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## The Acadia Forward-Movement Fund.

BY PRESIDENT TROTTER.

The history of Acadia and its affiliated schools has been a history of steady progress—a series of forward movements. From small beginnings, an educational plant has been accumulated at Wolfville worth \$100,000, in connection with which are employed today ten professors and sixteen other teachers. An endowment also of \$100,000 has been gathered for the support of the College proper. The increase in material resources, and in the number of instructors, has been matched by a like steady increase in the attendance of students. The young people who gather in the institutions at Wolfville annually number 300 and upwards.

Just now, however, the exigencies of the situation call for another forward movement of a very important sort. The development of the money resources of the institutions has not kept pace with the development in other respects. The fact is that the Governors find themselves face to face with a serious financial crisis.

In addition to this existing indebtedness of \$70,000, the Board will soon be called upon to furnish enlarged accommodation for the Academy. The Academy has a Residence and a Manual Training Hall, but finds accommodation for its class-room work in the College building. This space is now imperatively needed for the College itself, and the Board must soon provide, on the Academy's own ground, class-rooms and a small assembly hall.

### PROPOSALS FOR RELIEF.

In view of the foregoing obligations, the Governors recommended to the Maritime Baptist Convention, at its recent meeting in St. John, that a special financial campaign be entered upon, for the raising of \$75,000, to be applied according to the following scale:

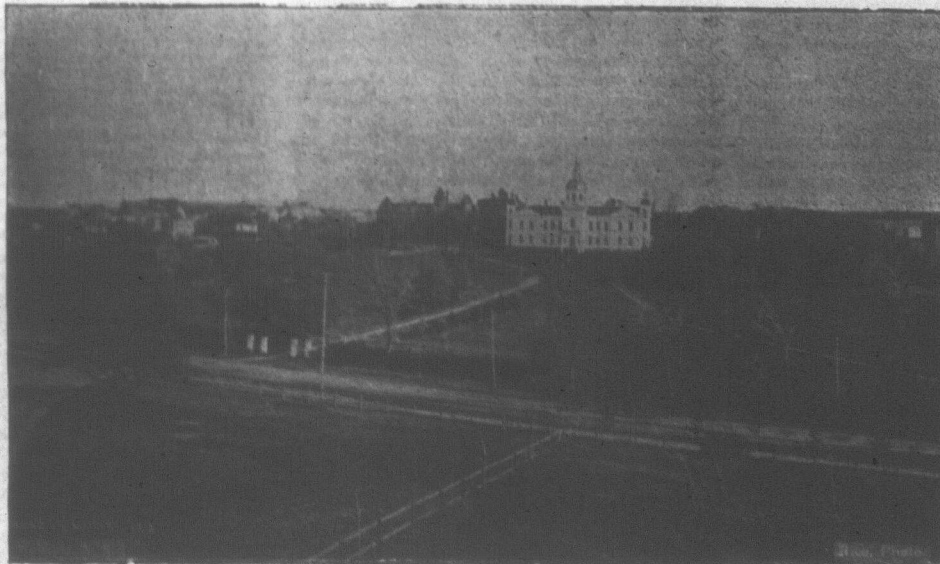
For the Academy building and the reduction of the Academy debt,	\$10,000
For the reduction of the Seminary debt,	25,000
For the enlargement of the College endowment,	40,000

The recommendation of the Board was unanimously and heartily adopted by the Convention.

a private visitation of the wealthier friends to secure their larger gifts. It is not thought to be an unreasonable expectation, in a crisis like the present, that some person or family should endow a professorship, or that half a dozen persons should be ready to subscribe \$5,000 each. Others will be ready to give \$2,000; others \$1,000; others \$500, and so on until the sum of \$50,000 has been raised.

When this shall have been done, it will then be incumbent upon the Board to arrange for a visitation of the churches, and an appeal to the general constituency for the remaining \$25,000.00. If it is true that without the generous help of the well-to-do the campaign must be abortive, or at best but partially successful, it is equally true that to ensure complete success the help of every friend of the work must be counted upon. Subscriptions to the fund will be payable in yearly instalments, extending over four years.

In view of the magnitude and urgency of the undertaking, the Board have arranged that the president, while expected to carry the responsibilities of administration in the college, shall be relieved of class-room work, during the first year of his incumbency, in order that he may be free to give an important share of his time to the leadership of the campaign. The interests of the college will render it highly inexpedient that this arrangement should be continued beyond the first year. The Board, therefore, appeal the more strongly for the immediate and earnest co-operation of all friends, so that the work of securing subscriptions may be virtually completed by the time the first year is over.



VIEW OF WOLFVILLE, SHOWING COLLEGE, SEMINARY AND CHIPMAN HALL.

### OBLIGATIONS.

The money obligations of the Board amount to \$70,000:

Debt on Academy,	\$12,000
College, (including College Proper, the Residence and the Gymnasium),	12,000
Seminary,	46,000

The debt on the Academy is a building debt, the interest on which the Academy itself has carried for several years, without incurring a deficit.

The debt on the College is partly a building debt, and partly an accumulation of deficits in current expenses, extending over several years. Without substantial relief these yearly deficits must continue to accumulate.

The debt on the Seminary is a building debt to the amount of \$39,000—partly brought over from the old Seminary, but chiefly incurred in the erection of the new building—the balance, of \$7,000, being again an accumulation of deficits in current expenses. It should be added respecting the Seminary that, for four years more, the interest on \$20,000 of the debt is provided for by pledges given at the time the new building was erected.

With this sum raised, and a reasonable increase in the attendance at the Seminary, the work as at present organized can be efficiently maintained, all deficits can be stopped, the debts will be reduced to manageable size, and can gradually be eliminated altogether. A smaller sum than \$75,000 will not be sufficient to meet the necessities of the crisis.

It should be understood that the legacy of the late Mr. Payzant cannot be applied, even to the amount of a dollar, in relieving the situation as described above. The legacy calls for the creation of a new department, and will increase the financial demands upon the Board.

### METHOD OF CAMPAIGN.

In view of the largeness of the sum contemplated, and the measure of success which has attended former efforts, the Board feel that complete success can be achieved in the present instance only on condition that those whom God has entrusted with larger means subscribe \$50,000 of the amount needed, in generous sums. So convinced are the Governors of the soundness of this view, that they have arranged that the initial stage of the campaign shall be chiefly

It would be refreshing in the extreme if the president should receive some spontaneous communications pledging sums, larger and smaller, for the good work—each subscriber doing his utmost, and setting an example to others.

### MOTIVES AND INSPIRATIONS.

Were it necessary to present motives and inspirations calculated to induce unity and enthusiasm in the undertaking before us, a long list of such motives might be adduced. Let the following suffice:

1. The situation is critical; the need as urgent as words can express it.
2. The alternative of success in the undertaking is retrogression in the educational work, and the weakening of every denominational enterprise. The thought of failure is not to be entertained for a moment.
3. Gratitude for the great and beneficent influence exerted by the institutions, through so many years, is a motive which should inspire every heart that loves God's kingdom, and cares for the ennoblement of human life.
4. The splendid and growing opportunity for ser-