

Chapel, January 24, 1933

-- President Wright

Twentieth Chapter Book of Acts, Verses 28-35

This morning I have changed from a study of Mark to a chapter in the Book of Acts because of the last clause "more blessed to give than to receive". I have been making a careful study, gathering information with reference to a loan fund. I do not know what the student body is doing, maybe a great deal, maybe nothing, I have no idea. The best I can figure, it is going to take approximately \$6,000 to help deserving students reach Commencement in June. I have on hand approximately \$250 to do the work of \$6000. If you are going to help, do not put it off.

I do not know just what we are facing in this country. I have never lived in a period in the history of this world when people seemed to be so thoroughly lacking in purposeful living. If ever there was a time when nations of the world and people in all nations were just drifting it seems to me that time is now. I do not know just how to stimulate you. Take up some really worthwhile project and push it to its ultimate goal. Regardless of what that worthwhile purpose is, the fact that you unite and do some one thing is invaluable to you. It stops driftwood from drifting, turns the current into a worthwhile direction. Personally, I know of no more worthwhile purpose than to help ambitious young folks get an education. It may be you are thinking of that, working on it. I am going to make my plans to take it to the Alumnae soon. As soon as I can break away from the legislature I am going to start. It would be a wonderful help to me if I could say "The college had done -- so and so", if you have done anything. I am not going to tell you how, because I want you to do it in your own way. I have a head full of plans, but it won't do much good for me to work out the plans for you. The best I can do for you is help you in a general way and give you something to work on. Your college cannot educate you. I can give you a place to work, and organize in such a way that you can educate yourself. The

thing you do is the thing that does you good.

There is a man in this country who was very poor in Arithmetic when in the lower grades. His mother, who had been a teacher, asked him what good fractions would be to him in life. She worked with him until he got a concept of what fractions meant. She said, Son, don't do anything that you don't understand the reason for. He went along in school almost at the end of his class. After while he began to climb up and before he left high school he was one of the leaders in the class. That thing stuck with him all his life. He became a great engineer. He learned how to take water out of air with water and how to use steam to make a place cool. He is doing that on a large scale and has made himself independently rich. He says he is successful because his mother taught him to use his own head, to dig to the bottom of a thing to find out why.

This is up to you. If you are going to do anything about it I wish you would let me know within the next *few* weeks.