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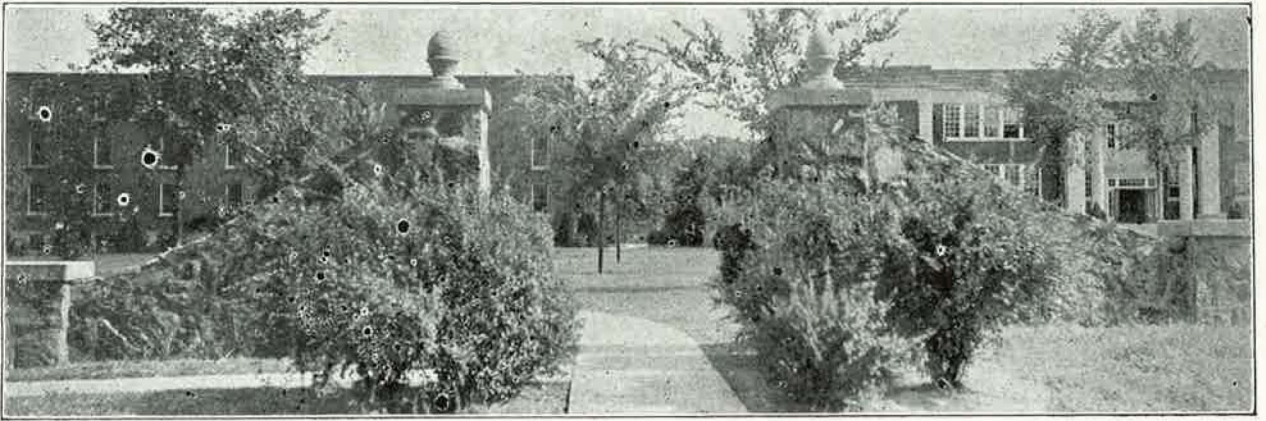
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BULLETIN HARDING COLLEGE



GATEWAY TO LEARNING
"IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE OZARKS"

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No. 10

A Message to Parents



Please Ask Your
Parents to
Read

What Future For Your Boy or Girl?

Of all earthly debts we parents owe the heaviest and most sacred to our children. They did not choose life; it was thrust upon them. Whether it is to be a curse or a blessing depends largely upon us. The time to give our boys and girls a chance in life is now—not next year or the next. Their future rests in our hands. What are we planning for them?

Never has this question been so difficult for parents to answer. The depression has wrecked so many plans and swept away our savings. Yet time passes, and if we give our children the future they have a right to expect we cannot wait till the depression is over. In the emergency that faces all of us as parents there are only three courses. We might get our children a job, let them do nothing, or send them on to college that they may get ready for the greater opportunity that is sure to come as the pendulum swings back to normal. Which course will you adopt for your boy or your girl?

Get Them a Job?

Much can be said for this plan. In the present distress of low salaries and meager incomes, if the children could find work and add something to the common support it might be a great relief. Then work might make them feel responsibility and appreciate the opportunities of a college education when they can go a few years later.

But on the other hand in all probability there is no real job in sight, nothing that will add materially to the family income. In the second place if they could find work, it is a question whether it is best for them to take it. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the boy who stops his education and takes up a job never goes on again. He vainly imagines he will save enough to go to college; but the saving never comes. Then comes love, marriage, family responsibilities—and he settles down for good at a job any untrained man could hold. The result for a girl is often worse. The death or desertion of a husband may leave a girl with children to support and with no training to give her a living. How many thousands of girls have been sacrificed in this way, and the futures which they might have enjoyed have been darkened with poverty and dependence.

A temporary "job" might be good. But if it brings no saving for future training; if it brings only spending and waste; if it sidetracks a boy from the preparation he needs for a great position and service, it is far from desirable.

But what then?

Let Them Do Nothing?

President Roosevelt and the entire administration are doing all in their power to relieve the present unemployment. Between twelve and sixteen millions of men are out of work. Many of these are in desperate straits and must be supported by public and private gifts. Each year a million more high school graduates are added to this army of idle workers. The national government, and civic bodies everywhere are urging that children and students be kept out of the economic competition until conditions improve. For this reason it seems almost a patriotic duty to give available work to older men, and this makes it the more difficult for high school graduates to find work.

But we cannot afford to let them be idle. Nothing is so demoralizing as idleness. Even with settled men idleness through enforced unemployment causes depression, morbidness, a feeling of inferiority, loss of energy and ambition, and a general disintegration of char-

acter and morals. With young people the effect is even worse. The natural urgings during adolescence make youth restless and unhappy. The nature of growth calls for action, achievement. They cannot remain still. If they have no constructive work into which to pour this vital energy, it is dissipated in frivolous and even dangerous ways. During the years when habits of solid work and when soundness of character should be built, they form only habits of irresponsible restlessness, and finally become incapable of settling down to a hard piece of work and carrying it through to success. Many become loafers or even criminals. The number of adolescent delinquents has increased amazingly during the past ten years.

But the fault is not altogether the boys' or girls'. It comes even more from conditions they cannot control and that even the parents are sometimes powerless to help. In order to develop character and acquire the strength, endurance, initiative and resourcefulness that will make one eminently successful, a boy or girl must have some regular employment, something that will call out their innate power of achievement. But with no work except irregular household tasks, how are parents to supply this vital need?

Send Them to College?

In the absence of regular employment that would lead to definite advancement, does not a course in college offer the only solution of the problem for our children? In the first place this gives them a systematic program of activity, which is really constructive. It puts before them an opportunity for achievement. It brings a cultivation of intellect, a broadening of knowledge, a ripening of judgment, an improvement in skill. It is universally recognized as the best possible preparation for success in any type of work that calls for thought, resourcefulness and personality. A large insurance company publishing statistics about the value of college education in terms of dollars states that while the average earnings of the untrained man totals only \$64,000 at the age of sixty and over fifty per cent are dependent upon others, and while the average earnings of high school graduates total \$88,000 at the age of sixty, the average for the college graduate is from \$160,000 to \$200,000. On this basis each year in high school was worth \$6,000 to the high school graduate; while each year in college was worth from \$18,000 to \$28,000.

A study of the employes of the Western Electric Company for ten years, showed that ninety per cent of their men with college training made good "as against ten per cent of those who had no college training." The U. S. Bureau of Education in a study of data gathered from a hundred business houses covering several years, stated that about 90 per cent of college men are successful in rising to large salaries and responsible positions as compared with 25 per cent of none-college men.

A college course is undoubtedly the biggest single investment we can make for our children. It is our surest means of providing for their future.

The responsibility is ours, and I appeal to every father and mother—we owe it to our children to give them the best.

To Which College?

President Key of Millsays College said recently: "The high school graduate has reached a point of development where he will now need a certain degree of self-direction, setting his own tasks, spending his own money, determining his own movements. Normally the time has come for him to leave home. Yet, it is obvious that he is not yet ready for the battle of life. There never was a time in his development when the choice between good and evil hung lighter in the balance."

Only educators who have watched young people change can understand the full meaning of the last statement. There is probably no influence so powerful on youth as public opinion. If a boy realizes that all his comrades think he is queer, or laugh because he holds ideals they consider out of date, he is miserable until he conforms. In this way young people are forced to become like the crowd around them. While it is necessary to give our children increasing freedom of choice, if they are to make strong men and capable women, it is destructive to toss them friendless and ill-advised into the whirlpool of reckless and even vicious life that is so often found in colleges and universities. A teacher of sociology in a large college said some time ago, "I like to take a freshman class just come from home with all their "Sunday school" ideas still fresh and green, and watch their eyes bulge out when I give them the modern view of religion and morals and sex life. You have to take them by the hair and pull if you get them out of their babyhood ideas and make them think." Along with this persistent effort of teachers to supplant the ideals of purity and the religious consciousness with a barren cynicism, comes the influence of the upper class boys and girls, with their smoking, drinking, dancing and collegiate looseness of morals. The result is often a tragic change of life and character and parents who place their boys and girls in such environment are responsible.

No, with increasing freedom of choice must continue a safe association. The Christian school exists as President Key says "to guide the youth, through increasing liberty and responsibility into trained effective, purposeful, manhood. The moral economic, intellectual and cultural benefits that will come from the time and money spent on this training will make it the best investment of his life."

The purpose of Harding College is to furnish such training. With a faculty of outstanding scholarship, it offers all the courses in arts, sciences and fine arts that are usually given by colleges. It affords cultural training of the finest type. But in addition to this it provides a moral and social environment that is conducive to the growth of christian character. We feel a deep responsibility to the boys and girls as well as to their parents, and we give them the guidance and care we would want our own children to have. Practically all our students come from homes where the highest ideals of character have been held before them. This gives them to some extent a common background, and any boy or girl who desires the best and the highest; who wants to give his powers their fullest development and build a character that will hold the respect and confidence of men, will find friends and comrades to encourage and not to hinder. He will find as nearly an ideal environment as it is possible to create.

But What Cost?

A mother asked recently, "Can I afford to send my daughter to Harding?" and I replied, "You cannot afford not to. If you are thinking of the highest values you cannot afford to send her anywhere except to a christian school, and if you are thinking of dollars you cannot afford to send anywhere except to Harding."

Never before have we been able to offer the extremely low rates we are giving this year. It is possible we shall never be able to do so again. Now is the time for you to give your boy and your girl the chance they deserve. The sacrifice will be nothing compared with the lasting investment you make in their future.

WRITE FOR CATALOG AND PICTORIAL

HARDING COLLEGE MORRILTON, ARK.