



Theological Seminary of The Evangelical & Reformed Church

The Seminarian

ACADEMIC YEAR 1956-57 LANCASTER, PA. OCT. 1, 1956 No 2

NEW TESTAMENT PROFESSOR APPOINTED FOR 1957

The Seminary announced recently the appointment of Paul Achtemeier as Professor of New Testament, beginning with the fall term of 1957.

The Rev. Mr. Achtemeier was born in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1927. The family moved to Monticello, Wisconsin, where his father is now pastor of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

He is a graduate of Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois, where he majored in philosophy and minored in Greek and German. He graduated from Elmhurst, Summa Cum Laude, in 1949 and entered Union Theological Seminary. He graduated from Union, Magna Cum Laude, in 1952. In 1952 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Rice, also a graduate of Union.

He has studied at the Universities of Basel and Heidelberg, and is at present preparing a thesis for the degree of Doctor of Theology at Union. His thesis field is New Testament.

SOCIETY OF INQUIRY HOLDS INITIAL MEETING

On Wednesday, September 26, the Society of Inquiry held its initial meeting for the school year 1956-57. Present were Dr. Robert V. Moss, Faculty Advisor; President Ron Krick; Vice-President Jack Aregood; Secretary-Treasurer Bruce Wickkiser; and the following Commission Chairmen:

- Finance Committee - Don Ely
- Facilities and Maintenance - Hal Schoup
- Outreach Committee - Ed Foster
- Curricular Needs - Jim Bright
- Social Life - Ron Whitebred
- Vital Issues - Mead Bailey
- Athletic Commission - Dick Barley

The meeting was opened with a short prayer by President Krick. Following this, Secretary Wickkiser read the minutes of the last meeting which were dated May 1, 1956, and which covered the Academic Year 1955-56. The Treasurer's Report showed that the 1955-56 Benevolent Fund totaled \$411.00.

Several items of business were brought before the Committee. The first had to do with the delivery of the Philadelphia Inquirer to the dormitory. Due to the misplacing of the newspaper in the past, it was decided that hereafter the Inquirer would be delivered to the Library and kept there in the Periodical Room. In this way it will be available to all students at all times.

Mead Bailey and George Hazen introduced the organization of a Drama Club on the Seminary Campus, the purpose of which would be to study and present religious drama. This organization would portray, in a different manner than Seminarrians have been accustomed to, the various Christian themes which are so familiar to all of us. A short play is tentatively planned for the Christmas Season and a longer production is visualized for the Easter Season. The Club was unanimously endorsed by the Executive Committee and it will function independently under its own officials.

A few years ago a Group Insurance Plan was introduced to the Seminary Family. This plan would have been offered to all students and their families and would have covered accidents, hospitalization, etc. A new Group Insurance Plan was introduced to the 1956-57 Committee, but action was deferred until the General Meeting of the Society of Inquiry (tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 9, at 7 P.M.) at which time the Student Body as a whole would have a chance to debate the issue.

The final business matter had to do with the assignment of Junior students to the various committees. The assignments were presented to the Committee, voted upon and are arranged as follows:

Spiritual Life

Richard Merrick
Wendela van Lynden
Geraldine Shawda
Janet Moll

Finance

Robert Allen
Stan Altrock
Bob Welsh

Facilities & Maintenance

Charles Bawel
Martha Bean
Bob Reiff

Vital Issues

Lavon Burrichter
George Hazen
David Cervantes
James Jackson

Social Life

Charles Perrin
Dick Benner
Ruthanne Kelchner
Nevin Kershner

Outreach

William Keeler
Bob Baylor
Stacy Weaver
Claude Kilgore

A word of reminder to all students:
watch for announcements concerning your
commission and its activities.

Curricular Needs

Gloria Snyder
Don Markham
Larry May

The meeting was concluded at 3:10 p. m.

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The following is dedicated with heart-
felt sympathy to certain members of the
Faculty and student body:

Barren Land

Growing things brought happiness,
Grass so green and roses red,
But in grief he must confess
Nothing grows upon his head!

* * * * *

Athletics

Jack Oliphant
Willard Rabert
Dale Shellhammer



The Faculty's Welcome Party for new students will be held in the refectory, Wednesday, October 4, at 8 o'clock. The Faculty committee consists of Doctors Sayres, Vassady, Bartholomew, and Stonesifer and their wives. Included on the guest list will be members of the Junior Class, the first year M. R. E.'s and all other new students, together with the wives or husbands thereof. If for any reason you or yours cannot come, please notify a member of the Faculty Committee.

Officers have been elected by the Senior and Middler Classes for the new school year as follows: Senior: President, James H. Gold; Vice President, Robert E. Myers; Secretary and Treasurer, Ann Schoup. Middler: President, Van D. Grimes; Vice President and Treasurer, Edward Foster; Secretary, Robert N. Paden. The Junior Class will elect officers on Tuesday, October 2, at 11:20 in Room I.

Faculty members are asked to advise the Dean in case they must miss class sessions, so that notice may be given on bulletin boards. Sometimes another professor can use the hour. Any change in time or place of the meeting of classes should also be reported so that the schedule of class hours may be kept up to date.

Ed Foster will serve this year as Custodian of the Calendar. Representatives of groups planning meetings or other events should clear with him and let him insert such appointments in the calendar which hangs on the large bulletin board in the middle hall of the Main Building.

From Our Foreign Correspondent

The following is a continuation of Dr. Englert's article published in the last issue of the "Seminarian":

"The other big event occurring in Europe this summer which I wanted especially to attend was held the week of Aug. 27th-Sept. 1st. It was the 2nd International Congress of the Study of the Old Testament, held at the University of Strasbourg, France, about 90 miles north of here. This University is where my predecessor, Dr. I. H. DeLong, got his Ph. D. in O. T. under the great Nöldeke; also where our foreign student, Roger Matter, studied.

"The Congress is a triennial affair. The first was in Copenhagen. There were between 200 and 250 in attendance, about half of them Roman Catholic, I estimated. This may be due to the fact that it was being held in France or to the fact that the President of the Congress was Père de Vaux, the distinguished Catholic scholar at the École Biblique in Jerusalem. He made a striking appearance in his creamy-white, heavy robe; piercing black eyes; and luxuriant pointed beard streaked with grey. Between papers, he could be seen in the hall, smoking cigarettes down to the last bit, thus endangering finger-tips and surrounding foliage!

"The interest evidenced by the European R. C. scholars is in striking contrast to the relative inactivity of their (and our) R. C. colleagues in America. With the exception of Msgr. Skehan of Wash., D. C., the American priests are too busy perhaps administering their expanding parishes to do Biblical research. On the other hand, witness the excellent and lively English translation of the Vulgate by the European R. C., Knox.

"The papers read at the Congress were in English, French or German. However, we did not have the advantage of the U. N. headphone translations. So I shall wait to read the French papers to understand what was said. It was also interesting that, after a paper, any questions or discussion from the plan followed the language of the reader, regardless of the nationality of the questioner. Thus Albright, who naturally spoke often, used German after a German paper or French after a French one. Someone suggested it was like Pentecost when everyone understood whatever was being said (with the exception of myself--on the French; a sign, no doubt, that the Spirit hadn't spoken to me!)

"The Congress opened Monday night with greetings from the governor of the Province of which Strasbourg is the capital, from G. R. Driver (son of the author of the famous Old Testament Introduction) and de Vaux. The following days until Sat. noon were filled with longer papers (3/4-1 hr. long) attended by all and with shorter ones (15 min.), divided in 2 sections.

"It was interesting that America was represented on the program by four very different types of scholarship: Msgr. Skehan of Catholic Univ., who has been in Jerusalem at the American School of Oriental Research for the last 2 years working on the Dead Sea material; Albright of Johns Hopkins, whose paper, in French, was on 'The High Place in Israel'; W. A. Irwin (of Chicago-Dallas), who played a large part in the so-called Chicago O. T. (American Translation); and La Sor of Fuller Seminary, Calif., whose paper was on a highly technical linguistic subject.

"We were officially 'received' all week (receptions for us all over the place--I counted at least 6). The standard refreshments were cookies and champagne or Alsatian wines. One afternoon they took us all in big sight-seeing, glass-domed busses for a trip to the nearby Vosges Mts. At the top of one peak (2200 ft. high) we stopped at a monastery (Mt. Ste. Odile) of great age and size--again official reception. Two tiny chapels (about 25' square) had very old mosaics of great beauty. At the base of the mt. we stopped at Sélestat, another reception at City Hall, quite a contrast to Lancaster's new one. Here we entered a stately mansion decorated with reproductions of the great masters, 'Sistine Madonna' et al.

"The Congress was exciting to me because here I could see, hear and get to know all the O. T. 'greats' whose articles and books I have read. The men from behind the Iron Curtain were heard with great eagerness

(Eissfeld from Halle, E. Germany; and Bic from Prague, a colleague of Hromodka). I met the two men here whose courses I will be taking at Basel: Eichrodt, whose Intro. to the O. T. brought the so-called Covenant Theology to the fore; and Baumgartner, whose work with Kochler brought forth the latest Hebrew Dictionary. I also met Pres. Mazar of Hebrew University, Jerusalem, who assured me that their facilities would be opened for me in April, especially the Dead Sea Scrolls in their possession.

"On the way home from Strasbourg, I stopped at Colmar (half-way to Basel) to see the famous Grunewald altar pieces. They were done by this contemporary of Durer between 1511 & 1513. They consist of 3 large paintings about 10 ft. square, one placed on top of the other on the altar. The top two were divided exactly in the middle so they could be opened to reveal the one or others beneath. Thus, the top one on view all year round was of the Crucifixion; once a year, on Christmas, it was opened to reveal the Nativity Scene; then, once a year, on Easter, that one in turn, the Resurrection scene.

"So far, our sabbatical year has been most instructive and exciting. I feel sure that my colleagues and your editor will wish that one course above all I should take in Basel--penmanship! Greetings to all!"

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Junior Additions to the Staff

In order to groom several candidates for next year's "Seminarian" Staff, we have decided to use three Juniors on this year's Staff, as assistant editors. They are as follows:

George Hazen, Assistant News Editor. Native of Ithaca, New York; graduated Cornell University, 1949; received a tuition scholarship to Cornell Graduated School; received M. A. degree, 1950; majored in English and French Literature; contributor to the New York State Folklore Quarterly, 1950-51; Secondary School English and drama teacher, 1950-56; Head of the English Department at Candor High School, 1951-56.

Don Markham, Assistant Feature Editor. Native of Buffalo, New York; worked as reporter on High School newspaper and also worked on literary staff of yearbook; received B. S. in Education; besides being active in the choir, held offices in Youth Fellowship, Men's Brotherhood, and Sunday School; played Sousaphone in High School and College Bands; also plays trumpet and tuba; member of Great Lakes Drum & Bugle Corps, and New York Central Post 515, V. F. W. Drum Corps of Buffalo and Post 2535, V. F. W. Drum Corps of Lockport, New York.

Bob Allen, Assistant Sports Editor. Native of Hagerstown, Maryland; majored in Business Management at F & M.; while in College served as Director of Management Club as well as Secy. and V. Pres. of Sigma Pi Fraternity; contributed to National Fraternity magazine; staff announcer and copy writer for radio station in Hagerstown.

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Fall Communion Service--1956

At the Family Communion Service in Santee Chapel last Wednesday evening, Dr. Bela Vassady preached on the subject, "We can do all things in Him...."

He opened his sermon with an illustration of the fact that the Chinese churches, now divorced from missionary funds, have developed a program of self-administration, self-support, and self-propagation. As he stated, this three self-movement was not a movement of self-sufficiency, but rather one of dependence upon God.

Dr. Vassady further pointed out that a Christian should develop the programs of self-knowledge, self-respect, and self-control, but also made an emphatic point that these three attributes have only been developed sufficiently in Christ and that we must rely upon Christ to help us to gain them, but nevertheless gully realize that we can never develop them to the extent to which He did.

Middlers Beat Seniors

Our series of Seminary sports got off to a sudden and slippery start as the Seniors and Middlers fought for the honor of winning this year's first football game.

In the second quarter Aregood passed to Hayes to give the Middlers a 6-0 lead. In the third quarter the Middlers scored again, this time on Aregood's pass to Barley. Since no further touchdowns were made, the Middlers won a 12-0 victory.

Each class has a team and each team will play each of the other two teams twice. Next Thursday will be the second of the six-game series.

Seniors receive
off-time instructions

Bridge and ping pong have not yet officially begun this year. Perhaps it's because no one is willing to "take his hand from the plow" and look back long enough to start these tournaments. It's been rumored that Mrs. Sayres and Gable may break the ice by announcing their partnership in this year's bridge tournament. At any rate, the latest word is that the tournament will begin some time this week.

Last Thursday's football game, considering the fact that the field, players, and spectators were soaked by the time the game was over, was quite well attended. Let's get out there to cheer the teams on to victory. Remember, the Seniors want revenge! Coach "Deacon" Westcoat issued the following statement after last week's game: "We played hard, but the score seems to indicate they played harder. We're not satisfied; some changes will have to be made before our next game." Middler quarterback Aregood's comment: "We were bushed!"

See you at the game.

Don

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Choir Rehearsal Begins; Tour Announced

On Tuesday, September 25, the Seminary Choir held its first rehearsal. Director Frank McConnell was optimistic afterwards for the coming year.

Plans have been made for the annual choir tour, to be held during the inter-term recess, March 10 through 15. Choir manager Joseph Clem has announced the itinerary as follows:

- Sunday, March 10 (A. M.) Trinity E. & R., Lewistown, Penna., Rev. Theron M. Snyder, Pastor
(P. M.) St. Peter's E. & R., Du Bois, Penna., Rev. Howard W. Walenta, Pastor
- Monday, Concert at Frieden's E. & R., North Tonawanda, N. Y., sponsored jointly by the Frieden's Church, Rev. Carl Berges, Pastor, and Trinity Community (Mission) Church, Tonawanda, Rev. Lawrence J. Rezash, Pastor
- Tuesday, Salem E. & R., Rochester, N. Y., Rev. Paul M. Schroeder, Pastor; Director of Christian Education, Miss Mary Germ, who graduated from our Seminary last May.
- Wednesday, First C. C. Church, Binghamton, N. Y., Rev. Donald H. Finley, Pastor
- Thursday, St. Luke's E. & R., Wilkes Barre, Penna., Rev. Mervin S. Gerhart, Pastor
- Friday, First E. & R. Hamburg, Penna., Rev. Roy M. Neideigh, Pastor

Two interesting sidelights of the tour are planned. Tuesday morning will be spent sight-seeing about Niagara Falls and, if time permits, the group will stop enroute from Rochester to Binghamton, at Corning, New York, where it will tour the famous glass works.



THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

Act I of this year's, "The Greatest Show on Earth," began in Chicago on August 13. There had been much behind-the-scenes preparation and the stage had been set for a knock-down, drag-out fight. This Act, however, was much different from most, in that not even the managers were positive who would be the victor--who would be the hero entrusted with the duty and honor of carrying forward his Party's cause--yeah, the "cause of humanity," as some players put it.

The actor who really stirred things up was that "grand old man" of the Democratic Party, Harry Truman, who had at least some persons guessing whom he would endorse for his Party's presidential nomination. Knowing, of course that the contest had narrowed down to Governor Adlai Stevenson and Gov. Averall Harriman, Truman made it known when he would announce his decision. As most persons expected, he came out for his old friend and supporter, Gov. Harriman. The Stevenson forces, who had been far in the lead, were only slightly perturbed by the expected announcement, and soon regained their confidence. They said, jubilantly, that Mr. Truman's endorsement had changed the minds of very few delegates.

The first few sessions were insignificant. The controversy was going on within the Platform Committee, whose experienced Chairman, Congressman John McCormack of Massachusetts was doing his very best to effect a compromise on all issues, including the explosive civil rights issue. With the aid of the Party's Permanent Chairman (and Speaker of the House) Sam Rayburn, McCormack was able to force a compromise through the Convention.

The keynoter of the Convention, Governor Frank Clement of Tennessee, delivered an impassioned speech attacking the Republican administration. Among his targets were Richard Nixon and John Foster Dulles, Vice President and Secretary of State, respectively. Clement said that Dulles was the greatest unguided missile in the history of America and that he (Dulles) "frets, fritters, and fidgets." The keynoter went on to accuse Nixon of "smearing" while President Eisenhower peers down the green fairways of indifference. Actually, the most amusing speech of all was that delivered by Oklahoma's Senior Senator, Robert S. Kerr. He referred to Ringling Brothers Circus and bemoaned the fact that the company is going out of business. He said that they gave only superficial reasons and that the real reason was that they could not compete with the "Republican Sideshow on the Potomoc." He proceeded to say, "Hurry, hurry, step right up folks. See Dog-faced Charles Wilson and his bird-dog act. And don't miss the strong man of this show, Sherman Adams, the only man who refuses to run for Vice President because he wants to continue to be President.... And be sure to see John Foster Dulles and his brink-of-war act."

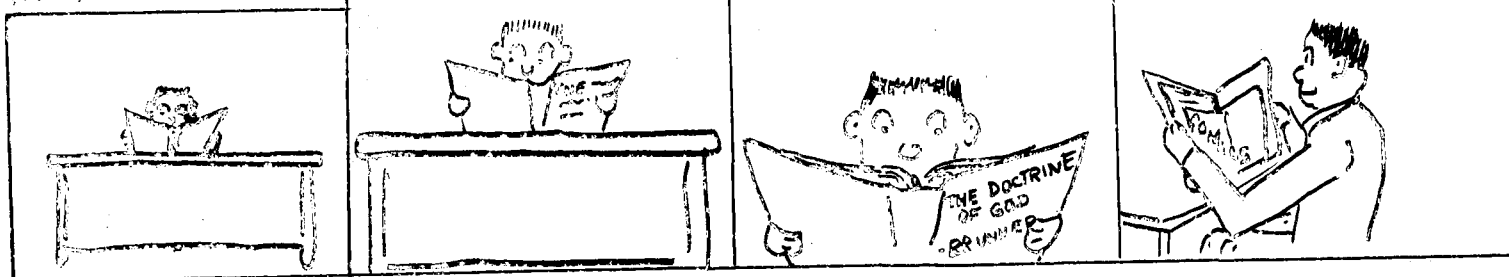
The Convention ended on a note of harmony. Stevenson, of course, was the victor. Even Harry Truman, who had said that Stevenson could not win in November, was found patting the former Illinois Governor on the back.

The Republican Convention was much more smoothly run. This is always the case when the party in power is set to renominate its President. Party Chairman Len Hall struck the keynote when he asked, "Is everybody happy?" He said that the main difference between the two conventions was that the Democrats nominated a loser and "we're going to nominate a winner."

Don (continued next issue)

"EXISTENTIALLY INVOLVED"

Padre Ronnie



Thought for the Day

The way to succeed is to stick until you can't hold on any longer. Then take a fresh hold.