

THE CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE B. C. CONFERENCE

The British Columbia Conference, at its annual meeting in May, 1959, authorized the appointment of a United Church Chaplain at the University of British Columbia "for a period of four years from the date of such appointment." Acting on this authorization, the Chaplaincy Committee recommended the appointment of the Rev. M.J.V. Shaver, and the Executive of the Conference made this appointment effective September 1, 1959. Before the end of this Conference year, therefore, the four-year period will have expired.

The Chaplaincy Committee has acted in an advisory capacity to Mr. Shaver during these four years and each year has presented a report to the B. C. Conference. In his annual report Mr. Shaver has, himself, told of the difficulties and the opportunities, the frustrations and the achievements, of his work. A summary of his last year's work is appended to this report.

The Committee believes that this Chaplaincy to students and Faculty in the University has been a most fruitful ministry and, even more, that it is an essential ministry even if its fruitfulness is not always immediately apparent. It would therefore make the following recommendations:

- (1) That the Chaplaincy to United Church students and Faculty at the University of British Columbia be continued.
- (2) That the Rev. M.J.V. Shaver be continued in the work of United Church Chaplain at the University of British Columbia.

In order to clarify the procedures relating to appointment and termination of appointment in this office, (and in order to pattern these procedures as far as possible on the pattern relating to the pastorate) the Committee further recommends:

- (1) That, as in the case of a minister in the pastorate, the Chaplain may at any time ask for a change in pastoral relationship.
- (2) That, as in the case of a proposed change in pastoral relationship, the Executive of The B. C. Conference, or any member of the B. C. Conference, may at any time submit to the Conference a recommendation for a change in the office of Chaplain.
- (3) That any new appointment must first be recommended by the Chaplaincy Committee, and if and when approved by the B. C. Conference Executive, submitted to the Conference and to the Board of Colleges and Secondary Schools, for their final approval.

The Chaplaincy Committee would like to record its appreciation of Mr. Shaver's work. He has given of himself and his abilities imaginatively, unstintingly, and without concern for any personal gain or praise. He has given leadership, along with other Chaplains, to the creation of a team approach to the students of the University that has put the needs of the students ahead of denominationalism or personal programs; yet he has, thereby, given our denomination, and the Church Universal, greater stature in the lives and eyes of the students. He has never lost sight of the magnitude of the task nor allowed himself, or the Committee of the Conference, to think that his great achievements in many individual cases is complete success in the University generation as a whole. The Committee recommends:

- (1) That the Conference places on record its appreciation of Mr. Shaver's devoted service, and assures him of its whole-hearted support.
- (2) That the B. C. Conference gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the S.C.M. in providing the Chaplain with temporary office accommodation and clerical assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Buckingham (Chairman)

S.V. Fawcett (Secretary)

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Value of Pre-University Contact:

The contacts I make with people before they get to University, continue to be amongst the most fruitful means of establishing meaningful relationships on the campus. Every opportunity for preaching in British Columbia pulpits and speaking to Y.P.U's and Hi-C Groups is therefore welcomed. I continued the association at York House School, where I now teach two grade twelve classes in a one-hour-a-week Religious Knowledge Course.

I appreciated very much being involved in two Leadership Conferences sponsored by the Older Boys' Parliament of B. C., a Co-operative Mission to Youth at Trail, a service of worship for high school graduates at Oliver, and the Spring Term of the Lay School of Theology at Union College.

Student Christian Movement

The Student Christian Movement continues to provide the office space, telephone and secretarial help for the Anglican and United Church Chaplains. I have been involved in three of the on-going study programmes of the S.C.M.

After two years of doing without, the S.C.M. will soon have a General Secretary. Dr. Keith Clifford, presently minister of Augustine United Church Winnipeg, is under appointment for August, 1963.

Department of Religious Studies

The Department of Religious Studies at U.B.C. is now well established and has achieved respect amongst its academic peers. There are at present two part-time and two full-time people in the department, and a proposed expansion programme has now been approved. Next year it will be possible to Major in Religious Studies.

Overseas Students

During my first year on campus, the Vancouver Burrard Presbytery named me its representative to the Vancouver Council of Friendly Relations with Overseas Students. This past year I acted as president of the Council, which enabled me to be of some help to the Foreign Student programme at the University.

Chaplains

There are now nine on the U.B.C. Campus. These are the appointees of the Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran (two), Pentecostal, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic and United Churches, as well as the Hillel (Jewish) Foundation. This group meets regularly and has become a warm, mutually supportive, community. One result of this co-operation has been an invitation from the Culture Committee in one of the student residences to establish a regular programme of "Chaplain's Nights".

I was invited to the annual "Leadership Conference" conducted by the Alma Mater Society at Elphinstone. The Anglican Chaplain and I were invited to one of the evening discussion groups at a fraternity house. I have had the occasional invitation to exercise a ministry with faculty members and their families. The significant thing here is not the number of times this has happened, but the individual nature of these relationships. In each case only a Campus ministry would have been found useful. Any other would have been too far removed.

Pastoral Office with Candidates for the Ministry in Arts

The Conference Committee on Colleges and Students has recommended to the Presbyteries that they invite me to have a kind of pastoral oversight over the Arts Candidates. Related to the Recruiting Committee of Conference and to Mr. Nichol's office at Union College, I was involved in a retreat for University Students who are contemplating a Church Vocation. This will probably become an annual affair.

Anti-Religion on the Campus, 1963

One cannot report on the 1962-3 season at U.B.C. and fail to mention the two public lectures which caused such a storm throughout the national press. The fire-works were not taken as seriously on campus as they were off campus. However, they and the counter-meetings they stirred up did occasion a great deal of talk. There was more "Religion" on this so-called secular campus than on any other Canadian Campus, I am sure. However, I would like to make two observations which I think are of much greater significance.

1. The addresses themselves and the counter-rallies that were organized never became very relevant to the individual's theological pilgrimage in the academic community. The great rally, in which the big guns are fired at an enemy from behind fortifications, was quickly discovered to be the kind of forum in which no one was very edified. The cheering was loud when a hit was made, but nobody learned anything and nobody grew. The serious student soon realizes that his theological pilgrimage is a more profound thing than an ideological contest. It requires the occasion of small intimate relationships in which people are exposed to one another, rather than a battle in which ideas clash and people remain behind fortifications. This is the supreme argument for the campus ministry. It can help put together the permissive community in which the significant pilgrimage can take place.
2. The academic quality added ~~to the~~ ^{by} very presence of the Department of Religious Studies contributed to the fact that even the superficial public ideological battle takes place against a background in which something more profound is going on. The issues are more truly engaged on an intimate level between faculty people. This factor has effected a subtle change in the situation. The protagonists in the public controversy behave as though much more is involved than scoring hits. The Theological dialogue is on the verge of becoming serious instead of frivolous.

1962-63 Student Registration

1. Agnostic-Atheist (1.8%)	247	9. Miscellaneous Christian (3.7%)	506
2. Anglican (21.7%)	2,964	10. Nil (12.9%)	1,768
3. Baptist (2.8%)	388	11. Non-Christian Religions (1.0%)	142
4. Christian Science (.4%)	60	12. Orthodox (.6%)	84
5. Jewish (2.0%)	272	13. Presbyterian (2.7%)	362
6. Latter Day Saints (.3%)	39	14. Protestant (8.3%)	1,133
7. Lutheran (3.6%)	484	15. Roman Catholic (10.2%)	1,395
8. Mennonite (1.0%)	146	16. United Church (27.0%)	3,643
		100%	<u>13,633</u>

M.J.V. Shaver,
Chaplain

Explain Last II :-

With prolonged sta

Korean women instead of Indian

Dialogue :-

Good
Thyselfful
Dressed people
Sensible

all back with
Rider

Profound wisdom
Senses greater

Gal. ->

So Distorted view Xn Gospel

Mind for it :- NM Xn

Called :-

~~XXX~~ Odd kind
as old as X

Kind of Person : -> find most flaws
about the Xn faith

Student
+ Series

take Xn ->

explanations
Ferry who is in
it is not in

Can it show the road from us
we even hear it

By a person who
we saved
who can it

Biblical Xology

is
not

when God is doing