

# The President Speaking . . . .

Thanksgiving—the day for counting our blessings and expressing our gratitude is almost here and should be worthily observed. While, of course, we should be thoughtfully appreciative during the whole year, yet it is a good thing to have special sessions when together we can say "Thank You" to God for the mercies, gifts, and joys which have been ours.

Among the countless things which in my own personal life fill me with thanksgiving it certainly will not be inappropriate for me in my Campus Column to express my appreciation and gratitude as a college executive. Here are some of the things, for which I, as your leader, am profoundly grateful:

I give hearty thanks for:

1. The increased attendance of our student-body, the largest enrollment we have had in our college of liberal arts and sciences for several years, and the largest freshman class in four years.
2. The splendid spirit of cooperation and joyous living among our students together with an evident deep interest in the serious things of life. This, I imagine, is one of the

most beneficial results of the "depression".

3. The second very successful season in foot-ball which has won for our team under Coach "Dee's" able leadership, the coveted position at the head of the conference.

4. The renewed and enlarged interest in our music activities with the exceptionally fine material in our orchestra and choruses.

5. The federal funds which made possible many needed improvements in the physical appearance of our campus.

6. The wonderful and sacrificial response of the Baptists of the State and the loyal friends in Ottawa which made possible the securing of \$34,000 during the Spring and Summer, thus permitting us to begin our fiscal year with no "carry over" in current deficit but with all obligations of the preceding fifteen months paid in full.

7. The many expressions of interest and love for the Old School from such a large number of devoted alumni through the years, and their willingness to enlarge and enrich Alma Mater in every way.

8. The steadfast determination of our faithful Board of Trustees especially those on the Executive Committee to keep out of debt, to struggle ceaselessly with the many vexatious financial problems of the school. Their appreciation of, and loyalty to the faculty in these trying times, and their success in winning for the school the respect and confidence of the business men of our community.

9. The loyal support, continued effort, sacrificial devotion, and uncomplaining team-work of a splendid faculty without whom all our efforts would be fruitless.

10. And, last of all I am grateful that I am living in these very difficult times when hard problems have to be solved and great difficulties faced and severe tests are being given to human motives and achievements; that we can take our share of burdens and difficulty and sacrifice, and have such a rich share in all the gracious mercies of God, and learn anew the joy of depending upon His wisdom and strength as we work together with Him among the best folk in all the world—our college youth.

W. P. BEHAN