

was introduced in the curriculum in 1888 as an elective for juniors and seniors. This course is strictly literary in all its work. The work is purely inductive, no text-book but the Bible being used. For example, the work of the juniors last year was on the gospels. When Mark's gospel was under consideration there was various encyclopedia work assigned as a preliminary and discussed in the class. The gospel was then read and an abstract of each paragraph handed to the instructor and a shorter one written in the margin. Questions which the students are unable to answer for themselves are brought before the class. Each member of the class is also assigned a special topic on which he is expected to prepare himself thoroughly and present a thesis to the class. The work is supplemented by lectures by the instructor. The value of the course is mainly in developing the student's power to do individual and original work."

Mr. Bennett of Williams spoke of the work in that college as very encouraging. He said: "We have arranged three courses of Bible study. The first may be called the intellectual course. In this course thirty or forty men meet once a week with one of the members of the faculty, and thus far the work has met with marked success. They are now studying the Pauline epistles. The work was prefaced by a number of lectures to give some general ideas as to the theology of the Jews, character of Paul and such questions. The second is the devotional course. Under this head are two classes of five or six each, making their subject of study 'What the Bible teaches concerning the Divinity of Christ.' The last is the practical course laid down by the Young Men's Christian Association as a means of personal work. A pledge of conscientious attendance and work has been found to result well."

The final report was given by A. C. Harte, Wesleyan, who said: "For some years there has been more or less Bible study in the college, but during the last year it has been better in quality and quantity. Many difficulties were encountered, but have been overcome. In our regular curriculum there is a junior elective of Biblical Greek. On Sunday afternoon a Bible class is held in the Y. M. C. A. room by Professor Rice. This class is studying the history of the Apostolic Church. There are two circles of ten or twelve each, who are following the course of study marked out in the *Intercollegian*, and another circle is studying the book of Isaiah.

Some of the students are also in the Methodist Episcopal Sunday School."

There was then a general discussion on the difficulties to be met, and the way to obviate them. First was the tendency to lack of preparation. A Yale delegate said that in forming their classes the college was canvassed by committees, and the men were asked to pledge one hour of study per week. Seven-tenths of the men who would promise attendance would sign such a pledge. It was suggested by a delegate from Harvard that perhaps it would be a good plan to ask for pledges for short times. He claimed that these would be more freely given, and many would continue in force after the time expired.

As to the difficulty from lack of time, Mr. Todd suggested that if as much importance was attached to these studies as to secular work, there would be no difficulty on this score. Systematized work is what is needed.

The next difficulty taken up was that of procuring available teachers. Mr. Sanders spoke of the importance of this matter and suggested the method of instruction by correspondence as a possible help. In some of the colleges there may be found a professor who will be just the man to rally the students around him, and in such a case it is the best plan to get him as teacher, if possible. But in many cases the right man cannot be found, and the work must be entirely done by undergraduates. Now it is hardly fair to give one man so much work as the direction of one of these classes. It must be made easier for him. Perhaps this could be accomplished by instruction by correspondence—a plan which the secretaries are willing to help in as much as possible. Last year such a course was proposed, and five colleges started in it, three working along just as fast as they could get their directions. But so much time cannot be given by the secretaries unless the number of colleges interested is increased. As all colleges would not wish the same course, it would be necessary to have a set of courses on different subjects. With such general directions as could be given in advance, and more minute directions from week to week, the work would be much simplified for the student leading the class.

Some of the delegates said that there had been a great withdrawal of men of their institutions from practical study into the purely intellectual. Mr. Todd replied that no Bible study should be entirely intellectual, but that the spiritual side should