

get a training and think you've got the training; its finished. Now you go ahead and work. You don't need any more training. It doesn't work that way. Mr. Harding has mentioned to me that his observation is that a person may become well trained in Homiletics, able to give excellent sermons and to present them in an excellent way and then if he will go one yr. without any practice, without any preaching, he usually drops way back. We have to keep it up, we have to keep at it. We are either going ahead or we are going back. We need to recall the things that we have learned.

Our first yr. in Wilmington at the seminary we got a man to teach public speaking and I thought the faculty would profit by what he gave, and he gave some material that I thought was very very excellent. I thot we would profit as well as the students so I asked him to give us a few hours, to the members of the faculty. And he gave us instruction in keeping the throat open and in speaking from the diaphragm and certain other vital matters about speaking and we worked on it and felt that we made real progress. Then I forgot about it, and the next summer I preached in a midwestern city one day in a church which was -- it was a hot day and they had all the windows open, a fairly good sized church, and there was a grt. deal of traffic out in the streets. It was very noisy, and I just forced myself to try to be heard so that they would catch what I said way in the back there. And I forced myself as hard as I could and when I got about half way through the sermon I found that my throat was beginning to get so tired I wondered how I would get through the sermon. And then I recalled that the instructor had told us that in order to keep your throat in good condition and keep it from getting overtired you must be sure you breath from your diaphragm and you must be sure you keep your throat relaxed. Well, I said, I'm struggling to be heard in the back there and I can't go on this way. I won't get through the sermon. Now let's just stop and breath through the diaphram and relax the throat and if they don't hear me in back I'll at least get through and so I went ahead. And when I finished the sermon i didn't feel half as tired in my throat as I had in the middle of the sermon. And after it was over I was in the back speaking to people and I saw somebody who had been sitting in the back and I said, Were you able to hear me way back here? Oh yes, we heard you perfectly