

CHAPEL October 12, 1932

PKW

--President Wright

Scripture lesson: 6 verses from the 22nd chapter, Book of Proverbs

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches" is the first clause in the first verse of this chapter. That is a good thing to remember; especially is that true for you who are just beginning your college career. So conduct yourselves that you will make a good name for yourself. It will stand you in stead all through college and through life. You who are in Sunday Schools following the International Study program will have another lesson or two dealing with the youth problem and home life. Back when Solomon wrote this book, and he wrote most of it, he realized that home training counts all through life. Every Christian organization realizes that. Every educational institution, Catholic or protestant, public school or institution of higher learning realizes that. Solomon tells us that if we train up a child in the way he should go he will not depart from it. That, however, is not always the case. Someone facetiously said that he trained his son in the way he should go ^{and when he was grown} ~~and~~ away he went!

That is sometimes the case, ~~because~~ ^{the} the school, the Church and the home, ^{are} the three great factors in ~~public~~ ^{but they} training of youth, are not the only factors. You may bring up a child in a good Christian home, and give him the kind of training that the home ought to give, send him to a school, private or public, that gives the training a school ought to give, and do the same thing in the Church work, and there will still be some who will not abide by it. There is an influence ~~from~~ ^{his} outside the Church, home, or school that tears down. Every person has influence, either for good or bad.

We may do all we can do in the college so far as teachers and officers are concerned, so far as societies and college organizations are concerned, and still outside of, and sometimes apparently above, there is a spirit of the institution that enters into the life and has, probably, as much to do with shaping the destinies of those who go to college as all other things together; it is the dominant spirit of the student body, and in this particular student body it is a very healthy spirit. But there are little groups or cliques whose influence is working the other way, and they will lead some student astray. The turn a student takes in these little "gangs" sometimes leads to his downfall. I am glad to know that we have such a spirit in this college that we will not tolerate that kind of group or clique. Leaders of those groups are found in nearly every school, private, public, or Church; if we could only get hold of them and pull them around to the right kind of spirit! There are influences outside of good organizations that cause young folks occasionally to go astray and we want to guard against such influences in our college.

Help us to make the spirit of our college one hundred per cent for the good.