

Asbury Theological Seminary

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Correspondence

Indian Springs Camp Meeting

2021

Box 1-72 (Correspondence, J.J Johnson-R.F Burden, 1925)

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ASBURY COLLEGE

WILMORE, KY.

H. C. MORRISON, D. D., PRES.

OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

June 3, 1925.

Mr. R. F. Burden,
c/o Burden & Smith Dept. Store,
Macon, Ga.

Persons1

My dear Brother Burden:

Your letter of June 1st is before me. On yesterday, I received the telegram telling of Brother Matthews' death. No words can express my very great shock. I find it impossible to realize that we shall see him no more in the flesh.

With my mind's eye, I see his graceful form, his fine broad shoulders, his outstretched hands and smiling face to greet me at dear old Indian Springs.

Thank God we know where to find him. He and Brother Dodge with many loved ones gone before have met about the Saviour's feet.

May God help us to be faithful and true and bye and bye we shall join them on the eternal shore. We will miss Brother Matthews greatly at the campmeeting, but God who is faithful will not leave us without leadership and we must give ourselves to such earnest prayer and faith that this meeting the coming summer at Indian Springs shall be one of the best in all our history.

We have just closed a wonderful school year. The Commencement occasion has been like a great campmeeting. People have been here in crowds. They came all the way from California, from Florida, from North Carolina, from New York. People were here in their autos from Wichita, Kansas. Two young preachers came in a Ford from Wisconsin. A minister and his wife came in their car all the way from Montana. It was like a great Holiness campmeeting.

On last Sunday we served 1900 meals. The people were in a fine humor. The love of God was in their hearts. They seemed to feel perfectly at home. There were songs and testimony and shouts of praise.

The preaching was done by Rev. Joseph Smith, Rev. C. W. Ruth, Rev. Stanley Jones and your humble servant. Many people were at the altar and quite a number were converted or sanctified. It was a time of marvelous power. I have never seen anything quite like it at Asbury College. The blessed Lord was with us.

When we got the first telegram that Brother Matthews was suffering with pneumonia, Brother E. T. Adams, Brother John Wesley Hughes and myself went out under a tree on the campground and wept and prayed and plead with our Lord if possible to spare our brother to us. We were blessed, but got no assurance. We were able to say in our hearts, "Thy will be done".

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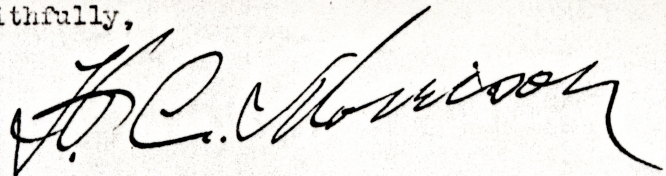
We dedicated the new theological building and the great new dormitory for girls. These are fine structures with modern conveniences representing an investment of \$325,000.00. They wonderfully enlarge our possibilities here. Every dormitory is filling up rapidly. Every room has been taken in the Theological Building. Reservations come in every day and there is every prospect of a very large attendance the next school year.

I could not find it in my heart to take your name off of the list of our Board of Trustees. You are still one of us. Your time of office does not expire until 1927. If, at that time, you feel you cannot serve longer we will elect some one else in your place. I know your heart would have been thrilled with joy if you could have been here, seen the great gathering, and the gracious manifestation of God's presence.

This closes out my fifteenth year as President. The brethren begged me to remain in that relation, but I could not possibly do so. So I resigned and Rev. Lewis R. Akers, who has been very successful as Vice President the past year was elected in my place. Brother Akers is a graduate of Asbury College. He was graciously sanctified while attending school here. He has been true ever since. He has been a hard student since leaving us and has taken degrees from several other schools. He is finely equipped for the work. He was inaugurated to-day and the people rallied beautifully to his support. I was elected President of the Board of Trustees, President of the Theological Seminary, which is connected with the College, and Vice President of the College. I am also to give courses of lectures in the school so that I am really just as thoroughly identified with the Institution as ever before. I will stand by Brother Akers and he is going to make us a very superior man.

The Lord has been with us graciously. We gird ourselves afresh for the task and go forward. With kind regards for your wife, much Christian love for yourself and hoping to see you both at Indian Springs Camp, I am

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. C. Morrison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.