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# Brite College of the Bible

## BULLETIN

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### VOLUNTEER NUMBER

The world is clamoring for boys.

King Alcohol must have hundreds of thousands yearly or go out of business.

Mammon flashes the glitter of gain and allures many.

The brutal selfishness of man and of nations has driven patriotism into a corner and compelled her to fight; and boys must be sacrificed by the myriads.

All the machinery of commerce, of the arts, of civilization, must have boys prepared to run them.

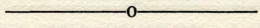
But the human race is more than physical, to be fed and clothed; more than social with its problems of commerce and government; it does not stop with the mental which requires teaching. Man is spiritual and must have leadership in his religious life. Preachers are essential to man's life.

But in these days of war, when the strain of the physical need is strong, may the provision of the higher side be for awhile laid aside? Can we spare our preachers, that there may be more hands for war?

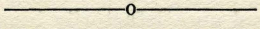
Every voice of authority says "No." Men's souls as well as men's bodies are under strain. Religion is needed as never before. Fundamental principles are being tested in the fires of a world catclysm. Christianity, the source of real ultimate standards, must be preached with renewed emphasis and clearness.

It is in recognition of these facts that ministers and ministerial students are exempt from the army draft. And for these reasons the boys who have set their heart on preaching should persist, and let nothing turn them aside from the high calling when it is needed so much.

The world needs the genuine preacher, and needs him now.



This Bulletin aims to show the boy who wants to preach how he may secure the necessary training.



### THE VOLUNTEERS ARE COMING

For a number of years the cry has been heard from all communions that the boys were not volunteering for the ministry. Shortage of preachers has disturbed the missionary leaders and interested statesmen and social workers.

But the tide is turning. The call for spiritual service is being heard by hundreds of boys and many girls as well. The allurements of material gain have spent their force, or are being burned away as dross in the testing fires of world problems and war. There are more boys volunteering for the ministry than for decades.

The recent Texas Christian Endeavor Convention at Houston presented a remarkable evidence of the turning of youth to spiritual service. At the Sunday afternoon volunteer service, the "Call of the Ministry and the Mission Field" was presented by Dean Colby D. Hall of the Brite College of the Bible, after which Associate President Daniel A. Poling of the United Society C. E., called for the volunteers. First, he invited to the platform the Life Work Recruits who had already signed the volunteer pledge. There were forty or more. Then the new volunteers were invited, and as the song was sung, one after another came until more than a score had made the

decision final, after having prayed over it for weeks. The platform was over-filled and made an inspiring sight—nearly a hundred bright, joyous, capable young men and women ready for training to enter full time service for God. It is an honor to belong to such a "school of prophets." A number of these volunteers will be in the Brite College of the Bible next fall and later.

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### "THE FIELDS ARE WHITE"

Last fall, at the Des Moines National Convention, Judge Henry, in presenting the Men and Millions Movement, stressed the call for the Thousand Volunteers—the "men" part of the movement. He stated that the number one thousand was not chosen because it was a round number and sounded big, but because the needs of the foreign fields had been carefully worked out, and this is found to be the number required to carry on the work. Since that time the plans of our Foreign Boards have been much enlarged. The needs are very specific. Many fields wait to be gleaned till the laborers can be found.

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"The Country Church has had its day," some say, for it shows many signs of decay. As a matter of fact, we believe the country church has another day coming.

The appreciation of the farm has taken on a new life with the world shortage of food. But the eyes that are turned to the farm see more than the food it can furnish. They realize that it has not been provided with many advantages of education and religious life.

The country church is coming into its own because there is coming a new conception of the importance and dignity of the country pastorate. Our greatest preaching has been done in the country. Many of our best city pastors made their records in the rural churches.

Too long has the country church, like the country school, been considered as a mere stepping stone to the city job. Too much has it been taken for granted that the only reason a preacher stays in the country is that he does not succeed in getting a call to the city.

The country stock on the average is the sturdiest American stock. It is needed to replenish the life of the great centers of population. Unless it is cleansed by religion, it will pollute instead of purify the city. Hence, one of the greatest fields for the strongest preachers is the development of the neglected life of the country church.

Here is another great white harvest field for the reapers of the Kingdom. The country needs men who will train themselves for the upbuilding of the country church, as definitely as any one does for the foreign field.

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### "THE LABORERS ARE FEW"

Letters are constantly coming to the office of the University, the Courier and State Missions, asking for preachers to be recommended. Most of these have to be answered unsatisfactorily because there are not enough preachers to go around.

This might mean only that there are many changes. But the following figures show that there is a real shortage. A careful study of the Year-Book reveals the following facts: If you will allow one preacher to every city church it will take 114; give half time to every village church (between 500 and 2500 population), it will take 91; give fourth time to every rural church, it will take 74; total required, 279. But there are available for pastoral work only about 179, or 100 short of the total. The present preacher supply of Texas Disciples could be increased by one-half and the churches would only be properly cared for. This includes only the pastoral work and does not take into consideration evangelists, missionaries, teachers, etc.

One of the greatest needs just now is more volunteers for the ministry.

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### ARE TEXAS PREACHERS DOING THEIR SHARE?

Of the adult population of Texas, about 33% moved in from other States, but of the preachers for the Christian churches about 55% came from other States.

It is right to expect that a new State filled with immigrants from other States should have its preachers also imported. But the preacher per cent is 25 higher than the general population. Which shows that the Texas churches are depending more than a fair share on the other States to furnish the preachers.

The right thing is to have a larger number of volunteer preacher boys from our Texas churches.

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### GO TO COLLEGE OR GO TO WAR?

No man who wants to preach loves war. But neither does any true-hearted American boy want to be a "slacker."

So, many a sincere patriotic boy is now confronted with the serious question, "Shall I serve my country in the army or shall I continue my plans to go to College and prepare to preach?"

Before answering this question we should be clear that it is not the question, "Shall I be patriotic or not?" If you are not patriotic at heart you've no business trying to preach. The real point is, "Can I serve my country best by fighting or by preaching?"

To help answer this question we quote the following, from a letter received by the Brite College of the Bible from the Federal Council of Churches of Christ of America, just after a recent meeting at Washington, D. C., where they were in the closest touch with the Government officials:

"It was voted that the Administrative Committee be asked to express the conviction of the Federal Council that students in our colleges and also students in our theological seminaries and candidates for the Foreign Missionary service continue their preparation for the Christian ministry at home and abroad until actually called forth by the Government, inasmuch as there will be increasing need of their services during and after the war in behalf of the Kingdom of God."

This statement clearly recognizes the principle which has been enunciated more than once by the Government, that the upbuilding of the cultural and spiritual values must not be suspended or neglected in the war crisis; but rather are needed now and will be needed after the war more keenly than ever before.

Not for your sake alone, but for the sake of your country as well, you need to be an educated man. And the best service any man can render is to prepare to build that which is fundamentally necessary to set straight the tangled strains of the world's thinking—the translating of the gospel into the lives of men and nations.

#### How This Applies to You

Boys under twenty-one who expect to preach should go into preparation at once. They were exempted from the draft largely in order to give them a chance to go to school.

Boys over twenty-one are subject to draft, but should remain in school until actually called forth by the government. The government needs educated men above all else, both for officers and for leaders in industrial and religious life, now and after the war. Boys who are training themselves for this can much better be spared from present military duty than those who are not training. Stay in school as long as you can.

This is no time for "slacking" either from fighting or training, either in the country or in the Kingdom of God.

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### TRAINED MEN ONLY

Military leaders declare that it is wholesale slaughter to send soldiers into modern warfare without long, previous, hard training. In the recent call for army officers preference was given to college graduates over all other classes of the same age.

The standards for licensing doctors to practice medicine have been raised so that a boy must take two years of college work before he is allowed to enter the medical school.

These are samples of the trend of the times. If it were left to the people or to the educators you may be sure they would require as high a standard of the men to whom they must listen in preaching. Surely, he who guides our souls should know as much as the one who heals our bodies.

A good old-time uneducated farmer recently said to the writer of these lines, looking him in the eye like he meant it: "Send us an educated man. If you think we country people are willing to put up with poor preaching, you're very much mistaken."

It is not the colleges that are demanding that the preachers be trained. It is the churches that make the demand. The colleges are here to enable the boys to meet the demand.

Some of the most ardent advocates of college training are the pioneer preachers who themselves had to work with dull tools.

The boy who wants to preach may please his friends for awhile with his exhibitions of boyish ability at preaching. But let him rest assured that when he ceases to be a boy they will expect a man's work of him. And over the door of every growing church is written the demand, "Let no preacher apply unless he is a trained man."

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### HOW MUCH TRAINING?

Our answer to this could well be, "One year—at a time."

Don't worry about how many years it will take you to get through college—but start in now. You will know more about the needs at the end of the year.

Brother Higgins came to us out of regular pastoral work, to stay two years. He has been here four and is still going. Brother McCarroll intended to stay one year. He is going out now after three years. Several men are here now, who dropped out several years ago, and having realized their error, have returned.

To be sure, some men cannot go so long as others. For men of maturer years with a family to support we have the briefer English Bible course, which omits much of the literary work and concentrates on the Bible. Yet some men who start out for this persevere till they complete the whole A. B. and B. D. course.

Many boys do not know that the longer you go the easier it is to make your support.

The main thing is not how long will it take, but how soon can I start?

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### CAN A BOY MAKE HIS EXPENSES?

There is one big bugaboo to the boy whose heart burns to preach. That is the cost of a college education. How can he get the money to go through on? That is the problem. What is its answer?

Texas Christian University has worked at this problem for years, and is prepared to give every earnest ministerial student the benefit of the best plans that have been worked out up to date. We confidently believe that no school has been able to handle this part of the work any more satisfactorily than T. C. U. with the Brite College of the Bible.

**Low Living Expenses** is the first part of the answer. Our Goode Hall was built as a home for the preacher boys. It affords rooms with good living conveniences at the cost of operating expenses. The Boarding Club for ministerial students is conducted by them under the supervision of the Faculty. It provides board at actual cost. The rate was \$2.75 per week until the recent rise in prices, and it will stay as low as cost of provisions will permit.

**A Job to Make Expenses** is the next point in the answer. For the last few years we have been able to furnish employment for every student who needed it. No student has gone away for lack of work. Because we have made it work already we are now promising that any student who wants to preach and is willing to work can make his way through.

With expenses low and a job to make them, any student can figure out the problem.

**But a Safety in Emergency** is a heartening reserve to have back of oneself. In the McFadden Loan Fund we have this safety. It is better to pay as you go and come out without debt, but when a student gets behind, or is thrown behind by illness or unusual circumstances, he has the Loan Fund to fall back on. A student in good standing, by getting proper security, can borrow from the Fund at five per cent interest, payable after leaving school.