

Unfinished Business in Earth's Eventide

By Elder L. B. Reynolds

Excerpts from the Baccalaureate Sermon

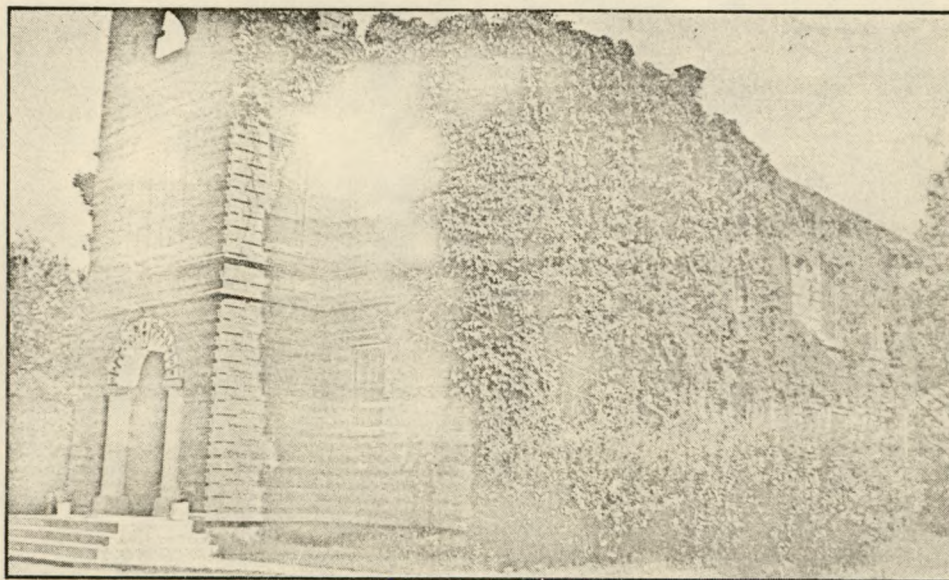
Text: "I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."—John 9:4.

The shades of eventide are fast enveloping our world in its darkest night. A mighty work remains in these hours of setting sun which will demand our utmost in service and sacrifice.

Christ's appeal to the heroic, to those who dare when daring is necessary, to those who endure when endurance is duty, to those who would suffer to magnify His Name is fittingly addressed to Oakwood's Class of '44. The Master's call to save sinners is the most compelling ever made to valiant-hearted youth in any age. The work must be finished before daylight fades.

It is no mere chance that the Class of '44 stands on the threshold of service in such a time as this. Just as the voice crying in the wilderness of Jordan bore Divine credentials, so it can be said that you are sent from God into a perishing world. "As Thou has sent Me into the world," said Jesus, "even so have I also sent them into the world."—John 17:18.

So my dear comrades, take with you a word of peace for this time of peril, a word of comfort for this day of calamity, the words of light for this hour of darkness. Onward then, Class of 1944, to your unfinished business in this grandest hour of earth's eventide!



Library and Home Economics Building

Thoughts From Commencement Address

Delivered by Miss Eva B. Dykes, Ph.D.

Dr. Eva B. Dykes, Professor of English at Howard University, brought to us the commencement address on Sunday evening, May 21, 1944. Dr. Dykes spoke of present-day conditions. She pointed out to us that Oakwood is making history. She reviewed such historical facts that Oakwood opened its doors in 1897 as the "Oakwood Industrial and Training School," and changed its title to Oakwood Junior College in 1917. Today, the word "Junior" has been dropped legally from the name of the school. As our scholastic standards reach higher levels she pointed out that greater things would be expected of us.

Dr. Dykes also told us that Oakwood students have the opportunity of making good, although in a world of distress. She stated that Oakwood differs from worldly institutions in that it trains the heart as well as the mind and hand. Every Oakwoodite can render the best type of service and meet the challenge of today.

The remarks of Dr. Dykes to the graduating class of 1944 were indeed inspirational. Not only

did she give "food for thought" to the class, but to the listening audience a broad ray of light was shed. In the eyes of the parents of the graduates a tear was seen here and there as parents silently thanked God for allowing them to send their children to Oakwood.

It is the simplicity of ordinary things that makes one great, and as she earnestly spoke to the seniors attributes of greatness were observed in her. They were seen in the straightforward method with which she propounded the truths of the day; they shined from her eyes as she accredited greatness to Oakwood for stressing a simple Christ-like life.

To Dr. Dykes, we the student body, publicly wish to thank you for your memorable commencement address. Although we are not all seniors, we, too, have benefited from your wise counsel and will endeavor to

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