Reverend MacLeod Speaks on Bible And Matter In Chapel

By RICHARD BEST

The Reverend George F. MacLeod, head of the Scottish Iona Community, told a Rice Memorial Chapel audience that Christianity cannot tolerate modern society’s dichotomy between the spiritual and the material. He was speaking on “The Bible Image of Matter” Thursday, May 3, in a regular chapel presentation.

Dr. Macleod pointed out that the Judaism of Jesus’ time was primarily concerned with the “here and now” rather than the abstract conceptions of heaven and hell. He also recalled the medieval maxim, “laborare est orare.”

THE SEPARATION between the mental and the material, although it had its beginnings in the period after the Reformation, is primarily a product of nineteenth-century science which completely divorced itself from the spiritual. This disunion brought forth extreme individualism in politics, economics, and religion.

The latter was left “up in the air,” and the church finally reached the point where it had nothing to say about the vital issues of the day.

THE PRESENT age is seeing a return to the concept of the monicity of the mental and the material, according to Macleod. He pointed to scientists who have rejected the theory of dead matter and to the communists who have shown us that men cannot be split.

Dr. Macleod urged in conclusion that the Church re-proclaim the truth that “all things in heaven and in earth have been made one.”