

CHAPEL, October 7, 1930

-- President Wright,

Scripture reading: 9 verses from the 24th chapter of Proverbs

I want to tell you once more what to do in regard to changes in your schedule. If someone tells you that you must make a certain change in your schedule and says go to see Mr. McGinnis if you go to see him without first seeing your class adviser you will have to go back to your adviser and then make another trip to the registrar's office. If there is to be a change in your schedule go to your adviser and talk it over with him and take his advice and then go to the office and make that change. The office does not advise you, it simply records what you have been advised to do.

I don't know whether there are any girls here who are taking just one year's work expecting to apply for the Elementary certificate or not. If there are, get in touch with your class adviser at once and see that you are taking the work required for that certificate. I hope there are none here; one year is not long enough to spend in college, but I won't take that up now. Most young women take courses during their first year which are not those required for the elementary A certificate, but there are always some girls who come with the understanding that if they take one year's work and get a certificate they will be given a school. But be sure that you are taking the the required work so that when your credits are sent to Dr. Hillman in the state department next year the certificate will be issued. It is always well to look ahead in getting a certificate, but you must look at least a year ahead. Study the requirements listed in our catalog for the certificate for which you are working.

I read in your hearing this morning nine verses from the twenty-fourth chapter of the Book of Proverbs. This book is supposed to have been written by Solomon to his son, and he is telling him some of the things to look



out for and it is exceedingly good advice to every young person. Notice how he starts it "Be not thou envious against evil men, neither desire to be with them" This is mighty good advice to girls, and not bad to boys "For their hearts studieth destruction, and their lips talk of mischief". Evil people study for the destruction of other folks; young men hear it on the streets and older men hear it, hear it every week. "Their lips talk of mischief" Solomon certainly knew people; he says "Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established": And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches". That is unquestionably true of human life, not in gold and silver for they are only a measure of other things, but filled with those things that make life worthwhile, with the real riches of human existence. "A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength" It is the knowledge that the people of this world have acquired that enables you to have the equivalent of thirty-four slaves for every person that is engaged in any kind of work. The use of gasoline and other things to help save labor have added wonderfully to the comfort of the individual. Knowledge does increase strength. "For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors there is safety" I sometimes see people who say "I know this is the thing to do. There is no question about it". Not long ago a friend of mine said that to me. He was dumbfounded because I didn't agree with him. Then We argued the problem for a while and at the close of an hour both he and I had changed our opinion completely: "There is safety in a multitude of counsel" If people will lay aside their prejudice and be willing to listen when someone else gives an opinion that isn't weakness, it is strength. Lots of people think that to change your mind is a weakness--perhaps that is the reason women are called the weaker sex-- but it is a sign of strength, it takes strength to admit that you were mistaken in the first place.



"Wisdom is too high for a fool" needs no explanation. A fool says "There is no God". A person can't be honest in his thinking and reach that conclusion. The scorner an abomination--- Did you ever see a person who scorned everything? I have. And such people are an abomination, says Solomon. The scorner looks toward the bad side of life invariably. The whole world today is in a more or less depressed condition. I saw a report recently of the tobacco market which said that tobacco had gone up a cent an half or two cents a pound. I spoke to a friend of mine about it and he said "No, I don't believe a word of it. Don't believe a word I see in the papers." Tobacco did go up. I said "Can you make expenses this year?" And he said there wasn't a chance. And so on. ----- I want to tell you folks something; with your head down and looking on the ground you will never see the stars; a person who is looking downward all the time can never be lifted up and can never see the greatness and sunshine of life, And God is in His Heaven, if we do our part things will always come out all right, but we have to get out of this slump we are in. A man standing on one side of a shield says it is silver, a man on the other side says it is iron, and both are right from their point of view; it is silver on one and iron on the other side. And we, if we get the most out of life, must see both sides. It is all right to look down and see conditions and then look up and find a way out. Do that in your work. Don't say "I hate to do so and so" The unpleasant task that lies before you today is the task you ought to do first. Accomplish that. If you have one subject you don't like nine times out of ten you will study everything else first and leave that to the last--when you are often too worn out to do it well. Don't do it; take hold of your hard work first and master it. This will give you more courage and more confidence in yourself, and make you realize that you can do other things well, and success will come.

Good luck to you in this year's work.