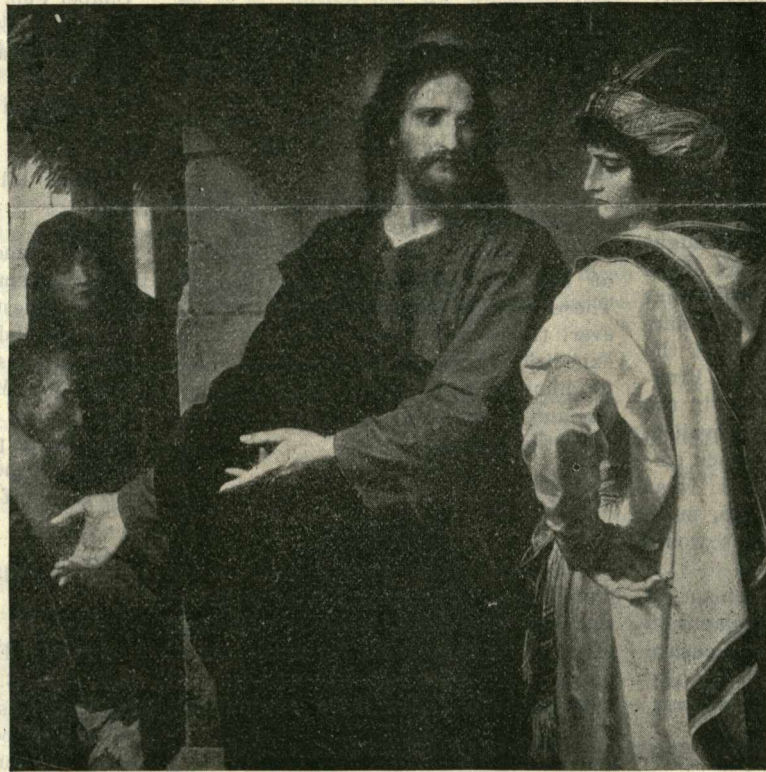
We insist upon it that man, is a spiritual being

and as such can never attain to the whole truth or even a saving truth until his life has been touched by the Divine. But even further than the truths of religious experience, which are indisputably the most essential and without which all other learning avails but little, we believe that all forms of human knowledge, the fine and industrial arts, the languages, the histories, sciences, literatures and philosophies, are not the product of man unaided and unguided but that the hand of God may be seen through all human accomplishment. We do not minimize man necessarily except where he has visibly exploited himself and his own efforts, but we attempt to glorify God.

We hold that knowledge is a unity, but even a unity must have a central factor or nucleus, it must have of necessity some fixed quantum of truth, some mooring post, some pole star to which all else can be, should be, and is related. Without this dominant fact all systems and forms are chaotic. There must be a unifying principle, a head which holds all together which gives life and

direction to each part, and which relates all to itself. What is this truth, this central fact of the universe what is it from which all proceeds and to which all knowledge relates, which gives unity to our thinking and purpose to our systems of thought—it is the fact of God. "And he is before all things, and by him all things consist."

Many men work out intricate philosophies and inspiring literatures, may interpret histories, may build up marvelous systems of science, may attain the nth degree of culture and (Continued on page 2.)



"He will guide you into all truth."

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A monthly journal devoted to the interests of the Northwest Nazarene College.

Subscription free: offerings solicited. Send remittance to H. Orton Wiley,

H. ORTON WILEY, Editor

President of Northwest Nazarene College, Nampa, Idaho.

Published by the

Northwest Nazarene College

NAMPA, IDAHO

Entered as second class matter, November 23, 1921 at the Post Office at Nampa, Idaho, under the act of August third, 1912.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized May 25, 1923.

Editorial

Wallace and Emerson, class of '25, are still editing the Messenger. We aim to make it a live N. N. C. news bulletin with plenty of the Christian College spirit.

The other evening in the course of one of his sermons, Dr. Williams made the more or less extraordinary statement that life was so interesting to him, he hated to spend any of it in sleep. The statement pleased us greatly and gave the satisfied feeling that always comes from hearing a great man say what you have always wanted to say. It voiced a basal postulate in our idea of life.

To enjoy life is Christian. Jesus taught men how to live—he brought more abundant life. But somehow the belief that Christianity is a mournful, sternly narrow existence which takes most of the thrill of living away, still exists. Probably the reason for this idea lies in the nature of preaching that has prevailed. The negative side has been too much emphasized. We have been told what Christianity would not let us do, more than we have been told what it would bring to us.

We do not believe that Hedonism or Epicureanism is the correct explanation of life. Those theories make pleasure the sole object of life. In Christianity the joy-of-living is a product, a fruit,

not the goal. It is obtained by doing without some things the world calls pleasures, and by doing some things the world oftentimes thinks are disagreeable. This idea of life is hard to understand by ordinary standards,—but it works.

All down through the years since Christ came, some men have thought life was a thing to be spurned; an evil to be passed through quickly. To despise life, and to shun the joy of living is virtue—in their estimation. But that is wrong. Sin lies in the heart, not in the flesh. And God has provided a way whereby we can have our hearts made pure. It follows, then, as does day the night, that when a man's heart is clean, he has happiness. Holiness gives joy to life.

Parlette Visits College

"That's the first Amen I've heard for a thousand years," said Dr. Ralph Parlette who addressed the student body on Feb. 24th. Dr. Parlette is a lecturer of national fame, who is now on the Ellison White Lyceum circuit. He is also famous for his book, "The University of Hard Knocks." He expressed pleasure upon hearing a testimony of one of the students, a thing quite unknown during the assembly hour of most colleges.

Dr. Parlette did not attempt a formal address but as he himself said, just "spilled over" from the vast reservoir of his rich experiences and thoughts. These were so masterfully presented, however, that every listener was led to an expedition in which he discovered more of himself and gained a considerable amount of spiritual health and vivacity from the exercise.

Professor Erdmann Provokes Thought

"It hurts me to think," said an Indian Prince. Professor Erdmann hinted that this is probably the case with most of us and is responsible for much mental inertia, lack of originality and general tendencies to follow herd suggestions.

THE QUEST OF TRUTH

(Continued from page 1)

refinement and all this is well as far as it goes. But to what avail is it all if he lose sight of that God by which it all consists. Most of our modern educational work fails to recognize the eternal, abiding, unifying principle of fact of God and fails to relate to this truth the many truths which human ingenuity has been permitted to find for itself. The consequence is a world without a maker, a number of systems with no unifying factor, a chaos in the mind, an "ever learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth."

God—the center of reference, the coordinating principle, and the life giving force of our educational work—is the aim, spirit and purpose of Northwest Nazarene College.

His address, delivered in a semi-sermon from the text, "I thought on my way," entitled, "Thoughtfulness," was given in Chapel Feb. 24. He admonished the student to think for himself, be open minded and not to accept other peoples opinions for his own until he had thought through the problem himself.

Does the World owe me a Living?

Prof. Janosky, College Bursar, would make an emphatic reply in the negative of this question, which by the way, was his own and the title of his extraordinarily interesting paper-speech delivered in Chapel, March 3. There was inspiration in his presentation of the matter. He said in part, "The world owes me a living no more than the mountains owe me gold. If I dig it out it is mine."

International Debate at N. N. C.

Arsenio E. Diaz, Toribio P. Galura, and Jose S. Escudero, represented the Philippine Islands in a debate held in the college chapel on the evening of March 6th. The question as upheld by the visitors, was, "Resolved, that the Philippine Islands be given their immediate independence." The members of the visiting team, although students of our school, gave us first hand information concerning conditions and opinions existing in the Philippines at the present time. The oratory of the Philippine boys was a feature. It is noteworthy that they secured a three to two decision before a prejudiced audience, against their opponents, Mabel French, Allen Howard, and James Shaver, members of the Apollonian Literary Society.

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THE ALUMNI PAGE

It Works

Not long ago I paid a visit to one of our neighboring Nazarene pastors, who was just then starting a meeting in territory practically new to "full gospel" work. Arriving in the little town quite late in the evening I started out at once in search of the place of meeting. After about thirty minutes of futile walking I caught the closing strain of a "holiness" song and found the place in a few moments. I entered the little mission just as the preacher was announcing his text. But my attention was absorbed for the first moment or two with the "amen corner." There, with face beaming and a not infrequent "amen," sat a young man whom I had known a few years ago at N. N. C. It was Brother Encarnacion, the little Philippino, who used to testify with such victory in Chapel. Well, after service we got together the first thing, and these were about his words, "Well, Brother Swim, I've still got salvation. And it works, Brother Swim; even on the section. Thank the Lord."

And that is just it—it works. The salvation of our Savior, Jesus Christ, is the most practical thing in the whole world. Many ideas and ideals and theories and philosophies fit and work—under certain conditions. But the trouble is, we seldom find conditions just made to order, and never can assure ourselves that they will remain that way. But the religion of Jesus Christ is not limited to, nor by conditions. It has proven itself practical and adequate and satisfying in every condition and circumstance of life. It lifts us above the sordidness of poverty; it keeps alive the spirit of sacrifice and unselfishness in the midst of prosperity; its simplicity is a wide open portal to the ignorant; the depth and wealth of its infinite truths are enough to absorb the wisest forever. It brings comfort to the sorrowing; light to the seeking, satisfaction to the hungry and fulness of joy to those who would rejoice. Thank God, it works, Salvation works!

Roy E. Swim, '24.

My Trip to the River Jordan

Excerpt from letter from Brother Moses Hagopian, '21.

"Just a few words in regard to my recent trip to the River Jordan.

"We had the privilege of having with us Rev. and Mrs. K. H. Jackson for a few days last week, our returning missionaries from Western India, now on

their way to America. Brother Kauffman took us in a Dodge car and in a few minutes we were on the Jerusalem-Jericho Road. Before we crossed the Valley of Jehosaphat, we saw Stephen's Gate, and just a little ways from it was the chapel of St. Stephen. This was the place where the Jews stoned Stephen because he preached the radical gospel without fear or favor and without any compromise. By the grace of God I will also preach the same gospel here in Jerusalem.

We passed the Garden of Gethsemane, and went to the small village called Bethany, where Mary and Martha used to live. Then we passed by the Apostles Well, where they drank water on their return from a certain journey. We were going down the Judean Mountains gradually and in a little while Bro. Kauffman asked me if I had any money with me, as if to caution me, for we were passing by the same place where the man who journeyed from Jerusalem to Jericho fell among thieves, who stripped him of his raiment and wounded him.

Our next station was the Good Samaritan Inn, which is just about half way between Jerusalem and Jericho. We took pictures of the Inn, then continued our journey going down the hills of Judea for about twelve miles, until we came to the Dead Sea. We went to the sea shore and tasted the water. I declare to you, I had never, never in all my

life tasted anything like it. It was so salty and so bitter, beyond any description. Brother Jackson filled up his little bottle. I suppose he will be a rich man when he gets to the missionary conventions in the United States and sells just a few drops from that bottle to each individual for a little taste.

From this place we drove to the River Jordan, and Oh, what an experience we had! Our machine stuck in the mud. Three strong missionaries did their very best to push it out of the deep miry clay, but it was of no use. We had to put the chains on the hind wheels and then we were able to get out of the mud. We reached the River Jordan and went to the traditional place where Jesus was baptized of John the Baptist. Here my heart was filled with great joy. I confess to you, I wanted to be baptized there. In fact, I told the brethren, "I wish you could have a baptismal service here."

From the River Jordan we went to New Jericho, and from there to the Old Jericho and saw the ruined places there. It was in this place that Joshua marched around the city and the walls fell down. Near by was a pool in which Elisha cast a cruise of salt and the bitter water was sweetened. Now there is so much more yet to say, but my time is up. Of course we returned to Jerusalem safe and sound.

Your Missionary in Jerusalem,
MOSES HAGOPIAN.

Our Teachers Say:

Prof. H. A. Erdmann, Science, Mathematics and German



The average man contains in his body enough oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen to make about \$2.45 worth of illuminating gas; and yet he may not be able to throw light on any subject.

He contains enough carbon to make 9360 lead pencils; yet he may not have a thought worth noting with a single lead pencil.

He contains enough phosphorous to make 20,000 matches; and yet he may be a poor stick, and therefore a very poor match for any woman.

He contains about 60 lumps of sugar; and yet he may be sour tempered.

He contains enough iron to make a spike that will hold his own weight; and yet he may be a man of putty.

He contains enough starch to do up several family washings; and yet his backbone may be void of stiffness.

He contains enough lime to make several pounds of bleaching powder; yet his life may be very dark.

He contains enough salt to season a good sized meal; yet his speech may not be seasoned with salt at all.

He contains enough magnesia to make up this constituency in several bars of soap; and yet he may be filthy.

SCHOOL NOTES

(Edited by the School in Journalism)

Skinny Goes to College

Skinny Tock wanted to be a well bred dog so she was always on the look out for helps toward an education. It so happened that she lived in a good environment for not a block from her home was the Nazarene College. She always had wanted to attend school there but no one seemed to be really in favor of it. But there were other good influences about her. One was her mistress whom she believed was the wisest and best woman in the world. Why not? Was she not a senior in that college across the way and besides she was postmistress, too. But that was not all. One of the college teachers lived in the same house with Skinny and her mistress and master. All these influences coming to bear upon Skinny finally brought her intense desire for learning to a climax. Twas on Saturday that she decided it. She would go to college. Across the campus, up the steps and into the hallway she trotted. She looked at the different doors and just as she was wondering where she could begin her education the door with "Library" on it, opened. She at once made her way into the room and discovered that it was just the right place for her. Books? Yes, all you would need for a week or so at least.

But why so much commotion? Why chase her about? Didn't these boys and girls know that she, Skinny Tock, wanted to learn from these books? She could do nothing when she had to be always running from them. The boys seemed to think she was playing, even put her on the table and made as if they were going to bisect her. How disgusting! Then they tried to put her out the door but Skinny was not ready to go just yet. Still they pestered and bothered her. It was no use; she might just as well go home. A college was no place to get an education anyway.

G. Dixon.

Miss Olive M. Winchester, Vice President of the College, who has been attending Drew Seminary, returned home Jan. 28. She gave an interesting account of her trip at Prayer Meeting Jan. 28 and also at Chapel the next morning.

We are glad to welcome Miss Hazel Freeman, Miss Ruth Cole and John Dean on their return to school this semester. Mr. Dean takes his place among the seniors, and is also the president of the Associated Student Body.

Miss Edith Carter and Miss Ruth Born returned from Buhl, Idaho, Feb. 9, where they have had charge of the music in a two weeks' meeting with Rev. D. I. Vanderpool. They report a successful revival.

The College men's Glee Club sang at the Nampa High School on Jan. 20. The occasion was a lecture on social conduct by Miss Mary Brown.

The college Seniors proved their superb disregard for "hoodoos" by entertaining the Juniors on the evening of Friday, Feb. 13, giving their last party of the year. It was given at the home of Calvin Emerson, a senior. Great quantities of candy were consumed and a musical evening, including a miscellaneous radio program, was much enjoyed.

Ice cream and cake have not lost their attractions say the students who were guests at the Sanitarium Nurse's Home the other evening, as a result of their kindness and hard work in preparing a tennis court for the nurses.

Among the preachers' reports, Glenn Wallace and his Lake Lowell charge figure prominently. His mother, Mrs. Rhoda Wallace, Dean of Women, says the preaching is especially good.

Feb. 20 was Mr. Janosky's birthday and on that day the students enjoyed a half-holiday, seemingly in his honor. A speech was demanded of him in chapel. "Forty-four years ago today," he stated, "a beautiful baby boy was born into the world." His hair, he informed us, was scanty, if at all visible—and red. He explained that as he was such a good child, the thrashings he received were indeed but few, and therefore he had difficulty in growing. (Tall seniors felt very small.) Mr. Janosky was careful to impress us with the connection between the fact that his birth day was being celebrated by our half holiday, and with George Washington's birthday was almost forgotten.

The Strollers Notice:

- That the first six weeks is past
- That there are eleven more
- That we had campus day recently
- That the campus looks much better
- That a good time was had by all

That there is a tennis tournament in progress

That we wonder who will win it

That a few practice teachers are learning "the how"

That we wish them well

That the college orchestra has some new "pieces"

That we are relieved

That the orchestra is doing better

That spring is here

That we wonder when the Seniors will sneak

That that's a question

That the June issue of the Messenger will be a special

That John Dean steps into the library occasionally

That he also sleeps in the library occasionally

That Alvin Snyder chews gum while he studies

That we wish he wouldn't

That it makes us hungry

That we thought of something else

That it is this

That we would we were a bird

That there is a tendency to coma in a certain class

That Prof. Erdmann is doing his best to disparage it.

That some even go to sleep in church

That the "platform" is a poor place to sleep

That we guess we had better close

That we want to get something to eat

That we don't mean maybe.

That thats all.