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Harding College

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*Blessings of*  
**CHRISTIAN  
EDUCATION**

What a pitiful sight it is to see men and women who are adults in knowledge but infants in faith! Yet how can we prevent this from happening to all of our young people unless we provide them with teaching in faith that is commensurate with the instruction they are receiving in other areas?

**Harry Robert Fox, Jr.**

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The Bible is a tested book. Its science is accurate; its history is true; its record of man's origin, mission and destiny is genuine. The Bible does not change and its principles governing behavior cannot be improved. Its golden rule stands pre-eminent in regulating man's relationships. Its commands change not and its promises are eternal. The college classroom offers one of the best opportunities to strengthen faith in the Bible, in the church therein revealed, and in the hope of eternal life which it offers to man.

**H. A. Dixon**

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"We shall preserve our liberty only by the religious education of our youth."

**George Washington**

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If you would make your money immortal, invest in young people. Let us sacrifice some of our gadgets in this age of luxury so that we can provide Christian education not only for our own but for thousands of eager students who would attend a Christian school if there were scholarships and other forms of student aid available. To give to a Christian school is really an investment in a better future for mankind. The richest treasure of America is her young people. Let us dedicate ourselves to using our time, our talent, and our money to see that more and more of these immortal youth are given the opportunity to have a Christian education of the highest quality.

**M. Norvel Young**

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The Christian school exists to develop the three-fold spirit of power, of love and of discipline. This is the spirit that God gives. This is the spiritual basis of a Christian college.

**Rex Johnston**

# Bulletin

# Harding College

Where Christian and American ideals go hand-in-hand

## Dean L. C. Sears Honored On Retirement

Faculty and staff members gathered at the annual year-end dinner to honor a colleague for 40 years of service to Harding College.

That man was Dean L. C. Sears, who started his work in 1919 as academic dean of Harper College. Dr. Sears' announced his retirement as dean before 225 faculty and staff members, some of whom had worked with Dean Sears for years.

On hand for the occasion were five college deans, three from sister schools and two from state colleges. Dean Sears heard short talks from each — talks showing the appreciation each had for a man that would stay on a perplexing firing line for a successful 40 years.

### Receives A Watch

Expressing the faculty's appreciation for his service, Dr. Benson presented Dean Sears a watch.

Dean Sears' college career began with undergraduate work at Cordell Christian College and the University of Oklahoma. After receiving his M.A. at the University of Kansas in 1921, the next

step was a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1935.

In the middle of his academic studies he became Dean of Harper College in 1919. In 1921 he visited the State Department of Education seeking accreditation — a quest that has continued until today.

Besides striving for accreditation, he is academically noted for many institutional studies, including studies for North Central Accreditation. One study, "A College Examines Itself," completed in 1957, has been used by the Danforth Foundation as an example of an excellent study.

Dean Sears is recognized in state educational circles, having held offices as president of the Arkansas Association of College Deans, president of the Arkansas Association of College English Teachers and president of the Department of Higher Education of the Arkansas Education Association.

### Served As Trustee

He also served on the Harding Board of trustees from 1925-41, the Board of the Searcy Chamber of Commerce and as

"... my best contribution to Harding is yet to come."



**Joseph E. Pryor**

Lieutenant Governor of Kiwanis, 1941-42.

There are many more honors and memberships — all of which indicate a life of service, and the future holds no stagnation!

Although he gave himself completely to his position of dean, Dr. Sears didn't have the time to do the activity he likes most — teaching English.

"I have enjoyed wonderful faculty co-operation in our struggle for accreditation, but now I will have more time for my students and more time to write," he says.

Typical of the compliments paid Dean Sears for his service was one by his successor, Dr. Joe Pryor. "Dean Sears was one of the three truly great teachers I had throughout undergraduate and graduate study," he said.

Dr. Joe, as students and faculty refer to him, looks upon his new job as a challenge. "We will work toward continued academic excellence and the development of Christian character," he says.

Dean Pryor's only regret in his new office is appreciated by Dean Sears. Both love teaching, and Dr. Joe's classroom activity will diminish as Dr. Sears' increases.





Graduation day — an aim achieved.

## Poucher Tells 131 Graduates Faith In God Our Top Defense

The family and faith in God are the only things that will destroy communism, radio minister J. Wayne Poucher told 131 Harding graduates June 2.

For this reason, Mr. Poucher said, the Communist target is the family as a unit of society, "our first and last line of defense."

"Every temptation of immorality and indecency are being thrown at young Christian men and women," he told an audience of about 900 persons.

Mr. Poucher, radio minister of Life Line, a religious-patriotic movement in Washington, charged that decent television and radio programs were being eliminated because "they're old fashioned."

Dr. Donald R. Sime of the Harding School of Bible and Religion in Memphis delivered the baccalaureate address May 28.

The 36th graduating class included 103 bachelor of arts, 22 bachelor of science and six master of arts degrees.

Graduating with highest honors were Ann Bobo of Indianapolis, Ind., Edwin Hightower of Weslaco, Tex., and Mike White of Danville, Ill. Receiving degrees with high honors were Joe Van Olree of Hayti, Mo., Ferra Sparks of New Albany, Miss., Lynn Alexander of Delight, Ark., Gerald Ebker of Owensville, Mo., and Carole Thomas of Corning, Ark.

Honors were conferred on Fay Conley of Detroit, Fatima Hawk of Searcy, Leon McQueen of Geary, Okla., Jeutonne Patten of Houston, Tex., Edward Rhodes of Louisville, Ky., Diana Woodie of Wilkesboro, N. C., Jerry Figgins of Caruthersville, Mo., Iris McElroy of Little Rock, James Summitt of Searcy and Betty Woodie of Searcy.

The first Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to Lloyd O. Sanderson of Amarillo, Tex., a nationally known hymn writer who composed the music of Harding's "Alma Mater."

## Summer School Registration 198

Some 198 students at Harding College have figured how 10 weeks of summer school can be a smart and pleasant experience.

You can be sure the coolness of air conditioned buildings beats the heavy thickness of summer any day. And besides, it's a nice way to store up additional hours or take up slack where needed.

Speedy too. You scarcely get settled before summer school is over and you have suddenly earned 12 credit hours.

### Enrollment Increases

Besides all these advantages, students can rise for classes at seven in the morning when the mind is ripe and eager — like the proverbial early bird.

This year's enrollment represents a slight increase. Attendance had taken a dip in 1958 and 1959 after a record 1957 registration.

It includes 58 graduates, 52 seniors, 28 juniors, 25 sophomores, 27 freshman, five specials and three unlisted.

### Continues Through August 12

The first summer session ends July 9. The second begins three days later and lasts until August 12.

Of the initial summer enrollment, 97 attended Harding during the spring semester. Three are 1960 Harding Academy graduates. Sixteen had recently attended the College.

Courses offered are Bible, biology, business, chemistry, economics, education, English, math, social science, accounting, history, music, psychology, speech, physical science, physical education, art, home economics, piano, voice and business.

Almost 200 passed through summer registration lines.



Paula Obrecht

## She Sewed Well; Reaped Big Trip

Paula Obrecht, a 20-year-old Harding sophomore, is now touring Europe as the result of winning a national "make-it-yourself-with-wool" contest.

Paula will spend five days each in London, Paris and Rome, compliments of the Women's Auxiliary to the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association, sponsor of the contest.

A home economics major, Paula wants to participate in the international farm youth exchange program. Home is a farm near Claude, Tex.

Contest winning is almost a habit with Paula — a habit that began when she was only seven with a doll dress that placed seventh in a national contest.

She insists, though, that her real interest in sewing started two years later. That's when her mother, Mrs. Mary Obrecht, began directing Paula's talents.

As a freshman at Harding in 1958 she chalked up another sewing honor, attending the national 4H Congress in Chicago as a Texas dress review winner.

Then last August a friend sent her an entry blank to the wool contest. Paula manned her tools and during the Christmas holidays completed her Vogue Paris original by Lavin-Castillo.

On January 26 she was declared national winner.

What are her future plans? Paula's immediate interest is 4-H work in her home area.

## Glover Relates Advantages Found In Christian Education

(Condensed from article in the Firm Foundation)

By Bob Glover ('59)

From the fall of 1955 through the spring of 1958, I was a student at Harding College. From Christian instructors I received sound teaching and upright example. Few experiences compare with the inspiration of college life on a Christian campus.

In the fall of 1958 I transferred to a large, prominent university to begin my senior year of college. Since I was majoring in both speech and Bible, it was necessary that I enroll in several religious courses.

I was aware of liberal thinking in many religious circles and had read extensively on the major religious currents in history. I was prepared to take my place in what I knew to be liberal religious classes.

There is a great deal of value in reading and thinking in the realm of Christian apologetics and talking about controversial subjects, but nothing points up the real issues so strongly as does personal contact with those who hold to these liberal views.

### Most Were Liberals

Practically every student who was majoring in the religious field was a liberal thinker, and the entire tone of some of the classes was out of harmony with the Word of God.

One course was a study of the history of Christianity in America. The teacher was a man considered to be one of the nation's outstanding historians of religion on the American frontier. He is a member of the World Council of Churches, author of several books and is highly respected for his contributions to religious thought.

Does this man believe the Bible to be inspired as we affirm its inspiration? He does not. The students who sit in his classes are greatly influenced by him as he denounces many of the basic principles of Christianity.

### Sneers At Believers

It is not unusual to hear an instructor speak out against that which he calls "Christology" (too much emphasis on Christ) or "Biblicism" (too much emphasis on the Bible).

As I glanced around at the various students in the class, I would begin to think: "These young men and women represent the future leaders of the churches to which they belong. Putting

them all together, they deny the virgin birth of Jesus, the resurrection of Christ, the inerrancy of the Scriptures in every respect, the atonement of Christ and His second coming.

"What will be the outcome of their training? What will be their impact on society? How are we preparing to meet the crisis? How unaware we are! How indifferent we are to the dangers which are near us!"

A tragic thing about my experience in this university is that it is not an isolated case but is being duplicated in practically every seminary, college and university in America.

Considering these facts, any Christian who does not realize the seriousness of this dangerous threat to New Testament Christianity is actually facilitating the efforts of those who oppose the doctrine of Christ. But someone will say, "What can I do about it?" "How may I help to eradicate these dangers?" "What can be done to combat this great influx of false teaching?"

### What To Do About It

May I humbly suggest three things that need to be done to maintain and disseminate the truth of God.

First, we need to educate ourselves concerning the basic issues of Christian faith. To defend the truth we must know something of the nature of the objections and affirmations which modernists make. Many books can prepare us to discuss these subjects intelligently.

Second, there is a need for emphasis on Christian education. Some have the idea that ministerial students should attend a Christian college, but this is not true at all. Programs which exist in a university class often exist to a greater degree in other classes. It is known that the church has many young people who attend school where Christian principles are scoffed at.

Third, there is a need for a stronger church program. The church is lagging in meeting the needs of its youth, especially of high school and college students.

We must be aware of the need to train and educate both young people and adults so that the Christian will be equipped to give an answer to every question that asketh you a reason concerning the hope that is in us.



Dr. Nyaradi dramatically relates his experiences.

## Students Grow In Citizenship

What happens when a group of high school students studying Americanism at Harding College suddenly find themselves being heckled by a Communist?

Some are shocked, others angered. All are ready to defend the American way of life.

The heckling was a hoax, of course, but it proved students had learned their lessons well.

Their teacher was Dr. Nicholas Nyaradi, chairman of the Department of International Studies of Bradley University and former minister of finance in Hungary.

Besides teaching fundamentals of democracy and communism, Dr. Nyaradi offered candid comments on current world events.

He called America's youth — not the dollar — America's greatest value and said spy flights over Russia were the best thing that had happened to the United States in the last decade.

Dr. Nyaradi tabbed the fallout scare a clever Russian propaganda device to frighten the West. He

said war can be prevented only by letting Soviet leaders know we will fight if pushed.

Fostered by a group of Alabama Civitans, the program started five years ago. It combines a week of concentrated study under highly-qualified teachers with just enough recreation to keep enthusiasm high.

Thus far more than 160 teenagers — outstanding students from Arkansas, Alabama, Florida, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas — have participated, taking a week out of their summer vacation to receive, in short, a concentrated dose of "Americanism."

During the 20 minute debate with the "Commie" one angry boy from Alabama gave a fiery rebuttal to the communist line.

He said he had read the book "1984" and didn't want that kind of life. "You've said Russia is ahead but that's a lie," he told the heckler. "Russia is behind."

The students — red-blooded Americans all — applauded.

## Students Send Stan



# Harding Builds With Look To The Future

Harding College, already one of the best equipped private colleges in the Southwest, will add \$677,500 to its 12.5 million assets by August 1961.

This involves construction of three buildings and addition to another.

Largest is a proposed women's dormitory which will house 190 students and help boost Harding's enrollment to 1500 by 1965. The three-story brick building, modeled after the College's Pattie Cobb and Cathcart halls, will cost an estimated \$475,000.

Its construction north of Cathcart requires the leveling of tem-

## Book Store Addition



porary shops and garages and the movement of the Dean's home to a location between Sewell Hall and the American Studies Building facing Center Street.

Harding president George S. Benson said construction is expected to start this summer and be completed by August 1961.

The building will feature suites with connecting baths, a calisthenics room in the basement and devotional and social rooms on each floor.

## Bible Building

A \$175,000 Bible building is three-fourths completed and should be ready by fall.

Located east of the Administration building, the two-story structure has 10 classrooms, two capable of seating 200 persons each, and is specially equipped for Bible instruction.

A \$20,000 extension will be added to the bookstore by next fall. The addition will include a storage basement and display floor.

The final phase of the current building plan is the construction of a coin operated laundry attached to the southeast end of the Harding Laundry and Cleaners. The proposed \$7,500 annex will utilize 10 washers and three driers.



The new Bible Building adjoins Administration Building.

## Science Building

A modern science building may be built within the next few years, although the planning stage has not yet been reached.

Due to war-brought building restrictions, expansion did not begin at Harding until 1946. The first new buildings — those housing the Academy — were built in 1947.

Since the real beginning of expansion 25 years ago, Harding has averaged almost \$400,000 a year for a total of \$5,287,968 — enough to account for more than 80 per cent of the present plant valuation.

Simple comparisons over the period since 1934 are interesting.

The 1959-60 student body of about 1000 is four times the 252 in Harding's first term in Searcy.

## Budget Multiplied

The academic budget has grown from \$60,000 annually to \$1,992,571 at latest report. The number of library books has quadrupled from 13,000 to 59,000 volumes.

The 1934-35 student body came from 18 states and one foreign country, with 44.8 per cent from Arkansas and 38.1 per cent from adjoining states. Now students come from 37 states and 12 foreign countries, with 35.7 per cent from Arkansas and 27.1 per cent from nearby states.

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