

HISTORY OF NORTHWEST COLLEGE  
told by C. E. Butterfield

August 1, 1965

The narrative that I am about to give with regard to the birth, development and progress of the Northwest College through the years comes as a request from Miss Williams, a member of our faculty, who is preparing a thesis on the history of the school. The presentation of this narration will no doubt be without any special sequence; it also will not follow any special subject ideas, but will be a narration as it comes to my mind, and as I trace the matters with regard to the school through the years.

I have been closely connected with the school since its inception and have been greatly interested in every phase of the life of our college. Perhaps I have had a longer association with the college than any individual. The work of this school has been very close to my heart and has been the object of my labors and prayers through these thirty-three years. While what I am about to give will be facts, at the same time there will be a sentimental note in the way that these facts are presented, in which you will know that I greatly love this school and that it has been a great blessing to my life.

Temple

To begin with, I would like to say that I pastored the Bethany Assembly of God in Everett for twenty-two years, and during the time that I pastored this church, the Northwest College came into being. During those years I had the opportunity to have a part in the life of the school.

It was in the year 1933 that the District Convention of the Assemblies of God was held in Everett. At this meeting, a resolution was passed by the body to look for a site for a training school for ~~the~~ young ministers of the gospel. The Pentecostal testimony had spread across the Northwest states and churches were springing up everywhere and there was a great need of leadership, particularly trained leadership. Many of the churches which had sprung up did not have a sound ministry. Most of the men at that time had not had any theological training at all, but they were men who had been saved and filled with with the Holy Spirit and felt the call of God on their heart to tell others of this glorious experience in God, and had gathered together little groups of people in cottages or in store-front buildings and small cheaply-constructed churches, to minister the Word of God and the full gospel message in the various communities. God blessed this work and I am sure that it had His favor. As the years went by, however, there was a noticeable tendency for splits to occur in the churches. This was due, perhaps, to a weakness in the leadership. Some of these men were not well grounded in the Word of God and had not been indoctrinated in the Scriptures to the point where they were able to discern what was error and to keep their little congregations from being split through these errors. One of the doctrines which split many of our churches in those early days when they were mostly independent churches, were differences of opinion on the Trinity. Teachers came in and divided the flocks, and also there were divisions of jealousy over leadership and divisions due to the lack of strong pastoral directives and helpfulness when the time of division and trouble came.

Seeing this need, in the Assemblies of God, the brethren in this convention in Everett in 1933, felt we should have a school in our area under the oversight of the elders, District Superintendent and Presbyters so that young men and young women could be trained and could be prepared for the gospel ministry. In addition to the troubles that were being experienced, there was also a lack of ministers for the churches that were springing up all over the area. And so it was decided to have a school.

A committee was appointed at this convention, consisting of Rev. Percy Jones, Rev. Thomas Sandall, Rev. Smauel Swanson, then District Superintendent, and myself to seek a site for the school. A few months after this convention we traveled to a number of towns, looking for a suitable site to start the school and had some committee meetings discussing the possibility of individuals for faculty members. It was finally decided

when an invitation was given to us by Rev. Kelly Walberg, who was pastoring the Assembly of God Church in Centralia, that he had found a building in or near Centralia which he thought would be suitable to start a school. We obtained this building and also the services of Rev. Walberg, Rev. Earl Lee and Rev. Munger to teach in the school. This school was started in the fall of 1933 with about 15 or 20 students, and continued on to the school year. We encountered some problems in this school; problems of finance, and also in the midst of the school year we had a serious problem due to the defection of one of the teachers. It almost broke up the school, but we continued on through the year.

In the fall of that same year, Rev. Henry Ness came to the West Coast and accepted the pastorate of Hollywood Temple in Seattle. He had been associated with the Northern Central Bible Institute since its beginning, and when he came to the coast he carried with him that wonderful inspiration and desire for training young people. It was at the District meeting in the spring that Rev. Ness came to the convention and before the Presbyters with a proposal that the school which was started in the early fall and which was called Northwest Bible School, that this school be moved to Seattle, and he offered the facilities of the Hollywood Temple church and his own services as a principal of the school. His proposal was accepted by the brethren and in the fall of 1934, the Northwest Bible Institute started afresh in a new program under the guidance and leadership of Rev. Henry Ness.

The Hollywood Temple church kindly offered all the facilities of the building for the use of the school, the classrooms, the musical instruments, the auditorium, the services of their pastor, and the fall term started about Oct. 1, 1934, with approximately seventeen students enrolled. Thus the Northwest Bible Institute had its beginnings, and which today is known as the Northwest Bible College.

Brother Ness had sent to Minneapolis for C. C. Beatty, who came out to the school to teach and to act as dean. Bro. Ness also taught in the school. The other members of the faculty were comprised of pastors whose ministry was near the school, and these men were assigned different subjects and were paid the small sum of money per month, approximately \$25, to come in and teach two or three times a week. The school did not have a very pretentious beginning, but it had good, purposeful and zealous leadership, and God blessed this effort. All through the following years there has been the continuing evidence that the hand of the Lord has been on the school as it has moved along from year to year training young men and women who have gone all over the world to preach the gospel.

The student body grew from the beginning of of seventeen to over three hundred by 1948. This was a peak year for the student body because at that time there about 125 service men who had returned from foreign service and were given opportunity by the government to have free education. Students were housed in near-by homes, in apartments, members of the church took in students and gave them board and room, and there were different types of facilities that were used by the students as they attended school. School was from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 M. Most of these students worked in the afternoon and as they left school they did not see each other again until the following morning.

The tuition during those years was \$65 a year, and there were no academic requirements, entrance requirements, for school. Some of the students had not gone farther than the sixth grade and very few of them were high school graduates. They were a fine type of young people, however, who came, for the most part, from Christian backgrounds, had received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and were on fire for God. These students would be very zealous about witnessing for Christ and would go on the street corners and in institutions of various kinds and churches round about, witnessing and preaching the gospel.

Since the school had no financial backing of any kind from the District or the supporting churches of the District, it was necessary to finance the school from these small tuitions that were paid by students. This, of course, demanded the consecrated services of these pastors and workers and the principal of the school, Rev. Ness, received no remuneration from the school for his services at all until a few years after the beginning of the school.

Most of these students were very poor. They grouped together in small rooms and apartments. Their parents would send to them groceries and supplies of various kinds so they could live very cheaply. I have heard it said more than once that these students lived as cheaply as \$5 a month for their food.

The courses of study given in the school were quite simple; there were no text books used. The teachers had found books, some of them inspirational books, and had taken notes from these books out of which they prepared mimeographed skeleton outlines of the course material. The school had no library, with the exception of a small glass-encases bookcase that stood in one of the hallways and it contained a few commentaries, mingled with song books and a few other books. And if a student wanted to look at one of these books, he would have to go to the office and ask for the key that would open the bookcase. He would take out the book and take it into the office to have the withdrawal registered.

The faculty of the school were a group of fine consecrated men with little or no academic background. In fact, there were no members of the early faculty who had an undergraduate college degree. Some of the members of the faculty were not even high school graduates, but most of them were men of spiritual experience and also years of experience in the ministry, and they were able to make a very fine contribution on the level at which the school was operating at that time. Some of the finest leaders that we have today in our work were students who attended this Bible school and others like it in the primitive days of the schools, but they had a great heart for God, and what they lacked academically seemed to be compensated in other things which brought about a certain greatness in their ministry and which has been recognized through these years.

Rev. Henry Ness, was the leader of the school, had a great spirit for pioneer work, and he seemed to be able to instill this spirit into the hearts and minds of these students under his direction, and because this was true, many of these students went out after having attended school a year, or two, or three, and started churches of their own; pioneered churches in communities all across the Northwest and it seemed to give such tremendous impetus to the Pentecostal testimony of these young people, with this great pioneer spirit.

It might well be said here, before I forget, that the early days of this school were in the years of the great economic depression in America. This is a phenomenal thing because so few schools were started during this time, and many institutions of learning, as well as business and industry had to close and were forever out of business; but in the midst of this depression it seems that this school had the smile of God upon it. Students came, many of them with no money whatsoever; they couldn't even pay a registration fee, but they would say, "We want to go school and we'll do our best." And the administration of the school trusted them to pay their tuition whenever they could get it. So that was the way that these young people went to school during these depression years. I say all of this because it stands out in such a contrast with the present day when the life of the student is so different than it was. Students have to have a car when they go to school today and the schooling costs from \$1500 to \$2000.

There were no government loans to students nor work-study grants to help finance them through the school. They all worked; the girls did baby-sitting and scrubbing of floors; boys did lawn work or whatever they could find to do. It seems like there was a spirit of camaraderie among the students in regard to finance, for they shared one another's money or whatever the others had. Consequently there were very few drop-outs in those days. The whole student body seemed to want to help each other and they would see each other through.

I taught during the first two years of the school, 1934, 1935. I taught the subject of Church History, which I was not competent to do at all, but in order to help get the school started, I drove down from Everett twice a week and taught. This was a real blessing to me because this association with the student body was a very thrilling experience. These students were very zealous for God and were seeking God continually. There was much prayer in those days and the Spirit of God would fall on them in the classrooms as well as in the chapel services; and the glory of the Lord was manifest so wonderfully that all those who were associated with the school were living by this wonderful glory and experience. While the students suffered many hardships, it is sure that these very hardships and consecrations that were made to go through, that were a real blessing to them in later years in pioneer work. These experiences of privation and willingness to go through with God under these conditions seemed to structure in them a stability of character which gave the school somewhat of a public image that has worked for good through the years.

After fourteen years of service to the school as its principal and president, Rev. Henry Ness resigned in January, 1949. At that time I was still pastor of the Bethany Temple church in Everett, and it was during that time that our District Superintendent, Rev. Frank Gray, had had a serious illness and he was given a leave of absence from his work for two or three months. I was asked to be the chairman of the committee to take care of his work during his illness, and I had been down from Everett to occupy the superintendent's office two or three times a week, taking care of the business that needed to be taken care of. Brother Ness, when he resigned, called me on the telephone and told me that he was resigning and that he would not be at the school the following day. He called me because on account of the sickness of the superintendent I had been helping carry his burdens. He gave the message to me and told me to come to Seattle the next day and take over the school; which I did. I came to the office the following day and found that the school was in somewhat of an upset condition because of his sudden resignation. I might say here that Brother Ness resigned to take a position with the State as the chairman of the Parole Board.

Things had not been going just too well in the school. The school was facing a financial deficit for the first time in the history of the school and I was told, that is, the Presbytery was told, that the school would be facing a deficit of \$4500.00 for that school year. It was a new experience for the school and for the Presbyters, who were the Directors of the school, for they had been told through the years that the school would never be a financial burden to the District. In fact, this was the basis of the proposition that Rev. Ness had made to the District at the time that he invited the school to the Hollywood Temple, that the school would always be self-supporting and that the churches of the District would never be called upon to help the school financially. In fact, just the opposite, Brother Ness had on two or three different occasions made donations to the District from the school. These funds that the school had were from tuitions and some accumulations that they had made from time to time of funds, and these funds were donated on several occasions to the District. But now for the first time in the history of the school there were financial troubles in the offing. And there were some difficulties also on the faculty which I do not care to go into at this time, other than to set forth the fact that there had developed some problems in the school. And after the resignation of Brother Ness there was nobody in sight to carry on his burdens. So I took hold of the situation as best I could and went to the school every day and kept up my pastorate at Everett at the same time.

This continued on for several months, and the Presbytery were now casting about to find a man to head up the school. We contacted two or three men in the Assemblies of God, one of which was Ernest Williams, and there were several other leaders which we contacted to see if we could possibly obtain their services for the college. We had no success in finding a man although we did our best, and since I had been on the job for several months, the brethren asked me if I would be willing to take the school over. I thought about it and prayed about it over some time and finally there came into my heart a real conviction from God that this was what the Lord wanted me to do. I was most aware of my incapacibilities and my inadequacies for my position in an educational institution, since I had had no theological background myself and had not a college degree. But about all I did possess, I think, was a real burden for this work and a real desire to see it go ahead. So I finally consented that I would take the school. I moved to Seattle and took over at the beginning of the school year in September, 1949, although I had been acting as the president since January, 1949.

I might also say that at the close of the 1949 school year there was a great restlessness in the student body, since their leader had left and the Dean was dismissed, and there were some problems that were quite serious and many of the students dropped out of school before the school year was over. It appeared that I was going to have a real problem of reconstruction although I had no experience and little help from within the school or without to do it. I did find tremendous help in the Lord and assurances from Him that He would be with me. And it proved to be true that He has been with me through these years.

We began in 1949 with a new school year and we faced some problems of developing the school. In 1948, Brother Ness had made application to have the Northwest Bible Institute accredited by the newly-formed accrediting association of Bible Colleges. His application was rejected and we were informed that our school was a sub-par school and examiners came out to the school and looked the school over and then they wrote up quite a document as to what must be done in order for the school to be accredited. I, having had little experience in school work, was faced with tremendous problem of adjusting myself to this educational business and trying to upgrade this school. ~~For~~ ~~in the first place,~~

Now, in the first place, we had no teachers who had degrees; we had no library. Everything about the school was upon a high-school level, and the accrediting association that we wanted to belong to was making great, great demands of us that we upgrade the school. It took just five years to do this. And it was all work.

First, we had to have a library. So we set about to build a library. This meant that we had to gather hundreds and thousands of books and have a place for a library in this building, as well as a librarian. This did not come about over-night, of course. It took several years of hard work, but finally, after we had employed other teachers who had college degrees, and built the library, and straightened out the business and bookkeeping procedures of the school to measure up to the standards of the requirements of the accrediting association, and numerous other things that have to be done, we finally were accredited by the Association of Bible Colleges, in 1954. We felt that this was quite an achievement and we were very happy about this.

With regard to the faculty who had no degrees, I launched a program of in-service training, in which I required that teachers go to school during the summer months. While it took several years, a number of our teachers received degrees during that time. And some went on to receive graduate degrees as well as under-graduate degrees, until at the present time all of our faculty have graduate degrees or professional degrees of some kind. That is, of course, except me! For I was so busy trying to get these teachers to work on their degrees that I didn't have time to work on one.

The up-grading of the college program which included the employment of teachers who had college degrees, some of whom we brought in, had to live, of course, by their teaching. This brought on a new era of college life in regard to finance. Now since

no attempt had ever been made to raise money or to buy property to get assets for the school, the financial problem had to be faced. Since that the District and our churches had been oriented to the idea that this school didn't need financial help from the churches, we faced the problem of educating our people as to this need. It was necessary for me to go out on the field and travel and present the financial needs of the school to the people; this also did not come easy nor did it come overnight. It has taken years for the churches in our District and the supporting districts, to become aware of the fact that a college cannot be run on the tuition of students. Education is tremendously expensive as our government and our people know today. And so, we had a great problem of trying to balance the budget of the school and meet the financial needs of the school in the face of what our traditions had been in prior years.

I might say also that student recruitment was a problem, also, because many of our ministers did not feel that education was necessary for a Christian, particularly higher education. But I am quite sure that many of our pastors through the years have preached against higher education and have felt that education was not really necessary--that if one was saved and had the Baptism of the Holy Spirit that the Lord would teach us everything, and that schooling was almost an evil, and people had been told that most all of these religious movements that had backslidden and gotten away from God or had become liberal, that the source of these problems was the schools and the colleges. This could have been true to some extent, but it seems that they threw everything away to avoid what might have been an evil, but which has proven in these latter years to be such a great blessing to us.

These days following 1949, in which we were trying to make progress, and in which it was costing us money to do so, were trying days financially. But we felt so sure that God was in this school, that we laid our financial problems continually before the Lord and God met us from year to year in a most wonderful way. Some of the most wonderful experiences of my life have been the answers to prayer which came about through the problems that confronted the school. On many occasions we were out of money and had no funds even to pay the faculty their salaries or to meet the bills of the school. But we took these things to God in prayer. When we had nothing in sight, no one to turn to, no sympathetic denomination to carry our burdens and to appreciate our needs, God came to our rescue times without number and we would receive money in some very unusual way. I learned in these years to trust in God for finances, and I have found out that this God that we sing about that is One that never fails, truly in actual experience, He does not fail.

May I recount at this time just one little incident to illustrate what I have been saying. We had a financial need of about \$1000 to meet some obligations and I had been praying and had not seemed to get an answer. I had pushed some of my second-class mail to one side of my desk, or at least mail that didn't look very promising from day to day, and opened avidly letters that looked like they might have some funds for the school, but to no avail. Finally one day, in desperation, I was going through the mail that I had allowed to accumulate to one side and I found a small envelope addressed to me at the Northwest College, written in pencil, written very faintly--I could hardly make out the address--and there was no return address on the envelope. But it was a thick envelope. When I first noticed it on my desk I supposed it was some dear old lady that was interested in sending out tracts, since I had received many bundles of tracts that looked just like this package, I had supposed that it was a bundle of tracts lying there. Not only that, but the envelope had been frayed to the point that it looked like it was just about ready to fall apart because what was inside was heavier than the envelope could bear. And so I nonchalantly tore open this envelope and I almost fell off my seat when I saw that in this frayed envelope addressed in pencil with no return envelope was a handful of bills that amounted to \$1000. It was just the amount of money that we needed to meet our need. I learned a lesson that day, that has been helpful to me ever since: that there are many blessings that come to us which are not in fancy packages.

Now these financial struggles have continued through the years and are with us today, and I expect they always will be with us; but through it all we have learned about the God of supply, and the Lord has indicated to us over and over again that He is more interested in this program of teaching young men and women what the Scriptures say than we are ourselves. And as we sincerely seek His face, God has supplied our needs. That is my testimony concerning the faithfulness of God to this school. God has never failed us. He has supplied every need. It might be inspirational to you to know that during all of these years of my experience in the school, that we have not had to ask the teachers on one occasion to wait for their pay checks, but without exception, every payday there has been a check waiting for the teacher. In addition to that, we have paid out bills, and we have never had to be embarrassed by creditors who were giving us a bad time. Our credit is A-1, so we can go to a bank or a business house and ask for merchandise or whatever we need, always knowing that our credit is good and that these people can call up Dun and Bradstreet or the local credit association, and we always know that there is a good report because God has helped us in paying our bills. We can look the whole world in the face and know that the Lord has helped us hitherto and will help us.

Now this may sound like preaching as I give a refoundation of the background and history of the school, but you can't tell the history of this school without doing a little preaching, because the whole program is tied into the marvelous manifestation of God's grace, His power, His providence. ~~We have now been an accredited school~~

We have now been an accredited school for some over ten years. In 1963 the accrediting association sent out a team to re-examine the college and they found but a very few things that they brought to our attention that they wanted us to change or improve. We are very grateful that the school has up-graded its program so that it has an acceptance in the educational community and we are looked upon today as a college that is acceptable to other schools for exchange of credits and for meeting on the same level of various educational associations, and all that is looked upon as normal for a college.

In the year 1955 we developed what we call a Junior college program for two reasons. The first reason was that many students who had attended Northwest College and had taken the professional subjects for the ministry, did not go into the ministry. They suffered psychologically somewhat because they were trained for a certain profession and yet they felt afterward that God had not called them into the ministry. We felt that it might be well for us to offer a program to young people who were not sure about their calling, and this program would contain the general education subjects and general training that they would receive in a regular liberal arts college. Secondly, we felt that since most of our students were right out of high school, that if they could have two years of liberal arts subjects that if they did feel the call of God on their hearts to go into the ministry that when they reached the upper division, or third year of school, that they would be two years older and they would have had this educational foundation which would help them in their Bible studies. This program has proven to be a very effective program, and we have been able to serve a larger segment in a more effective way of our constituency by having this Junior college program. Many young people come and take the Junior College program who are not called to the ministry, but who have some other vocational calling, but they are in this atmosphere and in this training program that is Pentecostal and it gives them such a wonderful (. . . . . tape ran out here)

This Junior college program which was started in 1955 has proven to be a very effective way of presenting the educational program of Northwest College to the young people of our constituency. Many of the young people do not feel the call of God upon their heart to go into the ministry, and yet they want to attend a school that is Pentecostal, and that has professors who are believers and spirit-filled men and women as instructors. Therefore, these young people from our churches come to our school and take the first two years, the Junior College program, and

then they transfer on to other schools, but here they receive a wonderful foundation in the Word of God and among these people that they are with for two years that certainly helps them in the years to come. We feel that this Junior College program is surely born of God. In addition to this, many of these young people who have no thought of entering the ministry, and who are with us for two years, and who participate in all of the Christian activities on the campus, including the spiritual meetings in the chapel, many of them are filled with the Spirit and feel the call of God upon their hearts to enter in the ministry, so the Junior College program itself offers to us a situation from which we can recruit members into the upper division who will go on and give their lives to God in some type of Christian service.

While it is true that the school has been academically improved, it is also true that the original objectives of the school have never changed. It is still a school for the training of young people for the gospel ministry. We have stayed by this objective through the years and no doubt this objective will continue. There is more Bible taught, that is more Bible subjects, more subjects related to the Bible than in the history of the school. And I would say there are perhaps three times as much Bible taught as there was in the early days of the school. So while there has been progress in the facilities and in the faculty and academically, and we have upped our requirements for entrance--we do not receive students who do not have a high school diploma--and all of these things; while all of these things are true, the main thrust of the program is the program of training young men and women and inspiring them with the commission of the Lord Jesus Christ to preach the gospel in all the world to every creature. This, our original objective, stands out just as prominent today as it was when the school was organized.

Now may I say a further word about our faculty. We have always had a spiritual faculty at Northwest College and while I have spoken to some extent about the faculty in the early days, that they did not have the educational background that they have today, yet they were spiritual people, and they had consecrated objectives in their work for God. We have desperately tried to maintain this same idea through the years. While today our faculty, as I have mentioned, is a faculty that has had seminary training and received master's degrees, still these people are Spirit-filled people, consecrated people, men and women who have been chosen because of their consecration and faithfulness to God. We do not have any teachers on our faculty who are full-time teachers who do not have the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. And this faculty has maintained with great attention to detail the spiritual direction of the school and the insistence that we shall not depart from the original intent nor the atmosphere of the school. There has always been the liberty in the classroom to engage in the spiritual exercises that the Lord seems to be leading the students into. Many a time our class periods have been changed from normal study times to times of praise and thanksgiving. On occasion our students have received the Baptism of the Spirit right in the classroom. It is our sincere prayer that this will always continue.

There are always some people who are disturbed about the direction that educational institutions go; they are always fearful that our Pentecostal schools are becoming too academically oriented and too much attention is given to the excellence of the educational program as such and too little attention is given to spiritual matters such as prayer and seeking the Lord and such things as that. I have always felt that I needed to assure our people that we are most interested in maintaining the spiritual atmosphere of Northwest College. And we would always feel that it would be a tremendous loss to our school if all of these gains that we have had in every direction would be at the cost of the depth of spiritual life of our faculty or our students. And so we feel that this has not been true, that the tide has always been high and the ideals and principles of righteousness and the maintenance of a high level of spiritual life among the students are still our objectives. We seek most earnestly to encourage our young men and women of today to lead spiritual lives.

Let me go back now a few years to the time when we found it necessary to move our campus to another site. This was a most critical time to us, because, as I have said before, we had no finances. There had not been any accumulation of assets in a plant fund. In the interim since 1949, the time I became president of the school, the Hollywood Temple had changed its name to Calvary Temple and had built a magnificent and beautiful building just across the street, and had turned the old building, known as Hollywood Temple, over to the school, and leased it to the school. So we continued on from 1952 to 1955 in this leased building. We had accumulated a few assets in the way of chairs and desks, and also we did have two houses that had been purchased along through the years and had been used by students for dormitories. These were old houses, and were not very valuable and both of them were mortgaged, so that actually, the total assets of the school in 1949 were somewhat over \$40,000, as indicated by the financial report of that date.

In 1955, we heard a most startling report, for we heard that the new freeway that was planned to go through Seattle, would come down through the city and would come right across our property, and while this was not a confirmed report to start, we continued to hear rumors and reports to this effect, and often in the papers there were sketches by the engineers of the route of the new freeway. Finally, after some months, we received notification from the state that this property that we had had all these years for the school, as well as the houses, which were just across the street from the school, were to be condemned for the use of the new freeway. There was nothing that we could do about this.

We found that we were in quite a serious situation, because to build a school is no small matter. It's not like building a church where a congregation will invest \$50, \$60, \$70 thousand in a building and that would be it. A college is a different thing; it is continually growing and expanding. We had no backing by anybody. All that the school had was these two old dilapidated buildings and the few furnishings that were in the building we had been leasing. The terms of the lease, that we had with Calvary Temple, provided an option to purchase this building for \$75,000. After some months had elapsed, the state came in and appraised the building. At that point we felt that the building would be worth more than \$75,000 and we thought to exercise our option, buy the building from Calvary Temple for \$75,000, and we were looking for some finance to make a down-payment. We thought that if we made somewhat of a small down payment and the building actually came into our possession that we had a chance to gain a little bit of money when the building was actually condemned by the state and evaluation was fixed. Both Calvary Temple and Northwest College had had the property appraised and found that our appraisals ranged from \$110,000 to \$125,000. Now when our good brethren in Calvary Temple found out that we were about to exercise our option, they were very unhappy. They felt that we were taking an unfair advantage of the church by exercising our option at such a time as this, because they said they had put that option in the lease for the purpose of permitting it to buy the building at some future time, which would be guaranteed that the school would always be next-door to the church. Since the people of the church felt that the school was an asset to the church, being next door, and the students and faculty and all that was related to the school was so closely connected to the church. But under this new situation, they were very unhappy that we would exercise our option, and claim any financial benefit that might come to us. So they told us that this would not be right.

We did not feel quite the same way that the people of Calvary Temple felt, because we felt that in the beginning they had given us an option that would be helpful to us. Since this would be the case now, that the option would be helpful to us, the building would be removed anyhow, that the same attitude of the church to the school should contain. We saw that there was going to be some disagreement and an unhappy situation all the way around, so the board of the college and the Calvary Temple board appointed committees which finally agreed that when the building was condemned and the property evaluated, that we would split the difference above \$75,000. So that Calvary Temple would receive the \$75,000, together with half of any amount over \$75,000. This seemed to be agreeable to both sides, and when the building was finally sold to the state, it

was sold for \$175,000, making it possible for Calvary Temple to have \$50,000 in excess of their option price and also make it possible for the school to have \$50,000. We felt that this was really the blessing of God, and that the Lord favored us because of our willingness to compromise. Both sides of the question seemed to benefit because of their willingness to compromise on this point.

We had a little next-egg then to start out looking for a piece of property, and though we started to search, we were given a few years leeway to work on. We examined several dozen pieces of property in the vicinity of Seattle, mostly raw acreage, in the hope that someday we could raise some money and develop the property and make a school out of it. But we were not at all successful, although we looked at many pieces of property. Finally there came to our attention a piece of property across Lake Washington, in the town of Houghton, just between Kirkland and Bellevue. This piece of property was about thirty-five acres and was owned by the government, and had been used for housing ship-yard workers during the war. It had been abandoned now for about ten years and it had grown up with brush and blackberry plants and the one building that was on the property was practically destroyed. But a lot of work had been done on this property. The streets had been paved and sidewalks, light poles, and sewers were all in. We discovered that this property was going to be sold. So we tried to have this property transferred from Public Housing to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, which makes grants to schools. We thought if we could get this property transferred over to Health, Education and Welfare, that there would be a possibility of having this property granted to the school.

It would take hours for me to tell you the process that we went through and the red tape that it took to finally get this property. To say that the Lord gave it to us would be putting it mildly. We were sure that God had this property for us and we worked on it very diligently. It was finally granted to us in September, 1958.

Going back into some detail, I would like to say to the glory of God, that when I discovered that this property was here, I made it a definite matter of prayer, that God would give it to us. One night while I was over here on this piece of property, and it was dark and rainy and just in the woods, so to speak, I knelt on one of the old concrete slabs that had been used as a foundation for one of the houses built by the government, but had since been torn down, and I asked God for this property. I saw great possibility in this beautiful site overlooking Lake Washington. The Lord spoke to my heart and told me that He would give it to us. Which made me very happy, of course.

Following that there came some very dark days. The property had to pass from the Department of Public Housing into the Department of General Services. This department of the government has a different philosophy than the other department of the government, and they were insistent that we prove to them that we could not buy a similar piece of property in the area, for they will not permit property to be given away if property can be purchased for the same amount of market value. And after their investigators came out and looked the property over and looked for another site, they found some pieces of property that we could buy for the approximate market value of this piece of property. So they notified the Washington office, and our application for the property was turned down, and we got a letter from Washington, stating that they had to reject our application and that the matter was closed.

This, of course, was a great blow to me, after God had told me that He would give us the property. But there was a great secret in this, which I later discovered, and that is that God meant exactly what He said, that HE was going to give us the property. Now we had discovered that the government wasn't going to give it to us and I have the letter of record in my file today indicating that action was taken by the government, rejecting our application. The government said, "No, you cannot have this property." This was the answer of the government to us.

Now when I found out that this was their answer, I was quite disturbed, of course, and felt quite despondent over the matter, and I began to pray, and the Lord reminded me of what He told me that night, kneeling on that concrete slab. The Lord said, "I will give it to you." He made it clear to me that we had been looking to the government to give it to us, and the government had finally rejected us, and turned down our application, but the Lord said, "I will give it to you." So, the Lord spoke to my heart and told me to go back to Washington, D.C., which I did. There I met with some of the heads of the Department of General Services, and very fortunately, and by the direction of God, I had opportunity to talk to the three top men in this department of our government. After talking to them for an hour or two, they finally told me that there were some things that they wanted me to do, to go back here and have some engineering work done, and to write them a letter, the details of which I will not go into now, but after I did what these men told me to do, and I'm sure they were moved upon by God to tell me what they told me, I sent the work that I had done back to them. In the fall of 1958 we received a letter from the government in which they told us they would look favorable upon our application and that we were going to receive a deed for the property. This was the hand of the Lord. This was what God meant in the beginning when He told me, "I will give it to you."

Now we had a piece of property and the Lord had smiled upon us. We were so happy about it. This 35 acres is a beautiful piece of property. Everyone who comes on the campus tells us the same story: it is one of the most beautiful school sites we have ever seen. This was the gift of the Lord.

Of course it takes more more money to build a college. It takes lots of money to build a college. So we were given notice that we would have to move out of our former building by 1959. We had some land, but we had no buildings. So we began to seek the Lord and pray that the Lord would undertake and send in the money. Our churches were not interested enough in the school at that time to give us any, and they had not the money to give us anyhow. And so we knew that if we were ever to have money enough to put up school buildings that it was going to be the hand of the Lord.

I would like to recount to you at this time the story of how we happened to get the money to put up most of the buildings that we have on our campus today. It was in the summer of 1956 that I was praying one day about finance to meet our payroll and expenses during the summer months when we had no tuition funds coming in. As I was praying, there came before me the name and face of a woman that I had known some years before but hadn't seen for a number of years. She came before me so vividly, and I felt impressed to write to her and tell her about our needs. But since I hadn't seen her for a number of years, <sup>and</sup> I did not know whether she had money or not, I put it away from me. But in the days that followed, and I was continuing to pray for our needs, this woman came to me again, and even the third time. Since she had not been my mind and I had not thought of her for years, I thought it rather strange. And I felt, well, maybe God is in this, so I'm going to find out where she lives and write her a letter, and I felt that the Lord brought her to me in direct relationship to this need that the school was having. So I found out where she was living, and I wrote her a letter. She was living in southern California. I told her about the needs of the school and I told her particularly about this new location of the school we had found, and that someday we were going to have to have some buildings, and since she had helped build a church in this area, I thought she might be interested in knowing that our school would be in the area where she formerly lived, and perhaps someday she might be interested in helping put up a chapel on our campus.

Some days later I got a letter from her, and she was very curt and abrupt. She stated that she was not at all in sympathy with the brethren of the Northwest District, and that they had treated her very illy, had even robbed her of her money, and this was a real blow to me, because her letter was certainly antagonistic, to say the least. So I put away the letter and felt perhaps that I had had some kind of a mistaken notion, that this was not God at all that was speaking to me. ~~It was not Lord~~

It was not long after that, that I got another letter from this woman and in it was a check for \$6,000 and also a note, asking me not to give this money to any of the brethren of the District, but just to use it for the school. So I called her on the telephone to thank her for the money, and since we had a desperate need right now for money, and since also I had indicated in my letter to her that we needed help to build in the future on our campus, I wanted to talk to her to see if she would be willing to have us use the \$6,000 for our then present need. She said, "Come on down and see me." So I took a plane and went on down to her home in southern California and had a talk with her. I told her about our present need. She told me it was quite all right, that I could use this \$6,000 for anything or any need that the school would have right now.

The mystery of this will was that while I was there, she began to question me about the school, about the government, about the men who were on the Board, about what we were doing, about our attitude toward missionary work, about our attitude toward Pentecostal testimony. She just gave me a thorough interview about the school. I did not know why she was questioning me so thoroughly as she did, but later on I found out. I did not know that this woman had any money to any great amount, because when she sent the \$6,000, in the note, she said, "We have scraped the barrel to send you this money." So I felt really bad about taking the money at first because I took her literally, that she had just scraped the barrel so to speak and was giving us about all the money she had. But sometime later, after the woman had passed away, I discovered through her will, that the day after I went to see her, she went to her lawyer and had her will changed and made the Northwest College the residual heir of her estate. This was based on the questions she had asked me and the performance of the school and also that she believed in me that I would be an honest leader of the school. Of course she made no mention to me of this at any time, and two years later, or in 1959, a little more than two years, during the summer of the year we had to move, she passed away back East and her lawyer called me and asked me if I would meet a certain plane coming into Seattle that was carrying her body and would conduct a funeral service and have her buried next to her husband who was buried in a mausoleum here in Seattle.

While he was asking me to do these things, he said, "I think you might be interested in knowing that Mrs. Dickey has made the Northwest College the residual heir in her estate." I asked him what the meaning of this was, and he said that after her estate is settled and the heirs have been paid off, the money that is left will go to the school. I said, "Well, do you have any idea about how much that will be?" He said, "Well, it will be about \$450,000." I could hardly believe my ears, and I asked him to repeat it, and he did repeat it. I was almost dazed by this because we had had such a tremendous need, and I had never seen money come into the work of God in that amount and I could hardly comprehend it. So after I was through talking to him, I told my wife about it and we rejoiced in the Lord, of course, and in His goodness. I paced the floor back and forth, thanking God, but at the same time I had a little doubt in my mind if it was true. So I couldn't stand my doubts any more, so I got on the telephone and called this man up again in California, and said, "I hope that I haven't misunderstood you, but I just want you to repeat that again. Is it actually \$450,000 that you think the school will receive from this estate?" And he said, "Yes; that's about it." So then I felt assured and was ready to make the announcement to my good brethren who had prayed so faithfully and earnestly together with me. We knew then that we were on the way for the building program of the school.

It took two or three years for all of the estate to be settled, although portions of it came in from time to time, and out of these portions that came in, we were able to start our building program. Most of the buildings on the campus were built with these funds. Incidentally I might say that it amounted to more than \$450,000. It was between \$600,000 and \$700,000 after all of the estate was settled, that accrued to the college.

As a result of receiving this money which the Lord so graciously gave to us, I have never ceased to thank God that His Spirit is so wonderful in whispering these things to our heart when we pray. If I had ignored this, this one little thought that passed by my mind, we would not have received all this help. God in his wonderful way of leading and directing, knew that this woman loved the Lord and she would be open to help us. He led us to this woman who lived over 1500 miles from the school. The Lord knows where everything is at the right time, and weso greatly appreciate God and His blessing to us.

I might say that as a result of receiving this money that we have been able to put up eleven buildings on the campus and actually the only buildings that we owe money on are the dormitories that we have mortgaged, but these dormitories havean income, so that the income pays off the payment on the mortgage and they will become our property in a new years.

The school is in what I would say is excellent financial condition, and during the last two years we have been able to balance the budget on our general operation of the school and God has smiledupon us and favored us with men and in situations so many ways. Our business manager, Brother Crowder, has been closely connected with me inthe development of this campus during these years and he has had an opportunity to have sn insight into the situation where the money has come in, the deveppment of the buildings and all, and he has seen so many miracles take place that we can talk for hours on the matters that are beyond the common routineof business, in building buildings and carrying on business with our fellow-men. But in those things that reveal the wonderful manifestation of the power of God in providing for our every need.

I trust and pray that this miraculous aspect of the school will continue on through the years to come and these divine providences of God which have been so greatly manifested in the past will continue, and the students who walk this campus will walk and feel and sense that this is God's school, like we who have been through this program do. Every time I walk across this campus, whether in daytime or night, I have a great exhilaration of Spirit as I think about all that God has done, and that this has been the hand of the Lord. No great promoter has headed up this program, no great millionaires have their names carved on these buildings, but the Lord has help us. It has been the Lord all the way through. Now that I will be leaving the presidency of this college in another year, and since my leadership has been known through the years, perhaps many folks will feel that I have been a great leader, because the school has prospered and many benefits have come to the school. But it ctually has not been any outstanding leadership on my part; it has been no special skills that I have possessed. I have not been a high-pressure promotional man. So all of the credit and the glory and the praise must go to God Who has been the Author of all of these blessings. And so we take great pleasure in laying all of the trophies and the victories at the feet of our blessed Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, and give Him thanks and praise every day for His blessings to Northwest College. And as I have leave this school as its president, it is my most sincere hope and prayer that the same ideals and same trust in God and the same way of doing business with God will continue on in the years to come. That these young men and women who sit in these classrooms will know that this is a miracle school, and that the God who has wrought these material miracles is able to work miracles in their hearts and spirits and lives and cause them to be a blessing in this world, in which God has called them to serve.

May God bless these few words that I have spoken and I trust that all will understand and know that the God that we love and serve still lives, and that we still worship and praise His Holy Name. Our hope is that one day soon we might behold Him in His glory. Amen.