

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF MONMOUTH COLLEGE
TO THE SENATE IN SESSION MONDAY, JUNE 4th, 1951

In looking back over a period of twenty years no part of this time seems to have been normal in the activities of the independent church colleges. From the years of depression in the early and middle thirties, we moved on into the war era, and into the aftermath of war. None of these experiences, however, have been marked with so much unrest and uncertainty as these last few months. The spirit of restlessness and frustration marks the culmination of the decade--ten tumultuous years which have disrupted alike our social and political manner of life.

The young folks on our campus today were born in 1930-33. They have never known a normal world. Their social and academic ideals have been molded by a world in chaos and the homely fireside pattern of a generation ago does not play an important role in their habits of thinking and daily living. Until our world attains greater stability and our own nation returns to the simplicities of former days, the same is likely to continue.

The immediate effect of this situation on the colleges is the student's marked uncertainty as to where he is traveling, where he will be next year, or five years from now. And not knowing whither he goes he is perplexed as to what course of study or path of conduct to follow in college in order to adapt himself to the unknown. Many are doubtful as to the value of liberal arts as compared to commercial and practical courses, or as to the wisdom of attending college at all.

We note the outcroppings of this spirit in most every department of college life, nor will it change until our entire spiritual structure changes nationally.

RECRUITING

The above paragraphs hold a direct relation to college enrollments. Schools without reserve officer training corps units will suffer next September a drop in registration of from 10 to 50%. It is early now to estimate the number to be anticipated on the campus of Monmouth College. Registrations are late since there is no longer the pressure for early decision. None of our colleges are crowded. The advance Freshman registrations at Monmouth are about 40% less than those at the same time a year ago. We are graduating a class of 160 Seniors which appears now also to be about the number of incoming Freshmen. We would anticipate from these figures, making due allowances for losses, from 550 to 600 students in college next fall.

ENROLLMENTS, 1950-51

By classes:

Graduate students	5	Men	.....	4	Women	.....	Total	.....	9
Seniors	103	"	.....	64	"	.....	"	.....	167
Juniors	92	"	.....	67	"	.....	"	.....	159
Sophomores	101	"	.....	101	"	.....	"	.....	202
Freshmen	121	"	.....	115	"	.....	"	.....	236

Total 422 Men 351 Women Total 773

By church affiliation:

Presbyterian	178	Community, Federated, and	
United Presbyterian	160	Union	8
Methodist	150	Christian Science	6
Lutheran	59	Universalist	3
Congregational	44	Orthodox-Ethiopian	2
Catholic	42	Orthodox-Greek	3
Baptist	29	Jehovan's Witness	1
Episcopal	27	Jewish	1
Christian	25	Mission Covenant	1
Evangelical and Reformed	16	Unitarian	1
United Brethren	14	No choice	3

Total 773

In addition to the above tabulation the registrar reports to the Board of Education 189 music students and students taking special courses, making the total attendance during the year 962.

By geographical distribution:

Arizona	1	Minnesota	2
California	8	Missouri	27
Canada	1	Nebraska	7
Colorado	12	New Hampshire	1
Connecticut	3	New Jersey	6
Egypt	4	New York	6
Ethiopia	2	North Carolina	1
France	1	Ohio	13
Hawaii	5	Oklahoma	3
Illinois	535	Oregon	1
Indiana	10	Pennsylvania	26
Iowa	50	Puerto Rico	2
Japan	2	Russia	1
Kansas	4	Washington	7
Kentucky	1	Washington, D.C.	1
Korea	1	West Virginia	1
Malay States	2	Wisconsin	18
Maryland	1	Wyoming	1
Michigan	6		
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Total			773

STUDENT SOLICITATION

A special effort is being made to recruit new students, both by letter and personal solicitation. At the present time the college is represented by personnel visitors in Chicago, St. Louis, and Pittsburgh in addition to the representation of our Public Relations Office at Monmouth. Our high schools and churches are covered in the area of western Illinois and eastern Iowa and, with occasional visits from the local office, in all territory from Denver to Pittsburgh. This solicitation is in addition to the more intensive efforts in the areas of our personnel representatives. An effort is made through the Personnel Office of the college to keep in touch with the churches of our synods in addition to the high schools. The effort at the present time is greater than Monmouth College has ever put forth be-

fore to reach new students. Nevertheless the incoming students in September are expected to number about one-half of those registering three years ago.

STUDENT ATTRITION

About 45% of all students entering Monmouth graduate. The other 55% drop from college because of grades, sickness, finances, lack of interest, or transfer. To many people two years of college education are sufficient. The falling off of this year's graduating class began in the Freshman year, first semester. A number withdrew before the first Thanksgiving, some after the first nine weeks grades. Eighty per cent of the class entered the second year; less than 50% entered the Junior year. Of the 160 graduating in June, a number, entering either after their Freshman year or by means of summer sessions, are completing their work in three years.

The percentage of attrition is about the same as elsewhere--a good average. Yet it would be clearly to our advantage could we cut down the number who are each year lost.

CHRISTIAN WORK

I would report to the Senate the normal activities of the Christian Associations and the gospel teams throughout the college year. In addition to activities confined to the college campus, the gospel teams have gone out regularly covering many of our churches in Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin. During the month of August six of our young men visited congregations from Second Synod to the Pacific Coast.

Not in many years have so many men and women been on campus with

definite Christian work in mind. At a meeting of this group in our home a few weeks ago there were forty present. Eleven members of our graduating class are definitely entering Christian service.

FINANCES--CURRENT EXPENSES

The treasurer's report to April 30th for the year beginning July 1st appears as part of this paper. It shows a balance in the treasury to that date of \$32,462.46. This amount will not be sufficient to carry the college to the end of June. At that time it appears that the deficit for the current year will amount to about \$30,000.00. This experience we also share with sister colleges and it is of concern to us, as it is likely to be repeated during the next academic year.

The occasion of the deficit is three-fold:

First, the decreasing income from invested funds. Although the endowment has grown yet the income from investments has steadily declined. Ten years ago as appears in our report for the year 1940, our endowment income was \$60,212.00; last year, 1950, \$51,196.00, a decrease of 16%.

Second, the expense of operation has kept pace with the inflated dollar. Last year our operating expense was \$665,607.00, an average per student (890) of \$763.63. Ten years ago, with a student body of 543, the average expenditure per student was \$424.65.

Third, the drop in attendance which we have experienced this year, and which will continue next year, has come upon us suddenly and too rapidly for the college to adjust its faculty to the decrease. We had been teaching a student body of more than 900; this year, with practically the same faculty, our total number of liberal arts students is 773.

MONMOUTH COLLEGE -- DEAN'S REPORT

1950 -- 51

To President Grier:

The President's report to the Senate presents tables showing the student enrollment and other statistical data concerning the college year now closing. My report will duplicate the President's at some points; but will deal, for the most part, with courses of study, the work of our faculty members, and other academic problems.

We expect the enrollment for the coming college year to show decline in numbers. Our freshman class for the year 1948-49 numbered 301; for the year, 1949-50, it numbered 264; and for the year 1950-51, it was 236. Meanwhile the college has been graduating the largest classes in its history. The graduating class this year numbers 160. The enrollment next year may be from fifteen to twenty per cent less than that of this year, giving us for next year an enrollment from 600 to 650 to be compared with this year's total of 805. There are good reasons for believing that after two or three years of low enrollment, the number of students in college will increase. One factor in this prediction is that we shall soon have another army of veterans returned from Korea and elsewhere and ready for college. Another reason for expecting large enrollments is the large enrollment of children now in the upper grades and in the first high school years. This increase in public school enrollment is even more marked in the lower grades. It seems reasonable to predict that some of the weaker small colleges will have to close their doors because of the low enrollments almost inevitable in the next two or three years.

But the stronger independent and church-related colleges such as Monmouth will come through the lean years without permanent setbacks, and will go on to large enrollments and prosperity in the latter half of the decade.

A number of changes have occurred in our faculty since my report of one year ago. The college and community were shocked and saddened when it was known that Dr. Owen, Professor of English, had died in his sleep in the morning of April 1. Dr. Charles A. Owen was an unusual teacher of English. Few men could equal him in his ability to awaken in college students an interest in literature. Dr. Owen was in demand in the community as a preacher and as a speaker always able to give his hearers a share of his rich experiences. His place in our college will not easily be filled.

Some others of our present staff of teachers will not be with us after this year. A change of importance is the resignation of Professor Louis S. Gibb who has been at Monmouth for thirteen years, and in recent years has been Head of the Department of Economics and Business Administration. Mr. Gibb has built up at Monmouth an unusually strong department and one of much importance because courses in economics and business appeal to the men of the student body. Since Mr. Gibb's resignation, we have been getting along in this department with the help of part-time teachers, but we cannot continue to do this. We must provide a new teacher for this important post.

Another resignation which means a loss to the college is that of Professor Howard M. Jamieson of the Department of Bible and Religion. Mr. Jamieson is leaving to become pastor of the Third United Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh. He has been a successful teacher and an influence for good in many phases of our college life. He will be hard to replace. Mr. Donald Vogel, also of the Department of Bible and Religion, will resign

We show here the several departments of the college ranked in order of number of students enrolled. Also, we show the number of teachers and the number of "major" students in each department, counting only the major students in the junior and senior classes.

<u>Department</u>	<u>Teachers</u>	<u>Students</u>	<u>Majors</u> (Jr. & Sr.)
1. Physical Education	6 FT*	515	31
2. English	4 FT, 2 PT**	483	30
3. History and Government	3 FT	401	38
4. Economics & Business Ad.	3 FT, 1 PT	383	69
5. Education	2 FT, 1 PT	333	21
6. Modern Languages	5 FT	326	8
7. Psychology & Philosophy	1 FT, 1 PT	297	23
8. Music	5 FT, 2 PT	259	9
9. Bible & Religion	2 FT, 1 PT	256	3
10. Speech	2 FT, 1 PT	213	11
11. Mathematics	2 FT, 3 PT	204	8
12. Biology	3 FT	200	29
13. Chemistry	4 FT	134	19
14. Geology	1 FT	84	4
15. Sociology	1 FT	76	7
16. Physics	1 FT, 1 PT	74	8
17. Art	1 FT, 2 PT	71	1
18. Home Economics	1 FT, 1 PT	69	5
19. Classics	3 PT	31	1

*FT, Full Time

**PT, Part Time

An examination of the tabulation above throws some light upon the distribution of teaching load of Monmouth teachers. It will be observed that the ratio between teachers and students in the different departments is by no means the same. This lack of equal student load for teachers is even more marked than the tabulation shows because "part-time" does not mean the same thing in each case. In some departments a part-time teacher has charge of only one course; in other departments, a part-time teacher has one-half or two-thirds of a full teaching load. To be sure, a number of factors not shown in the tabulation must be taken into account. Large classes can be cared for in some subjects much more easily than in others. Teachers who

have more than one section in the same course need less time for preparation. Nevertheless, an analysis of this tabulation leads me to believe that we now ought to give careful attention to the problem of giving each department its fair share of teachers.

The department which ranks first in enrollment, Physical Education, is in this position because all freshmen and sophomores must enroll in this department. The department which ranks second, English, gains part of its large enrollment in the required freshman English classes. The department which ranks third in enrollment, History and Government, has some advantage in attracting students in that a course in American History or in American Government is required for a teaching certificate. The department which ranks fourth, Economics and Business Administration, is worthy of note. This department offers no required courses. The importance of this department to the college is made clear when it is noted that sixty-nine students, nearly all of them men, are "majoring" in this department. I mention this with particular interest this year because, as we have said elsewhere in this report, we must now find a new head for this department.

During the year, 1950-51, Monmouth College was brought to public notice in a most favorable way by the honors conferred upon Professor Haldeman. In November, 1950, The American Chemical Society, Midwest Division, selected Professor William S. Haldeman, Head of the Department of Chemistry of Monmouth College, as "Man of the Year" in the teaching of chemistry and awarded him the gold medal of the society. An account of the awarding of the medal and articles about Professor Haldeman as a teacher who had inspired many men to go on to distinguished careers, appeared in the newspapers and in Time, Newsweek, and other periodicals. It is probable that nearly all who read this report have seen these articles. I shall mention only one point in the

record of Professor Haldeman and his department. In proportion to the number of men graduating as majors in chemistry, Monmouth College ranks first in the U.S. in the number of men who have gone on to secure a Ph.D. degree in Chemistry. Professor Haldeman would be first to insist that a tribute be paid to his colleagues in the department. Without their good work the fine record of the department would not have been possible.

It has been my practice in this annual report to call attention to the research activities, the articles published, papers read before scholarly societies and other significant achievements of our faculty members. My purpose in doing this is, (1) to give at least a little recognition to the men and women who keep alive their interest in research writing, and community leadership, (2) to show those who may read this report that a large number of the Monmouth College faculty are far more than mere classroom teachers. Many of them are creative scholars and influential leaders of thought in community, state and nation.

During the year 1950-51, Professor Malcolm W. Reid and Professor Donald Vogel wrote a paper of considerable length (about 32 pages in press) entitled "Three glimpses into the life of Howard Taylor Ricketts". This will be published in the May, 1951, issue of Bios. Dr. Reid has had published in Biological Bulletin, Vol. 99, "Glycogen depletion during starvation in the nemertean . . ." also an article in Turtox News, Vol. 29, 1951, "Animal-odor problems in the Zoological Department". In addition to these publications, Dr. Reid read a paper before the Illinois State Academy of Science, May 4, 1951, "Factors involved in artificial hatching of tapeworm embryos for in-vitro studies of tapeworm metabolism". The Ricketts paper mentioned above was presented in May, 1951 at the "Tri-Beta" installation, Northwestern University, and at the regional conference of this organization.

Dr. Reid's achievements in research and publication have resulted in his appointment to a Fulbright Scholarship for study abroad. Professor Reid and his family expect to go to Egypt, arriving there in October, 1951. His work in Egypt will be research in parasitology and will continue for about one year.

Another of our scientists who has had articles published during the past year is Dr. Porter Miller of the Department of Chemistry. Four of his articles are these "A Plastic Seal", June, 1950, The Chemist Analyst, "A Sharpener for Cork Borers", Ibid, March, 1951, "A Method of Dissolving Stannic Oxide", Journal of Chemical Education, September, 1950, and "A Conductivity Experiment for General Chemistry", Ibid, November, 1950.

Dr. Miller has prepared a lecture on "Atomic Energy" which he has delivered before a number of local organizations. Also, he has attended meetings of the American Chemical Society in Chicago, St. Louis, Rock Island and other cities and has had an active part in meetings of this body.

The Indiana Magazine of History, March, 1951, contains an article by Dr. F. G. Davenport of our Department of History. This is entitled, "Early American Geologists and the Oil Industry". Now in press is an article by Dr. Davenport, "Alexander Winchell, Michigan Scientist and Educator". This will appear in the June, 1951, issue of Michigan History. Professor Davenport has been invited by the Commission on Research of the National Protestant Council on Higher Education to cooperate with the commission in preparing a History of Civilization. Professor Davenport will write the chapter on "American Culture and the Democratic Faith." Other extra-curricular activities of Prof. Davenport include addresses in Davenport, Rock Island, Fort Madison and elsewhere.

Mr. Richard Petrie, Director of Public Relations, one of the founders of the organization which has grown to be the Association of College Admission Counselors, is this year serving as Chairman of the committee responsible for the publication of the association's Handbook for High School Counselors. In editing this publication, Mr. Petrie has a major task, as the book is one of 170 pages containing material pertaining to counseling high school students as they choose a college. The book contains information about the 160 colleges and universities which are members of the association.

Professor F. W. Phillips, Professor of Education and Dean of Men, during the college year has addressed many audiences in Monmouth and in other places upon subjects relating to the history of early Illinois. With Professor Nicholas, also of the Department of Education, Dean Phillips has taken part in Teachers Institutes and both men have represented the college in important meetings with state officers of the Department of Education at Springfield, Peoria, Macomb, and elsewhere.

The current issue of the Journal of Religion contains an article by Dr. Samuel M. Thompson, Head of the Dep't of Philosophy and Psychology. The article is entitled, "A Paradox Concerning the Relation of Inquiry and Belief."

Dr. Jean E. Liedman, Dean of Women, was chosen one of the speakers for the annual meeting of the National Speech Association held in New York in December. Also Dean Liedman has served on the Executive Board of the Illinois Association of Deans of Women and has been in charge of instruction in Speech at Illinois Girls' State.

Dr. Madge S. Sanmann, Head of the Department of Sociology, attended the meeting of the American Sociological Society in December, 1950. She serves on the Membership Committee of this society. She is a member of the National Council on Family Living and attended the annual meeting of this organization.

our music organizations. I shall refer only to the speech activities of the past year.

Monmouth College took part in speech tournaments at eight colleges and universities and acted as host to the Illinois State Oratorical Association which met this year at our college. Two of Monmouth's representatives were John R. Kelly and Kenneth F. Miller. These men in the past two years have won almost 95% of the debates in which they have participated. Representatives from Monmouth won many honors in a speech tournament at the University of Wisconsin, where three of the four Monmouth teams received superior ratings.

The President's report refers to the reasons for the confusion in the thought of modern youth in matters of behavior, ethics and religion. It is probable that the authorities in nearly all colleges and universities see evidence that we are experiencing a decline, or at least a disturbing change, in standards of conduct and a lessened interest in the church and religion. The young people who come to Monmouth College have not escaped the disturbing influences. And yet there is evidence that a vital interest in Christian service directs the lives of many of our students. Never before in the history of the college have so many capable and devoted young men and women declared themselves to be in training for full-time Christian service. These young people serve in many of the churches of Monmouth and community and serve in a great variety of ways. That the spirit of Christian service is wide-spread on our campus is shown by the fact that the students again this year took part in a campaign to raise a fund for needy students in other lands. About seven hundred dollars was contributed. On the campus this year, because of the generosity of the college administration and the cooperation of students, is a young woman from the Ukraine. To this young woman and to our other students from foreign lands almost all of our students

show a friendly cooperative attitude.

But the large and earnest company of young people looking forward to serving the Church should not close our eyes to the fact that we must continue to be concerned about the standards of behavior of our students and the philosophy of life which they are developing in college days at Monmouth. The personnel files in the Admissions Office show that nearly all of our students come from homes with a church interest. Most of our students were accustomed to attend church before coming to Monmouth. If they are careless about church attendance after coming to college, a part of the reason is simply that they are away from home and are on their own. But this is not all of the story. I believe that we who are responsible for student attitudes and behavior should give much thought to ways by which we can lead students to attend church, so that they will not at Monmouth lose the church-going habit.

Another point at which we cannot afford to be complacent is in regard to our standards concerning the use of alcoholic beverages. Needless to say, Monmouth forbids the use of alcoholic drinks in any form in college buildings and at college functions. A good standard is maintained at college parties. It is seldom that there is a report of drinking at any of the college functions. This is a problem increasingly difficult to deal with in home, high school, and college because of pressures of many kinds. I believe we must be on guard at this point to avoid following other colleges downhill.

As I look back over this report, I note that I have expressed fear and regret because of certain developments in our college. I do not wish to give the impression that I believe the situation as a whole is discouraging. Only a few of the strong points have been mentioned, only a few of the achievements of students and faculty have been listed. Our teachers are a

scholarly, well-prepared group of men and women, devoted to their students and to their fields of study. The standards maintained in most of our courses of study are high. Our students, for the most part, are in college for worthy purposes. Monmouth continues to graduate men and women who prove to be leaders in their vocations and in their communities.

In concluding this report, I wish to express to you, Dr. Grier, my appreciation of your continued support and cooperation.

Respectfully submitted

J. S. Cleland