

Yet the average public speaking course in a seminary is not particularly effective. There is need for great improvement in public speaking. We have increased our stress upon it quite a bit during the history of Faith Seminary and have greatly improved our methods of teaching. Yet it can be improved much further. It should also be an insistence that the basic techniques of speaking be mastered in the very first year, so that the last two years can be spent in practice and in acquiring some of the fine points instead of having to constantly work on getting the basic points across. I believe a mistake has been made in the past in letting some students with unusual minds and fine scholarly acumen slip through without learning to speak effectively. Anyone can learn to speak effectively and it should be insisted upon during the very first year.

6. Written Expression

While the greater part of the work of the usual minister is done orally, if he is at all successful he is going occasionally to have quotations in the newspapers or to write articles for books or magazines. He will have to write letters from time to time which should be effective and if he can learn to write effectively, there is opportunity for a great increase in his influence. Writing is in many ways a very different art from speaking. ~~There~~ All of the help that is secured from voice tone, from gesture, from emphasis, etc, is lost in writing. It is necessary, therefore that this be made up in other ways in the choice of words and the arrangement of sentences. Some people have far greater gifts in writing than others, but everyone can tremendously improve. More stress on the development of ability to write effectively should be included in the Seminary course.