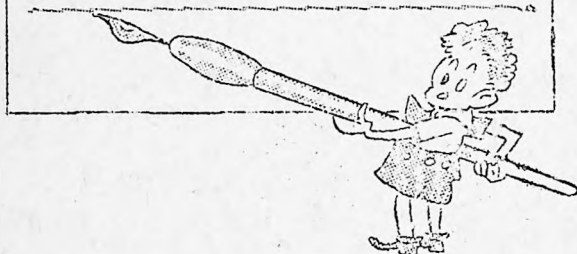


JANUARY 20 1947

ALL of us are "signed up" to attend the
Convocation lectures & Fellowship



EDITORIAL o o o Henry K. Haines

This special Convocation issue of the Seminarian is planned for the information of the Seminary family and guests, alumni, and friends. We are proud to present and to amplify the words of welcome which our President has herein extended.

This issue also marks another milestone in the history of the Seminarian for with this issue the

second editorial staff lays down its pens and watches approvingly as another group dips new steel points into the ink from which will come volume 3 of our magazine. We, as the retiring staff, shall not apologize for our shortcomings for we have striven to do our best. We merely hope that our efforts may have meant some small satisfaction to our readers for that, of course, is ever the aim of a magazine such as this.

We extend our thanks to the Society of Inquiry for their sponsorship and to the President, Richard T. Schellhase for his confidence; our especial thanks to our publisher William K. Penn for the fine job he has done in establishing our reputation for attractive layouts and expert mimeographing; our additional thanks to our many contributors.

And finally, our congratulations and best wishes for a successful year ahead to the new editor, H. Clayton Moyer.

o o o o o o o o o

THE CONVOCATION AGENDA

The Swander Lectures, "The Ageless Gospel in our Age,"

Professor Reinhold Niebuhr

The McCauley Lecture "The Christian Ministry"

The Rev. Allan S. Meck, D.D.

Monday, January 20th,	8 P. M.	"Christ, and the False Christ of Modern Culture"	Professor Niebuhr
Tuesday, January 21st	9 A. M.	Chapel Service	
	9:30	"Man's Perplexities and our Particular Fears"	Professor Niebuhr
	11:00 AM	"The Christian Ministry"	Dr. Meck
	12:30 PM	Luncheon	
	3:00 PM	Alumni Meeting	
	8:00 PM	"The Love Commandment's Special Relevance to our Age"	Professor Niebuhr
	9:00 PM	Reception - Pres. & Mrs. Theo. F. Hornan, host.	
Wednesday, January 22,	9:00 AM	Chapel Service	
	9:30 AM	"Redemptions in History and the Redemption of History"	Professor Niebuhr.

By Pres. Theo. F. Hermann

Our Convocation centers in the Swander and McCauley Lectureships, which annually bring to our school large numbers of loyal alumni and friends. Since the establishment of these lectureships distinguished men of letters, native and foreign, have spoken to our annual Convocations. Among our foreign guests were Emil Brunner, John Baillie, Carl Henry, and Bishop Evers. Our American lecturers included many of our leading theologians.

Professor Niebuhr takes his place worthily among this large group of distinguished men. The faculty, students, and alumni of the Seminary extend to him a hearty welcome, both as a member of our own household of faith and as a worthy successor of those who have gone before him on the Swander Foundation. Our visitor is the author of many books, which have firmly established his international reputation. His magnum opus, so far, is "The Nature and Destiny of Man," in two volumes, constituting the Gifford Lectures delivered in Glasgow in 1939. Only five American scholars have been honored by invitations to speak to the entire world of scholarship from this famous platform. Moreover, the four American scholars who preceded Reinhold Niebuhr (Jones, Royce, Hocking, and Dewey) were philosophers. Reinhold Niebuhr, the fifth in that notable galaxy, is the first American theologian chosen to lecture on the Gifford Foundation. Readers of his profound treatise require no proof that the Nature and Destiny of Man speaks with the authority of sound learning, and deep insight into the structure of reality. These two books rank near the top of required reading for thoughtful men, both lay and clerical. Unless the weather plays us false, Santee Chapel will be crowded with alumni and friends eager to hear the course on "The Ageless Gospel in our Age."

The McCauley lecturer this year is President-elect Allan S. Meek. The fact that he has been chosen to the presidency of the Seminary adds new lustre to his name and fame as one of our leading preachers, and it also adds new interest to his appearance among us as one of the Convocation lecturers. He may be assured of our most hearty greeting and welcome.

o o o o o o o o

The McCauley LectureshipBy Richard Goodling

The McCauley Lecture this year is being given by Dr. Allan S. Meek, introduced in the above article.

This Lectureship on Pastoral and Practical Theology was originated by the will of Mrs. Harriet O. McCauley Schreyer, late of Mercersburg, Pa. (1911). The bequest is to be "used in giving one or more lectures every year to the students on some practical subject relating to the Ministry". These lectures have been given annually since 1914.

Two brothers, the Rev. Charles R. Schnoder, D.D., in 1918-9 and the Rev. David B. Schnoder have given this lecture. In 1928-9 Rev. Lawrence E. Dair spoke on "1. The Preacher; 2. The Teacher". In 1934-5 the Rev. William F. Hosman, D.D., and the present professor-elect of the chair of Systematic Theology gave the lecture. In 1936-7 the Rev. Elmer G. Knorrhagen, Ph.D., D.D., now at Princeton was heard. Norman E. McClure, Ph.D., Litt D., Pres. of Ursinus, gave the lecture in 1938-9.

o o o o o o o

John I. Swander and the Swander Lectures o o o Fred P. Knierien

It is perhaps an occasion for blushing that the name of John I. Swander today stands mostly for someone connected with an annual lecture series delivered here. Never having given more thought than this to the matter, I was forced to pore through some of the less frequented corners of the Library in order to glean a few facts about the man behind the lectureship. Within a limited time, then, the name took on new significance as his books yielded light on an interesting man, who was no mean figure in the history of the Theological Seminary.

Dr. Swander was born in 1833, and died some twenty-five years ago. During his long life, which he describes interestingly in The Romance of Religion, The Evolution of a Farm Boy, and his Autobiography, he found time to be graduated from

(continued on page 3)

Reinhold Niebuhr, the Swander lecturer for 1947, was born in Wright City, Mo., of German parentage. His father Gustine Niebuhr, an ordained minister in the Evangelical Synod of North America, died when he was very young. Niebuhr studied at Elmhurst College, but he left in 1910 before he received his degree or had completed his undergraduate work. He acquired a B.D. degree from Yale Divinity School in 1914 and an A.M. in 1915 after he had studied at Eden Theological Seminary.

He was ordained a minister in his denomination in 1915 and accepted a call to Bethel Evangelical Church in Detroit, Michigan. While he remained in Detroit, he was profoundly affected by the rise of the automotive industry and its concomitant social and political problems. It made him a "schroedered liberal" in his outlook involving an turning to the left politically, and in turning to the right in theology.

He left Detroit in 1928 and in the same year Dr. Niebuhr accepted the rank of Associate Professor of Philosophy of Religion at Union Theological Seminary. This chair he surrendered in 1930 for that of Applied Christianity at the same institution.

In 1940 he renounced his membership in the Fellowship of Reconciliation because he lent his active support to the war. He greatly encouraged American intervention through speeches and magazine articles, the latter appearing particularly in "Christianity and Crisis," a bi-weekly of which he is a member of the editorial board. He has maintained his active social interests and at present is chairman of the Union for Democratic Action, a group of intellectuals and labor leaders who maintain a lobby in Washington and issue a bi-weekly paper, Congressional Newsletter, vice chairman of the Liberal Party and a member of the recently organized Americans for Democratic Action. He has recently returned from an educational mission in Germany.

Among his more famous books are Moral Man and Immoral Society, Reflections on the End of an Era, An Interpretation of Christian Ethics, and The Nature and Destiny of Man. Because of his right-wing theology and his left-wing social philosophy he has become one of America's most provocative thinkers.

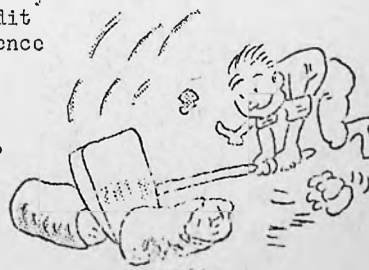
o o o o o o o o o

John L. Swander and Swander Lectures .. Continued from page 2

Heidelberg College and Seminary, to serve as a minister of the Reformed Church, and to participate in the academic life of this institution. Having been elected Associate Professor of Systematic Theology, he endowed with twenty thousand dollars the memorial lectureship which bears the name of his children, Sarah Ellen and Nevin Ambrose.

Properly enough, Dr. Swander delivered the initial lecture and almost all the others until his death in 1935. Since the foundation provided for the publication of the lectures, one can find twenty volumes, some of which were not delivered, beginning with those of the first five years (1901-05) Old Truths in New Forms and ending with the timely one entitled After Death -- What, Where, Why? In them, as he purposed, was promulgated "sound christological science by a man who, in the words of Dr. Richards, was "conservative, but not bigoted, liberal but not radical," and who himself claimed credit only "for diligence as a student in the school of science and philosophy."

Since Dr. Swander's death, nineteen distinguished leaders in academic circles have continued the series annually with the exception of a wartime interruption. What is more, in the Library are to be found books on these lectures and published by the deliverers: Coffin's What to preach, Brunner's Theology of Crisis and others. In recent years, Dr. Herman contributed his Sacramental Universe; and Edwin Aubrey, the lectures of last February. To this list of notables, we now prepare to add Reinhold Niebuhr.



Let Us prepare to get down to business right away

