

OUR Y. M. C. A.

Mr. Buchman Tells of the Growth and Needs of the Association.

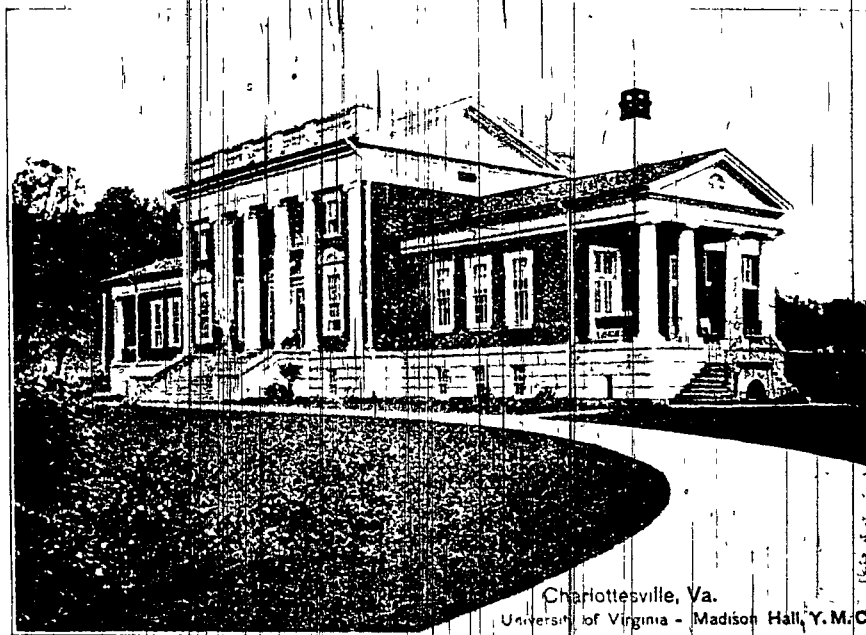
The Pennsylvania State College has the unique distinction of having the second largest student Christian Association in the world, only equaled by "Old Eli," Yale, which has thirty-five more men, but which also has a larger number of students to draw from; so, relatively speaking, we are the largest in the world. We have not grown merely extensively, making the enormous gain of 6:8 since the first of September, but our work has grown intensively in like proportions. In our Bible study enrollment we take fourth place, and Dr. Beach, who has an opportunity to see things from a world standpoint, said, "That 99 per cent of the colleges of the country cannot match our mission study programme in thoroughness and comprehensiveness". It is not so much breadth that we are striving for, but breadth coupled with depth, and the best evidence of the character of the work always rests in the changed lives of the men.

We have worked for, and in the spirit of Christianity, forcing religious things upon no one. We deal with men as they are, and supply the constant reminder of higher motives and obligations, without which the morale of any body of men must constantly deteriorate. We believe in developing the full-orbed man, physical, moral, mental and spiritual. The work has been natural, sane and healthful, based on the appeal to the will that the Christian life is the normal, rational one. It is no extravagant statement to say that, daily, men are making a stand for the better things in life, and when men join the Association, it means that they have an earnest purpose to strive to better their lives from day to day. The policy of the Association has been thoroughness. We have

stopped short of nothing but the very best. We are attracting to us the very finest speakers of the country, because of the highly multiplying opportunity which our work presents. On a recent Sunday we had Dr. and Mrs. Schieffelin and "Ted" Mercer, of New York, as well as our own General Beaver. During their stay sixty meetings were held, and three times, three simultaneous meetings were in progress. Our dues have

us recently to speak of the importance of the physical side, and during his stay each class gave him a class meeting, enabling him to address more than 2000 people.

To keep our machinery at the top of efficiency we need quarters that are adequate to interpret all the varied possibilities of the Association. Our Association demands such a Social Hall as is spoken of in this issue. Recently a visitor to the school



Y. M. C. A. Building at the University of Virginia

evening prayer meetings, as well as our Sunday evening meetings have outgrown their own quarters, and when we have some outside speaker, the Old Chapel fails to accommodate us, and we need the Auditorium. The Rev. Robert Davis, of New York City, says, "Your work at State is the most effective I know of, and it is an opportunity straight from God to be offered a chance to lend a hand". Through the columns of the "Collegian" you are constantly informed of the men who come, but let me remind you that we are to hear this year from such men as Stelze, Bates, Bowman, Campbell, Towson, Henderson and others. Dr. Willson, the confidential physician to the students of the University of Pennsylvania, spent nine hours with

said "That in all his travels he never saw an Association that was doing so big a work, yet so poverty stricken in its quarters, and secretarial force as this one". We need such a clearing house for all our student activities. Problems will of course present themselves, and some one may ask "How can the Social Hall serve the Young Men's Christian Association," or better "How can the Christian Association serve the Social Hall"? I think that Henry G. Prout, First Vice President, and General Manager at the Union Switch and Signal Company, of Swissvale, Pa., says: "It is an easy thing to build and equip welfare buildings, but it is a hard thing to have them profitably used. Fortunately the Young Men's Christian Association seems to pro-