BABBAGE SERVES AT WESTERN

Distinguished Australian is Popular Guest During Second Quarter

Special Lectures Are Highlights of a Rich Academic Year at WTS

The following men have enriched the Seminary's life and program during the course of the current academic year by offering special lectures and addresses before the Seminary community.

Lectures—1961

Sept. 13, Dr. Robert Boyd Munger, First Presbyterian Church, Berkeley, Calif.

Oct. 12, Dr. Henry Bast, Professor of Practical Theology, Western Seminary.

Nov. 14, Dr. H. J. Hegger of the Netherlands and Belgium.

Dec. 7, Dr. Donald H. Bouma, Associate Professor of Sociology, Western Michigan University.

Lectures—1962

Jan. 10, Dr. Anthony Hoekema, Professor of Systematic Theology, Calvin Seminary.


Feb. 8, Dr. S. Barton Babbage, President of Ridley Theological School, Melbourne, Australia.

Feb. 28, Mar. 1, 2, Dr. Wallace N. Jamison, Professor of Church History, New Brunswick Seminary.

Mar. 8, Dr. George Michaelides, Emeritus Professor of Christian Education at Oberlin Graduate School of Theology.


April 3, 4, Dr. Charles T. Fritsch, Professor of Old Testament, Princeton Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey.

April 12, Dr. L. J. Kuyper, Professor of Old Testament, Western Seminary.

Distinguished Australian is Popular Guest During Second Quarter

Somehow there was also time for the Dean to preach in various churches in Holland, Grand Rapids, Spring Lake, Chicago, Minneapolis, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. A toboggan party with the Seniors and a perilous investigation of ice fishing on Lake Michigan helped to complete his education.

Dr. Babbage was born in New Zealand, and completed his education by taking two doctorates, one in Australia and the other in London. Before taking the Deanship at St. Paul's, he served as Dean of the Cathedral in Sydney, Australia. The author of several books, he has also pioneered new methods of reaching occupational groups with the Gospel who have been partially neglected by the Church.

The Reformed Church was not entirely unknown to Dr. Babbage before his coming to Western. While an R.A.F. Chaplain during the Second World War, he served in the Arabian Gulf and learned to know a number of the Reformed Church missionaries stationed along the coast.

Dr. Babbage spent the first quarter of the year lecturing at Columbia Seminary of the Southern Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Georgia, and was scheduled to return to the same school for the third quarter, following a visit to General Theological Seminary in New York City.

The memories left behind by this godly Reformed scholar from the Anglican communion are the happiest. Whether sharing a humorous anecdote from his endless supply, or washing up his coffee cup following an afternoon coffee break in the kitchen, or leading the fellows in Zwemer Hall in evening devotions, all at Western were blessed because he came our way.

On February 14, following morning Chapel, the Seminary Family had a little party for Dr. Babbage. On a large cake, inside a valentine, was inscribed, “Thank you, Dr. Babbage.”

Any readers of The Theolog who are not currently receiving printed invitations announcing such visiting guests may be placed on the Seminary's mailing list by writing to the Business Office.
Churches Visit Western Seminary

The church visitation program described in the last issue of The Theolog has proved to be one of the finest ventures in church relations which the Seminary has yet undertaken.

Consistories, occasionally bringing their wives, women's groups, men's groups, youth groups have all come to Western. Most of the groups have come during evening hours and have had the nature of ministerial education explained to them by President Englund, or by Dean Ten Clay, or by Henry Kleinheksel. Then the groups have toured the Seminary facilities and concluded the evening with refreshments served in the Commons.

Most of these visitors have indicated that they had never been on the Seminary's premises before. And nearly all have expressed a greater interest and understanding of theological education as a result of their visits.

Groups which have been hosted by the school have come from the following churches:

- Oct. 9, 1961, Second, Zeeland.
- Nov. 4, Ross Reformed, Gary, Indiana.
- Nov. 6, Bethany, Grand Rapids, and Third, Grand Rapids.
- Dec. 5, Knapp Street, Grand Rapids.
- Dec. 10, Central, Grand Rapids.
- Dec. 26, Doster, Michigan.

- Feb. 20, Calvary, Holland.
- March 5, Allegan Ministerial Association.
- March 6, First, Hamilton.
- March 12, Trinity, Holland, and Beechwood, Holland.
- March 13, Forest Home, Muskegon.
- March 15, First, Holland.
- March 18, Holland Classic Youth Rally.
- March 19, First, Hamilton, Brotherhood.
- March 20, First, Kalamazoo.
- March 21, Second, Zeeland, Couples.
- March 23, Bethany, Grand Rapids, Couples, Third, Kalamazoo.
- March 26, Garfield Park, Grand Rapids.
- March 27, Martin, Michigan.
- April 3, Central Park, Holland.
- April 13, Forest Grove Reformed.
- April 16, Fremont Reformed.
- April 21, Wainfleet, Ontario, Canada.
- May 21, Third, Holland, and First, Zeeland.
- June 5, Maplewood, Holland.

WTS Alumni News and Notes

Since our last column we have received items and comments from some, but we would like to hear from more. If, in addition to news items, you would enjoy sharing ideas together, these too can be incorporated into the column. For the communications that have been received, we are grateful.

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

John Hesselink, now serving a missionary term in Japan, was awarded the Doctor of Theology degree, magna cum laude, by the University of Basel, Switzerland. His thesis was, "Calvin's Conception of the Law."

William Estell and Eileen Block, serving in Taipei, Taiwan, were wed August 29, 1961.

William Hillegonds served as Spiritual Life Speaker at Central College.

Congratulations to the John Roggens who celebrated their fiftieth anniversary of marriage and of service to the Reformed Church.

Nathan VanderWerff has been presented a trip to the Holy Land by the congregation of the Ebenezer Reformed Church of Morrison, Illinois, in appreciation for work performed in the absence of a senior pastor.


Theodore Zandstra was a member of the committee for the Graham Crusade in Chicago.

Harvey Hoekstra, who is completing his furlough at home, has translated the New Testament into Anuak, the language of a Sudanese tribe. The work will be published this Spring.

Lyle VanderWerff, having completed his doctoral work at Princeton Theological Seminary, is serving as a short term missionary in Arabia.

Marion Gosselink's book entitled 52 Three Minute Talks to Children was published in November, 1961.

Retirees: John Minnema retired from the active pastorate after thirty-five years of service. James Wayer, age 91, after fifty-seven years of active ministry in the Reformed Church, has resigned his position as Assistant Pastor of Hope Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan.

BORN TO THE MINISTRY

Jean Marie, born November 26, 1961, to Marvin and Joan Hoff of Hawthorne, New Jersey.

Joan Angelina, born December 19, 1961, to the Henry Van Essens of Vancouver, B.C.

I conclude the column with a word of tribute to our Alma Mater. W.T.S. is a seminary to which we can point with pride and we must not forsake our obligations to her. The present administration and faculty are performing their tasks with competence and vision. As you read the articles in The Theolog you will note how they are developing new horizons of service to meet the needs of the present and the challenge of the future. It would be a fine gesture if some of us would take time to write a note of encouragement to the W.T.S. staff, letting them know that our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Cordially yours,

Henry Voogd, Executive Secretary.

Western Goes to Calvin

Following a custom of several years' standing, students and professors from Western were guests of Calvin's students and faculty members on Tuesday evening, November 28.

Professor John Timmerman, head of Calvin College's English Department gave a scintillating address to the combined seminaries on "Biography." Following the address, the seminarians and teachers enjoyed refreshments in the Student Commons.

The evening afforded an opportunity to the men from Western to view the new premises of Calvin Seminary. The new seminary facilities are the first part of the new combined Seminary and College home being erected at the Knollcrest campus. The Seminary is beautifully situated on the campus, built in a contemporary architectural style, and attractively landscaped.

A return visit from the men of Calvin is scheduled for Western's campus on April 17.
Students Feel Detroit Pulse

Thirty-five Western students, accompanied by Dr. Henry Ten Clay, Dean of Students, recently spent a weekend in Detroit in an effort to “feel the pulse” of a major American urban center.

On Saturday afternoon the group visited the Detroit Council of Churches and studied the procedure by which denominations cooperate in providing churches for new urban areas. Mr. Larry Kersten of the Division of Strategy and Church Planning of the Detroit Council spoke to the group and conducted a tour of depressed areas and urban renewal projects. That evening, the group visited Harbor Light, the Salvation Army center for ministering to alcoholics and others with similar problems.

Sunday, the students visited nine Reformed Churches in Greater Detroit and were entertained in church homes for dinner. The afternoon was spent visiting church communities and the evening provided opportunity to visit and worship in churches and missions in the downtown area.

On Monday morning the group visited Solidarity House where Mr. Anthony Cannole, UAW-CIO official addressed the students. Later, the group met with Dr. Robert Batcheler of the Detroit Industrial Missions. In the afternoon Mr. Sydney McKenna, Manager of Labor Relations, Ford Motor Company, conferred with the group following a tour of Ford’s Rouge Plant.

The Detroit trip was similar to one taken to Chicago last year, and was designed to acquaint students with the problems and challenges of urban America.

New Brunswick and Western Exchange Professors

At the joint faculties convocation which met at Buck Hill Falls just prior to the 1961 General Synod, it was agreed by the professors of our two theological seminaries to arrange for an exchange lectureship in order to develop closer ties between the two schools.

Dr. Wallace N. Jamison, Dean at New Brunswick and Professor of Church History, represented his school at a series of four lectures which were delivered at Western Seminary on February 28, March 1 and 2. His topics for the series were, “Two Cities Revisited,” “History and Heresy,” “History and the Existential,” and “History in the Pastor’s Study.”

The faculty and students at Western, together with visiting ministers and townsfolk, enjoyed the entire series and welcomed the opportunity to become better acquainted with Dr. Jamison.

On Sunday, April 1, an interview with Dr. Jamison taped while he was in Holland, was broadcast over the Western Seminary Hour.

To reciprocate, Western Seminary will be represented at New Brunswick by Dr. John Piet, Professor of English Bible and Missions, who deliver a series of four addresses at our sister seminary from April 24-27. Dr. Piet’s subject will be “Theological Issues in Christian-Non Christian Conversation,” with illustrations from Hinduism, Islam, and the Church at Corinth.

It is expected that these exchanges will continue in future years and afford an opportunity for all the professors of each school to become known at the other school. The two faculties are being convened for the second time prior to the 1962 General Synod to continue and complete business begun last year.

Seminary Choir Tour

On a cold, snowy morning, Thursday, February 22, to be exact, the Seminary Choir boarded its bus at the school and started off on its 1962 Choir Tour.

This year the Western Seminary Men’s Choir, conducted by Stanley Van Der Weide and accompanied by Donald Lindskoog, with Harlan Ratzmeyer serving as narrator, concentrated on the Iowa and Illinois areas of the Reformed Church.

Included on the itinerary this year were (Cont’d on page 5)
Western Men In Graduate Study

"Do Western men ever go on to grad schools?" This question is often raised, and the answer is a decided "Yes." And graduate schools in both the States and Europe have been happy to welcome graduates of Western Seminary for their graduate programs.

The Rev. Lyle Vander Werff, ('59) recently received his Th.M. degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in Biblical Theology.

The Rev. Ira John Hesselink ('53) recently received his doctorate in Theology from the University of Basel, where he studied under the renowned theologian, Karl Barth.

Other Western men in recent years have studied at Utrecht, Edinburgh, Amsterdam, and in this country at Princeton, Union (N.Y.), General Theological, Westminster, Chicago, New York University, University of Wisconsin, and Oberlin. At this writing, two members of the present Senior Class are planning to study in Utrecht.

Following is the summary of a letter from a member of last year's Senior Class, the Rev. William P. Van Malsen, who is pursuing a doctoral program at the Free University in Amsterdam:

...most of our observations are based on the city of Amsterdam, so we do not generalize about the whole Netherlands. The provinces show great cultural differentiation. The first thing that strikes you as you enter the country is its modularity. The old pictures and remembrances of Holland which some of us have seen and heard are horribly out of date. Here is a country more Americanized than Germany. Innumerable cars crowd the highways and help the still more numerous bicycles. Hence traffic jams. Consumer goods are of a very high grade. Excerpt for some grocery items the whole stream of commodities we are used to in America is obtainable here.

The Dutch are very cosmopolitan and friendly. The simple way in which you always are received when you visit them. This visiting is a real treat because it helps one find out exactly who and what the Dutch are. Rotted non-Western country-side and to villages along the coast, sampling German propaganda films of the war, listening to provincial histories and folklore, and learning of the dangers and sacrifices of the people in Holland—such experiences have made us feel more than just foreign students.

The churches in the city offer themselves to the public as recreational and community centers during the week. The activities vary from social dancing to volleyball. Meals are served in the churches at a low price for students and for the poor and mild alcoholic beverages are sold in the church itself.

The services themselves are very inspiring, and we are always thrilled by the opening words of the service, "Onheil is verschenen, Onreinheids is verdreven, de Name des Herrn." The Psalms and Gesang are accompanied by beautiful pipe organs, and the singing of the Gemeente is thunderous. The ministers customarily use extensive notes for their preaching, but somehow you fail to notice it in their fervent delivery.

The most pervasive philosophy we have come across here is not existentialism but a certain form of relativism seemingly motivated by nihilism, which in turn has been nurtured by the horrible experiences of World War II.

After a week of the difference in University life, which seems to be geared to student initiative. For example, when I visited Dr. Bieckouwer upon my arrival in Amsterdam to discuss my first section of study (tentsamen), "Dogmatiek," he told me to go ahead by myself in the area of dogmatics and report to him when I was ready to take the exam. The American student who is used to working under pressure finds he can usually finish sooner by far than his European counterpart, but he won't have time to visit many art galleries and museums.

Difficulty in using a new language largely disappears in the task of reading by the end of the first month. Speaking is another matter! Writing Dutch in a scholarly way may never be possible, but then it is not required. Here ends my summary of some of our first impressions here in Amsterdam. We look forward to many new and exciting things in the next two years.

Bruggink To Teach Systematics

Dr. Donald J. Bruggink, pastor of the Fordham Manor Reformed Church in New York City, has been secured to teach courses in the Department of Systematic Theology during academic year 1962-63, when Professor Eugene Osterhaven is on sabbatical leave.

Dr. Bruggink resigned his New York City charge in order to accept the year's assignment at Western after a ministry of five years in our nation's' largest metropolis.

A graduate of Western in the Class of 1954, Dr. Bruggink pursued doctoral studies at New College, University of Edinburgh. After receiving his Ph.D., he and his wife, the former Erma Van Roekel of Pella, began their ministry at Fordham Manor. The Brugginks expect to arrive in Holland shortly after June 1 in order to devote the summer months to course preparation and "settling in" to life in Holland.

Looman Is New Regional Inter-Seminary President

At the March meeting of the Midwest Division of the Inter-Seminary Movement meeting at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Middler Student Gary Looman was elected the new President of the Division for the coming year.

In addition to this honor, Western Seminary's invitation to other Midwest seminaries to hold their March, 1963 session at Western was accepted. This will bring approximately one hundred and fifty seminarians from a possible thirty-six seminaries to Holland for a period of three days.

The Midwest region includes seminaries in an area bounded on the west by Denver and in the east by Elkhart, in the north by Minneapolis and in the south by Kansas City. The purpose of the Movement is to provide opportunity for discussion and fellowship across denominational lines for both students and professors.

Thirteen Western men attended the Fall Conference last October which was held at Drake Divinity School in Des Moines. The principal speaker on that occasion was Dr. Marcus Bach of the School of Religion in the State University of Iowa.

1961-62 Goyim Mission Drive

Nears $4,000

The Goyim Mission Drive for 1961-62 was held at Western Seminary with the Drive day designated as Nov. 9, 1961. The project voted on for this year's drive was Student Housing for the Adoni, South India area. This was done in an effort to provide the students with permanent Christian housing while away from their homes. At present, housing in this area is comprised of grass houses.

The Mission Drive Day began with a prayer breakfast in the commons at 6:30 A.M. Mr. Robert DeBruyn, a businessman from Zeeland, Mich., presented the meditation. The Rev. John Butyn, from the Board of World Missions, presented a lecture at 10:00 A.M. giving information on conditions in the Adoni, South India area.

At 6:00 P.M. a pot luck dinner, planned by the Adelphia Society, was held in the commons for the entire Seminary family. Later in the evening slides on the Adoni area were shown by Dr. John Piet of the Seminary faculty. A message on "The Students' Mite" was given by the Rev. Chester Droog from the Fifth Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Pledges for the project were received at the close of the evening and to date the pledges received total $3,723.00.

Osterhaven Graduate Fellowship Announced

Mr. and Mrs. John Osterhaven, members of Trinity Reformed Church in Grand Rapids and parents of Professor Eugene Osterhaven of the Seminary Faculty, have established a restricted endowment with the Seminary for the purpose of providing a fellowship for qualified graduating seniors of Western Seminary who wish to undertake graduate study.

In presenting the school with securities worth more than $15,000, Mr. and Mrs. Osterhaven have taken the first step in Western's history to foster graduate theological study by providing financial assistance for worthy candidates. With graduate study becoming ever more expensive, such a fellowship program may well provide the needed assistance to encourage the kind of study that can provide the denomination with a pool of future trained theological leaders.

It is expected that the first award under the new program will be made at the Commencement Service on May 16 in Dinken Memorial Chapel.
Peter Cook Aids Library Expansion

The last issue of The Theolog reported Western’s decision to participate in the expansion of its library facilities made possible by the Sealantic Fund of the Rockefeller Foundation.

According to the plan, the Fund will grant up to $3,000 annually for three years if the participating schools will match these funds. The entire amount must be spent for the purchase of books above current budgetary allocations for this purpose. The end of the three-year period will see an $18,000 investment in additional book holdings beyond what would have been possible with previously designated funds.

Western Seminary’s participation in the matching funds has been made possible for the first year by Mr. Peter C. Cook, President of Import Motors, Inc. of Grand Rapids, regional distributor of Volkswagen motorcars for Michigan and Indiana. Mr. Cook, long a member and active worker in the Grace Reformed Church in Grand Rapids, recently visited Western Seminary and inspected the Library. In addition to providing funds for the new expansion program for the current year, he followed through by providing a substantial gift for the purchase of new stacks on which the additional books will be placed.

Alumni who have not visited the Library in recent weeks are invited to tour the upstairs section of the stack area. Tile flooring, lighting, and stacks for approximately 20,000 additional volumes have all been installed, along with twelve new metal carrels for private study. In addition, a locked area for the custody of rare books and documents has been provided.

In recent days, students have been working many extra hours under the guidance of Miss Schuppert, Western’s Librarian, to move books and bound periodicals into the new area, leaving open shelf space throughout the collection for future growth.

Miss Schuppert and Faculty members are now busily compiling want lists in each department of the Library’s holdings in order to provide the Seminary with the best and most balanced library resources obtainable.

As in years past, the Seminary Library continues to serve pastors of many churches and denominations who wish to use its facilities, and books are sent by mail to all pastors who send their requests to the Librarian.

Long Range Planning Committee Appointed

Following a directive from the annual meeting of the Seminary’s Board of Trustees in May, 1961, the Executive Committee of the school has appointed a Long-Range Planning Committee to study the growing needs for plant, equipment, and personnel for Western Seminary.

The Committee has held three meetings thus far, on December 7, 1961, on February 13 and on April 12, in 1962. In addition, four members of the Committee spent a full day in Chicago studying plant and equipment matters of other theological seminaries.

Men serving on this new Committee include the following:

J. Chester Brandt, furniture manufacturer and member of Bethany Reformed Church in Grand Rapids.

Paul W. Dame, executive at Upjohn Company and member of Second Reformed Church in Kalamazoo.

Robert De Bruyn, wholesale producer and member of Second Reformed Church, Zeeland.

Hugh De Fere, executive at the Herman Miller Company and member of First Reformed, Zeeland.

Harold N. Englund, Seminary President.

Elmer Hartgerink, Manager of Miles Chemical Company in Zeeland, member of the Second Reformed Church, and member of the Seminary’s Investments Committee.

Henry Kleinheksel, the Seminary’s Business Manager.

Benjamin Lemmen, general insurance, member of Bethel Reformed in Holland, and the Seminary’s Treasurer.

Chester Postma, minister of the Third Reformed Church in Kalamazoo and President of the Seminary’s Board of Trustees.

Alfred H. Rystra, Vice-President of the Old Kent Bank, former City Manager of Grand Rapids, and member of Hope Reformed Church in Grand Rapids.

Willard C. Wieders, Netherlands Information Service, member of Hope College’s Long-Range Planning Committee, and member of Third Reformed, Holland.

The members of the Committee bring to their assigned task a wealth of skills and insights from their daily work in addition to a profound love for the Reformed Church and for Western Seminary. It is expected that their labors will assist greatly in anticipating the needs of the school during the quarter century that lies ahead.

Teachers Awarded Fellowships

Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven, Professor of Systematic Theology at Western, has been granted a fellowship by the American Association of Theological Schools for post-doctoral study during academic year 1962-63. This will be Dr. Osterhaven’s sabbatical year. His present plans call for study and travel in Europe.

The Rev. Gerrit ten Zytthoff, who has been a visiting lecturer in New Testament studies during the current sabbatical leave of Dr. Richard C. Oudertsluys, was also granted an A.T.S. fellowship which will enable him to continue his doctoral studies at the University of Chicago. Mr. ten Zytthoff’s field of interest is Church History.

Three Seniors Honored

Evert Pikse, John Kleinheksel and John Opmeer, all members of next year’s Senior class at Western Seminary, have been awarded Senior Honor Scholarships.

Two of the scholarships were for $1,000 each, and the third for a slightly smaller amount. The awards are made to deserving Seniors in theological seminars through the generosity of the Lilly Foundation. The Foundation makes half of the grant, and the Seminary is expected to find resources to match the gift in order to complete the grant. This is the first year that Western has had three of its Seniors, the maximum number permitted, receiving the awards.

Choir Tour

(Cont’d from page 3)

Calvary Reformed Church in South Holland, Illinois; Wheaton College; First Reformed in Evanston, Iowa; Bethel Reformed in Sheldon and First Reformed in Orange City; Meredith Drive Reformed Church in Des Moines, the Pella Public High School, and chapel services at Northwestern and Central Colleges.

Dr. Englund, Seminary President, accompanied the Choir for most of the trip and participated in the services.

Concerts have also been given subsequent to the Tour at Maplewood Church in Holland, at Central Reformed in Grand Rapids, and at Jamestown, Michigan.
Oudersluis — Notes From Basel

To say that we have enjoyed it here would be an understatement. Living in Basel is a delightful experience even for an Auslander who must be prepared to make many adaptations. The Baslers are a peculiar combination of French graciousness and German directness. They dislike dazzle and glitter and are much more conservative and traditional than the Swiss in the more international cities of Geneva and Zurich. They speak their own local language which is quite different from that spoken in the other Swiss cantons, but fortunately for the Auslander High German is used in the churches and the university.

Basel boasts the oldest university in Switzerland, founded in 1460, thirty-two years before America was discovered. It operates with five departments or faculties, theology, law, medicine, humanities, and science, together with a large number of institutes, seminars, and training colleges. It is not a large university, however, compared to some of our American schools. The total student enrollment does not exceed 3,000, and the enrollment in the theological school is about 200. Like many European schools, the university here operates with a very simple organizational and administrative structure, and understandably so. There is little need for offices and records when there are no course requirements or assignments, no quizzes or course examinations, no grades or marks. Students may elect to take as much or as little work as they desire, and attendance upon lectures is purely voluntary. One may plunge in deep and with hard work complete his doctoral work in two or three years or he may coast along for five or more years. The faculty is always ready with advisory counsel and dissertation help, but the educational system places all the responsibility for successful work on the student himself. When his dissertation is written and approved and the student thinks he is ready for his comprehensive oral examination, he may indicate this to the Dean, and then the fun begins.

Karl Barth still draws the largest student audiences in the theological school, and with ample reason. His personality is as contagious as his theology is brilliant. He lectures to over 200 students and “hearers” on almost every appearance, and even though well beyond the retirement age, he has lost none of his enthusiasm or persuasiveness. His language is incisive and he does not hesitate to use the occasional barb or witticism that brings down the house in appreciative laughter. At his English Kolloquium meetings which attract upwards of a hundred students, some coming from as far as Heidelberg, I have been impressed by his unfailing courtesy and fairness to students, and his openness to criticisms and questions of all kinds. His closing lecture here in theology, before leaving for lectures in America, was transferred to the Aula or large auditorium in the Kollegien house in order to accommodate all the hearers.

Lectures here are quite formal and are read from carefully prepared manuscripts. Students greet the professor’s arrival in the class by rapping vigorously with their knuckles on their desks, and at the close of the lecture express their appreciation in the same manner. Lectures for the Winter term are now concluded, and those of Oscar Cullmann on Patristics and the Gospel of John and those of Bo Reicke on Matthew, Hebrews, and Pauline Theology have been well attended and received. I found all of them enjoyable and profitable . . . we wish our stay here could be prolonged.

—Richard C. Oudersluis

Gutenberg Bible
Presented to Beardslee Library

On Thursday morning, April 5, in a special Chapel Service, a copy of the re-printed Gutenberg Bible was presented to Western Seminary. The gift was made in memory of Mrs. John Ver Meulen of Grand Rapids, and it was presented by her husband, a Grand Rapids physician for many years and member of the First Reformed Church in Grandville, and by their four sons, John W. Ver Meulen of Racine, Wisconsin, and James M. Ver Meulen, Victor R. Ver Meulen, and Willard B. Ver Meulen, all of Grand Rapids.

The Chapel service, conducted by Dr. Englund, Seminary President, included a presentation to the school by Dr. John Ver Meulen, readings from the Gutenberg Bible in Latin by Professor Kuyper of the Faculty, the readings of English translations by Dr. Willard B. Ver Meulen, and a description and history of the Gutenberg Bible by Miss Mildred Schuppert, Seminary Librarian.

Johann Gutenberg is remembered as the printer who gave to the world the first book printed after the invention of movable type. The date for the issuing of the first Gutenberg Bible is thought to be 1455. The Gutenberg selected for the re-issuing of the new limited edition of one thousand copies was chosen for the exquisite beauty of the illumination.

Visitors to the Seminary Library may see the two-volume, leather-bound facsimile in a special display case provided in the periodical room.

Student Groups Visit Seminary

On Saturday and Sunday, January 20 and 21, four students from Northwestern College in Orange City visited Western Seminary. Making the long mid-winter trip between college semesters were Delores Koeke, Joe Suttke, Bill Vanden Berg and Darrell Jongeling. They visited classes, and spoke with professors and students about the school and about their plans to enter the church vocations.

A group of students from Central College in Pella, Iowa, visited Western on a similar trip on Saturday and Sunday, February 3 and 4. The students, Eltje Brunemeyer, Dick Miller and Myron Reynolds, were accompanied by Mr. Gerrit Van Rookel, Business Manager of the College.

Then on April 27 to 30, a delegation of students from Gray Hawk, Kentucky, were scheduled to be on Western’s campus. This would be the first contingent of visitors from the Annville Institute ever to visit the Seminary.

The Seminary encourages college students who are considering preparing themselves for any of the church vocations to visit Western and to confer with Dr. Henry Ten Clay, Dean of Students, or with President Englund, about their present courses of study or any other matters which might interest them. Pastors who have young people away at college or university are invited to pass along this invitation.
The Intern Program — Inner City
by Rowland Van Es

Yes, the needs of people are the same whether in outer suburbs or in the inner city—this fact we who are working in the inner city can testify to. Jesus Christ must be made known to those who are crowded into the bustling world of railroad flats, tall city housing projects, bumper-to-bumper traffic, busy stores, open-air street markets, and jangling sirens. Yet it is the same Christ who must be made known to those who have fled from the teeming city with all its clamor to the quiet solitude of outer suburbia with its modern homes and garages and garages.

The multitudes of the city of Jerusalem would not listen to the Man from Galilee and finally put Him to death. The multitudes in this great city of New York are daily crucifying Christ, refusing to listen to the message of this same Man from Galilee. On the street where teenagers stand behind cars on a summer night drinking beer for excitement; in the tenements where teenagers from 12-42 give vent to sensual pleasures, in the resulting homes composed of women and children, unwed mothers and unwanted babies—Christ is being crucified.

But this is only a partial picture, a picture which we are sometimes overly exposed to through sensational news coverage. There is, buried in this square mile called East Harlem, Elmendorf Reformed Church. Here, the pastor, The Rev. Don De Young, and the assistant pastor, an intern, guide an increasing number of fine Christian people in the fulfilling of the mission of the Church.

Through word of mouth in a contact at work, through urgent conversation in an apartment on a canvassing call, through exemplary living in the community, through preaching the Word at formal meetings, through follow-up calls in homes of new Sunday School or Released Time pupils, Christ is being made known through His Body, the Church.

It is a thrill to be a part of this ongoing work. It is a pleasure to be called by these Christians as they seek to make Christ speak meaningfully to the problems of integration as faced here by Puerto Ricans, Negroes, Italians, and Aryans. He must speak to problems of corruption as evidenced in many shabby businesses and in exploiters who keep tax rates low, rent costs high, and building improvements at a standstill. But through the grace of God these Christians are speaking effectively. We are growing spiritually under the rigors, and adding (we’d like to say ‘daily’) to our numbers. The growth rate is not fantastic as far as number increases are concerned—it is not even fast, perhaps not steady by some standards—but it is there, and it shows vibrant life.

The intern here works with a fine servant and minister of Christ. He works with mature, growing, and immature Christian brothers and sisters as together the Church seeks to win individuals away from the crucifying multitude and into the stream of the forgiven community. We seek to present Christ to the rest of the 300,000 people living in this square mile along the East River called East Harlem. The intern is greatly stimulated to study deeply in order to relate Christ to the world which so flippantly, so irresponsibly, so tragically disregards Him who is the author and finisher of Salvation.
The old adage, "Go west, young man, go west," rings true again. After a summer with the West Side Christian Parish in the inner city of Chicago, Carol and I headed west—west to California, Garden Grove, and the walk-in-drive-in church there.

As an assistant minister in a six year old 300-family church whose average weekly attendance is 1600, I received a sampling of all the different pastoral duties—calling, preaching, funerals—but my primary responsibility is the religious education and youth departments. Here I am responsible for the efficient running and organization of the Sunday Schools, catechism and youth people's meetings. It is exciting to be caught up in the work of the Spirit as He works in and through Christ's Church. Allow me to tell you of two exciting incidents.

Our new church was dedicated on the morning of November 5. Although only here for two short months, I was privileged to assist the Reverend Robert Schuller, pastor, and the Reverend Dr. Norman Vincent Peale in the services. A total of 6,000 persons worshiped at the two services. Some, we know, heard a real gospel message for the first time in their lives, and many have returned.

My second cause for excitement is the evening service. The attendance was usually low—in the neighborhood of 50. So after thoughtful deliberation, it was decided to have the family night catechism program on Sunday evening. I hopefully ordered 25 copies of each book. What a joy it was to place a call to Grand Rapids on Monday morning after the first session to double the number of adult books and a week later to place a third order! It is heartening and uplifting to see the attendance go from 50 to 200 in four short weeks as people of God demonstrate that they desire solid foundational truth for themselves and their children.

An internship is most rewarding. I must admit that this one has much glamor and excitement that goes with a new building and a new type of ministry. But wherever one works, inner city or outer suburbia, the needs of the people are the same—the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. This proclamation is the rewarding work.