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Oliver S. Ikenberry To College Presidency



February 27, 1948 was an important date in the history of Shepherd College, Shepherdstown, West Virginia, because it was the 76th anniversary of the school's founding. It became a doubly significant date when it was announced as the inauguration day for Dr. Oliver S. Ikenberry, newly elected president of Shepherd College.

Dr. Ikenberry received the A. B. degree from McPherson College in 1929, the M. A. degree from Colorado State College of Education in 1941, and the Ed. D. degree from Colorado State College of Education in 1941. He did graduate work at Teachers College, Columbia University, during 1935-36. On March 9, 1948, he was made an honorary member of Kappa Delta Pi in recognition of his high standing in state and national education circles.

Mrs. Ikenberry is the former Margaret Moulton, who attended McPherson College in 1930-31. President Ikenberry and his wife have three children: Stanley, 12; Betty, 10; and Jane, 4.

Dr. Ikenberry is deserving of the honor bestowed upon him when he was chosen a college president. He has been outstanding as a school administrator, teacher, writer, and counselor.

Faculty and alumni of McPherson College feel honored to have Oliver S. Ikenberry, '29, elected to the presidency of Shepherd College. He feels indebted to McPherson College for excellent instruction and wise counsel given him during his under-graduate years.

The President Speaks

It was my honored privilege to attend the Third National Conference on Higher Education sponsored by the National Education Association in Chicago, March 22-25, 1948. Between five and six hundred representatives of colleges and universities in forty-four states were present and were divided into twenty-two study groups. My group studied the Future of the Independent Liberal Arts College.

The following are some of our conclusions: It is our conviction that the independent liberal arts college, by virtue of size, homogeneous grouping of faculty and students, and freedom from public support and control, has the special responsibility of providing organized and planned means for giving direction to student living and personality development with special emphasis on moral and ethical values. If the college is church-related, it is free to evaluate and promote its pattern of living in harmony with religious values.

Recent inflation has tended to hamper the financial program of independent colleges. Effort should be made to acquire additional funds and endowments from alumni, from supporting groups, and from business and industry. In gathering these funds attention should be paid to: (1) preserving the principles of academic freedom; (2) providing scholarships and loans to worthy students; (3) and holding tuition to the lowest feasible level in order to resist the tendency toward class distinction in education.

We believe the liberal arts colleges must continue to stress and improve their programs of general education, but ever be alert to changing needs.

They should be cautious not to expand their instructional programs beyond the point of effectiveness, offering only those courses, vocational and professional, in keeping with facilities, size, and purpose.

Special programs and needs should be provided for by pooling mutual strengths of individual colleges through inter-school cooperation and regional planning where possible.

Every effort should be made to continue professional growth and teaching efficiency in the faculty. We are aware of the need of special preparation for teaching in the liberal arts college, and believe the typical graduate school program with its emphasis on research does not meet this need.

It is our firm conviction that the independent liberal arts colleges have an honored and essential place in the future of American education. If they preserve and improve their program to develop the whole man, they will survive.

Africa Calls

"Rescue the perishing,—care for the dying—Jesus is merciful—Jesus will save!"

Last Sunday Rev. Richard Burger, guest minister at the Church of the Brethren, gave a stirring sermon, which in my opinion, gave a most realistic and completely pathetic picture of the situation in Africa and the reason why the American people must meet the challenge for more Christian missionaries in the darkest corners of that continent. No one is better qualified to present the situation than Rev. Burger, who is a missionary on furlough from Wandali, Nigeria, Africa.

We must realize that Africa has acquired a new desire to learn. The people there are anxious to know the modes of life of the people in the Western Hemisphere. They are eager to gain knowledge that will for them serve as the key to open the door into the strange, yet forceful Christian life. If they are willing to learn, if they plead for more Americans to come to them and to preach the gospel, then we must go to them; and we must teach them to walk down the paths of righteousness for His sake.

Some of the incidents that Missionary Burger related about the Africans and their superstitious beliefs were terrifying. Yet they were stories of a people who know not the civilized conception of life—who know not how to cope with material things. An African woman dies with a type of disease that is crudely treated by her people. When her people are asked why they did not try to help her more, the answer "Because God willed that she should die." But this is not the answer they would have given had they fully comprehended the teachings of Jesus. If they had known the word of God in its entirety, they would have helped the woman, and she might not have died.

In Africa, Mohammedanism is steadily increasing. Instead of worshiping God, the Moslems worship a false God—Allah. This form of Deity can lead to the corruption of the thinking of the people, and it can infest them with untrue beliefs. The only way that Mohammedanism can be overcome is by making the people of Africa realize that the Christian faith is the only true means of becoming saved. God must triumph over Allah! Christianity must triumph over Mohammedanism.

In his sermon, Rev. Burger urged the people to support their missions in the foreign fields. Not only must these missions be aided, but many new, capable missionaries must be sent to Africa from America. Missionaries strong in body, as well as in mind and moral character must be sent. There is a part for everyone to play in this vital challenge—Africa has an essential role in the destiny of the world—"Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only."

Time Is Growing Short

Only two months of school left—then home and a vacation! Sounds wonderful, doesn't it? But, in the meantime, brain and brawn should be applied. Keep the axe to the grind, and in the end you will not regret it. Grade cards recently came forth, with the usual discouraged or relieved sighs. Some students actually smiled happily to find an unexpected A, or even to find C in Chemistry. If you didn't like your grade card, it's up to you to do something about it—to improve it this nine weeks. Even if you made good, as I liked what you got, you can always strive for the mark higher. (Except, of course, the few geniuses on the campus.) Effort, recitation, tests, lab—all go into your semester's grade. If you do well in one, you can do well in all. Even if you are taking a course you don't like, put all you have into it. The results won't be half bad. Never say, "Why am I studying this course? It won't do me any good in the future." You'd be surprised! Every subject you study in college can come in handy in years to come, in any walk of life. So, don't become discouraged or overconfident, just keep applying yourself, and next grade card time you may be wearing a satisfied smile, instead of a ferocious frown.



106½ N. Main Phone 348
Over Bixby - Lindsay

Blindness To Color

by Glen Hillen

How many of us are color-blind? Among us here at the college there are many who profess color-blindness, but how many can meet someone whose pigmentation is different from his own, without commenting in the deep recesses of his heart on the difference between that person and himself? We here at the college have the ideal of color-blindness. Of course, there are exceptions but this is true, the author believes, of the majority of the people in the college.

How many of us, on the other hand, will refuse to patronize a place of business because it does not do business with persons of a different color from our own?

Perhaps if we were reminded of the fact that a barber shop would not give a hair-cut to a Negro we would be encouraged to form an individual, and complete boycott of the place of business. Since,

however, there are no such reminders, we must be individually on guard if we practice such measures.

The essence of Christ's teaching is that God is our Father and all men are His children. Then, how can I support and maintain with my presence, my encouragement and my patronage, any organization that refuses to serve my brother?

"God has made of one blood all nations of men that dwell upon the face of the earth." Then, how could I do business with a man who discriminates against my blood brother?

The answer, for one who wishes to be truly Christian, is obvious. Let us prove our color-blindness by refusing to recognize differences in color, and by carefully examining the business we patronize.

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