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ALUMNI AND EX-STUDENT ASSOCIATION
HARDING COLLEGE

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SEARCY, ARKANSAS
November 12, 1947

Dear Alumni,

It is here again. Twelve months have flashed by and Thanksgiving rapidly approaches. We at Harding are glad. It seems like a long time since some of you were here--and it has. Stuff a shirt in a bag and hurry on over. You will not want to miss the program this year.

You will find that Harding hasn't changed much. Only the externals change. The fundamentals--the spirit--Harding--do not. We are a hundred more numerous, five buildings larger, stronger in faculty, but our purpose remains the same. We are sometimes crowded and we have many more organizations, but we try to know and help the individual.

By the way, your annual contribution is about due--mine too. Lets be prompt this year. Sit down right now and send yours to Joe Pryor or Annie Mae Alston at Harding. They will see that you receive a receipt. Go ahead, I'll wait until you have written that check and put it in an envelope.....

Now, back to Thanksgiving. We mean it. We want you here. Bring your basketball shoes--if you are an alumnus--stilts also since one of the college players is six feet five--for our annual game. Also bring your greetings for your former buddies and your whetted appetites for the dinner Thanksgiving day because "Ma" Chandler is going to outdo herself again.

Your president,

Cliff Gamus

"Cliff" Gamus

"Christian Education"--Lecture Theme

By Neil B. Cope, '33

More than 800 visitors are expected for Harding College's traditional Thanksgiving week program of lectures and sermons. The lectureship begins on Sunday, November 23, and ends on the evening of Thanksgiving Day.

Dr. George S. Benson, president of the college, has announced this year's theme as: "Christian Education." A special invitation is extended to those interested in the progress of Christian schools and to those who would like to understand better what present day Christian education is accomplishing. Representatives from many institutions have indicated they will attend.

Dr. Benson indicated that representatives of all the Christian colleges had been asked to appear on the lecture program. In addition, a number of distinguished teachers and ministers have been scheduled.

Visiting ministers who will lecture include John Banister, of the Culbertson Heights Church, Oklahoma City, Okla.; M. Norvel Young, of the Broadway Church, Lubbock, Texas; G. C. Brewer, of Jackson Avenue Church, Memphis, Tenn.; D. D. Woody, of Central Church, Little Rock; L. O. Sanderson, of Pulaski Heights Church, Little Rock; Riley Henry, of the church at Walnut Ridge, Ark.; and Howard White, of Carrolton Avenue Church, New Orleans, La.

Lecturers on the program who are engaged directly in Christian education work include Rex Turner, co-president of Montgomery Bible School, Montgomery, Ala.; L. R. Wilson, president of Florida Christian College, Tampa, Fla.; Batsell Bar-

rett Baxter, head of the speech department, David Lipscomb College; Lacy Elrod, president of Dasher Bible School, Valdosta, Ga.; Irvin Lee, president of Lauderdale County Bible School, Mars Hill, Florence, Ala.; Bennie L. Fudge, dean of Athens Bible School, Athens, Ala.; Hugh M. Tiner, president of George Pepperdine College, Los Angeles, Calif.; and Don Morris, president of Abilene Christian College, Abilene, Texas.

Four speakers from Harding are scheduled. They are: President Benson, Dean L. C. Sears, Prof. J. D. Bales, head of the Bible department, and Prof. F. W. Mattox, dean of men and professor of Bible.

Two experienced teachers from mission fields are to speak. They are J. D. Merritt and Will Short, both of whom are on furlough from their work in Africa.

Harding College music groups will participate in the programs on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings and on Thursday morning. The organizations include glee clubs, the men's quartet, and the chorus.

Homecoming activities of interest to Alumni and to patrons of the college are scheduled on Thanksgiving Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Miller (formerly Theda Robins), Ex-'46, now live at Maud, Oklahoma, where Ray is preaching.

Dorris Norman Choate, Ex-'41, is now a student at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. His address is 520 Whithen St.

Dr. Bales Debates Atheist

By Dr. F. W. Mattox, ex-'32



(Photographs by Jerrell Daniel, '51)

On October 6, 7, 8, and 9, there was conducted in the auditorium of Harding College, what is perhaps the most important discussion in our generation. The participants were J. D. Bales, Head of the Bible Department of Harding College, and Woolsey Teller, the executive secretary of the Association for the Advancement of Atheism in America.

This debate was unique in many ways. It is the only time, known to the writer, in the entire history of Christian education in which an outstanding atheist was brought to the campus of a Christian school and given the opportunity to address the student body.

Mr. Teller should be one of the strongest atheists in America. He is an experienced debater, a smooth speaker, a skillful psychologist, and

is one of the three founders of the A. A. A. society. Being executive secretary he has had access to the strongest arguments this society could produce in the twenty-two years of its existence. J. D. Bales, a young man with a Ph.D. degree, is a man of great faith and has been greatly blessed with natural talents. By training, there is no one better prepared to oppose naturalism than he.

The auditorium at Harding College would not accommodate the 800 students and the many visitors, so to give all an opportunity to hear, the gymnasium was equipped with a public address system and the entire debate was well heard even though the participants could not be seen. Each speech was recorded and the debate will be published.

(Continued on page 10)

Presenting Dr. F. W. Mattox

By Dr. Kern Sears, '42

Almost all Harding students, past and present, know F. W. Mattox. Those who were in school with him know him as "Billy, others may know him as a man who is continually pressing forward into some new thing.

The first new thing he attempted was a look at life. This he started in Grand Falls, Texas, but due to "circumstances beyond his control" he moved to Oklahoma City where he attended the city schools for his grade school work and first two years of high school.

His third year in high school was spent in the Harding Academy where he hoped to prepare himself for preaching. With this aim in mind he took many Bible courses and much speech work. He was in the Dramatic Club, and was a perpetual speaker at the Monday night meetings. But school to him seemed a waste of time. He did not even plan to finish high school. However, before the end of his third year he was persuaded to go ahead at least one more year and finish.

A rather natural thing followed, he stayed not one year but five. School work was beginning to become a habit with him.

During his student days at Harding he married Mildred Formby, and the two of them continued to work their way through school and live on nothing at a time when every one else was living on nothing. It was the time of the depression. But his willingness to work for his education at a time when most young men felt it impossible to go to school is characteristic of him.

He did not finish college at Harding but has since regretted that he did not. He decided to accept an offer to preach for a rather new congregation at 12th and Drexel in Oklahoma City. At first he received \$3.00 to \$5.00 a week from the church and unloaded box-cars to help meet his expenses. But it was not long until the congregation had grown and developed until a new building was needed. For \$3,000 and nearly two years of work, (most of the work Brother Mattox gave himself) a building was completed that was appraised at \$20,000. Again he showed that he was not afraid to tackle something new.

During this period he also found time to finish his Bachelor's work at Central State Teachers College, Edmond, Oklahoma.

In 1940 he obtained the Master's Degree from the University of Oklahoma, and then, moving to California, started preaching for one of the oldest congregations in Los Angeles. He and his family spent two years in Los Angeles, during the last of which he taught in Pepperdine College.

He returned to Harding as a teacher for the first time in the Fall of 1942. The following summer he took graduate work in the School of Religion at Vanderbilt, but he decided to change to the field of education: so the next summer found him in the graduate school of Peabody College for Teachers. There he received the Ph.D. in August of this year after having spent only six terms in residence there---a remarkably short time.

Dr. Mattox returned to Harding this fall to resume his work with
(Concluded on page 10)

Harding Thanksgiving

CHRISTIAN

November 23

Due to the large student body and the many visitors expected, there will be two services in the Auditorium, except on Tuesday and Wednesday.

SERVICES IN THE GYM

SUNDAY, NOV. 23

11:00 A. M. REX TURNER, "Christian Education"

7:00 P. M. DOW MERRITT, "Teaching Methods In Mission Work In Africa"

MONDAY NOV. 24

7:30 P. M. JOHN BANISTER, "Future Objectives of Christian Education"

TUESDAY NOV. 25

9:40 A. M.

10:40 A. M.

(These speeches, coming at our regular chapel time, will be

7:00 P. M. Music by Mixed Chorus

7:15 P. M. Music by Men's Quartet

7:30 P. M. BATSELL BARETT BAXTER, "Possibilities In Christian Education As I See Them"

WEDNESDAY NOV. 26

9:40 A. M.

10:40 A. M.

3:30 P. M.

7:00 P. M. Girls Glee Club

7:15 P. M. Men's Glee Club

7:30 P. M. IRVIN LEE, "How To Start New Schools"

8:15 P. M. HUGH TINER, "The Relationship of Christian Education To The Home"

THURSDAY NOV. 27

10:00 A. M. F. W. MATTOX, "Things For Which We Are Thankful"

10:45 A. M. L. C. SEARS, "Contribution for China"

11:00 A. M. Men's Glee Club

11:15 A. M. L. O. SANDERSON, "Fruits of Christian Education"

3:00 P. M. DON MORRIS, "The Contribution of Christian Education to Society"

7:00 P. M. The Mixed Chorus

7:30 P. M. G. C. BREWER, "Relation of Christian Education to The Church"

Living Lectureship

EDUCATION

23 to 27, 1947

services in progress at the same time. One service will be conducted in the Gym Wednesday mornings. Read this program with this in mind.

SERVICES IN THE AUDITORIUM

WILL SHORT, "Christian Teaching On The Mission Fields"
REX TURNER, "The Place of the Junior College in Christian Education"

L. R. WILSON, "The Present Scope of Christian Education"

D. D. WOODY, "My View of Christian Education"
JOHN BANISTER, "The Advantages of Christian Education"
before an entirely different group of students.

Music by The Men's Quartet

Music by The Mixed Chorus

NORVEL YOUNG, "Early History of Christian Education"

LACY ELROD, "The Need of More Christian Schools"
E. V. STOVAL, "An Evaluation of the Christian School Movement"

HOWARD WHITE, "The Dangers and Assets in Christian Education"

Men's Glee Club

Girls Glee Club

B. L. FUDGE, "The Advantages of Christian High Schools"

DON MORRIS, "The Contribution of Christian Education to Society"

J. D. BALES, "Things For Which We Are Thankful"

Men's Glee Club

GEORGE S. BENSON, "Contribution For China"

RILEY HENRY, "Fruits of Christian Education"

G. C. BREWER, "Relation of Christian Education to the Church"

HUGH TINER, "The Relationship of Christian Education to The Home"

8:00 P. M. The Mixed Chorus.

Miss Zelma Bell -- Dean of Women

By Leslie Burke, '37

If you were one of Harding's co-eds and had problems involving rooms, roommates, Romeos, and regulations (to be suggestive only), you would probably take your worries to Miss Zelma Bell, Harding's smiling attractive, enthusiastic, efficient Dean of Women.

Although Miss Bell is new in her present position, she is not new to Harding. Born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, as she says, "to many years ago" (she's really young), reared and educated by Christian parents, she entered Harding in 1934 and graduated in the spring of 1938.

As a student at Harding Miss Bell was active in various fields, distinguishing herself particularly in the Poetry Club; Dramatic Club; Press Club, being business manager of the Bison, the college student weekly, in '37; and debating. She was for four years a member of the L.C. social club, of which she was president in '35. In 1938 she received two honors, being selected by the faculty to be listed in "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities" and chosen by the student body as "Best All-Round".

After receiving her B.A., she taught in the high school at Strawberry, Arkansas, '38-'39; in the Taylor, Arkansas High School two years, '39-'41, where she taught Vocational Guidance, English and Home Economics; and in '41-'42 she was librarian in the Earle, Arkansas High School.

In 1942 Miss Bell joined the WAVES and received valuable experience, serving in the field of Personnel and Public Relations. It was while

dealing with personnel problems in this service that she first seized upon the idea of preparing herself to serve as Dean of Women in one of the Christian colleges, and of doing personal counseling and guidance work in this capacity.

Out of the WAVES in November '45, she taught English at David Lipscomb College one year. While in Nashville she took graduate work at Vanderbilt University, doing individual research in personnel work. Later, furthering her preparation, she attended Columbia University and received her Master's degree in the field of Guidance and Personnel Administration. Miss Bell says she chose Columbia because it is the foremost university in the country for the training of deans of men and deans of women for colleges. Nearly all of the leading authorities on personnel work are on the Columbia faculty. Under a number of these she has had training and with them has associated personally.

With such an unusual background of experience and academic training Miss Bell also possesses those Christian virtues and high Christian ideals which are so necessary in counseling aright those in her charge. Harding is fortunate in having one so well qualified to assist in the building up on the Personnel Guidance Program which was inaugurated on an expanded scale this fall under the direction of Dr. F. W. Mattox, Dean of Men, who has his doctorate in this field. Says Miss Bell: "It is now possible for Harding to have one of the best Personnel Guidance departments of any college in this area. Courses are being offered in counse-

(Continued on page 11)

Dr. Kern Sears Returns to Harding

By Zelma Bell, '38

Alumni of almost any year will remember Kern Sears and be interested in knowing that he has returned to Harding with his Ph.D. degree to join the faculty in the Chemistry department.

Dr. Kern, who is the fourth generation of his family in Bible school work, began his education in the Harding academy and except for his third year did not attend another institution until he began his graduate work at the University of Missouri.

Son of Dean and Mrs. L. C. Sears, Kern was an outstanding student in both grade and high school. While in college he will be remembered as having been president of his class for two years, skipper of the Sub T-16, assistant editor of the *Petit Jean*, a member of the poetry club, dramatics, mixed chorus, men's glee club, Alpha Honor Society, Who's Who among Students of American Universities and Colleges, and chemistry laboratory assistant. He received his B.S. degree in 1942 with a major in chemistry and a minor in mathematics.

At the University of Missouri Kern received an assistantship and for three years worked for the Government under the committee on medical research for the office of Scientific Research and Development. He was a member of Sigma Xi, a national graduate Honor Society in Scientific Research and of the American Chemical Society. Before completing his work he became an assistant instructor in the chemistry department. He received his M.A. in 1945 and his Ph.D. in 1947.

During his entire stay in Colum-

bia, Kern was active in church work doing preaching for the churches in Columbia and nearby.

Kern's interest are not altogether in the fields of chemistry and religion for he has also a keen appreciation of literature. His poetry has appeared in several publications and has brought him an honorary membership to the Eugene Field Society of Authors. He has two articles now being prepared for release to scientific publications and hopes to write many more.

Of particular interest to many on the campus is the fact that Dr. Kern is still single and unhampered by matrimonial ties as he returns to his Alma Mater this year.

Jahawk Chapter

By Marciele McCluggage Hicks

A chapter of Harding Alumni and Ex-students has been organized in Wichita, Kansas. It is to be known as the Jahawk Club. Through the leadership of Jim Bill McInteer two meetings were held last spring.

Louis Tandy was elected president and Malcom Hinckley to assist him as vice-president. Marciele Hicks is the secretary.

A successful project was a banquet at the Hotel Lassen in Wichita. Dr. Benson was present and gave the principal speech. Accompanying him from Harding were the male quartet and girls sextet.

In June a picnic lunch in Riverdale Park was enjoyed by several members.

Dr. Bales Debates Atheist

(Continued from page 4)

Before this debate, many of us connected with Harding wondered if we were entirely safe in subjecting our young people to such a discussion. We had perfect confidence in the ability of Brother Bales, but were aware of the risk involved. The victory, however, was not in doubt after Teller's first speech. He had nothing new. He had no case to present. In the first two nights, Teller was to affirm that there is no intelligence governing the universe. All he could do was to point out conditions that he considered imperfections and reason back that God did not exist or he would have done a better job. He said man's body is a "mess." When Bales brought together his proposals as to how man should have been formed, if a God had created him, he gave the following picture: Man should be hatched from eggs, should have spare parts, should have a zipper up his abdomen, and eyes in the back of his head. He should be on wheels instead of feet, and have a propeller. This silly proposal is typical of the atheistic position.

Mr. Teller was amazed to find in Arkansas a faculty with Ph.D. degrees from the best schools in the nation, and with such deep conviction, and a student body that is serious and intelligently devoted to serving God. Mr. Teller guaranteed the audience that no one would have to burn in Hell. He later said privately that he meant it for a joke, but no one laughed. His audience failed to see many things as he intended, but it did see the weakness of his position. One young lady told him, "I am glad you came, for before I thought I believed in God and now I know I do." Every comment since the debate has had this quality of reassurance.

The last night after Bales had presented overwhelming evidence of God's existence and had shown the folly of atheism, Teller was noticeably shaken and used only a fraction of the time allowed him for his last speech. He privately admitted Bales was the strongest man he had ever met and said to a group of young men, "Well, I guess you are satisfied that you have won a great victory." This is one of the truest statements he made while in Searcy. The debate has been a great blessing to the entire school and the naturalists will have a hard time ever shaking the faith of any person who heard this debate. After it is printed, it will receive wide distribution, for in the judgment of the writer, it is the most complete defeat a naturalist has received since Alexander Campbell met Robert Owen.

There are plans for Brother Bales to meet other unbelievers in debate in the future. One is to be with Schimdt, an atheist, on whether or not Christianity has made a Contribution to Civilization. Another is to be with C. F. Potter, a humanist, on some phase of the inspiration of the Bible.

Presenting Dr. F. W. Mattox

(Continued from page 5)

some added responsibilities. He is director of a newly inaugurated student personnel program and is Dean of Men. These two positions give unlimited possibilities for constructive contacts with students--and unlimited burdens. But Dr. Mattox is a man who does not hesitate to pounce into new work if he decides it should be done.

Miss Zelma Bell Dean of Women

(Continued from page 8)

ling and guidance that are particularly appropriate for those planning to be teachers and ministers."

Miss Bell lists her hobbies as color photography, poetry, swimming, archery, mountain climbing, and horseback riding. Then she smilingly explained that the keynote of all her hobbies is "people". "Meeting, associating, and understanding people is my chief interest. I just love people," she added. One need only be around Miss Bell a short time to know she really means just that. She enjoys living and her "zest for life", as she puts it, is contagious. We predict a happy increasingly useful future for our new Dean of Women, who admits she is "particularly happy here".

W. M. "Mac" Timmerman, '43, is in Nashville, Tenn., 1518 Ashwood Ave., where he is doing graduate work at George Peabody College. Mac married Martha Hanky, December 18, 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Capps, Ex-'36, (formerly Lutie Neal, '39) live at Wellington, Texas, R. R. 1.

Clifford Cronin, Jr., 19 S. York St., Wheeling, West Virginia, '38, is office manager for the Medical-Dental Bureau in Wheeling. He has one daughter, Karen Louise, 10 months.

Claude Click, Ex-'35, is now ranching at Des Moines, New Mexico. Claude got his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Okla. A. & M. He has two children. Dloran Ann, 5, and Cled Triplett, 8 months.

Rickman-Reese

Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Rickman of Ravenden Springs, Arkansas, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Miss Sibyl Rickman of Namwianga Mission, Kalomo, Northern Rhodesia, South Africa to Mr. Boyd Reese of Kabanga Mission, Kalomo.

Miss Rickman is a graduate of Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas. She has been teaching in the European school at Namwianga since January of this year.

Mr. Reese is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Reese of Namwianga Mission. He is a graduate of Abilene Christian College, Abilene, Texas, and has been working on churches of Christ Missions in Northern Rhodesia since 1941. Mr. Reese is inspector of village schools. He has twenty village schools under his supervision.

Contributions

Neva G. Goodwin	\$ 5.00
Gene Koken	10.00
Worley Ferguson	5.00
Pauline Reid	5.00
Dr. & Mrs. Joseph E. Pryor	10.00
Joe Dan Tipps	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. James Ganus	5.00
Harold Holland	10.00
Blanche Rickman	5.00
Annie Mae Alston	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Geer	10.00
Winston Allen	5.00
Charles Allen	5.00

Dr. Joe D. Whittemore, Ex-'43, has completed his medical work and is now a physician and surgeon in Davenport, Iowa. His address is 1209 Brady St. Joe says, "If anyone is near me, call."

Bulletin HARDING COLLEGE

IMPORTANT

If the address below is not correct or will soon be changed ; please drop a card to Alumni Association, Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas, giving the correct information. Or, if you know an alumnus or an ex-student with whom we have lost contact, please send us the correct address of such a one. We want to keep in touch with all, but we need your help.

Dean & Mrs. L. C. Sears
Harding College
Searcy, Ark.

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