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THE HISTORY OF CEDARVILLE COLLEGE.
The Ohio State University, Ph.D., 1966
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THE HISTORY OF CEDARVILLE COLLEGE

DISSERTATION

Presented in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree Doctor of Philosophy in the Graduate School of The Ohio State University

By

Cleveland McDonald, B.A., M.Litt.

* * * * *

The Ohio State University
1966

Approved by

Robert S. Newell
Advisor
Department of Education
Cedarville College became a Regular Baptist Institution in March, 1953, but prior to that date, it had a long history as a Presbyterian school. This History of Cedarville College is written to present the story of the college to its alumni and friends, both Presbyterian and Baptist.

I wish to thank Dr. Robert E. Jewett, my adviser, for his encouragement and helpful suggestions, and Dr. Everett J. Kircher and Dr. Robert B. Sutton who graciously served on the reading committee. I am greatly indebted to the librarians of Andrews Library, Wooster College, Wooster, Ohio, and the McCartney Library, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania, for the assistance given when I visited these institutions. I wish to express my appreciation also to the former students and alumni who wrote letters and gave interviews which greatly facilitated the research. A special word of gratitude is due Mrs. Austin Elmore of the college office who informed me of the location of the minutes of the Board of Trustees and of the faculty, which were invaluable in writing the dissertation.

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AUTOBIOGRAPHY

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INTRODUCTION

The history of Cedarville College is unique in that it has been in continuous operation under three successive administrations. It was chartered by the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America in 1887. This denomination operated the college quite successfully for many years, but finally lost many of its churches by their union with other Presbyterian groups. Thus, it could not adequately support the school. With the intention of seeking the support of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the administration finally asked to be released from the control of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. The General Synod did this in 1928 by turning the college and its assets over to the trustees. The attempt to gain acceptance by the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America was unsuccessful, which left the college without a supporting denomination. Nevertheless, the college had a sizeable endowment, and it managed to survive the Great Depression and World War II eras without incurring too much indebtedness. However, a period of
very poor administration from 1946 to 1953 consumed the Endowment Fund and caused the financial failure of the college.

In 1953 the Board of Trustees invited the Baptist Bible Institute of Cleveland to take possession of the assets and to continue operation of the college. This administration faced great difficulties in the early years of its operation, but has finally achieved a thriving school. However, it is now beset with the problems of expansion common to all institutions of higher learning.
CHAPTER I

THE COVENANTERS

Covenanters in Scotland.—The story of the Reformed Presbyterians who began Cedarville College actually goes back to the Reformation in Scotland where Presbyterianism supplanted Catholicism. Several "covenants" were made during the struggles against Catholicism and the Church of England so that the Scottish Presbyterians became known as the "covenanters." This was particularly true after the great "National Covenant" of 1638. The Church of Scotland was committed to the great principle "that the Lord Jesus Christ is the sole Head and King of the Church, and hath therein appointed a government distinct from that of the Civil magistrate." When the English attempted to force the Episcopal form of Church

1W. M. Hetherington, History of the Church of Scotland (New York: Robert Carter and Brothers, 1860), p. 158. The "First Covenant" was signed in Edinburgh in 1557, p. 38. The "Second Covenant" was subscribed to in Perth in 1559, p. 44. After the "National Covenant" came the "Solemn League and Covenant" between Scotland, England and Ireland in 1643, p. 186.

2Ibid., p. 292.
doctrine and government upon the Scottish people, they resisted it for decades. The final ten years of bloody persecution and revolution were terminated by the Revolution Settlement of 1688, and by an act of Parliament in 1690 that established Presbyterianism in Scotland. Dr. Thomas Graham summarizes this period of Scottish history in the following lines:

Every American who visits Greyfriars churchyard in Edinburgh will behold the Martyr’s Monument and the inscription on it saying that 18,000 people of "all classes, young and old, and women alike had died for their faith or had been banished from their native land."

It was an era of conflict, of battle, brutality, torture, death in dungeons, exile and death in ships on the sea. . . . It was a clash between the Covenanters and the Stuart Kings, between Church and State, between Catholics and Protestant, between Episcopacy and Presbyterianism. . . .

Two of the leaders during the rebellion were Richard Cameron and Donald Cargill. They had met at Sanquhar in June, 1680, and renounced their allegiance to Charles II because of his "usurpation in church matters, and tyranny in matters civil." Both these men lost their

3Ibid., p. 306.

4Thomas Graham, "Covenanters in Ohio," unpublished manuscript to be included in a proposed history of Presbyterians in Ohio, Andrews Library, Wooster College, Wooster, Ohio.

lives, but "their followers, popularly known as Cameronians, held together and perpetuated their doctrine." These Cameronians refused to accept the Revolution Settlement of 1688 because "the King and Parliament were given such power in the management of ecclesiastical affairs as was inconsistent with the doctrine of Christ's headship." The Covenanters declined to become a part of the National Church, and maintained a separate existence through their praying societies.

Covenanters in Ireland.—Many of these dissatisfied Scotchmen emigrated to Ireland, and "... Ulster became a Scottish colony in the main ... many of them refugees from Scotland during the 'killing time' which followed the Stuart Restoration." However, this did not turn out to be a "Promised Land" as "they were still excluded from office ... required to have their marriages solemnized by Anglican ministers. ... This along with breaches of contract on the part of their Irish landlords drove them to America."  

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7Ibid.


9Ibid.
Covenants in America.—These Scottish Presbyterians who came to the Colonies by way of Ireland were known as the Scotch-Irish. Some of the Covenanters settled in the Carolinas and spread through Tennessee and Kentucky. Others were opposed to slavery and continued on to Ohio. Still others landed at Philadelphia, and moved on to other parts of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. They organized the Reformed Presbytery of America in 1774 which they dissolved during the Revolutionary War for lack of ministers. In 1798 the Presbytery was reconstituted and in 1823 the name was changed to Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. This Synod divided in 1833 over the question of participation in civil government. Those opposing participation in civil government were called the "Old Lights" or "Old Sides," and became the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in the United States of North America. The others were called "New Lights" or "New Sides," and organized the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America.\textsuperscript{10} It is this latter

\textsuperscript{10} Reed, op. cit., p. 325-340. The question of civil government was still being debated 60 years later as occasional articles in the \textit{Reformed Presbyterian Advocate} defended the "New Light" position. The church in Cedarville began in 1804 and when the Synod divided, the local church also divided, and the community had a "New Light" Church and "Old Light" Church until 1925 when the latter ceased to exist.
Synod, commonly called the "General Synod," that organized Cedarville College. On April 6, 1965, the "General Synod" merged with the Evangelical Presbyterian Synod, and the combined group is now called "The Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod."  

11 Personal letter, the Reverend Robert More, Jr., July 9, 1965. The Reverend Robert More states that the Old Light denomination exists with about sixty-eight churches and 6000 members. They still support Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa., and a seminary at Pittsburgh, Pa. and "several other institutions and endeavors."
CHAPTER II

EARLY DREAMS

A Seminary without a College.—Historically, the Presbyterians have been noted for their emphasis upon an educated ministry and the Covenanters were no exception. In 1810, just a few years after the reorganization of the Presbytery, they began a theological seminary in Philadelphia to prepare pastors for their churches. This was a typical post-graduate theological seminary which only enrolled students who had completed a college course. We do not know why they did not establish a college at this same time to prepare men for the seminary. It is possible that they felt that the young men could attend the colleges already established without receiving too much damage to their faith. This seminary had a history of intermittent failures and reopenings. A second seminary was started in 1850 at Xenia, Ohio. However, it was merged with the Philadelphia Seminary in 1854, thus putting new life into the school for it had an uninterrupted history in Philadelphia until its removal to Cedarville in 1913.¹

¹"Cedarville Theological Seminary" Cedrus, 1915 Yearbook of Cedarville College (Columbus, Ohio: Champlin Press, 1915), p. 79.
As the years and decades passed by, other Presbyterian groups and denominations established colleges and seminaries on the premise that the denominational college would channel students to the denominational seminary. Two well known examples in Ohio are Wittenberg University with Hamma Divinity School established by the Lutherans in 1884, and Oberlin College and Theological Seminary founded in 1833. Without a college to feed the seminary, the Reformed Presbyterian Church, General Synod, began to feel the need for additional pastors. The Seminary in Philadelphia could never graduate enough students to meet the demand for pastors by the churches.

A College needed for pre-theological education.—Just how early agitation began for the Synod to start its own college is difficult to determine. The report of the Board of Education in 1879 refers to its recommendation made to the Synod the previous year, so serious thought had been given to the idea as early as 1878. This same report


3. Reformed Presbyterian Advocate, July and August, 1879, p. 211. This source will hereafter be referred to as the R. P. Advocate. Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa., has an incomplete collection of this magazine. Mr. Chalmers Elder, Darlington, Pa., has a fairly complete file from 1833 to the 1890's plus some later issues.
in 1879 urged the establishment of an "academic institution," and a resolution was introduced by the Reverend J. F. Morton, pastor of the Cedarville congregation, asking the Synod to appoint a committee to select a site for an academic institution and "to do all that is possible to secure the establishment of such an institution at an early day." The resolution was passed and a second one established the membership of the committee at three members plus one minister and one ruling elder from each presbytery.

However, committees in those days apparently suffered from inaction just as many today, for no action had been taken by the committee by 1880. Consequently, the Reverend John Alford in a letter to the editors of the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate in November, 1880, wrote, "I want to write a little in regard to our Educational Institution. The matter has been before the church at the last two meetings of the Synod. As yet, as far as I know, nothing has been done." He proceeds to state "that our own church should have something of the kind -- some place to train our young men for the ministry -- before they enter our Theological Seminary." It is apparent from

4Ibid.  5Ibid.  
7Ibid.
these statements that the issue had been before the Synod in May, 1879, and May, 1880.

However, nothing concrete was done for several years, and the need for trained pastors became more acute. The necessity for a college to prepare young men to enter the Seminary was propounded in an editorial in the *Reformed Presbyterian Advocate* for May, 1885. The editor lamented that there were ten congregations without pastors, and then he wrote:

> What is the cause of this great lack of laborers? . . . Some may be disposed to criticize our Theological Seminary. We need something back of the Seminary to feed it. We never will have a full Seminary until we establish a college to train young men for the ministry. . . . Many of our best young men have been weaned away from our church, simply by their attendance at other colleges. It is time that we should take a step in the direction of establishing a school of our own.8

This fear of the young men being "weaned away" from the church because they attended colleges operated by other denominations was a very real one, and appears in the resolution calling for the establishment of a college. However, a more practical motivation was also operating since an endowment had been promised by Mr. William Gibson of Cincinnati in memory of his father, Peter Gibson, who was

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8 *R. P. Advocate*, May, 1885, p. 146.
for many years a ruling elder in the Cincinnati Reformed Presbyterian Church. Dr. David McKinney wrote, "Having learned of Mr. Gibson's intention, the late Dr. David Steele introduced a resolution in Synod to establish the college in Cedarville." The following resolution was adopted by the Synod meeting in annual session in Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 20, 1885, after its presentation by Dr. Steele:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Synod, the time has come to take active steps to establish a Collegiate Institute for the purpose of training young men in an undergraduate course, previous to their entering the Theological Seminary, and in this way surrounding our young men with influences in sympathy with the church to which they belong.

Resolved, That Rev. J. F. Morton, D.D., Messrs. Thomas Gibson, R. Park, Hugh McCollum, Jr., and H. H. McMillan be a committee to secure a site for a building in or about the town of Cedarville, Greene County, Ohio, at as early a day as possible, and that all the members of this Synod be a committee to aid in every appropriate way in raising funds to put up a building and secure a suitable endowment, and report to the next meeting of General Synod.

The church discovered that it was easier to pass resolutions than to actually found a college. Nearly two years passed before the charter was granted, and over nine

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10"Historical Record of Cedarville College," p. 1. This book has 300 pages, is leather bound, but unfortunately, it only contains the records leading to the incorporation for a total of nine pages.
years before the first class was held. In the meanwhile the pages of the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate were often used to promote the college, and the argument most often presented was the necessity for a school to prepare young men for the ministry.

The disappointing rumor of Whitelaw Reid's gift.—

In this same issue (September, 1885), there was a news item which undoubtedly encouraged men like the Reverend David Steele. The article stated that the Honorable Whitelaw Reid of the New York Tribune had offered $50,000 to establish a college at Cedarville if certain conditions were met.\(^\text{11}\) The editor felt that he knew "of no more favorable location" since Dr. Hugh McMillan had operated a classical academy there, and there had always been a considerable number of young men who desired a college education.\(^\text{12}\)

Just how such an announcement found its way into the newspapers is hard to imagine. However, Mr. Reid had been reared in the Cedarville Reformed Presbyterian Church where his father served as elder and clerk of the session for

\(^{11}\) The Honorable Whitelaw Reid, born and educated in Cedarville, is considered Cedarville's most famous son.

\(^{12}\) *R. P. Advocate*, Sept. 1885, p. 270.
forty years. He had attained much wealth and probably could have contributed a large sum had he been so disposed. The hopes raised by such a favorable announcement were succeeded by keen disappointment, as the October, 1865, issue of the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate indicated that a letter had been written to Mr. Reid concerning the newspaper statements, and he had replied that he had not made nor had he authorized such statements.

Financial agent employed.—The next meeting of the General Synod was in New York City, and on May 19, 1886, the committee on securing a site for the "Literary Institution" reported that they had not been able to meet, but that they had corresponded with one another. They felt that securing a site would be no problem whenever the funds were raised to erect a building. Discussion followed, and finally the following resolution by the Reverend James S. Scott was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the reports be approved and the committee continued, and that they

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13 A large stained glass window was donated by Mr. Reid in memory of his father when the Reformed Presbyterian Church built a new building in 1901. In 1961 this building was bought by the Grace Baptist Church (largely attended by college faculty and students) when the local Presbyterian churches merged on the union of the United Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church of the U.S.A.

14 R. P. Advocate, Oct. 1885, p. 308. There is no record of Mr. Reid contributing in the early days of the college, but in 1906 while serving as Ambassador to England, he sent a check for $1000 for the endowment fund. Cedarville Herald, May 18, 1906.
be authorized to accept a suitable site from the Cedarville congregation, to raise money over the whole church by subscription or donation; and to superintend the erection of a suitable building costing not less than $10,000. Furthermore, that the General Synod appoint one of her ministerial members as an agent to go over the church and present the matter before our people, and assist in raising money, and awakening interest on the subject of our college.15

To implement this resolution, another one was passed, "appointing the Reverend John Alford financial agent to canvass the church with the view of securing funds for the Literary Institution, and that he be under the entire control of the committee."16

In the issue for September, 1886, the editor of the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate reminded the readers of the action taken at the last General Synod meeting and then argues for the establishment of the college as follows, "In this age and country no church can long exist, much less grow and prosper, without its own college. Such an institution is an indispensable necessity."17 He then reports that the Cedarville congregation had offered to donate a suitable site for the building and would "furnish their full

15"Historical Record of Cedarville College," pp. 2 - 3.
16 Ibid.
share of the funds needed for building and endowment. A committee of the congregation was appointed to take subscriptions and raise money to help forward the work."\textsuperscript{18}

His report was true for the Cedarville Church had met on June 19, 1886, and had passed the following resolutions: "That we as a congregation are in favor of having a college located at Cedarville, Ohio. Carried... That we as a congregation pledge ourselves to furnish the ground for a college building... Carried."\textsuperscript{19} A committee comprised of the following persons was appointed: H. H. McMillan, J. D. Williamson, A. W. Creswell, R. B. Harbison, and J. R. Orr.\textsuperscript{20} This committee reported at the annual meeting in December that it had only looked for a location. Their report was accepted, and the minutes record that "they were ordered to do their work."\textsuperscript{21} Apparently, this rebuke served its purpose to stir the committee into action for at the next annual meeting in December, 1887, the committee reported $7,919.35 had been subscribed.\textsuperscript{22} However, the following year the committee had

\textsuperscript{18}Ibid.
\textsuperscript{19}"Minutes of the Congregational meeting," Vol. 2, 1873-1936, p. 36, June 19, 1886. Reformed Presbyterian Church, Cedarville, Ohio. The minutes for the meetings of both the Congregation and the Session of this church for the years 1833-1936 are located at the Andrews Library, Wooster College, Wooster, Ohio.
\textsuperscript{20}Ibid. \textsuperscript{21}Ibid. \textsuperscript{22}Ibid., p. 40.
failed to act again and a motion to disband the committee was carried.\textsuperscript{23}

\textit{"Gibson College" prophetic.--}One of the most extraordinary articles to encourage the idea of the college appeared in the January, 1887, issue of the \textit{Reformed Presbyterian Advocate}. It was two pages long and entitled \textit{"Gibson College."} The editor wrote as if he had a dream which was a literary device that he used to express his ideas. It is most unusual that the two ideas presented were prophetic in that they actually came to pass.

The writer dreamed that the General Synod was holding its annual meeting in Cedarville in 1895, and that it was Commencement day at Gibson College. It was held in the chapel of the new college building. The interesting thing to note is that the Synod did hold its meeting in Cedarville in 1895, and the big occasion was the dedication of the new college building.

The article was entitled \textit{"Gibson College,"} for in his dream the editor indicated that it had been endowed by Mr. William Gibson of Cincinnati who was present at the exercises.

He seemed to look with pride on the institution he had endowed and which would be a

\textsuperscript{23}\textit{Ibid.}, p. 41.
standing monument to his noble sire. . . . The smile on his face seemed to say, "I am
doubly repaid for my labors this day." 24

Later Mr. William Gibson did leave a bequest in memory of
his father to endow Cedarville College as he had earlier
indicated. The editor admitted that it was just a dream,
but stated that there were eight years between 1887 and
1895, and much could be accomplished if the entire church
would labor together. 25 It did require this amount of
time to get the school in operation and the new building
dedicated.

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25 Ibid.
CHAPTER III

CEDARVILLE COLLEGE -- A CHARTER ONLY

A Charter secured.--The committee appointed by the General Synod at Cincinnati in 1885 proceeded to incorporate on January 20, 1887, and to secure a charter for "Cedarville College" which was granted by the state of Ohio on January 26, 1887.¹ The incorporators were Messrs. Thomas Gibson, Richard Park, Hugh McCollum, H. H. McMillan, and the Reverend J. F. Morton. The latter was pastor of the Cedarville congregation and an editor of the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate. This Board of Trustees met on February 10, 1887, to organize. Mr. Thomas Gibson was selected as President of the Board, J. F. Morton, Secretary, and H. H. McMillan, Treasurer. At this meeting the treasurer was instructed "to open a subscription book at once, and solicit contributions for purchasing the ground, erecting the building, and carrying forward the work."² Other business consisted of appointing a committee to draw

¹"Historical Record of Cedarville College," pp. 3-8.

²R. P. Advocate, March, 1887, p. 80.
up by-laws for the operation of the Board. Another committee was appointed to draw up plans for a building and submit estimates of its probable cost. During this day the committee also looked at several possible building sites in Cedarville. In this manner Cedarville College began its legal existence.

A second organizational meeting.—The discovery of a letter written by Ben B. Dale on March 10, 1887, an attorney in Cincinnati and addressed to "Hugh McCollum, Thomas Gibson and others" indicates that the incorporators at this meeting of February 10 had not followed legal procedures. He wrote, "In my judgment I would suggest that you ignore the last meeting and proceed under the following suggestions, which are applicable to you as incorporators . . . ." He then proceeded to set down the steps they were to follow which included the purchase of a book in which the action of the Synod in appointing the Committee was to be recorded. Apparently this is the book, "Historical Record of Cedarville College," for it records another meeting of the incorporators at the residence of the Reverend J. F. Morton in Cedarville on March 11, 1887. At this time they followed the steps outlined in Mr. Dale's

3Ibid.

4Ben. B. Dale, personal letter, March 10, 1887.
letter. The minutes of the Board of Trustees of Cedarville College record on page one the action of the Synod in May, 1886, and the act of incorporation on January 20, 1887. The actual minutes begin on page two with the meeting on March 11, 1887, and no mention is made of the session on February 10, 1887.

Location and name.—Evidently there never was much discussion as to where the college would be located, nor what it should be named. It is true that Cedarville was a "stronghold of Reformed Presbyterianism," but Pittsburgh and Cincinnati also had large churches, and one could see some reasons for placing the college in one of these larger cities. Although Cedarville was the second largest community in Greene County at the time, it only numbered about 1300 residents. Even Xenia, the county seat located eight miles to the southwest, could only boast of 7,222 residents after the 1890 census. The Cedarville industries in this period "included a paper mill, three lime kilns, a sawmill, an elevator, and several blacksmith shops." However, it

5 "Historical Record of Cedarville College," pp. 8-9, the last entry.

6 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," March 11, 1887, p. 2.

7 The Cedarville Herald, July 26, 1890, p. 1. Hereafter referred to as The Herald.

8 The Xenia Semi-Weekly Gazette and Torchlight, June 5, 1894, p. 1. Hereafter this source will be referred to as the Xenia Gazette.
did have the advantage of being on a main line of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad with three trains daily going West, and two trains going East which made for fairly easy transportation. The early advertisements also stressed that the location was "healthful" and "moral." It is quite possible that the General Synod felt that the rural atmosphere of a country village would be a healthier location, both physically and morally, than the big cities of Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.

As to the name, Mr. William Gibson had not made his gift at the time the college was incorporated, but he had promised to endow the college, so there was some reason to name it "Gibson College" as the editor of the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate had suggested in his dream. There is only one other reference to a different name and that is found in the November issue, 1887, of the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate. An unnamed writer stated:

The College seems to be an assured success. Had your correspondent been permitted to give it a name, he would have called it after some distinguished minister of our church -- "McLeod College" for instance, or "McMillan University." But as the good brethren of Cedarville have done so much for it, and are

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9 The Herald, October 18, 1890, p. 4.
10 Xenia Gazette, July 24, 1894, p. 2.
11 Ibid., August 20, 1895, p. 2.
working so laboriously to bring it to a successful issue, they deserve the name, and I heartily salute "Cedarville College." 12

It is apparent from this that the college was located at Cedarville and received its name because of the interest and activity of the local Reformed Presbyterian congregation. This interest was manifested in a material way for at the March 11, 1887, meeting of the Board of Trustees, Mr. H. H. McMillan, the newly elected treasurer, reported that he "had already obtained subscriptions from the Cedarville congregation amounting to $6400" 13 toward the cost of the building, and the congregation had previously agreed to donate the land for the college. 14

The local church apparently was not able to fulfill this latter obligation. Although the congregation had voted to "furnish the ground," there is no record in the minutes that they ever again discussed it as a church. The Board of Trustees considered several lots at their meeting on March 11, 1887, including the "Orr lot valued at $150 per acre donating 25 per cent." 15 The land was on the north edge of the community and across from the


13 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Mar. 11, 1887, p. 6.

14 Supra, p. 16.

15 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Mar. 11, 1887, p. 7.
local Reformed Presbyterian Church property. The committee on "building site" recommended, the purchase of the Orr property, and the Board of Trustees authorized the Treasurer "to purchase the same, at the best terms he can make, provided that a good title can be obtained for the same."16 Some problem must have come up for the minutes on June 10, 1887, read, "To quiet any objections that might be made, and make the matter more satisfactory, it was suggested that the deed for the Orr lot be made to Mr. Thomas Gibson, and by Mr. Gibson to the Trustees of the College."17 The minutes do not indicate what the "objections" might have been. Mr. Thomas Gibson, the President of the Board of Trustees, was a wealthy businessman from the Plum Street Reformed Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati.

At a meeting on May 10, 1888, the minutes record that "the deed for College lot offered by J. R. Orr, being filled with conditions that are objectionable, the Board refused to accept it."18 The Board then appointed a committee to confer with Mr. Orr. This committee successfully negotiated with him for the Record of Deeds show

16Ibid., p. 8.
17Ibid., p. 9.
18Ibid., p. 10.
that on this same day 9.30 acres of land were purchased by Mr. Thomas Gibson and his wife, Florence from James and Josephine Orr for the sum of $1116.00. Then two days later this property was transferred to the Board of Trustees of Cedarville College.\textsuperscript{19}

First building plans.—The building committee that had been appointed in February lost no time in securing the architectural services of Samuel Hannsford and Sons of Cincinnati. In the \textit{Reformed Presbyterian Advocate}, April, 1887, a sketch and floor plan of a three story building were presented. These drawings had been approved by the Board of Trustees, and provided for administration offices, classrooms, library and chapel.\textsuperscript{20} Further details were given in a letter to the editor of the \textit{Reformed Presbyterian Advocate} in May, 1887, in which the architect stated, "we have aimed to make this an attractive building as possible on the outside, and at the same time keep the cost within reasonable limits."\textsuperscript{21}

\textsuperscript{19}Record of Deeds, Vol. 74, pp. 342-343. Greene County Court House, Xenia, Ohio. The financial report of the Board of Trustees presented to the General Synod on May 16, 1894 show a disbursement of $1116 as the "amount paid for land." Minutes of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, 1894, p. 15.

\textsuperscript{20}R. P. Advocate, April, 1887, pp. 106-107.

\textsuperscript{21}Ibid., May, 1887, p. 142.
Initial campaign to solicit funds.—In the meanwhile, the Reverend John Alford, who had been appointed by the Synod as financial agent of the College, was busy visiting churches and soliciting subscriptions on the five year plan. In April the *Reformed Presbyterian Advocate* carried a notice from him suggesting that "the Sabbath schools be allowed to have a hand in the erection of our college . . . our young friends will not be behind in this matter when the proper appeal is made to them."\(^{22}\) An enthusiastic letter was printed concerning his visit to Brooklyn.

I want to write you in regard to my college work in Brooklyn. I spent two days there (Monday and Tuesday of this week), and secured for our proposed literary institution, in money and subscriptions -- mostly the latter, on the five-year plan -- well nigh $300. I feel that this is noble for Brooklyn. I expect to get more, as I could not remain to make a full canvass of the congregation . . . you know that the Brooklyn brethren, though small in number, have large hearts . . . . I write this that you may publish it to the churches, that each one of your congregations may be stimulated by the example of this noble little band of true Reformed Presbyterians, and may be led to consider this as a voice saying to them: "Go and do THOU likewise."\(^{23}\)

The General Synod met in Philadelphia in May, 1887, and the report in the June issue stated that "several thousand dollars have been subscribed. The outlook for the college is quite encouraging. . . . The financial

\(^{22}\)Ibid., April, 1887, p. 119.

\(^{23}\)Ibid., May, 1887, p. 147.
agent, the Reverend John Alford, gave himself with zeal to the work of securing subscriptions for the college."^24 He secured $1734 from the delegates at the Synod meeting. The treasurer reported to the Board of Trustees on June 10, 1887, that "he had received $463.00 cash and in notes or subscriptions $7969.00, total $8719.00 [sic]". At this time he was instructed to make settlement with the Reverend John Alford for service rendered in soliciting subscriptions for the College.^25 From this it appears that the Reverend John Alford was diligent in soliciting money for the College. Consequently, it is surprising to learn in the October issue that he was no longer acting in this capacity, for one individual wrote to the editor, "Many are of the opinion that Synod made a mistake when they dispensed with his services."^26 The following month the resolution of the Ohio Presbytery in relation to Cedarville College was noted:

> Resolved: That inasmuch as the Board of Trustees propose commencing the College building next Spring, and inasmuch as the Church now has no financial agent, Presbytery recommends that all the congregations under its care appoint agents or committees to make a thorough canvass of their respective congregations to solicit funds for the building and endowment of said college.^27

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^24Ibid., June, 1887, p. 167.
^25"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 10, 1887, p. 9.
^27Ibid., November, 1887, p. 343.
The failure to appoint someone to the position of financial agent was a serious mistake on the part of the Synod in that no one was delegated to the task of soliciting money and subscriptions and the money did not come in. The treasurer reported to the Board of Trustees on May 10, 1888, "that he had written to different ministers and members of the church, soliciting subscriptions for the College, but had met with little encouragement." The plans to begin building in the spring of 1888 did not materialize and interest in the College lessened.

The report of the Board of Trustees to the General Synod at its annual meeting in May was very discouraging. "No notes or subscriptions for the College have been received during the Synodic year and but very little money collected." The treasurer's report showed a total of $9,754.35 but only $594 in actual cash. The report chided the churches by stating that "if our people in all parts of the church are not interested enough to contribute for the building and endowment, it is not likely they would support the College if established, and the enterprise will prove a failure." A resolution was passed urging the

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28 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 10, 1888, p. 10.
30 Ibid. 31 Ibid.
pastors and sessions to "bring the subject of the College before their respective congregations during the present summer or fall, and report to the treasurer of the College."

However, the resolution was not sufficient to revive the lagging interest in the College.

The Board of Trustees met on May 21, 1889, and the short entry in the minutes consist of a short report prepared for the Synod. It simply stated,

No contributions have been received, and nothing has been done for the College enterprise during the past year.

In the different parts of the church so little interest has been manifested in this matter that the Board is discouraged, and unless greater interest is awakened, and more done in the ensuing year, the Board will recommend that the whole enterprise be abandoned.

This discouraging report with the threat of dropping the idea was not sufficient to stir the pastors nor churches to action. Consequently, at the next Synod meeting in Pittsburgh, May 26, 1890, the Board of Trustees recommended "that the whole enterprise be abandoned, that the treasurer be instructed to sell the lot . . . refund the money that has been contributed . . . and cancel the subscriptions."

Fortunately, the Synod refused to accept the recommendation. What had started out so auspiciously

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32 Ibid.
33 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 21, 1889, p. 11.
34 Ibid., p. 12.
35 Ibid.
only three years earlier was now stymied for lack of funds.

Reasons why the campaign failed.--The question should be raised as to why interest began to lag after such a good beginning. The Board possessed a charter, a building site, and had over $9000 in subscriptions to the building fund. The critical factor here is that this money was only "subscribed" or "pledged." Most of it was on the five year plan, and the treasurer had not received it. The removal of the Reverend John Alford from his task of visiting churches for the purpose of soliciting "subscriptions" accounts for a lag even in this area. The old adage that "everyone's responsibility is no one's responsibility" was proven in this case for after the Reverend John Alford's release, very few subscriptions were secured.

Dr. J. F. Morton, pastor of the Cedarville Reformed Presbyterian Church, indicated in a discussion during the Synod meeting in 1892 that one reason for the lack of interest and funds was that "a number of eastern churches, instead of assisting in building a college . . . built handsome church edifices." He further stated that the time had come when the Cedarville congregation needed a new building and they intended to build one, and any money left over would be given to the College. In April, 1892, the

Cedarville congregation had paid $1275 for a lot, and had raised $5,105 in subscriptions toward a new building. However, sufficient funds to build had not been raised by August, 1893, and the Church Trustees were authorized to sell the lot, and the Building Committee was dismissed.

Economic depression.—The state of the nation's economy also affected the financial situation. The country had just recovered from the depression of 1884 when the business cycle took another downturn in 1888. Farm prices especially were depressed during this period which lead to the formation of the People's Party usually known as the Populists. The election of Grover Cleveland for his second term in 1892, coupled with a democratic majority in both houses of Congress for the first time since 1858, was hailed as the beginning of a new era. Unfortunately, his administration was only two months old when the panic of 1893 struck. This was triggered by business failures abroad and the withdrawal of foreign capital. This resulted in the curtailment of industry with widespread unemployment. The farm situation was


39 Ibid., p. 72.
made even worse by a terrible drought.\textsuperscript{40}

An editorial in the \textit{Reformed Presbyterian Advocate} for September, 1893, illustrates the gravity of the financial crisis:

The situation at present is very critical. The daily papers bring each day news of more bank failures, and consignments of business firms, and riots, and labor demonstrations until the reader is shocked at the condition of the country.\textsuperscript{41}

It is true that over 600 banks failed and 8000 business firms went bankrupt between April and October. President Cleveland sent government troops to Chicago to quell the famous Pullman strike. In the Spring of 1894, Jacob Coxey led his army of unemployed men on Washington with a demand for public work projects.\textsuperscript{42} In view of these facts, it is not difficult to see why funds were not readily available to finance a new college. The institution faced great difficulties, but events took place during this period that eventuated in a real college.


\textsuperscript{41}\textit{Reformed Presbyterian Advocate}, Sept. 1893, p. 16.

CHAPTER IV

FROM CHARTER TO REALITY

The bequest of William Gibson.--In the midst of economic distress, a transaction took place that eventually made the college a reality. It was during the difficult early days (May, 1888) that Mr. William Gibson made his will, providing a legacy of $25,000 in memory of his father, Peter Gibson.¹ The latter had emigrated to America from Edinburgh, Scotland, and arrived in Cincinnati with his four-year-old son, William, in 1831. He enjoyed a successful career in the plumbing business and later founded the Gibson Hotel.² A good Scotch Presbyterian, he became a devoted member of the Plum Street Reformed Presbyterian Church. When William reached manhood, he entered into a partnership with his father in the plumbing business. After his marriage, William became a partner with his father-in-law, Andrew McCormick, in the manufacture of

¹Will Record of the Hamilton County Probate Court, Vol. 56, p. 86, Cincinnati, Ohio.
²Both of these businesses are still functioning in Cincinnati under the Gibson name, although the family sold its interests in them several decades ago.
lead pipe. However, William left the Plum Street Church and joined the Second Presbyterian Church.

William was a very active citizen, having served on the boards of several organizations such as the College of Music, and had been instrumental in the founding of the Presbyterian Hospital and School for Training Nurses. The obituary notice stated, "In his death the city loses one of its most substantial citizens."^4

A close relationship apparently existed between father and son. After William retired, we read, "His father had grown old, and William devoted his time to caring for and improving his father's and his own property which had accumulated to a large amount."^5 This notice also stated that he had an active interest in the Plum Street Church "more particularly because his father had been an attendant there."^6 This affection for his father's church is particularly evident in his will. After making

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^4Cincinnati Enquirer, November 15, 1891, p. 13.

^5Ibid. This source states that William left an estate worth about $1,800,000 consisting mainly of real estate.

^6Ibid. The father died in 1884, preceding William by seven years (Cincinnati Graphic, Feb. 28, 1885), Vol. 3, p. 131.
provision for an annual sum to be paid from the estate to his wife and three sons, he then wrote, "The remainder of the net income to be applied to the following legacies which I make in the name of and in the memory of my dear father, Peter Gibson." As one reads this phrase, "my dear father," he can almost feel the emotion that William felt for his departed father. Although William belonged to another denomination (which received nothing), he left $5000 to each of four Reformed Presbyterian denominational agencies. However, the last bequest is different and reads:

To the Cedarville College located at Cedarville, Ohio, being the College in connection with the said Reformed Presbyterian Church, the sum of Twenty-five Thousand ($25,000.00) dollars. All of the foregoing legacies and gifts . . . are given on the condition that the principle is securely and safely and permanently invested, the net income thereof is to be used. . . .

This will was signed on May 18, 1888, and Thomas Gibson, termed "my cousin" in the will, was one of the three "executors and trustees." However, this individual was also the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Cedarville College. Since the estate was valued at approximately $1,800,000, it is doubtful that William appointed

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7 Will Record of the Hamilton County Probate Court, Cincinnati, Ohio, Volume 56, p. 86.
8 Ibid.
9 Ibid., p. 87.
Thomas to such a serious responsibility without first con­sulting him. It is highly possible that Thomas, as a
good college trustee, reminded William of the need for
endowment for the new school, which helps to explain why he
gave five times as much to the College as he did to the
Seminary and other denominational groups. Nevertheless,
the important fact is that William's beneficence to
Reformed Presbyterian enterprises was due to the close
relationship he had maintained with his "dear father,
Peter," and the desire to endow these organizations in his
memory. After a short illness, William Gibson died on
November 14, 1891.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Gibson had
intended to change his will in order to omit his bequest to
the college. This was revealed in an article written by
Dr. David McKinney, pastor of the Plum Street Reformed
Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, and later the first
President of the College, who some years afterwards wrote
the following:

After waiting several years and seeing
that nothing was done, Mr. Gibson announced
to the writer that he intended to make other
disposition of the money. The matter was to
have been formally discussed by us in
November 1891, as to the best use to be made
of the money. He spoke of this during the

10_Cincinnati Enquirer_, Nov. 15, 1891, p. 13.
11_Ibid._
first week of that month. But at the end of the same week he was taken ill suddenly and died in a few days. The matter is mentioned in detail because of the impression it made upon the mind of the writer. It seemed as though Providence intended that this work should go on.  

Renewed interest.—The news of William Gibson's legacy revived interest in establishing the college. Whereas the Board of Trustees had recommended to the General Synod in 1890 that the "whole enterprise" be abandoned, their views in 1892 were more encouraging. The entry for May 24, 1892, records the following resolution to be presented to the General Synod:

Resolved, that in view of the fact that a bequest of $25,000 has been made to the Cedarville College by the late Mr. William Gibson, the Board of Trustees would recommend that an effort be made to revive an interest in that institution, and that the pastors in the different congregations be requested to bring the matter before their people at an early day, and urge them to contribute liberally for the establishment of said college, it being understood that the money subscribed is to be paid only on condition that enough is subscribed to make the enterprise a success.  

The General Synod met in Cedarville in 1892. The local paper reported that since the building of a college was of local interest, a number of citizens attended to "hear the discussion of the question by these able  


The resolution of the Board of Trustees was read and approved after much discussion. The cost of a building arose and Mr. Thomas Gibson stated that a neat and comfortable building might be erected for from $10,000 to $15,000. The General Synod did not take any other definite action, and the matter was left to languish for another year.

The Trustees did not meet in 1893, but they did report to the General Synod that they had arranged to receive the bequest of William Gibson. The details of the arrangement are not given, but the report of the Board of Education of the General Synod states:

In common with other boards of the church interested, we have executed an agreement with the trustees and heirs of the William Gibson estate by which we receive annual sums of $200 and on May 1, 1897 the sum of $4000. Under the will of the late William Gibson no definite time is fixed for payment of the liberal legacies coming to our denominational boards.


15 Minutes of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, 1892, recorded in the R. P. Advocate, July-Aug., 1892, p. 66. The Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, Pa. has a complete file of these Minutes, published separately as pamphlets.


and under the advice of counsel this agreement has been signed as the best thing under the circumstances.\textsuperscript{18}

The Board of Education had settled for 80 per cent of the original $5000 bequest plus the interest each year until 1897. This indicates that the same agreement was executed with the Board of Trustees of Cedarville College, for they received interest from the Gibson estate each year, and then a final settlement of $20,000 on May 1, 1897, which also represented 80 per cent of the original bequest.\textsuperscript{19} The difficult economic situation of those years caused this delay in settling the estate.

\textbf{Renewed action}.--Another year passed by before the General Synod took definite action to start operating a college. As indicated earlier, the spring and summer of 1894 were months of grave financial depression, and humanly speaking, it was not a propitious time to begin operations.\textsuperscript{20} The Board of Trustees had not met prior to going to the General Synod meeting at Coulterville, Illinois, but Mr. Thomas Gibson, President of the Board of Trustees, submitted a report calling for the erection of a building "costing about ten thousand dollars . . . extensive enough


\textsuperscript{19}"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 9, 1897, p. 38.

\textsuperscript{20}\textit{Supra}, p. 32.
for all the needs of the church for a number of years."\(^{21}\) He pointed out "that the money in the Board of Education would be available for use in the college."\(^{22}\) He concluded the report by appealing for some definite action by the General Synod.\(^{23}\)

Mr. H.-H. McMillan, the treasurer of the college, submitted a financial report showing receipts of $2314 (including $1000 from the Gibson estate) and disbursements of $1322.33, leaving a balance of $991.67.\(^{24}\) Considering the state of the economy and the fact that the report covered receipts for six years, this was not a very large sum with which to begin a college. The Covenanters were Calvinists with a strong faith in God, and their faith came to the fore at this time. They were finally willing to trust God for the supply of money and students, for after much discussion they accepted the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Trustees of Cedarville College be directed to erect or rent with the means at their disposal a suitable building for present needs and to secure such

\(^{21}\) Minutes of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, 1894, p. 15.

\(^{22}\) Ibid.

\(^{23}\) Ibid., p. 16.

\(^{24}\) Ibid.
teachers as they may deem necessary to begin the work of educating students in the preparatory branches of a collegiate education.\textsuperscript{25}

This was the mandate the Board of Trustees had been waiting for as the minutes record they met in Coulterville on May 21. One of their first acts was to choose the Reverend David McKinney, pastor of the Plum Street Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cincinnati, as President of the college.\textsuperscript{26} They "fixed the first Monday of October, 1894, as the beginning of the first term," and "resolved that the policy of the institution be co-educational."\textsuperscript{27} This resolution to admit young women is explained by the purpose of the founders not only to "train young men for the Gospel ministry," but also "the education of young men and women for missionary service at home and abroad, and for work as laymen in the Sabbath School and in the church."\textsuperscript{28} Co-education "tends to higher culture, more refined tastes, and better order than where this privilege is not granted."\textsuperscript{29}

Standing committees "On Property and Buildings," "On

\textsuperscript{25}Ibid.

\textsuperscript{26}"Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 21, 1894, p. 14.

\textsuperscript{27}Ibid., p. 15.

\textsuperscript{28}Cedrus, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1905, p. 6. Miss Alfreda Hammond of the class of 1903 served as a missionary in Egypt under the United Presbyterian Church.

\textsuperscript{29}Cedarville College Catalog, 1896-1897, p. 11.
Finance," and "On Instructors and Curriculum" were appointed.\(^30\) The "secretary of the Board was instructed to prepare a circular and prospectus of the college."\(^31\) Cedarville College at last was ceasing to be merely a charter and approaching actual operation as an institution.

\(^{30}\)"Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 21, 1894, p. 14.

\(^{31}\)Ibid., p. 15.
CHAPTER V

A SOLID FOUNDATION

The first president.—The choice of Dr. David McKinney by the Board of Trustees at the Coulterville meeting proved to be a wise one, for under his able leadership the college actually became a reality in the fall of 1894. A young man of thirty-four years, he threw the vigor of his youth into the task before him. A native of Philadelphia, he had "received a good classical education at the Philadelphia High School and the University of Pennsylvania, and his theological education at the Philadelphia Reformed Presbyterian Seminary, from whence he graduated in 1884."¹ After a successful pastorate in the Washington Reformed Presbyterian Church of Elgin, Illinois, he had traveled in the United States and Europe before assuming the pastorate of the First Reformed Presbyterian Church on Plum Street in Cincinnati in June, 1888. At this time he was described as "a bright, handsome, well-educated young man of pleasing address."² The

²Ibid.

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church was congratulated "in having obtained such a faithful and promising young brother as their pastor." True to the Presbyterian tradition of long pastorates, he served this church for forty years. For over half of this period he commuted to Cedarville to fulfill his role as President of the college. At least once every two weeks, Dr. McKinney would take the six o'clock train from Cincinnati to Cedarville, and spend the day attending to college business. Late in the day he would return to Cincinnati by train. During his absence the actual administration was conducted by Dr. McChesney who served as Dean of the faculty.

Initial preparations.—The three tasks confronting Dr. McKinney were the securing of a place in which to meet, selecting a faculty, and enrolling a student body. The committee on Property and Buildings rented a large house on the east side of Cedarville from Dr. David Steele of Philadelphia for one year. This home had previously been owned by Dr. Hugh McMillan who had operated a very successful academy, including among its alumni the

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5 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Sept. 19, 1894, p. 16.
Honorable Whitelaw Reid. On recommendation of Dr. Steele, the committee engaged Mrs. Anna Young, widow of a Reformed Presbyterian pastor, to take charge of the property. She received a scholarship for her son and was to have entire use of the kitchen and three rooms upstairs with fuel supplied by the college. In return she was to keep the recitation rooms clean, and "in case of a snowfall to have paths made to the gate and to the outhouse." The college spent $152.39 for carpentering, painting, and paper hanging to prepare the house for classes. They also spent an additional $105.56 for furniture and other items including $4.00 for "lettering the gate." This gate with the words, "Cedarville College" on it remained for many years after the college had moved into its own building.

The committee on Instructors and Curriculum headed by Dr. McKinney selected a faculty in time for the opening day. The Reverend J. F. Morton, D.D., pastor of the local Reformed Presbyterian Church, became the Professor of English Bible and offered his services gratuitously. They selected a young professor from Franklin College,

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6Ibid., p. 17.  7Ibid.  8Interview with Dr. Florence Williamson, Jan. 7, 1963.  9"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Sept. 19, 1894, p. 18.
Wilbert Renswick McChesney, A.M., to fill the Peter Gibson chair of Classical Language and Literature.\textsuperscript{10} He was a member of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in New Galilee, Pennsylvania. Miss Carrie Blair, a member of the Sparta, Illinois Reformed Presbyterian Church, and a public school teacher for ten years, was chosen to be the Francis Lamb Professor of English, history and math.\textsuperscript{11} Frank H. Dean was employed to be "instructor at $40 per month in English and science."\textsuperscript{12} Miss Belle Beasell of Cincinnati commuted to Cedarville two days a week to be the professor of music and received $5 per day and her expenses.\textsuperscript{13} She was a graduate of the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and "received a gold medal for her proficiency" from the Conservatory.\textsuperscript{14}

In order to secure students, the following advertisement appeared regularly in the \textit{Xenia Gazette} during June, July, August, and September of 1894:

Cedarville College, Located at Cedarville, Ohio. First term opens Wednesday, September 19, 1894 at 10 A.M. Healthful location, competent faculty. Students of both sexes admitted and prepared for advanced standing in

\textsuperscript{10}Ibid. The criteria for selection of the faculty in the early years is found in Chapter X.

\textsuperscript{11}Ibid.

\textsuperscript{12}Ibid. Mr. Dean only taught the first year. See "Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 16, 1895, p. 18.

\textsuperscript{13}Ibid.

\textsuperscript{14}R. P. Advocate, Sept. 18, 1895, p. 17.
larger institutions, or if desired taken through the usual course to the degree of A.B. The Trustees offer a free scholarship to the first honor pupil in each of the high schools of Greene County, giving a regular diploma at the examinations of 1894. Tuition $20 for the collegiate year. For further information address:

President David McKinney
22 Wesley Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio

or

Rev. J. F. Morton, D.D.
Cedarville, Ohio

The first advertisement in the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate appeared on the back cover of the August 1, 1894, issue. It was the same as the one in the Xenia Gazette except the offer of scholarships. Above it was the advertisement for Geneva College, the Old Side college, which had advertised regularly in the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate for years. The secretary of the Board of Trustees prepared and printed one thousand circulars per the instruction of the Board at their meeting in Coulterville. The advertisement also appeared in the Cedarville Herald and South Charleston Sentinel. They received a good response

15Xenia Gazette, June 26, 1894, p. 4.

16"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Sept. 19, 1894, p. 21.

17Ibid., As indicated previously, Xenia is the county seat and located eight miles southeast of Cedarville. South Charleston is only a village and located eleven miles northeast of Cedarville.
to these advertisements for a note in the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate stated, "The unexpected number of students made it necessary to employ another Professor. Mr. Frank Dean, a graduate of Monmouth, was chosen."\(^{18}\) Mr. Dean was on hand for the opening of the school year, so the Board of Trustees knew well enough in advance that they needed another teacher. An article in the Xenia Gazette stated, "The tuition fee is $20 per annum. It has been placed at this almost nominal amount so that the advantages of a higher education may be put within the reach of all."\(^{19}\) In addition to this very low tuition, the student did not have to buy his textbooks for the article indicated they could be "rented from the management."\(^{20}\) The decision to make the institution co-educational not only followed the custom of other colleges, but had two very real advantages. It attracted more students which helped the finances, and also provided educated young women to become wives of the ministers trained by the college. The addition of the preparatory course to the curriculum also assisted the college financially in that the "prep" students paid the same rate of tuition as those enrolled in the college. These factors

\(^{18}\)Reformed Presbyterian Advocate, Oct. 3, 1894, p. 16.
\(^{19}\)Xenia Gazette, Aug. 28, 1894, p. 3.
combined to provide a student body which crowded the facilities.

Grand opening.—The years of dreaming, planning, and working came to fruition on September 19, 1894. At 10 A.M. Dr. James Steele, secretary of the Board of Trustees, rang a bell and thirty-two students assembled in the chapel.

Seated before them were Dr. McKinney and the members of the faculty. The article in the _Reformed Presbyterian Advocate_ continues the description of that first meeting:

In an adjoining room, opening into the chapel was seated Mrs. James Steele of Philadelphia, Mrs. Anna Young ... Messrs. H. H. McMillan, the honored treasurer of the Board of Trustees; J. C. Stormont, J. D. Williamson and other friends from Cedarville, as well as some others from Xenia, Jamestown, and Clifton. Order was called by President McKinney who declared Cedarville College formally opened and announced that devotional exercises would be conducted by Rev. J. F. Morton, D.D. The chapter, Proverbs IV, was read from a Bible presented to Mrs. Dallas, mother of Mrs. Steele, on the occasion of the former's golden anniversary of her wedding.

After devotional exercises, students were matriculated by the president and other matters pertaining to the immediate wants of the students were attended to. All who were present went away more than encouraged at the bright opening of the college.

When we remember that it is scarcely three months since active work was begun in the interests of Cedarville College, it is no wonder that we are not only encouraged, but also surprised with the success of our college.

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21 Ibid.

22 Ibid.
The *Xenia Gazette* reported, "Up to this (Thursday) morning the number of students enrolled is about forty. As this is nearly double the number they had anticipated, the enterprise can be considered as starting off splendidly. Certainly every lover of education will rejoice in this."\(^{23}\)

Three students entered late so that thirty-six students attended the first semester.\(^{24}\) Much of the credit for such a successful beginning must be credited to Dr. McKinney as one note stated, "President McKinney is all at it, and always at it in behalf of the college."\(^{25}\) This same energetic spirit characterized his administration for twenty-one years.

**Traditions established.**—Certain customs were established in these early years of Dr. McKinney's administration that were followed down through the years. The distinctive Christian character of the college is seen in the motto chosen for the corporate seal, *Pro corona et foedere Christi*, i.e., "For the Crown and Covenant of Christ."\(^{26}\) The desire to prepare young men for the Reformed Presbyterian Seminary motivated the opening of the college, and the Board of Trustees the first year

\(^{23}\)*Xenia Gazette*, Sept. 21, 1894, p. 1

\(^{24}\)*R. P. Advocate*, Nov. 21, 1894, p. 15. Most of these students were from the local area.

\(^{25}\)Ibid.

\(^{26}\)"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Sept. 19, 1894.
"resolved to grant students for the ministry in our own church free tuition, and those connected with other churches tuition at half-rates."\textsuperscript{27}

The early publications emphasized this Christian character. For admission, the catalog stated that each student had to "present a certificate of good moral character from his last teacher, or from some citizen in good standing."\textsuperscript{28} Since the aim was "not only to develop and instruct mental faculties, but to awaken and strengthen the moral and spiritual powers," much attention was paid to worship and Bible study.\textsuperscript{29} Daily chapel services were held with Wednesday morning being the college prayer hour. Special classes for the study of the English Bible were regularly scheduled with attendance required and grades given. This was a requirement for graduation as the statement is made, "No student will be given a diploma who has not grades in English Bible."\textsuperscript{30} A statement in the 1911 college annual indicates the success of the college in achieving its spiritual aims for it states, "One evidence of its influence is the fact that forty per cent of the male graduates are ministers and missionaries of the gospel. It

\textsuperscript{27}Ibid.
\textsuperscript{28}Cedarville College catalog, 1897-98, p. 12.
\textsuperscript{29}Ibid., p. 31.
\textsuperscript{30}Ibid.
was founded in prayer and through prayer it has increased in material and spiritual things." \(^{31}\) However, many of the other graduates went into the profession of law and medicine, and a large number entered the educational field. Prior to 1910, a certificate to teach could be secured by taking the teacher's examination, and it was fairly easy for college graduates to achieve high scores.

The high spiritual standards required a faculty dedicated to Christian education, and Dr. McKinney succeeded in bringing together godly men and women to teach in the college. Professor W. R. McChesney of the first year's faculty was a deeply spiritual man and successful teacher and pulpit orator. The second year brought Mr. Frank Jurkat, boyhood friend of Professor McChesney, as professor of modern languages. \(^{32}\) However, he was equally at home reading the Scriptures in Hebrew and Greek. Mr. Leroy Allen came in the fall of 1907 and attended the Xenia Theological Seminary while at Cedarville and became an ordained minister of the United Presbyterian Church in 1915. \(^{33}\) Through Dr. McKinney's efforts the Reformed

\(^{31}\) The Gavelyte Annual, Cedarville College, 1911, p. 7.


Presbyterian Seminary of Philadelphia transferred to Cedarville in 1913 and Professors McChesney, Jurkat, and Allen taught in the Seminary as well as in the college, which indicates their spiritual stature.\textsuperscript{34}

The standards of conduct for students reflected the norms of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. Any student caught dancing or smoking faced the censure of the faculty.\textsuperscript{35} Students were "required to attend the church designated by their parents," and the faculty saw to it this requirement was fulfilled.\textsuperscript{36} Most of the students came from homes with similar standards, and came to the college because of its Christian atmosphere. They enjoyed good, clean, wholesome recreation, but as the catalog states, "The enticements to sin, so plentiful in large cities and overcrowded colleges, are not found here."\textsuperscript{37}

\textsuperscript{34}The careers of these men at Cedarville will be treated more fully in chapter X.

\textsuperscript{35}"Minutes of the Faculty," Dec. 14, 1909, p. 135. A student "was called before the faculty and warned by the President that he could remain in college only upon the condition that he refrain from smoking cigarettes, not be out later than nine o'clock, be moral in his conduct, and study his lessons." The article, "Twenty-two Facts About Dancing" in the R. P. Advocate, Aug. 13, 1893, p. 14-15 sums up the church's attitude in these words, "As the love of dancing comes in, the love of God goes out."

\textsuperscript{36}\textit{Ibid.}, Jan. 20, 1908, p. 111. "The faculty was instructed to watch" a particular student "in regard to church attendance."

\textsuperscript{37}\textit{Cedarville College Catalog}, 1896-97, p. 9.
The students also had a host of extra-curricular activities (which will be treated in a later chapter) such as the Literary Societies, Lecture series, the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., the Young Ministers Club, Glee Club, musical recitals, Gavel Society, Bible Reading Contest, Dramatic Club, and athletics including football, basketball, baseball, and tennis. In addition there were the annual flag rush, Ivy Day, and finally developed Cedar Day, an event in which the entire community took part. More informal social activities were enjoyed such as a "spread" (a dinner in someone's home), a sleigh ride, or a picnic at the Cedarville cliffs, Clifton gorge, or glen in Yellow Springs.

Buildings erected.—The initial large enrollment made it apparent even before the opening of the college that the rented facilities would be too small. On the night before the college opened (September 18, 1894), a public meeting took place in the Cedarville Opera House in the interest of the new college. The Xenia Gazette reported, "The institution, it is known, has a splendid site and is asking the citizens of Cedarville to subscribe liberally to aid in the construction of the necessary building. Of course it will be a great advantage to the town... Subscriptions to the Building fund were not asked for, but will be privately subscribed."38

38 Xenia Gazette, Sept. 21, 1894, p. 1.
A report in the November 21, 1894, issue of the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate stated that "another public meeting was held the evening of the 22 past in the interest of the enterprise. It was largely attended by the representative people of the community. . . . The erection of a college building is now the all absorbing question with the Board of Trustees."39 A further note indicated that "a committee was appointed to take charge of raising $4000 in the township outside of special contributions so that a $12,000 building may be ready in the fall."40

The Board of Trustees met in a called meeting on February 14, 1895. The treasurer reported a balance of $1655. The chairman appointed a building committee composed of "McKinney, Stormont, Park, and Stevenson" and an advisory committee to act with the Building Committee consisting of "George W. Harper, David S. Ervin, Thompson Crawford, J. D. Williamson, A. Y. Reid."41 Dr. McKinney moved that the Building Committee start construction "as early as possible in the Spring" and his motion carried.42

39R. P. Advocate, Nov. 21, 1894, p. 15.
40Ibid.
41"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Feb. 14, 1894, p. 23.
42Ibid.
The Board of Trustees next met at Darlington, Pennsylvania, during the annual meeting of the General Synod. The Building Committee reported,

... that plans and specifications submitted by Architect James Turner of New York City had been adopted, bids opened, and the contract awarded to John W. McLean of Cedarville for $9,785.50. The pressed brick contribution of A. Y. Reid amounts to $500; they expect to pay $1000 for common brick, about $475 for heating apparatus, and some $1500 for furniture and incidentals so that not less than $14,000 is estimated as the amount necessary to complete the building.43

The record shows little discussion of finances. The treasurer's report for the first year of operation showed a net balance of $2646.81 including $1750.94 "received on subscription."44 The Board also moved that "all funds in the treasurer's hands be subject to the draft of the building committee."45 However, the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate published regularly articles appealing for funds, and the money did come in quite well. The basement and three floors of the building were finished in the fall of 1895 with only an indebtedness of $2850.46 The "common brick" were made on the rear of the college property, and a picture taken November 5, 1909, shows the kilns still standing.

43 Ibid., May 16, 1895, p. 26. The architect was a member of the Reverend J. D. Steele's congregation.

44 Ibid., May 21, 1895, p. 29.


46 Ibid., May 25, 1896, p. 32.
So much labor was donated by the Cedarville congregation, and tuition worked out by students, that the exact cost was not known. The college opened in the building in the fall with an enrollment of sixty-seven students even though it was not completed. It was dedicated during the meeting of the General Synod in Cedarville the following May 26, 1896.

The next building acquired by the College during Dr. McKinney's presidency was the Alford Gymnasium. The student body had participated in athletics from the beginning, and the college had rented a hall upstairs over a storeroom in downtown Cedarville for use as a gymnasium. The Cedarville congregation built a new church edifice in 1902 and wished to sell their old building. Dr. John Alford wrote in a letter how he became interested in the old church:

My dear Professor McChesney:

Your letter has just come to hand. My attention was first called to what is now Alford Memorial of Cedarville College by a letter from you in our Advocate, pleading with its readers that someone should purchase said church and lot ... for a gymnasium for Cedarville College. I succeeded in inducing my son, William John

47 Ibid., p. 33.
48 R. P. Advocate, Nov. 18, 1896, p. 316.
49 Ibid., June 3, 1896, p. 212.
Alford to buy said property and check it over to said college in the name of John Alford and his wife, Mary B. Alford. We felt in doing this that we were doing a good work for our college and our church.  

The minutes of the local church indicate that "the sale of the old church property has been completed for $1500." The remodeled building was dedicated on June 10, 1903. The next morning the college showed its gratitude by granting the Reverend John Alford an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. The gymnasium became the center of athletic activity with basketball the major sport of the school.

Through the efforts of Dr. McKinney and the Honorable Whitelaw Reid, a gift received from Mr. Andrew Carnegie provided a library building in 1908. Mr. Carnegie originally offered a gift of $7,500, but later agreed to match the sum raised by the college in one year for the endowment fund. This amounted to $11,795. The township gave the college a lot on which to construct the building. The township library trustees also agreed to

51 "Minutes of the Congregational meeting," Vol. 1873-1936, June 5, 1903, p. 84.
52 Cedarville Herald, June 12, 1903, p. 1.
53 Ibid., Sept. 4, 1908, p. 1.
54 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 5, 1907, p. 95.
furnish a "sufficient amount of magazines, books, etcetera, as will be acquired." The library in this way served both the community and college. These three buildings quite adequately cared for the needs of the college in those days.

Curriculum.—The curriculum demanded much of the students. There were the Preparatory, Collegiate and Musical departments. The Preparatory department included the junior and senior years of high school. The work in Latin started in the junior year of the Preparatory department and continued through the sophomore year of college. The study of Greek began in the senior year of the Preparatory department, and continued through the junior year of college. The classical and philosophic courses in the Collegiate department led to the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees respectively. They were very similar except that the Bachelor of Arts required Greek as a language and the Bachelor of Science language was German.

Study in the Music Department led to a diploma. A person could major in piano, organ, voice, or harmony. Recitals were given at the end of each term. Heavy assignments in math, science, literature and Latin kept the students busy. The first year was on a two semester basis, but in

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56 Ibid.

1895 the faculty switched to a three term basis which lasted until 1911 when they returned to the semester and introduced the "elective system."\footnote{Minutes of the Faculty, Nov. 15, 1910. These curricular changes will be treated in chapter XI.}

**Financial stability.**—The college was a financial success from the beginning although never affluent. The treasury showed a balance the first year which was used in building Old Main. The income from the Gibson estate averaged $1000 per year until the settlement in 1892. Then the Board of Trustees made a very wise investment of the $20,000 received from the estate in buying a four-story building in downtown Cincinnati at 19 E. 9th Street between Vine and Walnut Streets.\footnote{Minutes, Board of Trustees, June 9, 1897, p. 38.} This building continued to appreciate in value and the rental income to increase as the years went by. The first report available lists a net income of $1416 paid to the college in 1905, and this had increased to $1900 by 1913.\footnote{Ibid., June 5, 1913, p. 124.}

Efforts were made from time to time to build the Endowment Fund. In 1905 the college raised $5000 to match an equal amount offered by Mr. George W. Harper to establish the George W. Harper chair in Economics and Sociology.\footnote{Ibid., June 8, 1905, p. 85.}
The amount raised to match Mr. Andrew Carnegie's gift has already been mentioned. In 1904 the college received a two-thirds interest in the estate of R. M. Cooper of Cedarville.62 These and other gifts enriched the endowment fund so that it amounted to approximately $90,000 when Dr. McKinney resigned in 1915.63 It is interesting to note that the Board of Trustees in their resolution of commendation mentioned, "that we recognize it is largely due to Dr. McKinney's executive ability and financial judgment that the college has made its progress and is in its present commendable condition."64 A communication from the faculty to the Board of Trustees also emphasized the financial ability of Dr. McKinney. They moved

that it be signified to the Board of Trustees that the faculty would be greatly pleased should Dr. McKinney be retained as a member of the Board of Trustees and in the same financial relation to the college. Professor Jurkat was instructed to report this action to the Trustees.65

Apparently the faculty recognized the ability of Dr. McKinney in the realm of finance, and the solid foundation he laid for the college in this area.

63 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 3, 1915, p. 135.
64 Ibid., p. 136.
The resignation of Dr. McKinney.—Two major factors led to Dr. McKinney's resignation after twenty-one years in office. The first was the merger of the First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cincinnati with the First Presbyterian Church of the same city, with the latter surviving as the corporate organization. The First Reformed Presbyterian Church ceased to exist and Dr. McKinney became pastor of a different denomination (Presbyterian Church in the United States of America), and no longer had affiliation with the General Synod. Dr. McKinney related this problem in his resignation in this manner, "The change in my church relations in the past year . . . would affect my ability to serve the college if the present relation were to continue." Therefore, he felt his resignation to be in the best interests of the college.

The other factor involved a growing desire by the Trustees for a full-time president for the college. Dr. McKinney made regular visits to the college by train and presided over the meetings of the faculty. In his absence Professor McChesney "was the active head, but

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66 Jesse Halsey, One Hundred Fifty Years of Presbyterianism in the Ohio Valley, 1790-1940 (Cincinnati, 1941), p. 33. No publisher listed.

67 Interview with Dr. Earl McKinney, January 15, 1963.

68 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 3, 1915, p. 135.

69 Ibid.
without any title to indicate that he was." Professor Jurkat was the assistant treasurer who took care of the financial matters. The minutes of the Board of Trustees nor the minutes of the Faculty for these years indicate any problems arising from this arrangement. However, Dr. McKinney indicates in his resignation that there was a desire on his part and on the part of some of the Trustees for a resident president. He wrote to the Board of Trustees:

Twenty-one years is long enough time for any man to do his best work in an office of this kind. Possibly if I could have devoted my entire time to this work more could have been accomplished. This is an open question. It is now too late for any change of this kind. But that question suggests what I have always believed to be a great need of this college: a resident president who can enter into, affect, and direct every phase of the college life. A number of times good friends of the college have urged me to give myself exclusively to the work of the college. Last year members of your board urged me that I give up my other work and become the resident president of the college. . . . Long ago I came to the conclusion that when I must choose between the college and the church I would retain my pulpit. "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel."\(^\text{71}\)

In view of these facts, the Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Dr. McKinney effective after

\(^\text{70}\)J. Robb Harper, personal letter, Feb. 6, 1963. Mr. Harper, a graduate of 1900, is the oldest living alumnus and was a member of the faculty from 1900-1902.

\(^\text{71}\)"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 3, 1915, p. 135.
commencement June 4, 1915. However, the Board refused to accept his resignation from the Board of Trustees and he remained a member and was Chairman of the Finance Committee until the time of his death on April 26, 1934.72

An Evaluation of Dr. McKinney's presidency.--The college was most fortunate in having a man of Dr. McKinney's stature as first president. He was a devout Christian, endowed with administrative ability, and consecrated to the cause of Christian education. He used these talents to initiate, organize, and promote the interests of the college in a most successful way. He had contacts in the city of Cincinnati and these enabled him to make wise decisions for the financial matters of the college. He assumed leadership of an organization that had only a charter and a piece of bare land, and left it a thriving college, free of debt, with three substantial buildings, a dedicated faculty, loyal alumni, and an increasing number of faithful supporters. He did all this on a part-time basis so that one cannot help wondering what the results would have been had he been a full-time president.

72Ibid., May 31, 1934, p. 80.
CHAPTER VI

THE GOLDEN YEARS - 1915-1940

Selection of the second President.—The Board of Trustees did not lose any time in choosing a successor to Dr. McKinney. In the same meeting in which they accepted his resignation, they selected Professor Wilbert Renwick McChesney as the new President.\(^1\) Mr. Joseph Finney explained the action of the Board of Trustees as their representative in his remarks during the inauguration ceremony on November 12, 1915, in these words:

... the Board had no explanation of its action to offer, that, when in June 3, 1915, it met to consider the election, speaking through the consciences of its members, came the message of the work of Dr. McChesney, and, with one accord, they answered.\(^2\)

Dr. McChesney came to Cedarville College to serve on the original faculty in 1894. A graduate of Franklin College, a Presbyterian school at New Athens, Ohio, he had taught there from 1890 to 1894. A very handsome young man

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\(^1\)"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 3, 1915, p. 136.

with a winning personality, he was well received in Cedarville, for as one report stated, "He has had good success in stealing the hearts of the people." This was particularly true in his relationship with Miss Lulu Morton, daughter of Dr. Morton, pastor of the Cedarville Reformed Presbyterian Church, for the following summer they were married. His Alma Mater gave him an honorary Ph.D. in 1906. From the beginning he served as secretary of the faculty, and in June, 1913, became "Dean of the faculty." When he assumed the presidency, he was well equipped by education and experience, and was highly respected in the college, the community, and in the Reformed Presbyterian denomination.

The inauguration of Dr. McChesney.—This event took place on November 12, 1915, in the local Opera House. The entire community participated and a holiday spirit prevailed. The town was "decked in gala attire of gold and blue, the college colors, and bright with many flags

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4 Xenia Gazette, Aug. 13, 1895, p. 1. They had one child, Frances, born July 12, 1910, who graduated from Cedarville College in 1930, but who died shortly afterward in 1931.
5 Cedarville College Catalog, 1906-07, p. 8.
6 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 5, 1913, p. 126.
streaming from many business houses and residences." Students, alumni, local citizens, and representatives from a dozen other education institutions met at the Opera House in the morning. President J. Knox Montgomery of Muskingum College gave an address on "The Function of the Christian College." The ladies of the local Methodist Church served the inaugural luncheon to about 250 guests. Following the luncheon the representatives of other colleges, including President W. O. Thompson of Ohio State University, brought greetings from their respective institutions.

A colorful academic procession from the college to the Opera House took place in the afternoon. There the college orchestra played, "The War Songs of the Boys in Blue" while the capacity crowd filled the gaily decorated auditorium. The retiring President, Dr. McKinney, presided and formally inaugurated his successor, Dr. McChesney. The new president then delivered his inaugural address entitled, "The Ideal College." The closing paragraphs are interesting in that they illustrate Dr. McChesney's renown as a pulpit orator and also his dedication to the college.

That college and that faculty are rendering the greatest service to humanity and bringing the greatest glory to God that are . . .

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8Ibid., pp. 6-7. 9Ibid., pp. 13-20.
oping character which will ring true to principle whether it be popular or unpopular. . . .

The motto of Cedarville College is "For Christ's Crown and Covenant." It was first heralded by our forefathers of Scotland and Ireland as they suffered persecution and martyrdom for the crown rights and royal perogatives of King Jesus. . . . They espoused the truth. They believed God's Word. . . . Blessed be God that here stands a college whose motto is theirs and whose purpose is not only to perpetuate their precious memory but to keep to the forefront the undying principles which they received and cherished and suffered for in order to transmit them to us.

Citizens of Cedarville and community, Board of Trustees, Alumni, Students and Faculty, let us here and now dedicate ourselves anew, with the like devotion which characterized our illustrious fathers. . . . and in so doing we pray not for lighter tasks but greater strength; not for conflicts to be shunned but for courage and wisdom to meet them; not for passing honor, whose getting is unworthy of earnest effort, but for potent influence so holy, rational, serviceable and devoid of selfish purpose that it shall uplift fellowmen as it breathes upon them its beneficence and so continue, after our work is done, to carry its blissful charm and power to coming generations. 10

In this manner and with these aims, Dr. McChesney officially began his presidency. He remained in this office until June, 1940, and the college saw many of its most prosperous days and some difficult times during his gifted leadership.

10 Ibid., pp. 19-20.
Summer School instituted.—The college had opened a new "Teachers Department" in the fall of 1908. The enrollment in this department was very good, but many of the students took only the two-year course. Dr. McChesney had taught in the Summer School at Wooster University, as it was then called, where over 1000 students attended the summer session. He saw the need for such a summer session at Cedarville to help the local teachers to work toward a degree. The first session was held from June 21 to July 30, 1915. The president in his report to the Board of Trustees, indicated that a faculty of thirty, including visiting professors, had instructed 138 students.

The first Summer School was so successful, the administration decided to have another summer session in 1916 from June 19 to July 19. A special issue of the catalog was published for the summer session of 1916. The term lasted six weeks and cost forty dollars including tuition, room and board, books, and incidentals. Courses could be taken in the preparatory, collegiate, or graduate departments. Although the summer session was designed primarily to help elementary and secondary teachers to meet certif-

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11 *Cedarville College Catalog*, 1908-1909, p. 44.
13 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 8, 1916, p. 142. See Chapter XI for a fuller discussion of the regular teacher education program.
cation or degree requirements, the catalog emphasized that undergraduate students could make up back work or advance their standing.\textsuperscript{14}

The curriculum for secondary teachers included such courses as history of education, science of education, general methods, school organization and school law, school management, and methods courses in Latin, mathematics, science, and history. The elementary teachers could study general psychology, educational psychology, special methods, general methods, rural school methods, primary methods, and sociology. The college maintained three "model training schools for the observation of teaching and for practice teaching." Courses in observation and practice teaching were offered to both elementary and secondary teachers. Pupils from the public schools were given free tuition in either the high school, in the elementary grades, or in the primary grades. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction gave full credit toward certification for any work taken in the Summer School. The college maintained a free "Teacher's Employment Bureau" to aid teachers in finding new positions.\textsuperscript{15} Similar sessions were held thereafter during Dr. McChesney's leadership. They provided an opportunity for the teachers to finish their degrees, and

\textsuperscript{14}Cedarville College Catalog, Summer School, 1916, pp. 11-18.

\textsuperscript{15}Ibid.
also augmented the meager salaries of the professors.

Public Relations.--The duties of a college president in those days were many and varied, but cultivating good public relations was a vital responsibility. At the end of his first year in office, Dr. McChesney reported that he had taught four hours a day for four days a week. Fridays he spent visiting over forty high schools to interest students in the college. He had been invited to bring the commencement address in twelve high schools.¹⁴ These activities were in addition to the regular administrative duties. He also was in demand as a pulpit supply and many of his Sundays were spent in this manner seeking to enlist the support of the churches for the college. Dr. McChesney stated it this way in the difficult days of 1931:

> It is our desire, and shall be our effort during the coming year to interest as many congregations of church people as possible in placing Cedarville College permanently, more or less, on their budget. We would like to enlist the interest and cooperation of fifty different congregations this year in addition to those we already have.¹⁵

At various times during these years (1915-1940), other pastors were appointed to help "in the field, making contacts with persons of means and influence."¹⁶ For

¹⁴Ibid., p. 143.
¹⁵Ibid., June 4, 1913, p. 5.
¹⁶Ibid., p. 3.
example, the Reverend Ralph M. Fox of the Presbytery of Dayton, and the Reverend G. G. Kerr of Washington Presbytery in Pennsylvania served the college in this capacity in 1931. The Reverend R. M. Fox received $5 per day for each day worked plus expenses, and the Reverend G. G. Kerr received a stated sum of $150 for the year. These men brought the college before individuals and churches that Dr. McChesney could not reach.

Dr. McChesney also firmly believed in the power of the printed page and used this medium of reaching people as often as possible. The Cedarville College Bulletin, a quarterly publication first appeared in April, 1915, just before Dr. McChesney took office. This became the medium for keeping the Alumni and other friends informed about activities, plans, and needs of the college. In his first annual report, he stated, "we have distributed several thousand catalogs, bulletins, letters, and have used the free medium of the county newspapers." This type of work reached a peak in 1931 when the president reported, "ten thousand circular letters were sent out; three thousand catalogs were addressed and mailed; and sixty thousand

17 Ibid., p. 11.
18 Cedarville College Bulletin, I (Oct. 1915), cover page.
19 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 8, 1916, p. 144.
bulletins were mailed. . . ."20 He also indicated that the college "has been advertised by paid and free articles in the secular and religious press," and there followed a list of church publications, daily newspapers in Ohio, and a statement that the high school publications were "too numerous to mention."21 However, the financial depression had so affected the college by 1932 that he mentioned the advertising had been discontinued and lamented that "it is a great handicap not to be able to carry our advertisements in the church papers through whose columns we are able to reach the young people of Christian persuasion."22 The Bulletin continued to be published, but by 1939 the annual circulation had dropped to 3500 copies.23

Dr. McChesney continued his personal contact with the churches and organizations, gaining a state-wide reputation as an orator.24 He became an authority on Abraham Lincoln, and developed a "Lincoln Lecture" that was in great demand.25 Dr. McChesney was elected in 1933 as the

20Ibid., June 4, 1931, p. 3.  21Ibid., p. 4.
22Ibid., June 2, 1932, p. 34.
23Ibid., June 1, 1939, p. 208.
24Personal interview with Mrs. Carrie Rife Jamieson, July 27, 1965. Mrs. Jamieson graduated from Cedarville College in 1904 and served as Principal of Cedarville High School for approximately twenty-five years.
Greene County Representative to the State legislature and was asked to deliver his "Lincoln Lecture" to the General Assembly.\textsuperscript{26} He was reelected four times, and the prestige of this office enhanced the "image" of the college before the public. He served on the Education Committee of the House of Representatives where he was able to use his influence for higher education. There never was any conflict between his administrative duties at the college and his legislative responsibilities. The Legislature only met every other year, and his classes were scheduled with respect to the legislative sessions. According to Miss Helen Santmyer, Dean of Women at that time, Dr. McChesney "was able to do both jobs very well."\textsuperscript{27} If it were true of Dr. McKinney as a part-time president that he was "all at it and always at it in behalf of the college," how much truer this was of Dr. McChesney who gave himself unselfishly to promoting the interests of Cedarville College.

\textit{Student activities.}--Europe was already embroiled in World War I when Dr. McChesney took office, and less than two years later the United States entered the war. This affected the enrollment, and the college yearbook, \textit{The Cedrus}, for 1918 was dedicated "to the young men of Cedarville College who have heard and heeded the call of

\textsuperscript{26}\textit{Personal interview with Mrs. Pierce Combs, Sept. 23, 1964.}

\textsuperscript{27}\textit{Personal interview with Miss Helen Santmyer, April 25, 1966.}
The bugle. . . ."\textsuperscript{28} The Women's Advisory Board presented
the college with a service flag with fifty two stars.\textsuperscript{29}
Fortunately only one of these became a gold star representing
Wallace Cooper Anderson who was accidently killed
while at sea near Pensacola, Florida on October 30, 1918.\textsuperscript{30}

The number of students grew from 116 in 1920 to a
peak enrollment of 171 in 1928-1929.\textsuperscript{31} Then it dropped to
a low of 109 in 1931-1932, rose again to 139 in 1936-1937,
and then decreased until only eighty students were register-
pered the last year (1939-1940) of Dr. McChesney's adminis-
tration.\textsuperscript{32} Throughout this period most of the students
came from Cedarville or adjacent communities, although few
were always in attendance from other states and occasion-
ally a foreign student enrolled.

A typical commencement of this era is illustrated
by that which took place on June 5, 1933. The services
were held in the First Presbyterian Church. At this time
twelve graduates received the Bachelor of Arts degree with
all but one receiving the Ohio state four year provisional
high school teaching certificate. There were five candi-

\textsuperscript{28}The Cedrus, 1918, p. 3.
\textsuperscript{29}Ibid., p. 6.
\textsuperscript{30}Ibid., 1919, p. 39.
\textsuperscript{31}Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 6, 1929,
p. 313.
\textsuperscript{32}Ibid., Dec. 8, 1939, p. 212.
dates for the Bachelor of Science in Education degree. Of these, two received the four year provisional high school certificate, and one was given the four year provisional elementary school certificate. In addition there were two candidates for honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees.\textsuperscript{33} These honorary degrees were usually given to clergymen whose churches supported the college.

A change in the religious affiliation of the student body and of the standards of conduct also occurred. In the early days a large percentage of the student body came from the Reformed Presbyterian Churches. A survey in 1910 showed that there were sixteen Reformed Presbyterians, New Sides, nineteen United Presbyterians, six Presbyterians in the United States of America, two Reformed Presbyterians, Old Sides, one Associate Presbyterian, one Orthodox Presbyterian, six Methodist Episcopal, and one German Methodist. A similar analysis in 1932 listed thirty-four students from the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, fifteen United Presbyterians, two Reformed Presbyterians, forty-one Methodist Episcopal, and several other denominations including four Catholic students and one Jewish

\textsuperscript{33}This material from the program for the commencement exercises loaned to the author by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Spencer who were members of this graduating class. Mrs. Spencer's mother, Mrs. Alfred E. Swaby, nee Lulu Coe, graduated from Cedarville College in the class of 1900.
orthodox student. This may be explained in part by the fact that the local Reformed Presbyterian congregation had left the Reformed Presbyterian Church, General Synod, and united with the synod of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America in 1926, and became the First Presbyterian Church of Cedarville. The college, in 1928, as will be explained later, also left the Reformed Presbyterian Church and sought union with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America which did not materialize.

The change in the religious composition also resulted in a slight change in standards of conduct. Most of the early students came from homes where dancing and the use of tobacco were taboo, and these same standards existed in the college. In this period the faculty minutes record the appointment of a committee "to work out a program to prohibit the use of tobacco among students and to report back next fall." Some years later a resolution was passed by the Board of Trustees that the faculty was to provide supervised recreation and social activities including "properly supervised dancing." The Christian

34 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 2, 1932, p. 35.
37 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Mar. 30, 1938, p. 172.
emphasis, however, did not change, and the president could report to the Board of Trustees in 1934 that the students were "100% church members."38 The students continued active in the Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, formed their own "Gospel Team made up of young men and young women" who had "the evangelistic spirit."39 They attended chapel three times a week, and engaged in a "Day of Prayer" the second Friday each February.40 With students of such high calibre, it is not surprising that these young people went out to become leaders in various fields of endeavor, and Dr. McChesney could report to the Board of Trustees "that sixty teachers out of 150 teachers in the public schools of Greene County had their training at Cedarville College."41 Many others were successful in the legal and medical professions, and a number entered various other occupations.

Enlarged facilities.—The major contributions of Dr. McChesney's administration in this area were the building of the Science Hall, and the remodeling of Alford Memorial Gymnasium.

39 Cedarville College Catalog, 1939-1940, pp. 15-16.
40 Ibid.
41 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Feb. 2, 1934, p. 65.
A special meeting of the Board of Trustees assembled June 25, 1921, to decide whether they should sign a contract with a fund raising organization in order to carry on a campaign for increasing the endowment and raising funds for a new building. They decided to sign a contract with Ward Systems Company, and to carry on the campaign for eight weeks. 42

This endeavor to raise funds was the most successful in the history of the college. When the Board of Trustees met in September, the president reported that $132,230 had been pledged at a cost of $8000. 43 The treasurer reported at the mid-winter meeting of the Trustees that he had received $29,522 in cash, liberty bonds, and stocks. 44 The college sold a farm that year for $13,500 that had been willed to them previously by W. A. Collins. These receipts along with others enriched the Endowment and Building Fund by $64,454, the largest amount ever received in one year. 45

The Board of Trustees met in special session on February 24, 1922, and moved that a Building Plans Com-

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42Ibid., June 25, 1921, p. 193.
43Ibid., Sept. 10, 1921, p. 195.
44Ibid., Feb. 24, 1922, p. 201.
mittee should secure plans for a combination science hall and gymnasium, and also plans for two separate buildings. They met again in March and after discussion, they instructed the Building Plans Committee to secure the services of an architect to prepare plans and specifications for a separate science building to cost about $20,000. The final decision and opening of bids took place on July 6, 1922. The estimated cost was $39,000. Construction was completed in time for the dedication of the new science hall during the observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the college during Commencement Week of 1923. As with most buildings, the actual cost was higher than the original estimate, amounting to $40,833.56. The heating plant broke down the first winter, but fortunately the contractor repaired it without cost to the college.

The college had hoped to raise $200,000 in their Endowment and Building campaign, but fell far short of this in actual money received. The records show that at the end of five years, $73,971 had come in through this campaign. After paying for the new science hall, the net

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46 Ibid., Feb. 24, 1922, p. 201.
48 Ibid., July 6, 1922, p. 220.
49 Ibid., June 7, 1923, p. 227.
50 Ibid., June 4, 1925, p. 251.
increase to the endowment fund amounted to approximately $33,000. Dr. McChesney continually emphasized the need to build the endowment fund, and gifts were received each year so that the fund experienced gradual growth. The largest gift ever received came in 1928 from the estate of Miss Christine Arbuckle who left the college $25,000. She was a member of the first United Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where Dr. J. Alvin Orr, an alumnus of the first graduating class, was the pastor. She had previously given the college gifts of $5000 on two different occasions so that her total giving of $35,000 made her the most generous benefactor of the institution.

The movement to remodel Alford Memorial Gymnasium began in 1921 when the Board of Trustees instructed Dr. McChesney to see Dr. W. J. Alford personally relative to enlarging the building. The Board met again in December, and in order to meet the conditions laid down by Dr. Alford, they agreed to set aside from the Endowment and Building Fund $10,000 for remodeling the gymnasium, and $10,000 for its endowment. The matter lagged until the fall of 1925

51 Ibid., Feb. 8, 1929, p. 310.
53 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Sept. 10, 1921, p. 196.
54 Ibid., Dec. 21, 1921, p. 200.
when plans and specifications were presented by McCuman Brothers, contractors of Xenia, Ohio, and their bid of $18,820 was accepted. They added 40 feet to the width of the original building so that the catalog described it as having "seating capacity for assemblies of one thousand, and for athletic events a seating capacity of seven hundred." It also had a stage for plays and a kitchen for banquets and receptions. The catalog boasted, "It is one of the most beautiful and best arranged gymnasiums in Southwestern Ohio." The remodeled building was dedicated during Commencement Week of 1927. The treasurer's reports for 1926 and 1927 show contributions of $10,000 received each year from Dr. Alford which paid for the changes made in the building.

Many improvements were also made to the existing buildings. Gas lights gave way to electricity. The buildings were connected to the village water and sewer systems when these were made available. The Board of Trustees acquired additional property as it became available, such as the four acres adjoining the original campus on the north,

56 Cedarville College Catalog, 1928-1929, p. 7.
57 Ibid.
and the lot north of Alford Memorial Gymnasium where Faith Hall now stands. Even during the difficult days of the Great Depression when finances were so limited, the Trustees kept the buildings in good repair.

Released from the General Synod.— One event that occurred during Dr. McChesney's administration has provoked much discussion, and this was the request of the college to be released from the control of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, General Synod. This release was granted by the General Synod meeting at Coulterville, Illinois on May 18, 1928, and transferred all ownership and control to the Board of Trustees "and their successors in office forever." 59

The evidence indicates that this move was prompted by a desire to affiliate with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America since the support received from the Reformed Presbyterian Church was very small. Dr. McChesney, in his last report to the Board of Trustees, makes the following statement concerning the college, "It was founded by a small denomination numbering only three thousand and continuing to decline in numbers and means until compelled to give up the college to a self-perpetu-

59 Ibid., May 31, 1928, p. 298.
At the same meeting of the Board of Trustees in which they resolved to ask their release from the General Synod, a committee was appointed "to confer with members of the Dayton Presbytery of a Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, looking towards an alliance between said Presbytery and the college."\(^6^1\)

This desire for affiliation with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America started much earlier, for during the Endowment and Building Fund campaign of 1921, the college had applied for a gift of $20,000 from the General Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America on the grounds that it had educated twenty-six men then serving churches in that denomination besides several missionaries on the foreign field.\(^6^2\) In order to facilitate the granting of this request, the Board of Trustees moved that:

The Synod of Ohio or any other body or organization of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, whose place it may be, to nominate not to exceed three representatives of said church to serve on the Board of Trust-

\(^6^0\)Ibid., May 29, 1940, p. 219. In a conversation on July 3, 1965, Mr. Chalmers Elder of the Reformed Presbyterian congregation of Darlington, Pa., informed the author that the Reformed Presbyterian Church, General Synod, had only ten or eleven churches in 1928.

\(^6^1\)Ibid., May 7, 1928, p. 286.

\(^6^2\)Ibid., Oct. 10, 1921, p. 198.
tees of the said college in the control and direction of the Cedarville College.\textsuperscript{63}

This request for aid was unsuccessful.

As indicated earlier, the local Reformed Presbyterian congregation voted to leave the General Synod in 1926, and joined the Dayton Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.\textsuperscript{64} It is interesting to note that the Board of Trustees in June, 1926, appointed a committee "to consider and investigate fields of opportunity that might be open to the college, and report back all information gathered to the Board at its next annual meeting."\textsuperscript{65} There is no record that such a report was made in 1927. However, it was on May 7, 1928, that the Board of Trustees asked to be released from the control of the General Synod.\textsuperscript{66} At the annual meeting on May 31, 1928, the Board of Trustees appointed a committee of six members "to investigate and seek an alliance or future connections for the college."\textsuperscript{67} This committee reported at the next annual meeting of the Board of Trust-

\textsuperscript{63}\textit{Ibid.}

\textsuperscript{64}\textit{"Minutes of the Session of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Cedarville, Ohio," Mar. 29, 1927, p. 180.}

\textsuperscript{65}\textit{"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 3, 1926, p. 268.}

\textsuperscript{66}\textit{Ibid., May 7, 1928, p. 286.}

\textsuperscript{67}\textit{Ibid., May 31, 1928, p. 302.}
tees that they had "sought a connection for the college with the Ohio Synod of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America but without results favorable to the college." The Minutes of the General Synod, Reformed Presbyterian Church record the following lines concerning this attempt of the college to unite with the Ohio Synod:

The Committee of Christian Education of the Synod of Ohio Presbyterian Church, U. S. A. last January declined to receive Cedarville College under its care and control. It gave as reasons that it has a sufficient task in raising funds for the College of Wooster, the Aged People's Home, Lane Theological Seminary and the other Boards of the Church. It stated that all negotiations in regard to Cedarville College so far as it was concerned were now at an end. . . . Thus ends an attempt of over seven years in an endeavor to get into the Presbyterian Church with Cedarville College. 69

Thus, the college became an institution without a supporting denomination.

It did not cease to be Christian in its convictions and influence. The catalog has a statement to this effect, "The Board of Trustees unanimously agreed . . . February 8, 1929, to maintain the Orthodox Christian belief and

68 Ibid., June 2, 1929, p. 316.

teachings for which Cedarville College has always stood.  

There follows a conservative doctrinal statement which concludes with an appeal "for the support and patronage of all who believe in the fundamental truths of the Bible and the training of men and women for loyal, definite service for Christ's Crown and Kingdom." Many churches and individuals appreciated the conservative stand of the college. Dr. McChesney related to the Board of Trustees how one lady who had never heard of the college gave a contribution of $1100 because she was "deeply interested in the sound, scriptural teaching of the institution." 

When the attempt to form an alliance with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America failed, Dr. McChesney and the Board of Trustees sought to reestablish their connections with the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. In the motion to reunite with this group, Dr. McChesney wanted them to guarantee "to Cedarville College the annual interest of the Seminary and Lamb Funds of the Reformed Presbyterian Church as long as the Reformed Presbyterian Church maintains a theological

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70 Cedarville College Catalog, 1929-1930, p. 8. The "Minutes of the Board of Trustees" for that date do not record this action, but it could have been included in the president's report which was accepted but not listed in the "Minutes."

71 Ibid.

72 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 4, 1931, p. 3.
seminary in connection with Cedarville College. . . ."73

These funds were listed in the catalog and in 1930 had a valuation of $75,398.74 Negotiations between the two groups were carried on, and the General Synod agreed to take control of the college again, but insisted that "all financial sustenance of the college by the church" should be voluntary.75 This arrangement was not satisfactory to the college and the matter was dropped. The very next action was to appoint a committee to revise the By-Laws, and the committee report was accepted that "the majority of the members of the Board shall always be members of the Presbyterian Church, United States of America."76 Nevertheless, a good relationship continued between the college and the General Synod. The Reformed Presbyterian Seminary remained at Cedarville with the same arrangement whereby the college faculty also served the Seminary. Several of the Reformed Presbyterian congregations continued to support the college.

73 Ibid., April 1, 1930, p. 347.
74 Cedarville College Catalog, 1930-1931, p. 8.
75 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Feb. 3, 1933, p. 53.
Weathering the storm.—The Great Depression began shortly after the college left the General Synod and was at sea, so to speak, without any supporting denomination. Fortunately the college had an experienced and respected administrator in the person of Dr. McChesney during these difficult days. The college endowment under his leadership had grown from $90,000 in 1915 to $236,000 by 1929, and had a net return of $12,403 to the current expense fund in that year.77 However, in spite of this income, the college in 1929 suffered a deficit of $3,689. There are not enough details given to be able to determine if this drop in income was due to decreased support by the Reformed Presbyterian Churches, or if the deficit were occasioned by some unusual expense. Consequently, the Board of Trustees authorized the treasurer to borrow $2000 from the Endowment Fund to cover the deficit.78 Another bad year was 1930 in which $2500 were borrowed from the Endowment Fund.79

In order to increase the income, the president inaugurated a "Maintenance and Expansion Fund" drive and succeeded in raising $6900 for current expenses. Even with these magnificent extra gifts in the bottom of the

77Ibid., June 6, 1929, p. 320.
78Ibid., p. 321.
79Ibid., June 5, 1930, p. 352.
depression, the college had to borrow $5500 from the Endowment Fund in 1931. The "Maintenance and Expansion Fund" campaign in 1931-1932 netted $3600, but this time the college borrowed $4000 from the First National Bank of Cincinnati.\(^{80}\)

At this time Dr. J. Alvin Orr of Pittsburgh, president of the Board of Trustees, and who had been instrumental in securing the $35,000 Arbuckle gift to the Endowment Fund, wired Dr. McChesney suggesting a conference with Geneva College of Beaver Falls, the Old Sides school. The purpose of this conference would be to consider consolidating the two institutions. When Dr. McChesney informed Dr. Orr that the Board of Trustees would not consider such a merger, the latter resigned from the Board of Trustees. He stated:

I do not believe in continuing to spend the money of those who have bequeathed their legacies... I have no hope that the borrowed sums from our endowment will ever be paid and I cannot conscientiously continue such a policy.\(^{81}\)

These words were prophetic, for the money never was repaid.

\(^{80}\)Ibid., June 2, 1932, pp. 43-44. This loan was repaid by 1937, see p. 146 of the "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 2, 1937.

\(^{81}\)Ibid., June 2, 1932, p. 39. The Endowment Fund had "loaned" $10,000 to the current expenses fund to this date.
and the precedent was established that later exhausted the Endowment Fund.

This proposal of merging with another Christian institution had been mentioned by Dr. McChesney as one possible solution to the financial problems of the college in February of 1930.\textsuperscript{82} Rio Grande College had suggested a merger of the two schools in June of 1931.\textsuperscript{83} In this same meeting the president reported to the Board of Trustees that he had been unofficially approached by the president of Wilmington College in reference to a merger with that school.\textsuperscript{84} With an endowment valued at $243,441 and still producing an income of over $10,000 per year in June, 1931, the college was a good prospect for a merger. However, this very fact may have been the reason why the Trustees felt that they could continue to survive alone.

The years from 1933 to 1937 were better, and the college ended each year with a surplus with as much as $3054 in 1936.\textsuperscript{85} In June, 1936, Mr. John L. Dorst, former Young Men's Christian Association secretary, was appointed as business manager. Unfortunately, it seems as though the

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\textsuperscript{82}Ibid., Feb. 7, 1930, p. 334.
\textsuperscript{83}Ibid., June 4, 1931, p. 6.
\textsuperscript{84}Ibid.
\textsuperscript{85}Ibid., June 4, 1936, p. 122.
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college did better without a manager than it did with one. The first year, 1937, the balance of $3054 was reduced to $979. Each year thereafter the deficits increased. In 1938 the deficit was $2,575 including unpaid bills, and a loan of $1,300 was secured to help cover the deficit. In 1940, a $5,500 loan was necessary to cover the deficit. These loans, amounting to $8400 in all, were secured from the Xenia National Bank with Endowment Fund securities given as collateral.

During the depression some of the Endowment Fund securities became worthless. The Cincinnati property which had produced $4250 net income in 1929, failed to provide any in some years and very little in others. Still, in April of 1939, the Endowment Fund is listed at $242,000 and produced over $6000 net income in 1940. Considering these facts, it can be said that Dr. McChesney left the college in a fairly sound financial situation even though there was a debt of some $6800 owed the Endowment Fund, and $8400 to the Xenia National Bank with securities from the Endowment Fund as collateral.

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86 Ibid., June 3, 1937, p. 144.
87 Ibid., May 29, 1940, p. 223.
88 Cedarville College Catalog, 1939-1940, p. 16.
89 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 29, 1940, p. 223.
Looking at the situation from a Christian ethical viewpoint, it is difficult to understand why Dr. McChesney did not agree with Dr. J. A. Orr in the matter of borrowing from the Endowment Fund. It is true that with his great faith in the college, Dr. McChesney believed that better times would come and the money would be repaid. This is indicated in his mid-year report to the Board of Trustees in 1939. The attendance had dropped by thirty-eight students in comparison to 1938, and the business manager had already borrowed $2500 the first semester. Yet the tone of his report is evident in the following passages:

There is a place for Cedarville College in the Educational world. It was founded to give a sound Christian training to young men and women. To this policy it has steadfastly adhered through all the years by maintaining courses in the Bible and also in apologetics and Christian ethics, even when others and church colleges at that, were dropping such requirements. . . .

This is the time to cast away defeatist attitudes and to renew our zeal and stand our ground and carry on under God, assured that our cause will continue and flourish. . . .

Thankful to God for His goodness, trusting in Him to guide us, and praying continually that He will lead men and women of means to bestow liberally of their gifts upon Cedarville College, and fully believing that God will bring Cedarville College into an enlarged place, I respectfully submit my report.90

90Ibid., Dec. 8, 1939, p. 213.
The phrase "fully believing that God will bring Cedarville College into an enlarged place" portrays his conviction that the college was going to improve in attendance, finances, et cetera, and undoubtedly he felt the money would be repaid. In fairness, it must be pointed out that after Dr. Orr's resignation, the Board of Trustees did not borrow directly from the Endowment Fund while Dr. McChesney remained president, but rather borrowed from banks with the Endowment Fund securities as collateral. The first year after his resignation money again was borrowed directly from the Fund.\(^{91}\) The fact remains that in both methods the endowment funds were not kept inviolate.

The resignation of Dr. McChesney.—The pressures of the office and the desire for a younger man to assume the responsibilities of the administration led Dr. McChesney to submit his resignation on June 1, 1939. He wrote:

If I live until July 7, 1941, I shall be seventy years of age. I came to Cedarville July 10, 1894 to take up the work of the college. . . . I came here in answer to prayer. My life has been given to Cedarville College. I do not regret that I have stayed here. My prayers and the prayers of many others are registered in Heaven for Cedarville College. God has blessed us abundantly. . . . I am convinced that the needs of Cedarville College call for the service and consecration of a younger man -- a man

\(^{91}\)Ibid., June 5, 1941, p. 255.
who will undertake the work wholeheartedly, enthusiastically, with wisdom and patience and trust in God.92

He desired the resignation to be effective as soon as possible, but not later than June, 1941. He also indicated that he wished to remain as a teacher or in some other capacity in the college because of economic necessity.93 The Board of Trustees accepted the resignation "with deep regret" and moved that when he "did retire as president, he then be elected President Emeritus and given a teaching position on pension."94

The Board of Trustees in their December, 1939, meeting announced the selection of the Reverend Walter Smith Kilpatrick, Cedarville College class of 1934, as the new president to begin his duties on September 1, 1940. He was to function as president-elect beginning January 1, 1940, so that he could be oriented by Dr. McChesney into the duties of the office, and this orientation proved to be a valuable experience for the Reverend W. Kilpatrick.95

Dr. McChesney became President Emeritus on September 1, 1940, but remained on the faculty as a teacher until his death in 1944.96

92Ibid., June 1, 1939, p. 200.  
93Ibid.  
94Ibid., p. 206.  
95Ibid., Dec. 8, 1939, p. 216.  
96Dayton Daily News, June 13, 1944, p. 1. He was preceded in death by his only daughter, Frances, at the age of twenty in 1931, and by Mrs. McChesney in 1939. He married a second time in June, 1943 to Miss Mary Turner.
An assessment of Dr. McChesney's administration.—

From his inauguration in 1915 until the Great Depression, Cedarville College continued to increase in size of student body, alumni, income and endowment under the leadership of Dr. McChesney. Facilities were added and improved and the campus increased from eleven to fifteen acres. The Alumni numbered 558 by the end of his term with many of these distinguished in their chosen professions.97

The leadership of Dr. McChesney during the Great Depression was commendable. In spite of the severe economic difficulties, he brought the college through with only a small indebtedness compared to the total value of the assets of the facilities and endowment fund. The graduating classes during this period were as large as during the decade of the twenties which indicated his ability to attract students to Cedarville College. He also gathered and maintained a loyal faculty including such people as Dean C. W. Steele, Professor A. J. Hostetler, and Dean Helen Santmyer, besides Dr. Frank Jurkat who served throughout this period. When it is realized that many other institutions failed during these years, it must be admitted that Dr. McChesney did an admirable work in guiding Cedarville College.

97Chapter XII has a fuller discussion of the alumni.
When an alumnus of the class of 1908 was asked his opinion of Dr. McChesney, he immediately responded, "He was the finest man ever connected with Cedarville College." This statement is the sentiment of all who knew him. The college bestowed an honorary L.L.D. degree on him during the last commencement of his administration, and certainly, of all such degrees given by Cedarville College, no recipient was more deserving. His love for the college was manifested in this statement from his resignation, "I assure you that as long as I live and am able to do so, I shall serve Cedarville College to the best of my ability." This he had always done.

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98 Interview with Mr. Leroy Henderson, March 6, 1966.
99 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 1, 1939, p. 200.
CHAPTER VII

ADRIFT - 1940-1953

Decline and failure of the college.--There followed the retirement of Dr. McChesney a period of approximately thirteen years in which the college lacked an able administrator. In this short space of time all that had been built over nearly half a century was dissipated. The endowment funds were exhausted through large annual operating deficits and various projects such as buying a farm to aid students which they did not have during World War II, and acquiring dormitories which they could not fill. The story is a sad one and the financial aspect is difficult to understand, but it must be written.

The third president.--The difficulties began when the Board of Trustees chose a young man without any real administrative experience to succeed Dr. McChesney. It is true that the Reverend Walter Smith Kilpatrick came to the presidency of Cedarville College with the highest recommendations. He was a very intelligent young man who had graduated from Cedarville College in 1934 with honors. He studied for the ministry at Western Theological Seminary.
in Pittsburgh where he again graduated with honors, and received an award to study in England. Following this, he spent a semester in the University of Basel, Switzerland. In addition, he had received a Master of Arts degree from the University of Pittsburgh and had completed his residence for the Doctor of Philosophy degree at that institution.\(^1\) Academically, the Board of Trustees made an excellent choice. However, he had not had any real administrative experience of any kind for he had returned from his studies in Europe in the summer of 1939, and took up his duties as president-elect on January 1, 1940. He was formally inaugurated on October 4, 1940, with the Governor of Ohio, the Honorable John W. Bricker, bringing the inaugural address.\(^2\)

**Purchase of a girls dormitory.**—Prior to this period the college had never owned a dormitory. Students found rooms in the community, and took their meals in the college operated "boarding club" on the ground floor of the library building.\(^3\) At various times in earlier years, the subject of a girls dormitory had been discussed and

\(^1\)"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Dec. 8, 1939, p. 216.


\(^3\)Cedarville College Bulletin, 1939-1940, p. 13.
plans made which did not materialize. The need became increasingly greater in the last years of Dr. McChesney's administration, as the reports of the Dean of Women indicated problems in supervising the women students who lived in homes. Her report on May 29, 1940, stated, "The acquisition of a dormitory would solve most of the problems which confront the Dean and which at present seems insolvable." In this same meeting, the Board of Trustees authorized the Executive Committee to purchase the "Pollock House" in Cedarville for a dormitory, and instructed them to spend up to $7500 to acquire and remodel it. It was necessary to "borrow" $4500 from the Endowment Fund to buy the home. The dormitory opened in September, 1940, and was named Harriman Hall after Dr. Harriman, an alumnus of the college and former pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Cedarville. However, only five girls were resident since the college was so late in announcing the availability of the dormitory, and it showed an operating loss of $60 for the year. By the end of the second year of operation, a

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4"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 5, 1930, p. 357. At this meeting Dr. McChesney wanted to raise $100,000 to build a new girls dormitory, but the Great Depression had begun and the money did not come in.

5Ibid., May 29, 1940, p. 221.

6Ibid., June 5, 1941, p. 242.
small surplus accrued to the treasury. The next year was not so favorable as the Dormitory account showed a loss of $390.

Acquisition of the college farm.—The first year of President Kilpatrick's administration was plagued with financial difficulty. It was necessary to borrow an additional $5,250 from the Xenia National Bank, and $3,500 from the Endowment Fund to meet current expenses, plus the $4,500 for the purchase of Harriman Hall. Negotiations were carried on with Wooster College relative to a merger of the two schools, but an agreement could not be made. The Board of Trustees had been studying the matter of providing some method of student employment as a means of attracting students. The trustees felt that a larger enrollment would help solve their financial problems.

President Kilpatrick recommended to the Board of Trustees that a professional fund raiser be employed to direct a campaign to raise $100,000. One-third of this sum was to be used to purchase and equip a farm to give students a place to work, another third to be used for current expenses and debt liquidation, and the final third designated for improvements and additional dormitory facil-

7 Ibid., May 15, 1942, p. 268.
8 Ibid., Oct. 4, 1941, p. 236.
ities. The campaign was to terminate at the fiftieth anniversary of the school in September, 1944, and was to be a tribute also to the fifty years that Dr. McChesney had served the college. The Board of Trustees met in July, 1941, and signed a contract with Mr. Ira D. Vayhinger of Oak Park, Illinois. He was to receive $100 per week salary with a limit of twenty weeks. At the December meeting of that year, the Board of Trustees gave approval for the purchase of a suitable farm. Mr. Vayhinger felt that the idea of a farm would have great appeal to the rural constituency of the college. In May, 1942, the Board of Trustees voted to buy a 205 acre farm from Mr. Edwin Dean for $21,000 with $1000 down and the rest to be on a deferred payment plan running until 1948. In addition, Mr. Vayhinger estimated it would require $10,000 for buildings, $4000 for equipment, and $6500 for livestock. A graduate of Berea College, experienced in farm management, was hired to take charge of the farm and supervise the work of the students.

9Ibid., June 5, 1941, p. 245.
11"Minutes, Board of Trustees," July 15, 1941, p. 258.
12Ibid., Dec. 12, 1941, p. 264.
14Cedarville Herald, Nov. 11, 1942.
Resignation of President Kilpatrick.—In October, 1942, President Kilpatrick asked for a leave of absence so that he could serve with the European Student Relief Fund during the remainder of the academic year. Mr. Kilpatrick proposed that the administration be in the hands of a faculty committee under the direction of Mr. Vayhinger as Acting President. In February, 1943, Mr. Kilpatrick resigned and Mr. Vayhinger was asked to continue in the office until June 1. Thus, Mr. Vayhinger was hindered from devoting much time to the money-raising effort.

Farm problems.—One result of this change in administration was that the campaign failed and only $6600 were raised the first year. This meant that the mortgage payments and expenses of the farm had to be met with "loans" from the endowment funds. In December, 1943, the Investment Committee reported that $10,000 had been transferred from the Endowment Fund to the Farm Fund, $4000 of this sum for mortgage payments and $6,000 for operating expenses. The farm operation then became a drain on the limited financial resources of the college during these

17Ibid., May 21, 1943, p. 289.
distressing days of World War II. After the war, the farm
did produce a good return on the investment, and due to the
rapid post-war inflation, the farm brought $50,000 when the
Board of Trustees were forced to sell it in 1950 because of
the stringent financial condition of the college.19 The
Board of Trustees resolved that the net proceeds from the
sale of the farm were to be used to reimburse the current
expense account for funds advanced, and the remainder was
to be applied on the college indebtedness owed the Xenia
National Bank.20 Consequently, the $10,000 "borrowed" from
the Endowment Fund for the purchase and initial operating
inges of the farm were not paid back, and this sum con­
tinued to be listed as an Endowment Fund asset even though
the farm had been sold.21

The second difficulty was that America was involved
in World War II, and the attendance dropped drastically so
that there were no men students to work on a farm. The
attendance dropped from sixty-one in September 1941 to a
low of eight women and one man in 1944-1945.22

19Ibid., Oct. 18, 1950, p. 326-A.
21"Audit of the Books and Records of Cedarville
College for the school year ended June 7, 1952," by C. A.
22Annual report of the President of Cedarville Col­
lege to the State Dept. of Education, Columbus, Ohio, for
the year ending June 30, 1945, p. 4.
In view of these facts, it seems that the Administration and the Board of Trustees made two mistakes. The first was to buy the farm before the financial campaign succeeded. The second was to buy a farm to help students after the United States had entered the war when everything indicated a drop in college enrollment, particularly college men. President Kilpatrick in his report to the Board of Trustees in the very meeting in which they moved to buy the farm, indicated that a 20 per cent drop in enrollment was expected for the next fall (1942). Apparent they never realized when they were buying a farm, they would not have students to operate it. Both of these mistakes hurt the financial position of the college and reflect the immature, inexperienced judgment of the president in accepting the poor advice given to him by his financial adviser, Mr. Vayhinger.

The selection of Mr. Vayhinger as president.—The Board of Trustees at their May, 1943, meeting, selected Mr. Ira Vayhinger as the fourth president, and he served until August, 1950. Mr. Vayhinger had graduated from

23 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 15, 1942, p. 268.

Evansville College in 1910, and had done graduate work at Oberlin Theological Seminary from 1910-1911. He had served as General Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, 1911-1922. From 1923 to 1941 he had been a church finance consultant and campaign director. He left this work to become the Finance Director and Business Manager of Cedarville College in 1941. It was his task to guide the college through the discouraging years of World War II when the attendance dropped to a low of nine students in 1944-1945. The student activities such as athletics were eliminated or curtailed. Under the sponsorship of the Women's Advisory Board, the students did manage to present a "Golden Anniversary Pageant" in May, 1944. On April 18, 1944, a testimonial dinner honoring President Emeritus Dr. W. R. McChesney was held in Xenia, sponsored by the college and the Xenia Kiwanis Club. Unfortunately, Dr. McChesney could not be there due to illness.

Anticipating the end of World War II and increased enrollment, the Board of Trustees believed that more dormitories for men would be needed. The Trustees "borrowed" $5400 from the Endowment Fund and purchased "Rife Hall," the home of Mrs. Carrie Rife Jamieson which was


located next to the northeast corner of the campus.\textsuperscript{27} In 1948 the federal government gave the college a barracks building at Patterson field. This was dismantled and reconstructed next to Rife Hall at a cost of $43,314 and had a capacity of sixty-six men. Again $20,000 were "borrowed" from the Endowment Fund to be paid back with interest over a fifteen year period, but the college finances were never able to permit this repayment.\textsuperscript{28}

Deficits and financial disaster.—The question most often asked about this period in the history of the college is, "Why did the college fail financially?" There is no single answer, but a combination of factors worked together including deficit financing and poor administration on the part of Mr. Vayhinger and his successor, Mr. E. H. Miller who served as acting President from August, 1950, till January, 1953.

An investigation of the financial statements available for these years show a steady, and sometimes large, increase in the indebtedness of the college which was secured by the hypothecation of the stocks and bonds

\textsuperscript{27}"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Dec. 8, 1944, p. 285. This building burned in the summer of 1965.

\textsuperscript{28}Ibid., May 10, 1948, p. 310.
of the Endowment Fund. This practice was begun during Dr. McChesney's day, and early in the administration of Mr. Kilpatrick, the cashier of the Xenia National Bank met with the Board of Trustees and questioned the legality of the use of endowment funds in this manner. The Board promised a "thorough investigation of the matter" and apparently the procedure was legal, for the practice continued. The minutes of the Board do not record any further discussion on the subject. The Examiner's report for March, 1946, of the Xenia National Bank, criticized the loan to Cedarville College on the basis that the stocks held as security were not assigned to the bank, and called the loan "substandard." However, there is no further reference to the loan. The fact that the Chairman of the Board of Trustees at this time was also a director of the Xenia National Bank may have made it easier for the college to secure the loans by hypothecating the securities rather than signing them over to the bank as the examiners desired.

29The By-Laws specifically stated, "The Endowment Funds shall neither be expended nor hypothecated for current expenses and shall be retained and preserved inviolate." "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Feb. 2, 1934, p. 73. Webster defines the term "hypothecate" as "to pledge property to another without transferring possession or title."

30Ibid., Dec. 13, 1940.
The financial reports did not always present a clear picture of the actual financial situation. For example, the financial report for the year ending May 31, 1943, lists an operating deficit of only $1,876.84. However, the indebtedness to the Xenia National Bank increased by $3000 which indicates that the deficit was certainly more than $1,876.84. It is interesting to observe the profit or loss listed for the following years, and then to compare this with the increase in the total liabilities, giving particular attention to the accounts payable and to the overdraft in the checking account.

May 31, 1943 -- Deficit Total liabilities
$1,187 $17,993

May 31, 1944 -- not available

May 31, 1945 -- Profit Total liabilities
$198 $52,000
(Bankbook overdrawn $1,490)
(Accounts payable 1,141)

\[31\] Ibid., May 21, 1943, p. 289.

\[32\] Ibid.

\[33\] Auditors report, year ending May 31, 1945, Cedarville College, pp. 2-3.
May 31, 1946 -- Deficit  Total liabilities\textsuperscript{34}  
\$11  
\$54,268  
(Bankbook overdrawn \$2,214)  
(Accounts payable \$1,648)  

May 31, 1947 -- Profit  Total liabilities\textsuperscript{35}  
\$454  
\$67,632  
(Bankbook overdrawn \$3,242)  
(Accounts payable \$4,189)  

May 31, 1948 -- Deficit  Total liabilities\textsuperscript{36}  
\$1,024  
\$118,382  
(Bankbook overdrawn – not listed)  
(Accounts payable \$16,396)  

May 31, 1949 -- Deficit  Total liabilities\textsuperscript{37}  
\$1,626  
\$124,255  
(Bankbook overdrawn \$4,891)  
(Accounts payable \$14,236)  

May 31, 1950 -- Profit  Total liabilities\textsuperscript{38}  
\$1,196  
\$136,801  
(Bankbook overdrawn \$13,353)  
(Accounts payable \$17,637)  

It is apparent from Mr. Vayhinger's report to the Board of Trustees on June 13, 1950, that he actually thought the college had experienced a good year. Instead, there was a \$12,000 increase in indebtedness which had brought the college to serious financial difficulties as manifested by the large amount overdrawn from the bank and the unpaid accounts. He reported to the Board of Trustees

\textsuperscript{34} Ibid., May 31, 1946, pp. 2-3.
\textsuperscript{35} Ibid., May 31, 1947, pp. 2-3.
\textsuperscript{36} Ibid., May 31, 1948, pp. 2-3.
\textsuperscript{37} Ibid., May 31, 1949, pp. 2-3.
\textsuperscript{38} Ibid., May 31, 1950, pp. 2-3.
on June 13, 1950, in reference to the students enrolled, "The year just closing has been the best in the history of Cedarville College. . . . Our prospects for the future are equally bright." He referred to the faculty, discipline, the State Department of Education, but never a word about the serious economic condition of the school under his administration. 39 It seems that during the war years, he was able to keep the indebtedness in control, but when the veterans returned, and enrollment and expenses did increase, he was not capable of managing the situation and it skyrocketed out of control. He was also handicapped in that he attempted to direct the spending without a budget, and the Board of Trustees did not require the budget committee to submit one until after the situation was irretrievably lost. The budget committee had pleaded earlier that "lack of administrative help has prevented this policy from being followed during the last few years." 40 How much better it would have been had they hired some "administrative help" to make a budget and avoided the large deficits that resulted in the financial collapse of the college.


40 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 11, 1948, p. 312.
Attempts to raise funds.--The Board of Trustees did not realize what was happening until it was too late to take any effective remedial action. In October, 1947, they moved to conduct a Building and Expansion Campaign to raise $100,000.\textsuperscript{41} A prominent citizen of Cedarville was appointed to head the committee.\textsuperscript{42} In June the committee reported that $14,000 had been pledged and collected.\textsuperscript{43} The auditor's report for 1948 recorded only $111 received for "Gifts from Campaign Funds," and in 1949 the sum of $449.00.\textsuperscript{44} Thus, the campaign must have been a failure.

Another attempt to raise funds was instituted in the summer of 1949. Mr. E. H. Miller of Springfield, Ohio, was given a contract to head a Campaign Committee to raise funds.\textsuperscript{45} He was not very successful, for eleven months later he could only report $1500 collected and another $1000 pledged.\textsuperscript{46} The auditor's report lists only $1,079 collected by May 31.\textsuperscript{47} At this point the Board of Trustees instructed Mr. Vayhinger and Mr. Miller "to contact

\begin{itemize}
\item[\textsuperscript{41}]Ibid., Oct. 9, 1947, p. 306.
\item[\textsuperscript{42}]Ibid., Dec. 12, 1947, p. 308.
\item[\textsuperscript{43}]Ibid., June 11, 1948, p. 311.
\item[\textsuperscript{44}]Auditor's Report, May 31, 1948, 1949, p. 6.
\item[\textsuperscript{45}]Minutes, Board of Trustees, July 14, 1949, p. 316.
\item[\textsuperscript{46}]Ibid., June 13, 1950, p. 318.
\item[\textsuperscript{47}]Auditor's Report, May 31, 1950, p. 6.
\end{itemize}
various church organizations with the idea of establishing some affiliation with some such group."\textsuperscript{48} It was in this meeting also that the budget committee was instructed to bring in a budget covering all "the anticipated operations for the coming year."\textsuperscript{49}

**Resignation of Mr. Vayhinger.**—By August, 1950, the financial situation finally alarmed the Trustees into action. At a meeting on August 2, 1950, they made several important decisions. They decided to have a financial officer for the college with the title of "Vice-President," and elected Mr. E. H. Miller, the fund raiser, to the position. They also decided to sell the Cincinnati property that had been bought with the proceeds from the original William Gibson bequest. The building had deteriorated until it was only appraised at $12,000, but the college was fortunate to receive $20,000 for it. It had served the college well, having returned a net 20 per cent in some years on the original investment. In another action, the Board dismissed their auditor.\textsuperscript{50} It was not

\textsuperscript{48}"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 13, 1950, p. 319.

\textsuperscript{49}Ibid.

\textsuperscript{50}Ibid., Aug. 2, 1950, pp. 320-322.
long after this, on August 30, that the Board of Trustees met to receive Mr. Vayhinger's resignation which was accepted as of that day.51

Mr. E. H. Miller as Acting President.—There is no indication in the Minutes when Mr. Miller, the business manager, was appointed to this post, but he is referred to in this manner in the December, 1950 meeting.52 In this same session, the Board of Trustees voted to sell the college farm for $50,000.53 The deficit at the end of the first year with Mr. Miller as "financial officer" amounted to $19,842, which was certainly no improvement over the previous administration.54 Only the money derived from the sale of the Cincinnati property and the college farm enabled the college to remain solvent that year. With the amount left after the trustees paid off the mortgage on the farm, they were able to reduce the amount of the overdraft in the checking account by nearly $9,000; reduced the note at Xenia National Bank from $29,500 to $15,500. Nevertheless, the situation remained critical for the "accounts

52 Ibid., Dec. 20, 1950, p. 327.
53 Ibid.
54 "Income Statement for the Year ended June 9, 1951", Cecilia A. Healy, Public Accountant, Springfield, Ohio, p. 3.
"payable" still amounted to $17,114, and the checking account was overdrawn by $4,573.55

The second year under Mr. Miller was worse than the first with a deficit in operating expenses of $24,700. The "notes payable to banks" increased from $15,000 in 1951 to $49,200 in 1952. The total liabilities climbed from $80,761 in 1951 to $109,538 in 1952. The Board of Trustees apparently were aware of the seriousness of the situation, but were not fully cognizant of the extent of the problem. They met in April, 1952, and admitted that they were going into debt at the rate of $15,000 a year, and needed a program to raise more funds.56 In view of this partial realization of their economic situation, it is difficult to understand the actions of the Board at this meeting. They agreed to borrow $7500 from the Winters National Bank in Dayton in order to paint all the buildings, to rewire the gymnasium, and to convert "Old Main" and the gymnasium to oil. They also decided to "allocate $5000 in the next year's budget for salary increases up to 10 per cent" and to "allocate $1000 to the acting president to be used by him for the purchase of a new car." They also set up an

55Ibid.

56This fact is taken from the secretary's original minutes and was not transcribed into the official proceedings of the Board of Trustees.
"Operating Committee" to meet monthly with the acting president and gave them authority to borrow up to $37,000 for operating expenses. They also discussed the possibility of building another dormitory. It was in this meeting that they agreed to sell for $13,500 their last income-producing property in Cincinnati. 57 There is no mention of any attempt to reduce expenses to equal the income or to raise the additional funds needed to met the increased indebtedness which they had approved.

At the annual meeting in June, 1952, the Board of Trustees did agree to institute a fund raising drive on September 1, 1952. These funds were to be used to build new dormitories "and to increase and replenish the endowment." 58 There is no record of any discussion of the rising indebtedness. The next meeting occurred in December, 1952, and the Board voted to relieve Mr. Miller of some of his duties, and to give him two weeks vacation because of ill health. The Board decided to try and raise $270,000 for the fund raising campaign, and to set a goal of $50,000 to $75,000 locally, and felt that industry

57 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," April 30, 1952, pp. 339-341. The repairs authorized actually cost "$3000 more than anticipated due to the need of making some additional repairs," p. 347.

58 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 18, 1952, p. 342.
might contribute the remainder. They also gave the Operating Committee power to borrow an additional $18,000 for current expenses besides the $37,000 voted in the April session. They discussed the need of finding a president for the college, but up to this date in the "Minutes," there is still no indication that the Board recognized that the college was on the verge of economic collapse. That is, there was no attempt to get the administration to keep the expenses in line with the income.

The ultimate financial crisis.--The full realization of the financial plight of the college came early in January, 1953. On the fifth day of January, Mr. McClellan, president of the Board of Trustees issued a call for a meeting of the Board on January 17, and urged every member to be there "to determine the future of Cedarville College and to transact any other business that might be necessary." Not all the members attended this meeting, but those who did were finally cognizant of the financial plight of Cedarville College. The minutes state, "It was indicated that the Board would be unable to borrow


60 J. Earl McClellan, personal letter, Jan. 5, 1953.

sufficient money to finance the next semester." The Board of Trustees had finally reached a place where there were not enough endowment securities to hypothecate as collateral for loans in order to cover the deficit for the semester.

Since the December meeting, the Board had contacted various church groups and colleges as a means of perpetuating the college. The Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church was not interested. Conversations with Wittenberg College and Muskingum College had also failed. The most promising lead was with Wilmington College, but this did not materialize because the newspapers published the proposed merger before the Wilmington College Board of Trustees were informed, and they refused to agree to the proposed merger. 63

The Board of Trustees agreed to advise the people of Cedarville of the critical situation in the hope that some "substantial" interest might develop. They adjourned to meet a week later on January 24, 1953. They met as planned and the resignation of Mr. E. H. Miller as Acting President was presented and accepted. The treasurer

62 Ibid.

63 Personal interview with Mr. Dallas Marshall, member of the Cedarville College Board of Trustees at that time, March 22, 1966.
reported that the college owned $114,728 in liquid assets, and owed $115,426 on notes and accounts payable. Mr. H. D. Neill, an official of the Armco Corporation at Middletown, Ohio, was a member of the Board of Trustees at that time, and he had requested Mr. F. L. Winslow, an accountant of Armco, to make an investigation of the accounting records of the college since the audit of June, 1952. His report for June to December, 1952, indicated that even though the college had sold the last Cincinnati property for $13,500 and had borrowed $33,488.32 from the banks, the expenses still exceeded the income by $22,128.83. He estimated the cash requirements for the first five months of 1953 at $70,000, including the $25,000 of accounts payable. The estimated cash receipts were $20,000, which left $50,000 to be raised from outside sources.

The Board of Trustees finally realized that they faced a critical financial situation and had to decide whether to continue operating the school. The Board's attorney, Mr. J. A. Finney, had been a member of the Board of Trustees since 1912 and had served as its

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64 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Jan. 24, 1953, p. 352.
65 Ibid., p. 354.
66 Ibid., June 6, 1921, p. 120.
president for a number of years prior to 1952. He advised the Board that if the corporation incurred debts beyond the capacity to pay, they would personally be liable for such debts. Consequently, he favored closing the school at the end of the semester in January, 1953. However, the majority of the members voted to continue operation of the school through the second semester of the school year, 1952-53. The Board also moved that the treasurer and Investment Committee were authorized "to sell, assign and deliver any and all securities held in the Endowment Fund of Cedarville College at the best advantage and to pay any and all bills, notes, and obligations of Cedarville College with the proceeds thereof." The Board of Trustees also empowered the Operating Committee to negotiate with any college "with a view toward a merger" and this committee was to report back to the Board of Trustees for action.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees took place on February 7, 1953. The treasurer reported that the securities had been sold for $120,405, and the notes had been paid. The report showed a cash balance of

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67 Personal interview with Mr. J. A. Finney, March 22, 1966.
69 Ibid.
$15,560. However, the Endowment Fund was completely liquidated in order to pay the indebtedness. At this meeting it was reported that several church groups, including the Nazarenes, the Church of Christ in Christian Union, and the Southern Baptist Church had indicated an interest in assuming the operation of the college. After discussion, it was moved and carried that the chairman and secretary of the Board were empowered to sign an agreement with the Southern Baptist Church if certain qualifications were met. These included such items as the provision of a retirement fund for Dr. Jurkat, and assuming the "indebtedness at the close of the year possibly near $30,000."\(^7^1\) A representative of the Southern Baptist Church came to Cedarville and surveyed the situation. He decided that the community was too small to provide opportunities for part-time student employment, so the Southern Baptist Church was not interested.\(^7^2\)

The Regular Baptists assume control.—Since the Southern Baptist Church did not want the college, the Operating Committee renewed contacts with the Church of

\(^7^1\)Ibid., p. 359.

\(^7^2\)Personal interview with Mr. Dallas Marshall, member of the Board of Trustees at that time, March 22, 1966.
Christ in Christian Union, the Nazarene Church, and the Church of God. These negotiations were fruitless. In the meanwhile, Dr. James Jeremiah, pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio, heard of the situation in Cedarville from one of his church members. This church belonged to a small group known as the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches. As a member of the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute of Cleveland, Ohio, he knew that the Institute was seeking larger quarters. This school began as an evening school in 1942 and started a day school in 1947. The Institute had been using the Christian Education building of the Hough Avenue Baptist Church for classroom facilities. It had one large home used as a dormitory and had decided to purchase another home. Dr. Jeremiah informed the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute of the possibilities in Cedarville. The Board instructed Dr. Jeremiah to investigate further, and on the strength of his report, a number of the Baptist Bible Institute trustees came to Cedarville to look over the campus and to get further information. They met with the Operating Committee of Cedarville College who

73"Minutes, Board of Trustees," March 14, 1953, p. 361.

74Personal interview with Mr. George Dunn, Feb. 27, 1965. Mr. Dunn was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute at that time.
thoroughly explained the situation to the visitors from Cleveland. On returning, the Board of Trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute unanimously voted to accept the proposals that the Cedarville College Board of Trustees had presented to the Southern Baptist Church. The Cedarville College Board of Trustees met on March 14, 1953, and the Operating Committee presented a letter dated March 10, 1953, from the Baptist Bible Institute of Cleveland, offering to accept the college on the conditions laid down by the Cedarville College Board of Trustees in their meeting of February 7, 1953. The vote to give control of the college to the trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute was unanimous.

The actual transfer of ownership occurred in a most interesting manner. The Board of Trustees of Cedarville College and the Board of Trustees of Baptist Bible Institute met together on April 4, 1953, in the college building. After preliminary remarks, the Cedarville College Board of Trustees voted to delete Article II, Section I of the By-Laws which read, "The majority of the members of the Board always to be members of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A." Then the Board as a self-perpetuating body was free to

75 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," March 14, 1953, p. 361.

76 Ibid., p. 362.
change its membership which was done through a series of resignations of Cedarville College trustees and the election of Baptist Bible Institute trustees to replace them. First, eight members of the Cedarville College Board of Trustees resigned. The remaining Cedarville College trustees elected nine men from the Baptist Bible Institute Board of Trustees to membership on the Cedarville College Board. Eight more Cedarville College trustees resigned and ten members of the Baptist Bible Institute Board were elected. Finally, the chairman and secretary of the Cedarville College Board resigned, and the control and ownership of the college had changed hands without the making of any deeds or legal papers. The "new" Cedarville College Board then chose officers with Mr. George Dunn as chairman, Mr. George Milner as treasurer, and Mr. Arthur Dyke as secretary.

Why the college failed financially.--As stated earlier there are many factors that worked together to create the collapse of the school. Some of the more common reasons given are not really valid. Many people feel that being a college without a supporting denomination after it left the Reformed Presbyterian Church caused its downfall. It must be remembered that the Reformed Presbyterian Church

77 Ibid., April 4, 1953, pp. 364-365.
had dwindled to a handful of churches and was not contributing very heavily to the college at the time of the withdrawal. Furthermore, Dr. McChesney guided the College through the most difficult days of the depression and actually increased the Endowment Fund from $236,000 to $242,000, and this without the formal support of any denomination. It is true that the college had the approval of several local presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church in the United State of America, but this same approval continued during the era of 1940-1953.

A second misconception is that the college lacked students and this led to financial difficulty. This is not entirely true, for Mr. Vayhinger was fairly successful in guiding the college through the days of World War II with low enrollments without incurring too great an indebtedness. The liabilities on May 31, 1945, totaled $52,577 of which $28,400 were due to the purchase of Rife Hall and the farm, and these liabilities were secured by real estate. It is paradoxical that the greatest deficits were incurred during the influx of veterans after World War II. For example, the enrollment in 1947-48 totaled 141 and

78 Cedarville College Catalog, 1929-1930, p. 9.; 1939-1940, p. 16.

the liabilities increased $51,000. The largest attendance in the post-war years was in 1949-1950 when it reached 191 students. Yet the liabilities increased over $12,000 for the year. This seems to indicate that Mr. Vayhinger and the Board of Trustees were able to guide the school when it was small, but as it grew in enrollment and budget, they were not able to control the finances and keep a close relationship between income and expenses. Consequently, they went deeper in debt each successive year until they reached the final crisis. This can be contrasted with the action of Dr. McChesney and the Board of Trustees during the depression. When faced with deficits, they cut salaries and expenses in order to live within their income, and several years actually had a surplus for the fiscal year.

Another misunderstanding centers around the personal integrity of Mr. Vayhinger and Mr. Miller. Many people feel that they profited personally from the finances of the college. Both men were paid much better than their

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81 Annual Report to the State Dept. of Education for year ending June 30, 1950, p. 4.


83 Supra, p. 91.
predecessors, and considerably more than the professors. Yet this was the vote of the Board of Trustees and not their personal action. A very thorough examination of all the records do not show any misuse or misappropriation of funds. The Endowment Fund and its securities were always in the possession of the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees and the treasurer of the college, and never under the control of the president. By resolution of the Board of Trustees on June 4, 1931, the First National Bank of Cincinnati was made trust agent for the securities, and this arrangement continued down to August, 1950. Then the securities were moved to the Xenia National Bank and could only be removed by the president of the Board of Trustees and the business manager jointly. Thus, it was impossible for one man to have access to the securities.

It cannot be denied from the evidence presented for this chapter that Mr. Vayhinger and Mr. Miller were responsible for mismanaging the college and plunging it into such an indebtedness that it never could recover. On the other hand, the Board of Trustees were responsible for permitting this type of administration of funds. It is difficult to understand why the Trustees permitted the col-

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84 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 4, 1931, p. 17; August 2, 1950, p. 321.
85 Ibid., p. 322.
lege to be operated without a budget, and allowed the administration to close the fiscal year continually with thousands of dollars owed to accounts, and with the checking account overdrawn by as much as $13,000 in one year. A conversation with the chairman of the Board of Trustees at this time indicated that overdrawing the checking account was merely another way of borrowing from the bank. As he put it in reference to checking accounts, "You either owed the bank or the bank owed you." The fact remains that the overdraft constituted a large liability. Back in 1929 when the treasury showed a deficit of only $3,689, the Finance Committee recommended:

... that rigid economy be practiced in all departments in the expenditure of money during the coming year... We suggest that the Athletic Department be cut to the absolute necessities and that similar cuts be employed in all other departments.87

One searches in vain for some such censure by the Board during these years of increasing deficits. The Physical Education Department deficits grew from $170 in 1946 when athletics were resumed to a loss of $7,317 in 1950.88 Yet there is no record of any suggestion that the Physical

86 Personal interview with Mr. Joseph Finney, March 22, 1966.
87 Ibid., June 6, 1929.
Education Department nor any other department should curtail expenses.

There are other factors that enter into the discussion. Prior to World War II, Cedarville College was a community college in the sense that most of the students came from the immediate area and surrounding towns. After the war, with increased mobility and greater affluence, parents could send their children away to other colleges, and young people do like to "go away to college."

Furthermore, the attempts of the Board of Trustees to conduct fund raising campaigns were not successful. They did not have a man like Dr. McChesney who could go out and win the respect of people and their support for the college. From August, 1950, until the end, there was not even a president as Mr. Miller was only an "acting president."

There were some very loyal alumni who contributed often and generously, but considering the total number of graduates, the support given was relatively small.89 In Mr. Miller's administration, there was difficulty in collecting the tuition of the students, which compounded the financial

89"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Dec. 3, 1952, pp. 345-347. The list of donors for the year June 30, 1951 to June 30, 1952 is given, and the vast majority of donors are business establishments and trustees of the college. Some of the latter were alumni also.
difficulty of the college in the last two years, and much of this money was never paid.

In conclusion, after considering all the factors involved, the evidence indicates that the college failed because of poor administration. However, because of this failure, a new administration came on the scene which was to carry the college to new heights and successes that were never dreamed of by the original Reformed Presbyterian administration.
CHAPTER VIII

A NEW ERA - 1953-1966

The miracle campus.--The administration of the Baptist Bible Institute considered the gift of the Cedarville College campus as "a miracle of God's grace." They had received a campus of fifteen acres and nine buildings valued at $250,000 for agreeing to assume a possible indebtedness of $25,000. Earlier in the 1952-53 school year, the Baptist Bible Institute trustees had located larger facilities for their school in the Cleveland area. Three times they had sought to purchase or lease suitable properties and each offer had been refused. Consequently, when Dr. Jeremiah informed the Baptist Bible Institute trustees of the possibility of acquiring Cedarville College on such favorable terms, they did not take him seriously at first. However, after the committee of trustees had visited Cedarville College, they felt it was certainly

1Personal letter, Dr. Allan E. Lewis, April 8, 1953.

2Brochure announcing the opening of the Cedarville Baptist College and Bible Institute for the year 1953-1954.

3Personal letter, Dr. George S. Milner, March 29, 1966.
God's will for the Baptist Bible Institute. Dr. George Milner was chairman of the committee appointed by the trustees of Baptist Bible Institute that came to look over Cedarville College on March 6, 1953. He remembers that as he and Mrs. Milner were having their morning devotions on this particular date, the Scripture portions they read from *Daily Light*, a devotional book, contained the following verses:

The Lord your God . . . went in the way before you, to search out a place to pitch your tents in. . . . As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings; so the Lord alone did lead them. . . . The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. . . . We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. . . . With us is the Lord our God to help us, and to fight our battles.  

He further stated, "In view of my search for a new location for our Institute, this Scripture portion seemed to directly apply to our need and made a profound impression on me." Their judgment as to God's leading was vindicated when the Hough Avenue Baptist Church (where classes had been held) burned late in the summer and the Baptist Bible

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4Ibid.
5Ibid.
Institute would have been without facilities had it not been moved to Cedarville.

The expected deficit of $25,000 did not materialize, for the liquidation of the stocks in the Endowment Fund left the college with a cash balance on April 4 of $14,416 with all outstanding bills paid. In addition, $9,485 had come in from the churches in response to an appeal made by Dr. Allan Lewis, President of Baptist Bible Institute. The college ended the last year under the old administration with a deficit of only $1900. However, by September, 1953, over $2900 had been collected on old accounts of Cedarville College which more than offset the deficit inherited. The Baptists did inherit a note of $2954 owed to the Reformed Presbyterian Church which they paid. The old administration also owed over $1600 in unpaid sewer assessments, and over $900 for the printing of the 1953 Cedrus. However, the new administration continued to collect the accounts of the former administration so that the

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6 "Minutes, Board of Trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute," April 4, 1953, n.p.

7 Ibid.

8 Financial statement, Cedarville Baptist College and Bible Institute, Sept. 30, 1953, p. 7.

9 Ibid.
Baptist received the college with enough liquid assets to cover the small indebtedness.\textsuperscript{10}

Although the college did not have any indebtedness when the Baptists took over, it did not take long to get into debt. It was necessary to refurbish and to remodel some of the buildings to prepare them for the opening of school in September. A kitchen was installed in what had formerly been the recreation room and it became the dining hall. Old Main was rewired, painted, and the floors recovered with asphalt tile. When the summer passed, over $20,000 had been spent in getting the buildings ready for the fall semester. An appeal was made to the churches to help pay this indebtedness which led many Baptist pastors to believe that it was the deficit inherited from the former administration.\textsuperscript{11}

A precarious beginning.—There is a common saying that the first year is the hardest. This was particularly true of the school year 1953-1954 under the new administration. Dr. Allan Lewis resigned as president on June 8, 1953, and the Board of Trustees selected Dr. Leonard Webster, Dean of the Baptist Bible Institute, to

\textsuperscript{10}\textit{Personal interview with Mr. George Dunn, Feb. 27, 1965.}

\textsuperscript{11}\textit{Personal interview with Dr. James Jeremiah, March 24, 1966. Dr. Jeremiah was Vice-President of the school at this time.}
succeed him. He was given a three-year contract at $6,900 per year.¹² The first task he faced was to find a faculty for the college to complement the faculty of the Baptist Bible Institute. At the opening of the fall semester, he had gathered a group of ten faculty members including Dr. Frank Jurkat from the former administration, and Dr. Arthur Williams who is the only member still on the faculty at this time. The student body numbered 105, and of these, thirty-seven were enrolled in the college division, and sixty-eight in the Bible Institute division.¹³ Each division had its own separate curriculum.

The school year got off to a good start with a week of special meetings conducted by Dr. Robert T. Ketcham, the National Representative of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches. However, it was not too long before friction developed between Dr. Webster and the members of the faculty. Dr. Arthur Williams, the Dean of Students, and a member of the Executive Committee of the college administration, differed with Dr. Webster in the matter of discipline in the college. Dr. Webster told Dr. Williams that his services were unsatisfactory, and Dr. Williams

¹²"Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 28, 1953, p. 369.

¹³Ibid., Sept. 19, 1953, p. 375. See page 140 explaining the termination of the Bible Institute division.
tendered his resignation to the Board of Trustees at their meeting on December 11, 1953. However, the faculty sided with Dr. Williams, and wrote the Board of Trustees that if the resignation of Dr. Williams were accepted, they would also resign. The situation became so critical that when the Board of Trustees met on December 11, 1953, a majority of the faculty members threatened to resign. The Board of Trustees appointed a committee to visit Cedarville and investigate the problems. The committee reported to the Board of Trustees on January 7 that both the faculty and student body had lost confidence in Dr. Webster, and the only solution was to relieve him of his administrative duties. Dr. Webster had been given a three-year contract, and since the college did not have the money to pay him for the thirty months remaining, the committee recommended that he retain the title of president and seek to do promotional work among the churches. This proposal was not acceptable to either Dr. Webster or the faculty.

Charges were made against Dr. Webster in the handling of funds. For example, according to his contract, Dr. Webster was to provide his own housing, but he insisted on living in a home owned by the college, and did not pay either rent or utilities. The Board of Trustees

14 Ibid., Dec. 11, 1953, p. 379.
finally received legal advice that Dr. Webster's failure to define authority, to maintain discipline in the student body, and order in the faculty, amounted to incompetence, or a breach of contract on his part. The Board of Trustees offered Dr. Webster salary for four months if he would resign. After several sessions with the Board of Trustees, he submitted his resignation in January to be effective June 30, 1954. He was relieved of all responsibilities for the remainder of the school year. Thus, a very critical situation that threatened the life of the new administration for over two months was finally resolved.

Dr. James Jeremiah chosen president.—New officers were chosen by the Board of Trustees in July, 1953, with Dr. George Milner of Cleveland chosen as chairman, and the pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Dayton, Dr. James Jeremiah, as vice-chairman. When the difficulty arose in December of the first year, the Board asked Dr. Jeremiah, as vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees, to take the leadership of the school until the situation could be resolved. When Dr. Webster resigned, Dr. Jeremiah assumed full responsibility for the school while

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17 Personal interview with Dr. James Jeremiah, March 24, 1966.
the Board of Trustees searched for a new president. These responsibilities were in addition to his pastoral duties in Dayton. Several men were approached during the spring of 1954, but all of them declined the position. The Board of Trustees then realized that the man who had ably guided the school through its first crisis should be considered. They offered the position to Dr. Jeremiah who accepted it after much prayer on November 1, 1954, and became the seventh president of the college.

President Jeremiah is a native of New York State. He was born in Corning, New York in 1914, and moved to Johnson City, New York at the age of twelve. He attended high school in Johnson City, and also graduated with a Bachelor of Theology degree from the Baptist Bible Seminary in that city in 1936. This is a school approved by the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches. After graduation, he pastored Regular Baptist churches in Panama, New York, Toledo, Ohio, and Dayton, Ohio. While serving as a pastor, he was elected in 1943 to membership on the Council of Baptist Mid-Missions, a mission agency with over 770 missionaries. He was also elected to the Council of

18"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 12, 1954, p. 383.

19Personal interview with Dr. James Jeremiah, March 24, 1966.

20Ibid.
Fourteen by the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, and served as Vice-Chairman of this Council in 1961. He left the pastorate of the Immanuel Baptist Church in Dayton to assume the presidency of the college.

While serving as president of the college, Dr. Jeremiah took time to finish a Bachelor of Arts program at neighboring Central State College with a major in history. He was elected to membership in Phi Alpha Theta historical honor society, and graduated in 1960. He was invited to be the baccalaureate speaker for the graduation exercises of Central State College in 1961. At this commencement, Dr. Jeremiah had the privilege of becoming the first alumnus of Central State College to receive an honorary degree from that institution. In presenting the degree, Dr. Wesley, president of Central State College, made the following remarks:

James T. Jeremiah, you come to us as one of our own alumni. You are the first of the Central State College graduates to be awarded an honorary degree since the naming of this college. . . . We salute you not only because you are one of us, but also because you are a devoted servant of religion and education, resolute, gentle and one who quietly exemplifies your faith and purpose. . . . We have cherished your presence

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in this college as a student and also a fellow administrator. It is with deep satisfaction that we place your name on the roll of those whom Central State College is delighted to honor.\textsuperscript{22}

It was to this man that the Board of Trustees entrusted the leadership of the new college and it proved to be a wise choice. The school has had to continuously face financial problems, but under the guidance of Dr. Jeremiah, it has made great strides and has achieved a measure of financial stability. The Bible Institute division was dropped and the liberal arts program has been enlarged and strengthened.

\textbf{The decision to drop the Bible Institute division.}\textsuperscript{22} When the trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute accepted Cedarville College, it was for the purpose of building a strong liberal arts college to serve the constituency of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches. In the meeting of the two Boards of Trustees in which the transfer was made, Dr. Webster stated that the plan was to have a well rounded liberal arts program in addition to the Bible Institute. When Dr. R. T. Ketcham met with the Board of Trustees during the opening week of the new administra-

\textsuperscript{22}\textit{Ibid.}, Oct., 1961, pp. 4-19.
tion, the secretary recorded the following comments:

He opened his remarks by saying that "Cedarville was an answer to the prayer of the General Association of Regular Baptist pastors for twenty-one years." . . . He continued by saying that we have plenty of Bible schools scattered in strategic locations across the country, one on the west coast, one in Grand Rapids to take care of the midwest, and one in the east to take care of the east coast. The need at the present is for a liberal arts college. . . . A short time ago no one had any idea that the dream of twenty-one years would be realized by the trustees of the Baptist Bible Institute with the gift of Cedarville College. . . .

He recommended that we emphasize the liberal arts program with a strong Bible department and eventually drop the Bible Institute level. If we do this we will find it much easier in securing support for our school because folks are interested in a good liberal arts college. Most churches already have a Bible School in their own area and are supporting it, and therefore are not interested in another Bible School.23

The analysis of the student body at the beginning of the first year showed that two-thirds of the 109 students were in the Bible Institute division, and one-third in the college. By the fall of 1954 these proportions were reversed with two-thirds enrolled in the college. At the same time the faculty sent a request to the Board of Trustees asking that no more students be accepted for the Bible Institute division in order to terminate this program.24

The Trustees did not act on the request until January 8, 1955, at which time President Jeremiah reported that no inquiries for the Bible Institute had been received for the fall semester. President Jeremiah pointed out that there would be more Bible taught in the four-year college course than in the three-year Bible Institute course. The Board of Trustees voted to eliminate the Bible Institute and to concentrate on the liberal arts curriculum.  

Financial difficulties.—The elimination of the Bible Institute did not make it easier to raise support as had been suggested earlier. There were times in the first few years when the funds were not sufficient to meet the payroll, and the faculty had to wait until the funds came in. The main support of the college has always come from the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, a loosely organized fellowship of 1200 churches since the General Association is not a denomination and has no agencies of its own. It merely gives a seal of approval to an organization holding its doctrinal position. This approval indicates to the churches that the said organization has been examined as to its financial integrity and 

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25Ibid. After the merger in 1953, the Baptist Bible Institute continued operating in Cleveland as an evening school branch of the college. This arrangement lasted until 1961 when the Baptist Bible Institute was given its independent existence, and it still conducts an evening school in Cleveland.
doctrinal position and is worthy to receive financial assistance from the churches if they want to give it. There are six "approved" schools competing for the support of these churches with Cedarville the only completely liberal arts college. Four of them are engaged in raising funds to build completely new campuses. The Regular Baptist Churches had been oriented to the Bible Institute and Bible College movement and were suspicious of a "liberal" arts school. Dr. Jeremiah diligently visited the churches and appealed for prospective students and financial aid. For example, he reported to the Board on January 6, 1955, that from January 1 to May 31 he had visited forty-four churches, given sixty-eight different messages, taught five hours in college, plus all the other administrative duties.26 Little by little he won the confidence of the churches, and the monthly support showed a steady increase. The gifts from the churches in the fiscal year of 1954 totaled $5,000 more than for 1953 and have shown a steady increase each year since.27 In the year 1964-65 the college received aid from 313 churches of the General

26"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 6, 1955, p. 401.

27Ibid., p. 399.
Association of Regular Baptist fellowship, and from sixty-six churches that did not belong to that group.  

The minutes of the Board of Trustees indicate that they have always had difficulty in keeping the expenses in line with the anticipated income. Dr. Milner, chairman of the Board of Trustees, stated that the Scripture portion he read the morning of March 6, 1953, "has been my guide through the uncertain period of the early days of Cedarville. . . . In those early years under our direction, when we finished a year of school, we realized that if we opened the school the following September, it would be a miracle of God's grace." However, each fall the college opened and although the enrollment fluctuated between 105 and 139 the first five years, the attendance jumped in 1958 to 164, then to 255 in 1959, and then to a high of 763 in 1965. The financial pressure remains the same today although the cause has changed. In the early years there were too few students to operate economically, and now there are too many students for the facilities, creating a constant strain on the available finances.

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28 From a study made by the Dept. of Public Relations for the fiscal year 1964-1965. Of the 763 students enrolled in Sept. 1965, 647 were Baptists, but the registrar's office did not know what percentage were from Regular Baptist Churches.

29 Personal letter, Dr. G. S. Milner, March 29, 1966.

30 Cedarville College Catalog, 1965-66, p. 94.
Finances and buildings.—These two facets have been linked together ever since the Regular Baptists took over, and it is in these areas that Dr. Jeremiah has done his most admirable work.

The very first summer under the direction of Dr. Webster, the buildings were renovated and some remodeling was done at a cost of $20,000 which the Board did not have. This, plus the operating deficit of the first year made it necessary for the Board of Trustees to borrow $25,000 in January, 1954. So by the time Dr. Jeremiah became president, the college was over $30,000 in debt. He began a campaign to raise the money by having 300 people or churches offer to be responsible for raising $100. The aim was to have the college free of debt by Memorial Day, 1955. It took much longer than this, but by July, 1956, the debt was liquidated.

The next fund-raising campaign was entitled, "Cement — and See Miracles." Friends of the college

32 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Jan. 8, 1954, p. 379-D.
34 Cedarville College Bulletin, April, 1955, p. 3.
donated a machine to make cement blocks which could be produced for ten cents each, or half the cost of buying them at the plant.36 Enough funds were received and sufficient blocks made to build an addition on the front of Alford Gymnasium and for the foundation of Faith Hall.37 This latter building was aptly named for it was constructed of four surplus government buildings moved from Wright-Patterson air base. These were remodeled with a brick veneer and shingle exterior with students doing much of the work. The rooms were furnished by the churches so that the dormitory for sixty girls was completed at a cost of only $42,000.38

The college decided next to sell revenue bonds in order to raise funds for buildings. Much of Dr. Jeremiah's time since the approval of this program by the Board of Trustees in 1959 has been spent in promotional work, trying to sell bonds and raise funds to build the facilities needed to keep pace with the booming enrollments. The college hired the Reverend Lee Turner to be director of public relations in July, 1964, and to assist Dr. Jeremiah in

36 Ibid., Feb. 1957, p. 3.

37 Personal interview with Dr. J. Jeremiah, March 24, 1966.

38 Ibid.
raising funds.\textsuperscript{39} Since the inception of the bond program, Patterson Hall, Williams Hall, and a large gymnasium-student center building have been constructed.\textsuperscript{40} These buildings were built at rock-bottom cost due to the generosity of Mr. James Richardson, a contractor in Columbus, Ohio, and a member of the Board of Trustees. He gratuitously gave of his time to oversee the construction of these buildings so that there were no contractor's profit or overhead involved in the cost. Consequently, for only $100,000, the college was able to construct Williams Hall, a two-story dormitory of brick and block construction, to house 104 girls.\textsuperscript{41} Alford Memorial has been remodelled and made into an auditorium seating 750. The eighty-acre farm adjoining the campus on the north was purchased for expansion.\textsuperscript{42} Cedar Park, a complex of six apartment buildings on the south edge of Cedarville, was bought in the summer of 1965 and is used for men's dormitories. This same year an addition to Faith Hall to house eighty women was constructed. In addition, other buildings have been remodelled and Old Main has been sandblasted and tuck pointed which greatly improved its appearance.

\textsuperscript{39}\textit{Cedarville College Bulletin}, July, 1964, p. 3.
\textsuperscript{40}\textit{Ibid.}, Sept., 1964, p. 2
\textsuperscript{42}\textit{Ibid.}, Nov., 1962, p. 3.
A historic event for the college occurred on Saturday, April 2, 1966, when a ground-breaking ceremony was held for the construction of a new library and dormitory. Dr. George Milner, chairman of the Board of Trustees, used a gold plated shovel to break the ground for these buildings. The Carnegie Library has served the college well, but is too small. The original capacity was 17,000 volumes and now contains 28,000 volumes. Study space is inadequate for the large student enrollment. The new $400,000 library of 19,000 square feet will have an initial capacity of 80,000 volumes and is designed so that additions may be added as needed. A two-year fund-raising effort netted $135,000 in gifts for the library, and the sale of $192,000 in bonds for dormitory construction. The remaining funds needed for the library are being loaned to the college by the Commercial Investment Trust Company of New York City. This firm is also financing and building the new dormitory to house 225 women and leasing it to the college for fifteen years. At the end of this period the college will assume ownership. This arrangement is considered providential since the college has such a difficult time raising funds

43 Xenia Gazette, April 4, 1966, p. 6.
45 A Charge to Keep, brochure on Cedarville College, April 2, 1966, p. 2.
for expansion when it appeals to the churches. With the exception of this financing by the Commercial Investment Trust Company, all of this building and remodeling has been accomplished by means of bond sales and small gifts of individuals and churches. The first large gift did not come until January 13, 1966, when the Dayton Power and Light Company gave the college $10,000 for the new library fund. On March 26, 1966, the college received $25,000 from E. F. Kettering, Incorporated which is the largest gift ever received by the Baptist administration. These and smaller gifts have been the result of the Reverend Lee Turner's efforts as director of the Department of Public Relations. Other industries and foundations have been contacted by this department, and the college expects to receive other gifts from these sources. Nevertheless, these facts and figures can never convey the burden of years of travel over hundreds of thousands of miles by Dr. Jeremiah, and now by the Reverend Lee Turner, in their endeavors to raise support for the college and gifts for the buildings.

Town and gown.—The arrival of the students in the fall of 1953 caused some comment among the local populace because of the different standards of conduct required of

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46 Information received from the Dept. of Public Relations, March 30, 1966.
the students. Just as the students of the original Reformed Presbyterian Church reflected the religious standards of that conservative denomination, so these Baptist students coming from conservative churches, exhibited the same type of moral and spiritual values as the Reformed Presbyterian students. The original purpose of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in starting Cedarville College was to train pastors and missionaries. The aim of the Baptist Bible Institute was similar, and many of the students who moved down from Cleveland were also training for the ministry. Thus, a seriousness of purpose and a spiritual intensity marked the deportment of these young men and women.

Many of the older residents welcomed the return of the college to its original purposes, but many of the younger citizens of the community, reared in a more liberal atmosphere, were highly critical. Cedarville had two large Presbyterian churches so that it was a "Presbyterian" town, and the arrival of the Regular Baptists in such large numbers created a small amount of tension. However, with the passing of time, an increasing measure of cooperation between the college and town has taken place. The students have participated in the annual Halloween parade of the village by entering floats, and the community has taken an active part in the college homecoming parade. College
personnel have exercised their civic responsibilities, and have been elected to office in the school organizations and in the village government. The attitude now prevails that the college is good for the community.

An appraisal of Dr. Jeremiah's administration.—It has been said that a man rises or falls by the judgments he makes. This is also true of a college, and the man trusted to make those judgments is the president who can "make" or "break" the institution. In chapter VII, it was demonstrated that the former administration failed because the trustees failed to choose a good administration. This chapter indicates that Cedarville College has been so successful because the Baptist Board of Trustees in providentially selecting Dr. James Jeremiah, chose a man of faith and vision with the ability to make the right decisions. By his leadership and under the blessing of God, Cedarville College has achieved goals in thirteen years that were never dreamed of by Dr. McKinney and the first administration.

The enrollment increased from 105 in 1953 to 763 in 1965. The faculty that first year numbered ten, and in 1965 there were forty-three. The budget advanced from

\[47\] At present, two of the five village councilmen are from the faculty, and one of these (the business manager of the college) also serves as village clerk and treasurer.
$57,000 in 1953-1954 to $853,560 in 1965-1966.\textsuperscript{48} An even
greater addition has been made in total assets, moving from
$341,770.19 to $1,385,573 in 1966. The liabilities
increased from $43,095 to $644,730 at the present time. In
the same period, the net worth increased from $298,675 to
$740,842 in 1965.\textsuperscript{49} Pen and ink are not capable of impar-
ting the sacrifice of time and effort above and beyond the
call of duty that Dr. Jeremiah has given to the college.
He taught an average of five hours per semester from 1953
until 1965 when he was finally relieved of this task. This
was a role he reluctantly relinquished for he loves to
teach. In addition, he acted as business manager, did the
hiring and firing, et cetera, until a full-time person was
hired in April, 1962 to take over the responsibility. He
is active in the planning and construction of the new
buildings, giving long hours to conferences with architects
and contractors. He averages over 60,000 miles of travel
annually, mostly by auto. He spends nearly every weekend
and many evenings during the week, in meetings in the
churches. His office is open to give counsel to faculty
and students.


\textsuperscript{49} Financial Statement, Cedarville College, June 30,
The college joined the Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges to work toward regional accreditation by the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges. The initial request for admission to candidacy has been denied, but it has been helpful in pointing out areas of weakness that need to be improved. The college has been accepted as a member of the Ohio College Association. Tentative approval to train elementary teachers has been gained after much planning and hard work. The aim now is to acquire similar approval for educating secondary teachers.

Dr. Jeremiah's roles have been so many and have been played so energetically that there have been times when the faculty feared for his health. However, he enjoys good health and abounding energy. Perhaps the secret of the spiritual strength that has enabled him to lead the college to success, in spite of the tremendous obstacles he faced, is found in his words addressed to the graduates of 1957:

... When Paul penned II Cor. 4:1, he may have been considering some possible personal reasons for fainting, for he writes, "as we have received mercy we faint not." Often in his writings Paul expressed himself as being unworthy of his high calling. He endured trials without number. He faced humanly insurmountable difficulties... To "faint" means "to lose heart." Paul did not lose heart because he knew what God had done
for him. . . . As our graduates leave Cedarville and enter some definite field of service for Christ, they will be facing problems, opposition and satanic hinderances which may cause them to lose heart. It is the prayer of everyone of us that "since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart." 50

Certainly a lesser man, faced with the "humanly insurmountable difficulties" that have confronted Dr. Jeremiah in these thirteen years, would have "lost heart." In writing to the trustees concerning the possibility of assuming the presidency, he had written, "There is no question in my mind whatever about God's ability to see us through difficult times if we are in His will." 51 With this faith he has continued on in the face of many difficulties to lead the college to ever higher levels of academic achievement.

50Miracle, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1957, p. 6.
51Personal letter, Dr. J. T. Jeremiah, Sept. 6, 1954.
CHAPTER IX

THE POWER BEHIND THE SCENES

Importance of the Board of Trustees.--The history of Cedarville College illustrates how the success or failure of a college or university is due to the calibre of leadership and control exercised by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees is supposed to be the policy making body and is legally responsible for the financial affairs of the institution. The trustees must be dedicated men, and often must be willing to travel great distances to attend the meetings. When the institution runs smoothly, they seldom are appreciated, and when difficulty arises, the trustees are quickly blamed by the constituency or the public. When financial resources are limited, they must spend long hours debating what projects are to have priority in the budget. Consequently, those departments that do not receive what they ask for are disappointed. Quite often in fund drives, the trustees are asked to set an example by giving generously to the cause. Usually their ability to make such contributions is an important qualification for appointment to the Board of Trustees.
The Board of Trustees has been composed of men who were ministers, businessmen, lawyers, physicians, and farmers. For example, four ministers, two businessmen, two farmers, and one lawyer constituted the Board in 1902. In 1938, nineteen men served on the Board, and these included eight ministers, six businessmen, two teachers, one lawyer, one physician, and one farmer. The number of men on the Board of Trustees was increased under the Baptists, and in 1965 there were twenty-seven members. Of this number, fourteen were ministers, twelve were businessmen, and one a university professor. Throughout the history of the college, ministers have played a prominent role on the Board of Trustees. However, two businessmen, Mr. Thomas Gibson of the original Board, and Dr. Milner of the present Board, are good examples of what an ideal trustee should be.

Thomas Gibson and the first Board of Trustees.-- The individual responsible for much of the school's progress in the early years was Mr. Thomas Gibson, a businessman of Cincinnati, Ohio. He was a member of Dr. David McKinney's church, and a cousin of Mr. William Gibson, the original benefactor of Cedarville College.¹

¹Supra, p. 38.
Mr. Thomas Gibson, like his cousin William, was born in Scotland, and arrived in the United States as a lad of seven years of age. He was reared in the First Reformed Presbyterian Church, and took a very active part as a layman in the work of his church. Dr. Earl McKinney, son of Dr. McKinney, the pastor of the church, related that the "life of these Scotch immigrants outside of business was their church," and this was particularly true of Thomas Gibson. He was a leader in the Sabbath School, and offered a prize of a silver dollar to those in the Primary Department who memorized the Twenty-third Psalm. Those beyond the Primary level were encouraged to keep a notebook, and Mr. Gibson gave a silver dollar to the student with the best notebook. The Reformed Presbyterians were "Psalms" singers and did not have any musical instruments in their churches. However, the church selected a person to lead the congregational singing and this task fell to Mr. Gibson for sixty-two consecutive years. He had compiled his own hymn book for a paragraph in the minutes of the Board of Trustees reads, "On motion Gibson's Manual

2Personal interview with Dr. Earl McKinney, Jan. 15, 1963.

3Ibid.

4Cedarville Herald, April 14, 1905, p. 1.
of Psalm Selection was adopted for use in the college. The treasurer was ordered to pay Mr. Thomas Gibson for thirty copies."^5

Mr. Gibson had learned the plumbing trade in his uncle Peter Gibson's shop, and had become a partner in the business in 1840. He had the privilege of laying the first water mains in Cincinnati. They were of wood, and years later he dug these up and substituted iron pipe.^6 As a successful businessman, he was active in civic affairs. He was a director and president of the Ohio Humane Society for many years. He was also a liberal supporter of the Cincinnati Childrens Home.^7

When the Synod met in Cincinnati in May, 1885, and appointed a committee to find a site in Cedarville and construct a building for the college, it is not surprising to learn that they chose Mr. Thomas Gibson as one of the five members.^8 This committee incorporated the college in January, 1887, and Thomas Gibson was chosen to be president of the Board of Trustees.^9 He held this position for

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^5"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Sept. 19, 1894, p. 16.

^6Cedarville Herald, April 2, 1909, p. 6.

^7Ibid.

^8Supra, p. 12.

^9"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Mar. 11, 1887, p. 2.
twenty-one years and helped to guide the college through the difficult early years. He lived to see it established as a successful college with buildings, endowment, and alumni who had achieved distinction in their various professions.

After a short illness, Mr. Thomas Gibson died on April 1, 1909. The Board of Trustees in their resolution upon his death stated:

We wish to place on record our heart-felt appreciation of his faithful and efficient efforts, his love and loyalty, and his help and liberality to the college. We shall miss his kind and wholesome counsel, but we trust that his genial personality and devoted spirit will ever be remembered in the deliberations of this Board as an inspiration to wise policies, and successful endeavors for the future of the college that he so much loved.\(^9\)

These words, penned by Dr. McC Chesney and Dr. Jurkat on the Resolutions Committee, give a personal insight into the character and personality of Mr. Gibson, and the high esteem in which his colleagues held him. In his will, Mr. Gibson left the sum of $5000 to the Endowment Fund.\(^10\)

\(^9\) Ibid., June 2, 1909, p. 104.

\(^10\) Ibid., June 2, 1909, p. 104.

Dr. George S. Milner and the present Board.—From the time of Mr. Thomas Gibson to that of Mr. George S. Milner, there were many fine, dedicated Christian businessmen and pastors who served as chairman of the Board. However, it seems fitting to write of the present chairman as his qualifications are equal to any of those who preceded him in the office. In spiritual stature and business acumen he resembles Mr. Thomas Gibson.

Dr. Milner was born in 1879, and in 1891 became a member of what is now the Cedar Hill Baptist Church in Cleveland. Throughout the years he has been active in that church and at the age of eighty-seven is an elder emeritus. His interests have ranged beyond his local church, and since 1937 he has served on the General Council of Baptist Mid-Missions, and for many years served as president of this organization. He has always been interested in young people, and had an active part in building Stoney Glen Camp and Camp Patmos, two summer camps for young people.12

Dr. Milner founded the Milner Electric Company, an electrical supply company. As a Christian businessman, like Mr. Thomas Gibson, he has been active in civic affairs. He served on the village council of Moreland Hills, and

12The Miracle, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1962, p. 159.
also on the school board of Orange School. The Greater Cleveland Home and Flower Show is an annual event in that city which is sponsored by Building Expositions, Incorporated. Dr. Milner, in conjunction with other citizens, organized the latter organization in 1940, and has been president since its beginning. He also joined the Rotary Club in 1914 and has been active in that service club.\textsuperscript{13}

In spite of all these responsibilities, Dr. Milner has given very generously of his time and money to make Cedarville College what it is today. In the difficult early days before the Baptist administration had established its credit at the local bank, Dr. Milner offered to lend the college money to get it through its most difficult period.\textsuperscript{14}

Many, many hours have been spent in traveling back and forth between Cleveland and Cedarville to attend to college business. In recognition of his devotion to the school, the faculty and trustees voted to give him an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree. He received this

\textsuperscript{13}Ibid.

\textsuperscript{14}"Minutes, Board of Trustees," April 1, 1954, p. 379-M.
degree at commencement on May 27, 1961. In making the presentation, Dr. Jeremiah made the following statements:

The Word of God says, a "faithful man shall abound with blessings." . . . Many of us have heard Mr. Milner give praise to his God for the blessings which he has received from His good hand. Mr. Milner has accepted at face value the challenge of the Scripture which says, "It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." I Cor. 6:2.

Surely there are eternal rewards for faithfulness to Christ . . . but it is the opinion of many of us that faithfulness should be recognized on earth as well as in heaven. We deem it fitting and proper to "render therefore to all their dues . . . honour to whom honour." Rom. 13:7.15

Although many men have been honored with such degrees by Cedarville College during its existence, none have been more deserving than Dr. George S. Milner. Well advanced in years, and at an age (eighty-seven) when many men have withdrawn from active participation in responsible positions, Dr. Milner continues to give of his time and strength to Cedarville College. It must have been a moment of great personal satisfaction when he broke ground for the new library and dormitory on April 2, 1966, and he realized how far Cedarville College had advanced from that memorable

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15 The Miracle, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1962, p. 159.
March 6, 1953 when he read the passage, "The Lord your God . . . went in the way before you, to search out a place to pitch your tents in." The future of Cedarville College seems assured as long as there are men like Dr. Milner to serve on the Board of Trustees and to guide the policies and programs of the school.

16 Personal letter, Dr. G. S. Milner, Mar. 29, 1966.
CHAPTER X

TO SERVE AND TO SACRIFICE

The selection of faculty members.—One of the major problems faced by any church-related college is finding faculty members who not only have academic qualifications, but who also meet the spiritual standards. As Dr. Luther Evans states it, "Our nation, and all nations, need desperately today the intellectual and moral virtues which the cultural colleges promote." ¹ The Reformed Presbyterian administration was fortunate in that there were older, well-established Presbyterian colleges who were similar in doctrinal position from which teachers could be secured. Dr. McChesney and Dr. Jurkat were graduates of Franklin College, a Presbyterian school in southeastern Ohio.² This was a small college, but apparently a very fine one, for an article in the Cedarville Herald in 1908 stated,

It has turned out six representatives in Congress, two Attorney-Generals of the U.S., two foreign ministers, one envoy, one comptroller of the currency, two U. S. Senators,


seventy-one college professors, twelve college presidents, two U. S. Supreme Court judges, seventeen judges, 365 ministers, thirty-six physicians, ninety-one lawyers, and a large number of financiers.3

Dr. Jurkat and Dr. McChesney were two of the "seventy-one college professors" listed.

Another Presbyterian college which furnished many of the early instructors was Wooster University. Perhaps the best known of the teachers who came from that school was Professor Leroy Allen. He joined the faculty in 1906 to fill the newly-created George W. Harper chair of Economics and Finance.4 He served as Dean of the college after Dr. McChesney became president in 1915, and remained at Cedarville until 1922. The announcement of his coming to Cedarville College in the local newspaper stated, "He is unquestionably recognized as a teacher, speaker, and as a man of energy and character by such leaders as Dean Compton . . . of Wooster University."5 Professor Allen left Cedarville to take a position as Professor of Economics at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. While there he completed work toward the degree of Doctor of

3Cedarville Herald, June 19, 1908, p. 1. This college considered merging with Cedarville College in 1921, and finally united with Muskingum College in 1927.

4Supra, p. 60.

Social Science from Oklahoma City University. In 1924 he was largely responsible for founding Pi Gamma Mu, the national social science honor society. From 1925 until his death in 1947, he was editor of Social Science, the publication of Pi Gamma Mu.\(^6\) In view of the fact that he was characterized as "a man of energy" in the Cedarville Herald, it is interesting to read the following lines in Social Science after his death:

\[\ldots\] Perhaps his most outstanding characteristics were an apparently inexhaustible physical energy and an even larger love for his work. Those who worked with him were chiefly impressed with the overflowing vitality of his singularly acute and fruitful mental life.\ldots\] His founding of Pi Gamma Mu is perhaps the most outstanding example of this characteristic in Dr. Allen.\(^7\)

The fact that Dr. Allen spent nearly half of his teaching career at Cedarville illustrates how many fine teachers can be found in small colleges.

During the administrations of Dr. McKinney and Dr. McChesney, the spiritual qualifications of a faculty member were always the first consideration. The Cedarville College Catalog for 1903-1904 remarks, "The professors are generally consecrated Christians."\(^8\) This statement is made

\(^7\)Ibid.
\(^8\)Cedarville College Catalog, 1903-1904, p. 10.
in reference to small colleges in general, but was true of Cedarville College professors. The emphasis placed upon the spiritual aspect was seen in an article in the *Reformed Presbyterian Advocate* in 1910:

Hence the importance of a so-called Christian school keeping its faculty clean of any un-Christian timber. . . . This means that when the Board of a Christian college seeks to fill a faculty vacancy, they should ask two questions, invariably the same one first, "Is the candidate one who has a positive Christian faith that has been to a large degree transmitted into his life?" And then, "Is the candidate master of the subject to be taught?"

We wish to say; Cedarville College asks these questions in this order, demands today these qualifications of all her instructors. She is therefore a thoroughly Christian educational institution.⁹

Later on in 1922 as the science versus religion controversy became more acute, we find the following informative statement in the minutes of the Board of Trustees, "In case of the science teacher, the President is instructed to confer with the teacher elected, to ascertain if his views are in accord with the teachings of the evangelical faith."¹⁰ An analysis of the thirteen faculty members in the 1931-1932 school year showed that ten were graduates of church.


¹⁰"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 8, 1922, p. 213.
colleges such as Wooster and Wittenberg, and the other three were graduates of Indiana State Normal School, Indiana State University, and Purdue University. In 1932, Dr. McChesney received a letter from a member of a supporting church in which the writer expressed his appreciation for the "conservative standards" of the college. President Kilpatrick in his first message to the Board of Trustees raised the problem of finding teachers "whose particular qualifications measure up to the exacting standards of a Christian college."

The records do not indicate any particular concern for spiritual qualifications during the administrations of Dr. Vayhinger and Mr. Miller. In 1952-53, the last year of Mr. Miller's administration, ten of the faculty had graduated from church schools, and eight from state schools. However, when the Regular Baptists took over, there was a return to the original Reformed Presbyterian standards whereby the spiritual aspect was considered more important than the academic. Six members of the first faculty under the Baptist administration were graduates of church colleges such as Wheaton and Houghton, and one from Edinboro.

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12 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," Dec. 13, 1940, p. 236.
State Teachers College. The article previously quoted from the Reformers Presbyterian Advocate for August, 1910, could be reproduced in the Baptist Bulletin today as the expression of the present administration. In a sense the standards are even more rigid, for the Board of Trustees appoints a Faculty Committee to interview prospective teachers after the administration recommends them. Due to the increased need for faculty members, the Board of Trustees has hired teachers from other Baptist groups such as the Swedish Baptists, Southern Baptists, and American Baptists, but only on condition that they join an independent or Regular Baptist Church on coming to the college. The present faculty has thirty-four graduates of church schools, and only nine from state schools. Of the thirty-four, six are graduates of Cedarville, including two with the Doctor of Philosophy degree, and five are graduates of Baptist Bible Seminary, and one of these men has a Doctor of Theology degree.

Salaries and teaching loads.—Dr. McChesney, near the end of his administration, reported to the Board of Trustees that "its faculty have always taught at a low salary. Cedarville College has been a genuine missionary institution. Youth who could not possibly get an education
elsewhere are enabled to attend Cedarville College. The records show that even dedicated men like Dr. McChesney were at times torn by indecision when offers came to move to larger schools at greater salaries. In his resignation, Dr. McChesney related the opportunities that had been his:

I received during these years three calls to the College of Wooster, two to Monmouth College, two to Muskingum College, one to Parsons College, one to Center College, two to Lane Theological Seminary, and several approaches by representatives of congregations, all of these without my seeking, and in each case with the offer of a larger salary than I was receiving in Cedarville College. I declined to leave in every instance because I came here in answer to prayer.

It was this spirit of dedication that led Dr. McChesney and Dr. Jurkat to devote their entire careers to the college in spite of the low salaries they received. When he resigned in 1939, Dr. McChesney's salary was $1800 per year after forty-five years of service to the college. Dr. Jurkat, with one year less service, received $1422 per year. Thus, Dr. McChesney's statement that the college had been a "missionary institution" reflected the fact that this was possible only because the faculty taught at a "low salary."

13 Ibid., Dec. 8, 1939, p. 213.
14 Ibid., June 1, 1939, p. 200.
Salaries improved during the post-World War II inflation so that in 1948 Dr. Jurkat was receiving a salary of $2880 with the average salary being $2400.\textsuperscript{15} However, in this same meeting of the Board of Trustees, President Vayhinger reported that "the faculty was very capable and harmonious but were underpaid in comparison with teachers in the public schools."\textsuperscript{16} It must also be remembered that the Board of Trustees was not making a conscientious effort to live within its income as some of the early Boards did, and therefore were more generous in raising salary levels. As indicated earlier, in April, 1952, the Board of Trustees authorized a ten per cent increase in faculty salaries for 1952-1953, even though they were forced to borrow $37,000 for operating expenses.\textsuperscript{17}

The concept of the college as a "missionary institution" has also prevailed in the Baptist administration in regard to salaries. Teachers must have a definite "call" of God to come to Cedarville College, and the theory has been that a person so directed by God will teach at the

\textsuperscript{15}Ibid., Oct. 14, 1948, p. 313.
\textsuperscript{16}Ibid.
\textsuperscript{17}Supra, p. 116.
salary offered. The examining team for North Central Association noticed this phase of faculty life, for they reported:

They view their work as a religious "calling" and accept the exceedingly modest salary scale as a minister would his compensation for service in the parish. The sense of calling helps to sustain their enthusiasm and devotion, even under adverse conditions. 18

This method of securing and paying teachers has worked fairly well, and there has been a relatively small turnover in the faculty.

In view of the limited financial resources, the Board of Trustees has done well to increase the salaries every two years to take care of the rising cost of living. However, the desire for regional accreditation has forced the administration to increase salaries. The beginning salary for a master's degree has been raised from $5600 in 1965-66 to $5900 in 1966-67 with a maximum of $6200 after ten years of teaching. The increase for the Doctor of Philosophy degree has been from $6800 to $7500 for the first step of the scale, with a maximum of $8100 for ten years or more of teaching experience. 19 Additional faculty benefits include free tuition for children of the faculty.


19 Personal letters, Dr. Clifford Johnson, Dean of the college, Feb., 1965; Feb., 1966.
attending Cedarville College, and a retirement program to which the college contributes one-half of the premium cost. 20 The college is now working on a sabbatical leave plan whereby a faculty member after teaching for six years, will be given a semester's leave at full salary. 21 A committee is also working on a tenure policy for the faculty. 22 The improvements made in the last ten years and the continued efforts of the administration to increase the salary levels have encouraged the faculty.

The faculty is encouraged also for they realize that they are not the only ones making such a sacrifice. The Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges made a study of its fifty-two member colleges in 1956, and found that the median salary paid to full-time instructional personnel was $3,681. The comparable figure in accredited colleges according to a 1956 study made by the National Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges.


22 Ibid.
Education Association was $4,448. Dr. Hill, executive secretary of the Council for the Advancement of Small Colleges made this comment:

When the question is asked, "How do the small colleges meet the challenge financially?" an honest and straightforward answer is that they pay low salaries to dedicated teachers and administrators. They operate in simple utilitarian plants rather than in luxurious buildings; they offer programs which can be handled without elaborate and expensive scientific and engineering equipment, and they serve a serious-minded group of students . . . the result is a sound, simple, low-cost education for those who want it.24

The teaching load has changed with the times. In the early days, the professors were products of the classical liberal arts program and were well-rounded individuals who could teach in more than one area. Miss Carrie Blair of the original faculty, taught history, English, and mathematics.25 How difficult it would be in this age of

24 Ibid., p. 114.
25 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," May 21, 1895, p. 27. Miss Blair died of typhoid fever during the summer of 1895. See Xenia Gazette, Sept. 3, 1895, p. 1.
specialization to find a person qualified to teach in three such areas. A note in the *Reformed Presbyterian Advocate* in 1911 stated:

Recitations begin at 7 o'clock and close at 12:15 P.M. Periods are each fifty minutes long. None of the professors has less than twenty hours work a week and some have twenty-seven or thirty. We earn no idle bread. Our afternoons are spent principally in getting ready for the next days work.26

A note the following year indicated that forty different courses were being taught by the faculty, and that the classes ranged in size from two to thirty-two.27 The small class size helped to alleviate the pressure of so many different classes. A news article concerning Dr. Jurkat in 1946 reported that he "teaches six classes in the college and six in the seminary."28

Heavy teaching schedules were also a problem in the early years of the Baptist administration. It was not unusual for teachers to carry eighteen or twenty hours, and often they had to teach part of these hours outside their field of specialization. This has now been remedied, and twelve hours is the normal teaching load.29 Some inequity still prevails in that some professors have respon-

26 *R. P. Advocate*, Nov. 1911, p. 270.
sibilities as division chairmen or club advisers which are not taken into consideration in figuring teaching loads.

The "Walking University."--A discussion of the faculty would be incomplete without the story of Dr. Frank A. Jurkat. When former students were asked to name their favorite teacher, the answer most often heard was "Dr. Jurkat." There were other able teachers such as Professor Allen, Dean C. W. Steele, Dr. Hostetler, and Dean Helen Santmyer, a successful writer with a degree in literature from Oxford, England, but none enjoyed the length of service nor the reputation that were Dr. Jurkat's. He came to Cedarville College in 1895 at the opening of the second year of college classes and taught until February, 1954, a total of fifty-eight and one-half years. He was the only member of the former faculty retained by the Baptists. Dr. Jeremiah relates that Dr. Jurkat was glad that the college had come back to its original purpose. When Dr. Jeremiah asked him if he could sign the doctrinal statement required of all faculty and staff members, he replied, "I sure do believe in immersion and I can sign your doctrinal statement without reservation." Thus, Dr. Jurkat had the distinction of serving under all seven presidents that have held the office.

30 Personal interview with Dr. James Jeremiah, March 24, 1966.
Dr. Jurkat received the cognomen of "Walking University" because of his wide knowledge upon so many subjects. He was originally hired to teach German and history, and in his long career "taught just about everything the college offered." He was most able in the area of languages, and taught Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and French in addition to the German courses. Dr. Jurkat also achieved a small measure of fame by his ability to name all the kings of England since 1066, the German kings since 911, and the French kings since 987. He also had an avid interest in geology and acquired a collection of rocks from all over the world which his former students sent to him. Dr. Earl McKinney, son of the first president of the college, related how that as a lad of eight years, he accompanied Dr. Jurkat on a train trip to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. As the train traveled through the Pennsylvania mountains, Dr. Jurkat explained the rock formations to him and aroused an interest in geology. Dr. McKinney thought to himself, "What a good teacher he is. He can interest an eight-year-old as well as a college student."

31 Personal interview with Mrs. Frank A. Jurkat, wife of Dr. Frank A. Jurkat, Jan. 3, 1963.


33 Personal interview with Dr. Earl McKinney, Jan. 15, 1963.
Professor Jurkat was single when he came to Cedarville, but in August, 1903, he married Miss Alice Bromagen who had graduated from Cedarville College in June of that year. Mrs. Jurkat related that Dr. Jurkat only received fifty-five dollars a month, and if prices had not been low, they would not have been able to get married. One son was born to the couple and he tells how it was necessary for his father to have a large garden and to work in the local bank on weekends in order to make ends meet. They lived a simple life and his father never owned an automobile. Although Professor Jurkat had received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Franklin College in 1917, he attended graduate school at Wittenberg College and received a Master of Arts degree in 1930. Dr. McChesney reported to the Board of Trustees in 1934 that Dr. Jurkat's thesis "had been placed in the Archeological Museum of the State of Ohio as one of its distinguished

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36 Personal interview with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jurkat, son and daughter-in-law of Dr. Jurkat, Mar. 1, 1966.
documents. He began work on a Doctor of Philosophy at Ohio State University, but did not complete it due to his age.

Dr. Jurkat played many roles in the college besides that of professor. From 1897 to 1931 he served as treasurer of the college. From 1895 until 1917 he served as registrar. He was librarian until the Carnegie Library was built. He managed the bookstore for decades. An ordained minister of the Reformed Presbyterian denomination, he often preached in nearby churches. He taught Old Testament Language and Literature in the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Seminary from 1915 until its close in 1953. He did not approve of the withdrawal of the college from its affiliation with the Reformed Presbyterian denomination, and retained his fellowship with that group, serving on the Board of Trustees of the Seminary and Retired Ministers Fund. At the time of President


38 Personal interview with Mrs. Frank A. Jurkat, Jan. 3, 1963.

39 Personal interview with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jurkat, Mar. 1, 1966.
Kilpatrick's inauguration, Dr. Jurkat was serving as moderator and represented the General Synod at that event.\textsuperscript{40}

Dr. Jurkat had a delightful sense of humor which is always an asset in a teacher. Mrs. Jurkat said, "He was always full of stories. If something came up that reminded him of a joke, he would stop and tell it to the class."\textsuperscript{41}

Mr. Fred Marshall, a former student and successful magazine editor, very well describes Dr. Jurkat as a teacher:

Dr. Jurkat retained a vast store of wisdom and in a broad scope of subjects. He enjoyed voicing snide challenges toward many accepted points whether of history, of literature, or of mathematical rule. The student might, at the beginning, entertain the impression that Dr. Jurkat's willy nilly, "country school" tutoring approach was a waste of time, and given too much to extraneous dissertations from his store of earthy yarns and hearth side lore. But in the course of the college term the more poignant values he imparted came to light. The student, in due course, realized that Dr. Jurkat had cleverly devised to divert him away from the tedium and academic doldrums which normally attend the pursuits of education — even as respects the traditionally complex sphere of mathematics. In the "long haul," Dr. Jurkat's genius was clearly manifested, and the student privileged to share these rewards, forever looked back with pleasant nostalgia over the experience.\textsuperscript{42}

\textsuperscript{40}"Minutes, Board of Trustees," Oct. 4, 1940, p. 238.

\textsuperscript{41}Personal interview with Mrs. Frank A. Jurkat, Jan. 3, 1963.

The college now has a policy of mandatory retirement at age seventy, so that it will be impossible for any other teacher to teach as long as did Dr. Jurkat. Nor is it likely that anyone will be called upon to play the multiple roles that he played. His devotion to Cedarville College is similar to that described in the following statement:

No greater acts of heroism or self-sacrifice have been performed on battlefield, or in the face of danger, than those which are written down in the book of the recording angel to the credit of the teachers whose very blood has gone into the foundations of some of our weak and struggling colleges. There are scores of colleges which live today, and in God's providence will continue to live, because of the devotion, even at a terrible cost, of a few teachers, or a few alumni. Such devotion money cannot purchase. . . . It is a gift more precious than anything material.\(^3\)

CHAPTER XI

SEEKERS OF WISDOM AND PLEASURE

Student body from local community.—Greene County has a tradition of valuing higher education. Although a rural area, Greene County has been unusually fortunate in having four established colleges (Antioch, Cedarville, Central State, and Wilberforce), and more recently a fifth, Wright State University, located within its borders. Many of the local young people have taken advantage of the proximity of these colleges, and this was particularly true in Cedarville and the surrounding area. Long before social stratification became a popular topic of discussion, young people realized that a good college education was one of the best preparations for the climb up the ladder of success. Mr. Fred Marshall, one of those early students (1913) who reached the top as a magazine editor, summarized the aspirations of the early students in this manner:

I doubt if there was any school of higher learning in the mid-west which had a student body more dedicated and determined to reach that "golden throne of success" pictured so promisingly upon the masthead of the olden time text books, nor did they claim so many
who managed, in face of the handicaps -- the
desperate financial situation confronting
both student and teacher, to realize this
goal. The school can now claim teachers,
ministers, physicians, barristers, artists,
authors, merchants, and who, no matter what
degree of affluence attained, never dis­
claimed their alma mater as a "poor rela­
tion" that should be sequestered.

Many times parents moved into the area so that they
could be near the college and send their children to it.
One such family was that of Mr. John M. Finney. They
moved to Cedarville and operated a restaurant and small
hotel. The father and mother both were school teachers.
They had five children, Elkana, John, Joe, Caroline, and
Nancy. One of the boys would work in order to help the
others attend school. Elkana graduated in 1901, went on to
Ohio State University, took a degree in agriculture, and
became a successful farmer. John finished in 1903 and
afterwards studied medicine at Ohio Miami Medical College.
Joseph graduated in 1906, studied law at Ohio State Univer­
sity, and has been a member of the Bar since 1913. He
served on the Cedarville College Board of Trustees from
1912 to 1953. Caroline completed her college course in
1908 and became a teacher. Nancy received her Bachelor of
Arts from Cedarville in 1914, a Bachelor of Science in

education from Ohio State University in 1916 and taught a few years. She then returned to Ohio State University and studied medicine, and practiced in the Cincinnati area until her retirement. The Finney family held the record for the largest number of graduates from one family for a number of years. Then eight children of the Gordon Collins family graduated with one of them becoming the president of Tarkio College in Missouri.  

These two families are illustrative of many whose sons and daughters secured an education at Cedarville College that enabled them to successfully compete in the economic and social areas of life. The type of curriculum pursued by the students to prepare them for this competition has changed at various times in the history of the school.

The early liberal arts curriculum.--In the first year and succeeding years until 1911, the work of the college was divided into three areas; the Preparatory, Collegiate, and Music departments.

The Preparatory Department offered the junior and senior years of high school. It prepared the student for either the classical or philosophical course in college. It did this for the student in his senior year by requiring

2Personal interview with Mr. Joseph A. Finney, April 12, 1962.
Greek if he intended to pursue the classical course in college or German if he wished to enroll in the philosophical course. This was the only elective, and they all took the various courses in English, literature, mathematics, history, Latin, and science. 

The Collegiate Department offered the classical course with Greek as the major language leading to the Bachelor of Arts, or the philosophical course with German as the language leading to the Bachelor of Philosophy. The choice of language constituted the major and only difference between the two courses. There were no electives in either course until the senior year, and then the student could choose natural science (general astronomy and biology), French or Hebrew. The latter was offered particularly for the young men going on to seminary. All the students studied Latin, English, history, mathematics, political science (included a course in sociology), chemistry, physics, geology, psychology, philology, apologetics, and moral science (Christian ethics). The faculty did not approve the "elective system" for the catalog unequivocably states, "Experience of the past as well as

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3 Cedarville College Catalog, 1896-1897, pp. 13-14.
4 Ibid., pp. 15-18.
The present abundantly proves that the College Curriculum of studies diligently pursued will produce better results than an Optional Course.\(^5\)

The Department of Music was separate from the Collegiate Department, and the work in this area gained the student a diploma instead of a degree. "The plan and course of study of the Cincinnati College of Music" was followed.\(^6\) Many of those who received the diploma also completed work for a degree.

The change from the historical liberal arts to the elective system took place in two steps. The minutes of the faculty record a meeting of February 2, 1909, in which the motion was made and carried that the college change from three terms to two semesters. Another action added the "scientific" and "literary" courses to the curriculum. These were in addition to the "classical" and "philosophical" which composed the original curriculum.\(^7\) The catalog described the courses as follows:

The Classical Course emphasizes Latin and Greek; the Philosophical, Latin, German and Philosophy; the Scientific, German, French, mathematics, and natural science;

\(^5\)Ibid., p. 20.

\(^6\)Cedarville College Catalog, 1900-1901, p. 33.

\(^7\)"Minutes of the Faculty," Feb. 2, 1909, p. 124.
the Literary, German, French, and English. The degree of Bachelor of Arts (A.B.) is conferred upon students completing any one of these courses.8 This action eliminated the Bachelor of Philosophy degree that had been awarded for completion of the philosophical course. It also permitted a few electives although most of the courses were prescribed by the catalog.9 These changes were instituted in September, 1909.

The second step was made by the faculty in 1910, and the elective system was accepted for September, 1911.10 The four prescribed courses of study were eliminated. One hundred twenty-four semester hours were required for graduation. Twenty-four hours were specified in Bible, apologetics, ethics, and psychology. Forty-eight hours were taken from the natural sciences, social sciences, and the humanities. A major of twelve hours and related minor of six hours with a thesis of two thousand words were needed for graduation. A total of thirty hours of electives could be taken.11 This became the curriculum that still prevails today although the requirements in different areas have changed, especially those concerning the major and minor areas.

9 Ibid., pp. 29-33.
11 Ibid.
Another innovation in 1909 concerned the offering of the Master of Arts degree. A major of six hours, a minor of six hours, and twelve hours of electives constituted the course work, and a thesis of 3000 words was also required.\textsuperscript{12} Compared to today's standards, the thesis requirement was not very strenuous. Miss Mary Jeannette Orr received the first Master of Arts degree in 1910. The last such degree was granted to Mr. Malcolm Nicholson in 1920.\textsuperscript{13}

The Reformed Presbyterian Seminary moved to Cedarville in 1913, and it was possible to complete a combined arts-theology course, or an arts and Bible and missionary training course. Those who successfully completed one of these combined courses received a Bachelor of Arts degree and also a diploma from the Seminary.\textsuperscript{14} Many of the early graduates completed the three-year seminary course after graduation and became pastors and missionaries. A member of the first graduating class, Raymond P. Gorbold, went to Japan under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church. He enjoyed such success in his work that Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, the great evangelist, said of him, "Gorbold is

\textsuperscript{12} Ibid., Feb. 2, 1909, p. 124.
\textsuperscript{13} Cedarville College Catalog, 1921-1922, p. 81.
\textsuperscript{14} Ibid., 1917-1918, pp. 53-56.
the coming man in Japan. We predict that his name will go down in history with those of Livingstone and Patton."\(^{15}\) Unfortunately, he met an early death just a few months after the above lines appeared in the Cedrus. He died on December 30, 1915, and the Cedrus in 1916 laments his death for he was known as "the live wire of foreign missions."\(^{16}\) A report in 1905 showed that seventy-two people graduated during the first eleven years, and over one-fourth of these had gone into the ministry.\(^{17}\) Free tuition in the college and seminary to those studying for the Reformed Presbyterian ministry helped to account for this large proportion. By 1911 the figure had risen to 40 per cent.\(^{18}\)

**Teacher Education.**—The introduction in 1908 of a "Teacher's Department" into the curriculum marked the beginning of changes that were to profoundly affect the nature of the college.\(^{19}\) This department provided a three year course "to meet the needs of those who, expecting to enter upon the profession of teaching, desire special training along the lines of their chosen work."\(^{20}\) The

\(^{15}\)Cedrus, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1915, p. 49.

\(^{16}\)Ibid., 1916, p. 76.

\(^{17}\)Cedarville Herald, June 23, 1905, p. 1.

\(^{18}\)Gavelyte, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1911, p. 7.

\(^{19}\)Cedarville College Catalog, 1908, p. 44.

\(^{20}\)Ibid.
course provided a "review of the common branches" with advanced work in "Latin, mathematics, history, and civics" and some courses in "psychology, pedagogy, and the history of education." A two-year course also could be arranged by those who did not wish to devote more time to the work. Those who finished either of these courses received a diploma, and the work counted toward a degree if the individual later decided to finish the collegiate course.

Another change took place in 1910 when the four year "Normal Course" was added. The Ohio legislature passed the "Hawkins Act" for the certification of teachers, which was designed to improve the level of preparation required for certification. The faculty voted to add the "Normal Course" to the curriculum in September, 1910. Thus, the step was taken which was destined to make Cedarville College known throughout southwestern Ohio as a fine teacher training institution. In 1934, Dr. McChesney reported to the Board of Trustees that "sixty teachers out of 150 in Greene County had their training at Cedarville

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A few years later an article appeared in the local newspaper stating that "more than 500 teachers, school principals, and superintendents, college presidents and professors have gone out from Cedarville College."26

There were occasional problems with the State Department of Education. In 1930-31 the college lost the privilege of training teachers.27 The college made an arrangement with Wittenberg College to give the seniors their professional education. The State Department of Education reinstated the college in 1931 with the proviso that the reference books in Carnegie Library were to be increased materially.28 For some time the college felt that it must gain regional accreditation in order to retain its certification privilege, but the State Department of Education in 1939 assured Dr. McChesney that recognition by North Central Association had no connection with recognition of a college for teacher training.29 The college continued to have this certification privilege until 1953.

27 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," July 7, 1930, p. 369.
28 Ibid.
29 Ibid., June 1, 1939, p. 196.
Mr. Earl McClellan, chairman of the Board of Trustees at the time of the merger with Baptist Bible Institute, stated that the college had been warned "that if it didn't come up with more money, it would lose the certification privilege." When the college failed, this privilege was withdrawn.

Although the Baptist administration did not have the approval of the State Department of Education, the first catalog issued listed six teaching fields for secondary education. It also stated that elementary education was not being offered, but the college expected to give work in this area in the very near future. Since the college did not have the recognition of the State Department of Education, most of the graduates found it difficult to get certificates to teach in Ohio. A few were successful, but many of the graduates went to other states, especially Michigan, and were very successful.

In September of 1959, with the approval of the State Department of Education, the college began a cooperative program in both secondary and elementary education with neighboring Central State College. The students

30Personal interview with Mr. Earl McClellan, March 28, 1966.

31Cedarville College Catalog, 1953-1955, p. 27.

32Ibid.  33Ibid., 1959-60, p. 45.
live on the Cedarville campus, commute four miles to
Central State, take their subject matter fields at Cedar­
ville, and their professional education at Central State
College. They receive a Bachelor of Arts from Cedarville,
and a Bachelor of Science in Education from Central State.
This arrangement has been of mutual benefit to both
schools, although it has been difficult for the students to
work out schedules at two different schools.

In September, 1962, Dr. Clifford Johnson, an
experienced elementary school principal, joined the fac­
ulty as Registrar, with the goal of working with the State
Department of Education in regard to teacher training at
Cedarville College.\textsuperscript{34} One of the obstacles preventing the
college from having the privilege of certification was a
state requirement that a college must have a productive
endowment of $500,000. The college asked the State Depart­
ment of Education to consider the income derived from the
regular, systematic gifts of the churches in lieu of
endowment income. On June 10, 1963, the State Board of
Education agreed to accept this arrangement and gave ten­
tative approval for educating both elementary and secondary
teachers.\textsuperscript{35} The program required that the college add

\textsuperscript{34}Cedarville College Bulletin, Jan. 1963, p. 2.
Dr. Johnson became academic Dean of the college in Sept.
1964.

\textsuperscript{35}Cedarville College Catalog, 1963-1964, p. 51.
additional teachers and facilities before final approval would be given. The Department of Education made another survey of the college in March, 1966, and recommended the college for educating elementary teachers subject to yearly approval by the Board of Education. The Board withdrew approval for the secondary program. The latter action created hardships for students who had been enrolled in the program for three years. Dr. Earl Metz, representing the Ohio State Department of Education, indicated that improvements in the facilities and equipment in the science area had not been sufficient to warrant the approval of that area. Since it is the policy of the Board of Education to grant approval to the entire secondary curriculum and not to various areas, it withdrew approval until the science facilities and equipment are greatly improved. The college is applying again for secondary education, and is hopeful that the program may be reinstated by September, 1967. However, significant improvements will have to be made in the science area if approval is to be secured.

Athletics and Physical Education.—The history of athletics at Cedarville College parallels the development of athletics and physical education as they developed in higher education. Dr. Harry A. Scott writes in his history of Competitive Sports in America:

The program of competitive sports had an unfortunate and stormy introduction into education. It is perhaps the only phase of education which the students themselves forced into the curriculum. From the beginning, almost everything that was done by the students broke some cherished concept of education. From the start, therefore, the efforts of educational administration and faculty have been directed toward curbing, rather than understanding, accepting, and guiding competitive sports into educational channels.37

Athletics at Cedarville College began as an activity of the students themselves. The college had hardly opened its doors before the first football game was played. Classes started on Wednesday, September 19, 1894, and the first game was played that very afternoon. The newspaper account read as follows:

The football team of Wittenberg College, Springfield, came down Wednesday and played against the Cedarville team. The score was 30 to 0 in favor of Springfield, but as our boys had just organized and knew nothing as yet about the game, they showed considerable pluck in even trying to play against

one of the best teams in the state. They are practicing daily and will soon be tops in their profession. They have the duck uniforms.38

A note in the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate the following month indicated that "Rev. J. D. Steele donated $55 to the Athletic Association to purchase suits for the football Team."

This type of financing by the students and friends was the common practice in those days, for as one text states it:

Since colleges and universities had no facilities for athletics, it was necessary for students to obtain, prepare, and maintain the playing areas. Originally, all the playing equipment and uniforms were furnished by the players, but as the important sports continually grew, parents, alumni, or friends contributed to their purchase. . . . But financial support was still the responsibility of the Student Athletic Association as the faculty and administration did not recognize athletics as a function of higher education.40

The rules in these days were not too clear, and eligibility had not yet been made a requirement, so that often the teams would be composed of college students and young men of the town. Games were rough and ill feelings

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38 Xenia Gazette, Sept. 21, 1894, p. 4.


often were aroused. There were no paid coaches the first few years, and the fellows elected a captain who also became the coach. As Mr. Joseph Finney related it, "Since we didn't have a coach, we sat down together and worked out plays." The first coach was Mr. Wayne Marley, of Wooster, who was appointed in September, 1910, to coach football and basketball. Thus, the college had existed fifteen years, and had used Alford Gymnasium for seven years before the first coach was employed.

Basketball had been played in a rented storeroom before the gift of Alford Gymnasium, but this latter building really encouraged interest in basketball by both the women and the men. It seems that old-timers remember the exploits of the championship girls basketball team of 1910-11. They beat the girls of Miami University whose teams had not been defeated for nine years. The college joined the Mid-Ohio League in 1948. The other colleges in the League at that time were Ashland, Bluffton, Defiance, and Findlay.

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41 Personal interview with Mr. Joseph A. Finney, Jan. 18, 1963.
42 "Minutes of the Faculty," Sept. 14, 1910, p. 3.
43 Cedrus, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1915, p. 74.
The most publicized game the college ever played was against Rio Grande College on January 20, 1953. The star player for Rio Grande was six foot nine inch Bevo Francis who averaged over fifty points per game. The game was played in the Hobart Arena at Troy, Ohio, before 7,451 spectators. Cedarville went into a stall at the beginning of the game which angered the fans, for they had paid to see Bevo perform. There were over sixty newsmen and radio announcers, and with their permission, the publicity manager of the Arena asked Cedarville to play an open game in the second half. The score at the half was twenty-one to seven, and the final score was sixty-six to twenty-nine in favor of Rio Grande.\textsuperscript{44} The game was written up in national magazines such as \textit{Life} and made the sport pages across the country.\textsuperscript{45}

The most successful basketball team was the 1963-1964 squad coached by Mr. Donald Callan. The team won the Mid-Ohio League for the first time, and finished the regular season with a sixteen-five record. In the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics District Twenty-two playoffs, they defeated Findlay College and Steubenville

\textsuperscript{44}Xenia Gazette, Jan. 21, 1953, p. 7.

\textsuperscript{45}Cedrus, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1953, pp. 54-55.
College, and won the right to represent District Twenty-two at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics tournament at Kansas City. Cedarville, with an enrollment of 510 students, was the smallest school in the tournament, and drew their first game with Central Oklahoma State College, the largest school in the tournament with over 5000 students. The final score of ninety-five to forty in favor of Central Oklahoma State was nearly in the same proportion. Many of the Cedarville College students had gone to Kansas City with very little money, and some way they discovered that a local blood bank would pay fifteen dollars for a pint of blood. The news spread and they lined up to sell their blood. The wire services picked up the item which appeared on sports pages across the country.

Baseball and tennis have always been the spring sports. A note in the Reformed Presbyterian Advocate stated, "The fine meadow of J. R. Orr nearly adjoining the college campus has been rented and fitted up at a small

\begin{footnotes}
\item[46]Xenia Gazette, Mar. 3, 1964, p. 6.
\item[47]Springfield News, Mar. 11, 1964, p. 11. Neighboring Central State College represented District 22 in 1965 and won the N.A.I.A. championship.
\end{footnotes}
The baseball team had to furnish their own equipment, and a note appeared in the same issue which stated, "The baseball club is grateful to trustee Robert Stevenson of Pittsburgh for his timely gift of a breast protector, six bats, and a glove." The team did quite well even though it had a cow pasture to play in, for the 1915 Cedrus indicates that, "in looking over the records, we find that for three successive years, beginning with 1896, the college held the championship in baseball and football over all the surrounding colleges." As in football, the members of the team did not have to be college students, so town boys often played on the team. Mr. Fred Marshall relates how this worked to Cedarville's advantage in the case of Mr. Bumpus Jones:

Greene County, a more particularly, Cedarville community still recalls and cherishes the legend of "Bumpus" Jones and Cal Morton -- famed baseball battery of the 1890's. Bumpus, a poor boy from "the other side of the railroad tracks" was the greatest pitcher ever to aspire to professional fame from Greene County. Cedarville College would often draft him to pitch. This battery of Jones and Morton brought the early day Cedarville College and local village nines great renown all through southwestern Ohio. Bumpus Jones' prowess eventually reached the ears of Charles Comiskey, Senior, manager of the Cincinnati

50 Ibid.
51 Cedrus, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1915, p. 74.
Reds. Comiskey came to Cedarville and signed up Bumpus for a trial with the Reds. On his first appearance in a professional role, against the Pittsburgh Pirates, who led the league in batting that year, Bumpus pitched a no-hit game.\textsuperscript{52}

It is easy to see why the Cedarville College team held the championship with a pitcher such as Bumpus on their team. The best baseball team in recent years captured for the first time the Mid-Ohio League championship in 1963 under the coaching of Mr. Lane Moody. The team finished with a sixteen to two record for the season, and ranked third in the nation in fielding, eighth in hitting, and tenth in pitching for small colleges.\textsuperscript{53}

The first tennis court was built soon after the college opened, but a real improvement was made when it was moved to the rear of Alford Gymnasium in 1927. The Hager Strawboard and Paper Company, the leading industry of the town, donated cinders and the use of a team and wagon to haul them. The Abel Magnesia Company, which operated one of the limestone quarries, furnished the crushed stone free of charge.\textsuperscript{54} During the early years of the Baptist administration, this area was used for parking mobile homes of married students. The growth of

\textsuperscript{52}Personal letter, Mr. Fred Marshall, Feb. 14, 1966.

\textsuperscript{53}Cedrus, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1964, p. 164.

\textsuperscript{54}"Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 2, 1927, p. 279.
the college necessitated the moving of the trailer park to the north edge of the campus. The tennis court was reestablished, and a large concrete court was poured in the spring of 1958. Since it is only a single court, the tennis teams use the municipal courts in Xenia or Springfield for their league matches.

The college administration has always encouraged athletics because of the school spirit which results from competitive sports. Shortly after the beginning of the school, the *Reformed Presbyterian Advocate* contained the following observations:

There is not a little college spirit on the part of the students. One breathes the spirit as soon as one enters the town. This is fostered largely by college sports. Athletics should not be neglected nor should they be abused. . . . The president has given proper encouragement to these and other adjuncts of a college course.\(^5^5\)

This encouragement of the administration was evident in the desire to acquire the old Reformed Presbyterian Church to be remodeled into a gymnasium.\(^5^6\) During the Great Depression, the college dropped intercollegiate football because of the expense it involved.\(^5^7\) It was revived after the war, and the heavy expense involved contributed to the

\(^5^5\) *R. P. Advocate*, Nov. 4, 1896, p. 436.

\(^5^6\) *Supra*, pp. 57-58.

\(^5^7\) "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 2, 1933, p. 61.
large deficit incurred by the Physical Education Department during the administrations of Dr. Vayhinger and Mr. Miller. Dr. Jeremiah has given ample support to the athletic program, and worked most diligently to secure funds to build the new gymnasium in 1962.

The same type of school spirit prevails today as that described in the *Reformed Presbyterian Advocate* of seventy years ago. The college is unable to offer the lucrative athletic scholarships that many schools do, and consequently, it does not always have championship teams. However, the school spirit is tremendous whether the team is having a winning or a losing season. Even though it cannot offer too much in the way of scholarships, the college does gain some outstanding athletes such as Dozier Carter who scored 1774 points and took down over 1500 rebounds in his four years on the Cedarville basketball team. He made the Mid-Ohio League First team for four years, and the all National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics District Twenty-two First team his junior and senior years. He holds the single season scoring mark of 559 points, and the single game record of forty-nine points.

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58 *Supra*, p. 128.

59 President Jeremiah's oldest son played on the varsity basketball team from 1959-1963, and his youngest daughter majored in physical education on the secondary level.
points. These records are being threatened at present by Al Knott who scored over 500 points in his freshman year. Allen Knott was an All-Illinois guard in high school, and received offers from over seventy colleges and universities. He chose Cedarville because he belonged to a Regular Baptist Church in Silvis, Illinois, and desired to become a pastor. The college is more interested in having dedicated athletes than it is in championship teams, although it sincerely strives for the latter.

Extra-curricular activities.—These activities have successively centered around the literary societies, music, dramatics, Cedar Day celebrations, and Homecoming celebrations.

The literary societies began in September, 1894, with the organization of the Philadelphian Society. In December of the following year, the Philosophic Society came into existence. Each society had its own meeting

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60 Miracle, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1965, p. 18.

61 Personal interview with Dr. Donald Callan, Athletic Director, Cedarville College, April 15, 1966.

62 Memorabilia, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1903, p. 5.

63 Ibid., p. 7.
room on the third floor of Old Main. Mrs. C. H. Lyle, class of 1910 wrote:

The two literary societies met on alternate Monday evenings. These events provided an occasion for dating as well as training for public speaking. The rivalry between the two societies was keen throughout the entire year, but reached its climax when we held the annual intersociety contest each spring. There were always the four events -- a "declamation", an essay, an oration and a debate. Interest was always at a peak for these contests.

For many years these contests were the high point of the commencement week. The local paper reported in 1902:

The most exciting time of Commencement Week is contest night when representatives of the Philosophic and Philadelphian literary societies battle for supremacy. The opera house was filled to the doors by friends and citizens who in late years have become as much enthused over contests as do the members of the society. The Philosophic Society was declared the winner by seven to three as they secured the highest average on debate, essay and declamation.

The debate subjects for the 1907 contest sounds very contemporary, "Resolved, that courts for the compulsory arbitration of disputes between employers and employees should

64 Ibid., p. 5. The Memorabilia has full-page pictures of the two rooms as they appeared in 1903.


66 Ibid., March 22, 1909.
be established in the United States. It is apparent that these societies filled a real purpose in developing school spirit and public speaking ability.

Other activities such as intercollegiate debates, minstrel shows, flag rushes, and Ivy Day occupied part of the free time of the students in the early days. Social life under the Reformed Presbyterian administration was far different than the average college. Mrs. Lyle described some of the social life:

Sled rides in the winter were a source of fun. Some farmer (and when we were in college it was often my father) would furnish a team of horses and a big sled with a wagon bed on it filled with hay and straw and blankets and robes. To the jingle of sleigh bells on the horses, the "gang" would set out for some country home where a feed had been prepared -- usually a chicken or an oyster supper.

Basketball games were really a big social event too; and basketball trips which took the teams away overnight were something to look forward to and think about for a long time afterwards.

There is one thing I would like to say about our social life during my days at Cedarville College. It was before the days of automobiles. We provided our own good times, and much of it was enjoyed in groups. As I look back on it now, it was wholesome. Believe it or not -- no one smoked! -- i.e. so far as I knew. There was little or no dancing. Many today would consider us puritanical, but I would dare anyone to prove that we didn't have a mighty good time, and I've had nothing but pleasant memories to live with in the intervening years.

\[^{67}\] Ibid., Mar. 22, 1907.

Mrs. Lyle served on the faculty from 1911 to 1917, and a student of this same period describes the "moral nature of the student body as beyond reproach." He further wrote:

Drinking was not entertained by Cedarville College boys in their more reckless aspirations to blow off steam. They might raid Johnie Marshall's melon patch, or "fox" a girl-group slumber party, or change the buggy wheels of a country swain's rig while he held tryst in some village damsel's darkened parlor, or on Halloween turn over Squire Bradfute's outhouse -- but unmitigated twentieth century "pepsi-generation" type of vandalism was never contemplated. 69

The minutes of the faculty meetings record an incident in 1907 where five students were suspended from school for the month of December because they had "stacked" the college, i.e. had taken all the chairs, etc., out of the classrooms and "stacked" them in the hallways. 70 Occasionally, a student would be dismissed if he did not obey the rules. In April, 1908, one such student was dismissed from college "on account of his defiant impudence and continued insolence." 71 The vast majority of the students accepted the standards of the college because they were the standards of the homes from which they came.

70 "Minutes of the Faculty," Nov. 26, 1907, p. 108.
71 Ibid., April 7, 1908, p. 116.
Cedar Day.—One of the best known and most successful activities of Cedarville College began in 1911 and continued until the Regular Baptist administration. The report of the Committee on Cedar Day to the faculty in 1915 illustrates the varied activities:

The Committee on Cedar Day reported that the Day had been celebrated May 14, with perfect weather and the largest attendance in its history. It was observed by stunts given by the faculty, classes and the Y.M.C.A., by the crowning of the May Queen, Miss Mildred Corry, the May Pole Drill, a picnic dinner in the gymnasium, a Cedar Oration by J. Merle Rife, and toasts by others, songs and yells, and a baseball game with the Jamestown Athletics, in which Cedarville was victorious, and an entertainment in the evening.

The report failed to mention the planting of the cedar tree which was the responsibility of the Junior class. This general format served for the activities of Cedar Day with slight variations through the years. With the change of standards after World War II, a formal dance in Alford Gymnasium climaxed the day's events. Cedar Day served as a "Homecoming," "Prospective Student's Day" and a community holiday combined into one affair. The entire community participated and the local businessmen helped to

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72 Ibid., April 7, 1911, p. 25.
74 Ibid.
75 Cedrus, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1953, pp. 61-62.
defray the expenses. Miss Helen Santmyer, Dean of Women from 1936 to 1953 called it "the great day of the year." The graduates of those years look back with happy memories of Cedar Day.

Activities in the Baptist administration.--The Baptist administration did not continue Cedar Day as they did not have the tradition, nor did the people of the village readily accept the newcomers. However, a fall homecoming celebration developed to fulfill the same functions for the college as Cedar Day did for the former administration. After several years the friendship and cooperation of the villagers was won, and a number of town groups such as the high school band and Lion's Club participate in the Homecoming parade. In 1962 the college honored the Seventy-fifth anniversary of the granting of the charter during Homecoming week, with a pageant entitled, "As the Cedar Grows," depicting the history of the school. The college started soccer as a fall sport with an intercollegiate game scheduled for Homecoming weekend. Floats are prepared for the parade by the different classes and organizations with prizes awarded for the best ones. In 1965 a Prospective

76 Personal interview with Miss Helen Santmyer, Jan. 15, 1963.

Student's Day was combined with Homecoming, but the crowds were too big for the facilities; so this will not be attempted again.

Fraternities and sororities were first authorized by the Board of Trustees in 1933. The students petitioned the Board of Trustees for the privilege of organizing "social clubs, and renting houses in order to reduce the cost of room rent." The Baptist administration, because of its standards of student conduct, does not permit the organization of fraternities nor sororities. However, three literary societies now exist, two for women, Gamma Chi and Kappa Delta Chi, and one for men, Alpha Chi, with the "primary purpose the cultivation of Christian personality and leadership." A number of other clubs and musical organizations have been organized to meet the particular needs of students such as the Student Council, Fellowship for World Missions, Student Pastors Fellowship, Varsity "C", Sock 'N' Buskin, Modern Music Masters, Photo Club, Science Club, et cetera. There is ample opportunity

78 "Minutes, Board of Trustees," June 2, 1933, pp. 58-59. A local fraternity and sorority existed between 1935 and 1953, and a chapter of Kappa Sigma Kappa, a national fraternity, was chartered in 1948, and remained active until 1953. Cedrus, 1949, p. 19.

to engage in extra-curricular activities for the student who wishes to do so. These organizations also sponsor various social and cultural events which keep the college calendar filled.\textsuperscript{80}

\textsuperscript{80}Ibid., pp. 54-57.
CHAPTER XII

RETROSPECTS AND PROSPECTS

Alumni Associations.—The first Alumni Association was organized in 1897 with the graduation of the first five students. Of these five, three became pastors, one a missionary, and the fifth a teacher. The desire of the Reformed Presbyterians for a college to train young men for the ministry was certainly accomplished in those early years. A report in 1911 stated that "forty per cent of the male graduates were ministers and missionaries of the Gospel." The Alumni Association was "devoted to the welfare of the college," and although those poor preachers could not give much themselves, yet they were in strategic positions to encourage gifts from their churches and wealthy members. It was Dr. John Alvin Orr of that first graduating class that influenced one of his members to give

1Cedarville College Catalog, 1902-1903, p. 37.
2Ibid., p. 35.
3Gavelyte, Cedarville College Yearbook, 1911, p. 7.
4Cedarville College Catalog, 1902-1903, p. 37.
35,000 to the Endowment Fund. Other pastors undoubtedly did the same, but were not privileged to influence such large gifts.

Many of the alumni went into the professions of medicine and law. Dr. Elmer Anderson Elder graduated in the second class. Dr. John Finney and his sister, Dr. Nancy Finney have been mentioned already. Leroy Tate Marshall of the class of 1907 studied law, entered politics, and served in both the state and national legislature. Stephen Calvin Wright of the class of 1903 served many years as judge of Greene County Probate Court. In later years when graduation from an accredited college became necessary for admission to some law schools and medical colleges, many of the young men would take their first two or three years at Cedarville College and then transfer to other colleges. This same method is being used today by Cedarville College students who desire to enter the professions.

Education as a life work claimed the largest number of Cedarville College alumni. A glance down the roster

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5 Supra, p. 90.
6 Supra, pp. 183-184.
7 Personal interview with Mr. Joseph A. Finney, Jan. 18, 1963.
8 Ibid.
9 Personal interview with Miss Helen Santmyer, Jan. 15, 1963.
indicates that they went into all areas from the elementary level to the university. Teachers, administrators, and scholars are listed in various parts of the country. Mr. George Andrew Harper of the class of 1901 is a good example. He took a graduate degree at the University of Chicago, secured a position on the faculty of New Trier High School, "one of the best high schools then and now in the country." He became head of the Department of Mathematics, and in collaboration with a teacher from Evanston High School, he wrote a series of high school mathematic text books that were widely used. Due to poor health, he resigned from New Trier High School, went to Tucson, Arizona, and with another partner established the Southern Arizona School for Boys, which is still a thriving institution. He was honored by a listing in Who's Who in America. Not many alumni were this successful, but they capably filled their positions and were a credit to their alma mater.

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10 The Cedarville College Catalog, 1933-1934 contains a list of names, addresses and occupations of all living alumni at that date. The Miracle for 1962 contains the names by classes of all alumni to that date.


12 Ibid.
After the change of administration in 1953, the Cedarville College Alumni Association remained a separate organization. The new administration had an Alumni Association composed of the graduates of the Baptist Bible Institute of Cleveland. The Cedarville College Alumni group continued to exist until August, 1962, when they met and gave their Alumni Fund of $2838 to the Baptist administration. Certain stipulations were made in that the fund was to be called "The Frances McChesney Memorial Revolving Scholarship Fund," and was to be loaned to needy students from Greene County, Ohio.\textsuperscript{13} Now there is only the one Cedarville College Alumni Association composed of the graduates of Baptist Bible Institute and Cedarville College since 1954. It is active in support of the college, and raised $4000 in 1965 to pay for a new color film, "Higher than Higher Education," to be used by the Department of Public Relations.\textsuperscript{14} Ninety-two seniors graduated in 1965, and these large classes are rapidly increasing the number of alumni.\textsuperscript{15}

\textsuperscript{13}Cedarville College Bulletin, Sept., 1962, p. 2.
\textsuperscript{14}Ibid., June, 1965, p. 3.
\textsuperscript{15}Ibid., June, 1965, p. 1.
The future of Cedarville College.—William Boyd has written that "... the character of educational thought and practice is always determined by the wider social and intellectual movements..." Cedarville College is now benefiting from the social pressure placed upon young people to attend college. The emphasis upon competitive success in American society is motivating a larger percentage of American young people of college age to seek the benefits of higher education. This movement in the wider society is affecting the young people of the churches of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, so that increasing numbers of them are seeking admission to the "approved schools." This means that Cedarville College will have opportunity to educate increasing numbers of young people in the next few years.

The growth of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches also provides more students. About fifty new churches are added to the Association each year, and students are drawn from these churches. As the reputation of the college grows in Christian circles, students from other evangelical denominations are attracted to the school.


Problems which Cedarville College faces.—Dr. Jeremiah has often stated that sufficient funds would solve the major problems facing Cedarville College. He meant by this that ample funds would enable the college to hire faculty members with Doctor of Philosophy degrees; to build and equip new library and science buildings; and to meet all the requirements for membership in the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. While it is true that very few colleges have sufficient funds to meet all their needs, yet the fact remains that Cedarville College is not adequately supported by the churches. Since the school is not registered in the United States Office of Education Directory, it is ineligible for many forms of federal aid to higher education, and there is a strong feeling that such aid should not be accepted if it were available. Consequently, the college can only appeal to the churches and to industry and foundations. As previously indicated, aid from the former is inadequate, and support from the latter has only begun. The number of alumni are comparatively small, and few are established well enough to give substantial gifts. The sale of revenue bonds to finance income producing buildings such as dormitories does not help to alleviate the critical need for classroom, science, and music facilities.
Consequently, the college is going to meet greater financial pressures in the future as it strives to care for the continual increase in enrollment.

The expansion of higher education across the country has placed a strain on the available faculty. Between 1961 and 1964, one hundred forty-six new colleges and universities were founded. The Community College movement has grown tremendously in the last few years which also competes for faculty with higher degrees. This competition has forced salaries upward, and the small college with a limited salary scale faces real problems in faculty recruitment. The spiritual qualifications required by Cedarville College also limit the number of prospective faculty members. The redeeming feature in the situation is that there are still well-trained individuals in the churches who respond to the "call" for service in Christian education. With six "approved schools" appealing to the churches for faculty members, one does not know how long this limited reservoir of dedicated persons will last.

The desire for accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has exerted a healthy influence throughout the institution. A consultant recommended by the North Central Association has been...

hired, and it is expected that he will be able to give direction to the efforts that are being made toward improving the college. However, many of his recommendations involve additional expenditures of funds which add to the financial burden. In one way, the spending of these additional funds in order to gain accreditation can be considered "seed" money, for the feeling is that once accredited, the college will be able to raise tuition charges. The present cost is $22.50 per semester hour, and this will be raised to $25.00 per semester hour in September, 1966. The idea is that many students will not pay high tuition in a non-accredited college. Another facet to this problem of increased tuition is that the constituency is composed of lower-middle class and working class families who cannot afford high tuition, and would be tempted to send their young people to community or state schools where the tuition would be much less.

The college also has a problem in retaining students as the "drop out" rate is high. About 5 per cent of the students leave at the end of the first semester, and 10 per cent at the end of the second semester. Thus, at the end of the present semester, about seventy-five students will not return. A study made of 225 students who did not return for the years 1961-1965 indicates that about 33 per cent transferred to other schools; 25 per cent
were either dismissed for academic failure or else became discouraged and withdrew; 22 per cent left for miscellaneous reasons such as marriage, ill health, et cetera; and 20 per cent withdrew because of financial reasons. The college encourages young people expecting to enter the professions to come to Cedarville for a year or two of liberal arts before transferring to an accredited school, so a certain number can be expected to transfer. However, special attention should be paid to those leaving for academic reasons, and because of finances, as tutoring programs and scholarships and loans might enable some of these "drop outs" to remain in college. Fortunately, a number of those who leave for financial or health reasons do return and earn their college degree.

In 1952 when the former administration was facing financial disaster, Dr. Brownell Baker wrote some sobering words, "Today many small colleges on private endowment, and some larger ones, face bankruptcy. The reason is that the American people are not convinced that they are performing a function important enough in these difficult times to justify the cost." His words were prophetic of the

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19 Personal interview with Mr. Richard McIntosh, Dean of Students, Cedarville College, April 30, 1966.

former administration for it did not get the financial help it needed when it appealed to the alumni and community. One must conclude that they were not convinced that Cedarville College was "performing a function important enough . . . to justify the cost." Dr. Jeremiah and the Department of Public Relations have the task of convincing the churches of the General Association of Regular Baptist fellowship that Cedarville College is performing a function in Christian higher education that justifies the cost, and the churches must be willing to assume their obligation.

The leadership of Dr. Jeremiah often has been tested in the past thirteen years, and with the help of God, he has proven his ability to guide the college through difficult times. Although the increased enrollment will bring greater problems, the prospects for the college are encouraging. For seventy-two years, Cedarville College has met the needs of young men and women who came with a firm desire for a college education. In the future, it is the expectation of all associated with the school that it will be able to improve on the work that has been done so well in the past.
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