1919

1869-1919. Semi-Centennial Catalog

Western Theological Seminary

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## CALENDAR

### 1919

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>January 7</td>
<td>Work resumed</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 29</td>
<td>Winter Examinations</td>
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<td>January 30</td>
<td>Day of Prayer for Colleges</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 13, 14</td>
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<td>May 13</td>
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<td>Sept. 18</td>
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<td>Lectures begin</td>
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<td>Nov. 26-Dec. 2</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Recess.</td>
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<td>Dec. 19, Noon</td>
<td>Christmas Recess begins.</td>
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### 1920

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 6</td>
<td>Lectures begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 29</td>
<td>Day of Prayer for Colleges</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 30, 31</td>
<td>Winter Examinations</td>
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<td>February 3</td>
<td>Second Semester begins</td>
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<td>March 3</td>
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<td>May 11, 12</td>
<td>Final Examinations</td>
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<td>May 11</td>
<td>Meeting of Board of Superintendents</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Commencement Exercises in the evening</td>
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BOARD OF SUPERINTENDENTS

Ex-Officio

James F. Zwemer, D. D. ................................................. President of the Faculty
Prof. Edw. D. Dimnent ................................................. President of Hope College

From the Synod of New York

From the Synod of Albany

From the Synod of New Brunswick

From the Synod of Chicago
Rev. John Engelsman, Orange City, Iowa ................................ 1922
Rev. G. Tysse, North Holland, Mich. .................................. 1923
Mr. Herman Teninga, Chicago, Ill. .................................... 1923
Elder Cornelius Dosker, Grand Rapids, Mich. ......................... 1919
Elder H. E. Langeland, Muskegon, Mich. .............................. 1920

From the Classes
Cascades ...................................................... No representation.
Chicago ...................................................... Rev. H. J. Pietenpol ..................... 1922
Dakota ...................................................... Rev. David MacEwan .................. 1922
Germania ..................................................... Rev. Henry Huenemann .............. 1922
Grand River ................................................ Rev. Abraham De Young ............... 1921
Holland ...................................................... Rsv. Benjamin Hoffman ................ 1923
Illinois ....................................................... Rev. J. P. Winter ......................... 1923
East Sioux ................................................ Rev. Thomas Welmers .................. 1919
West Sioux ................................................ Rev. Fred Lubbers ........................ 1919
Michigan .................................................... Rev. R. Bloemendal ...................... 1919
Pella ......................................................... Rev. John Wesselink ..................... 1920
Pleasant Prairie ................................................. Rev. John G. Theilken ................. 1919
Wisconsin ..................................................... Rev. J. J. Hollebrands .................. 1919

Officers of the Board
Rev. R. Bloemendal ................................................. President
Rev. Peter Moerdyke ................................................. Stated Clerk
THE FACULTY

Rev. John W. Beardslee, D. D., LL. D.,
Professor Emeritus of Old Testament Languages and Literature,
NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

Rev. James F. Zwemer, D. D.,
President of the Faculty,
Professor Emeritus of Practical Theology,
In Charge of the Finances of the Seminary,
64 WEST FOURTEENTH STREET.

Rev. Evert J. Blekkink, D. D.,
Librarian,
Professor of Systematic Theology,
303 COLLEGE AVENUE.

Rev. John E. Kuizenga, D. D.,
Secretary,
Professor of Practical Theology,
4 EAST FOURTEENTH STREET.

Rev. Henry Hospers, D. D.,
Professor of Old Testament Languages and Literature,
26 EAST TWELFTH STREET.

Rev. Siebe C. Nettinga,
Acting Professor of Historical Theology,
214 WEST FIFTEENTH STREET.
COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATION AND RECEPTION OF STUDENTS

Rev. Benjamin Hoffman, Rev. G. T. Tysse, Mr. Henry Langeland, Rev. Peter Moerdyke, Elder Cornelius Dosker, and the faculty.

GENERAL SYNOD'S PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON THE FINANCES OF THE WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Hon. G. J. Diekema, LL.D., President
Rev. James F. Zwemer, Secretary and Treasurer
Rev. J. W. Beardslee, D. D., LL. D., Mr. Barend Dosker
Mr. John N. Trompen Mr. A. Meyer
STUDENTS

Senior Class

Albert Bakker, A. B. .................................................... Paterson, N. J.
Hope College, 1916.
Fred Henry De Jong, A. B. ........................................ Maurice, Iowa
Hope College, 1916.
Frank De Roos, A. B. ............................................. Springfield, S. D.
Hope College, 1916.
Cornelius Dolfin .................................................... Grand Rapids
Calvin College and Theological School.
John B. Frerichs, A. B. .................................. Grundy Centre, Iowa
Graduate Christian Reformed College and Seminary.
Edwin Walter Koepppe, A. B. ................................. Oostburg, Wis.
Hope College, 1914.
John Kuite, A. B. ........................................................ Holland
Hope College, 1916.
Raymond John Lubbers, A. B. ................................ Cedar Grove, Wis.
Hope College, 1914.
Herman Maasen, A. B. ............................................. Maurice, Iowa
Hope College, 1916.
Arthur Maatman .................................................... Overisel
Western State Normal.
John Samuel Ter Louw, A. B. ................................. Pella, Iowa
Central College, 1916.
Gradus Vander Linden, A. B. ................................. Pella, Iowa
Central College, 1916.
Harry Van Egmond .............................................. Chicago, Ill.
Moody Bible Institute, 1916.

Middle Class

Leonard Braam, A. B. ............................................. Pella, Iowa
Central College, 1917.
Walter Jasper Heyenga, A. B. ................................. Aplington, Iowa
Mission House, 1917.
Henry O. Hospers, A. B. ........................................ Holland
Hope College, 1916.
Irwin Jacob Lubbers, A. B. ................................. Cedar Grove, Wis.
Hope College, 1917.

Junior Class

James J. Burggraaff, A. B. ............................................ North Blendon Hope College, 1919.
Arba Dunnewold, A. B. ........................................ North Clymer, N. Y. Hope College, 1918.
Eldred C. Kuizenga, A. B. ......................................... Muskegon Hope College, 1918.
A. M., U. of M., 1918.
James A. Stegeman, A. B. ........................................... Hudsonville Hope College, 1918.
G. Bernard H. Van Lierop ........................................ Chicago Moody Bible Institute, 1918.

Summary

Senior Class ..................................................... 13
Middle Class .................................................... 6
Junior Class ..................................................... 9

Total ................................................................. 28
COURSES OF STUDY

EXEGETICAL THEOLOGY

HEBREW

Junior Class

Course 1. **Elements of Hebrew Grammar** and word formation, based on selected readings from the Pentateuch and the books of Samuel. Four hours a week throughout the year.

Middle Class

Course 2. **Hebrew Poetry**, its external form and exegesis. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 3. **Messianic Prophecy**, the principles of its exegesis and the development of the Messianic idea. Three hours a week, second semester.

Senior Class

Course 4. **Minor Prophets** with the text of Amos, Jonah, Malachi. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 5. **Ecclesiastes**. Two hours a week, second semester.

Course 6. **Old Testament Introduction**. One hour a week, second semester.

GREEK

Junior Class

Course 1. **Gospel of Mark**. This course is an introduction to New Testament Greek. Two hours a week, first semester. Dr. Kuizenga.

Course 2. **Acts of the Apostles**. A study of the original sources of our knowledge of early Christian life. Two hours a week, second semester. Mr. Nettinga.
The Faculty from 1869 to 1877

Prof. Philip Phelps, Jr., D. D.

Prof. Peter John Ogge, A. M.

Prof. Cornelius E. Crispell, D. D.
The Faculty in 1884

Prof. Nicholas M. Steffens, D. D.

Rev. Peter Moerdyke, D. D.

Rev. Henry E. Dosker, D. D.
Middle Class

Course 3. Introduction to the New Testament. One hour a week throughout the year. Dr. Blekkink.

Course 4. Epistles to the Corinthians, and the Church Life of the First Century. (1918-1919).

Course 5. Epistle of James and its lessons for present-day life. (1919-1920.)

Senior Class

Course 6. Epistle to the Romans and the teaching of Paul. Three hours a week, first semester. Dr. Hospers.

Course 7. Studies in the Life of Christ. Three hours a week, second semester. Dr. Hospers. (1919-1920.)

HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

Junior Class

Course 1. Sacred History. A careful study of the history of God’s revelation to Israel during the period of the Old Testament dispensation. Textbook, lectures, and theses. Two hours a week, first semester.

Course 2. Intertestamentary History. One hour a week, first semester.


Course 4. Church History. The Ancient Period. Textbook, lectures, and theses. Two hours a week, second semester.

Middle Class

Course 5. Church History. The Middle Period and the first part of the History of the Reformation, to the Peace of Westphalia. Textbooks, lectures, and theses. Three hours a week throughout the year.
Senior Class

Course 6. Church History. The Modern Period, beginning at the Peace of Westphalia. The rise and development of Protestant Churches in Europe and America. Special courses in the history of the Reformed Church in the Netherlands, and the history of the Reformed Church in America. Textbook, lectures, and theses. Two hours a week, first semester; three hours a week, second semester.

Course 7. Missions, their history and theory. Textbook and lectures. One hour a week, first semester.

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Junior Class

Course 1. Encyclopedia and Methodology. Three hours a week, eight weeks.

Course 2. Authority. Three hours a week, six weeks.


Middle Class

Senior Class

Course 5. Theology, continued. The Doctrine of Last Things. Three hours a week, ten weeks.
Course 6. Christian Ethics. Three hours a week, six weeks.
Course 7. Confessional Theology and Creeds of Christendom. Eight weeks.
Course 8. Review of the entire system of Dogmatic Theology. Three hours a week, eight weeks.

PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

Junior Class


Middle Class

Course 4. Religious Education. History, theory, psychology, pedagogy. Special application to catechetics and Sunday School work. Children’s sermons and junior congregation. Observation and report. Three hours a week, first semester; two hours, second semester.
Course 5. **Studies in Expository Preaching.** Methods of expository work are discussed, outlines and sermons prepared. One hour a week, second semester.

**Senior Class**

Course 6. **Church and Community.** Church as organism and as institution. Evangelism and personal work. Social service in country and city churches. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 7. **Church Administration.** Constitution, government, program, efficiency. Two hours a week, second semester.

Course 8. **Studies in Doctrinal Preaching.** Sermons and outlines on the Heidelberg Catechism. One hour a week, second semester.

In addition to the regular courses in preaching, the middle and senior students preach at least twice a year before the student body, in the presence of the professor of Practical Theology, and at least one of the other professors. The student is subject to criticism from all present.
THE CALENDAR YEAR

The Calendar.—The Seminary opens on the third Thursday in September, at ten o'clock A. M., when the committee meets for the reception of students. It closes on the second Wednesday in May with the Annual Commencement, at which addresses are made by two students and a member of the Board of Superintendents appointed for that purpose.

Conditions of Entrance. — Every applicant is required to present a certificate of church membership and one of literary qualifications. Graduates of a college of recognized standing, whose course of study includes a sufficient amount of Greek, Latin, and Philosophy, will be admitted upon presentation of the usual credentials. Applicants are expected to present a letter of Church membership with their testimonials.

Students are accepted from any denomination of Christians.

The requirements of the Constitution in regard to students preparing for the ministry in the Reformed Church are as follows:

"Any member of a Reformed Church who contemplates entering the work of the ministry shall furnish to one of the theological schools satisfactory evidence of his being a member of the Church in full communion and in good standing, and of his piety, abilities, and literary attainments, before he begins his course of theological studies. He shall thereupon be admitted into the school, and during the prosecution of his studies there shall be subject to its rules and regulations. When he shall have completed the prescribed course of theological studies, he shall be admitted to
an examination according to the regulations of the school as established by the General Synod, and if found qualified shall receive a professorial certificate which shall entitle him to examination for licensure by the Classis to which the church belongs of which he was a member when he entered upon his theological studies.” Constitution, Sec. 9.

Attendance.—It is expected that every student will be present punctually at the daily chapel service, at all the class exercises, and at all other regular appointments of the Seminary.

Any student who finds it necessary to be absent from any Seminary exercise is expected to obtain from the President permission for absence.

Examinations.—At the close of the year an oral examination of all the classes is held before the Board of Superintendents on Tuesday and Wednesday of Commencement Week. Special written examinations are held in mid-winter as the work requires. The papers of these written examinations are transmitted for approval to a committee of the Board of Superintendents.
STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The organization and conduct of the Seminary allows a great deal of opportunity for student activity and initiative. It gives opportunity for leadership, complete development, and pleasant, desirable diversion.

Religious.—If one views recent years, he discovers a commendable determination among our students to keep their religious life strong and vital. In addition to regular class and Dormitory prayer-meetings, a weekly prayer-meeting for students and faculty is held. Excellent churches in the city welcome the students to full participation in all their church work. Special classes for students are held in these churches. All these agencies help to keep the religious life of the students healthful and uplifting.

Social.—The Dormitory group of students is large enough to make possible real student life and to develop leaders, as may be seen in the management of several successful student enterprises, among them the excellent lecture course. This has been financed by the students themselves and is due to their own initiative. The Faculty gives an annual reception, and the students give another in the Dormitory.

Athletic.—Excellent tennis courts, adjacent to the dormitory with its baths, furnish interesting contests and wholesome exercise during the fall and spring. Basketball in the college gymnasium gives winter exercise. In recent years the Seminary has had a good basketball team.

Prizes.—Mr. Cornelius Dosker of Grand Rapids has established two mission prizes, a first prize of twenty-five dollars and a second prize of ten dollars, to be
awarded each year to those students of the Senior class who shall prepare the best sermons on a missionary theme.

Mr. Peter Semelink of Vriesland has established a scholarship of $2,000, the income of which is each year awarded to a student of the Seminary, preference being given to one who is preparing for work on the mission field.

Mission Work.—A study of Missions is included in the regular work of the Seminary. The Adelphic Society gives special attention to the subject of Missions, not only by placing Missionary topics upon its program, but by appointing a committee whose duty it is to receive annual contributions from the professors and students. By a vote of the Society, these contributions are divided between the Foreign and Domestic Mission Boards and the Arabian Mission.

The Adelphic Y. M. C. A.—A gathering of professors and students is held every Tuesday evening at the home of one of the professors. It stands for social, intellectual, and spiritual development. Devotional exercises occupy the first half hour; essays and general discussions follow, after which a brief time is spent in social enjoyment. This meeting constitutes one of the most attractive features of our Seminary life.

Student Preaching.—Members of the Middle and Senior classes have frequent opportunities to preach in our mission churches and where special service is needed. The assignment of students for such purposes is left by the General Synod with the Faculty, who endeavor to afford all the students an opportunity to preach. It will greatly facilitate our effort if the churches needing such supplies will apply directly to the Faculty.
The Faculty in 1896

Prof. John W. Beardslee, D.D., LL. D.

Prof. Egbert Winter, D. D.

Prof. Henry E. Dosker, D. D.
The Faculty in 1907

Prof. Nicholas M. Steffens, D. D.

Prof. John W. Beardslee, D. D., LL. D.

Prof. Gerrit H. Dubbink, D. D.

Prof. James F. Zuemer, D. D.
During the summer vacation, students may be assigned to mission fields. In this way they are enabled to acquire experience in conducting church work, and to supplement their income.

**BACHELOR OF DIVINITY DEGREE**

The degree of Bachelor of Divinity (B. D.) will be granted by the Council of Hope College to students on the recommendation of the Seminary Faculty. The Faculty will recommend all students for the degree who fulfill the following conditions:

1. The student shall hold the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Hope College, or a college whose standards are equivalent.

2. The student shall have completed three full years in the Western Theological Seminary or a theological seminary whose standards are equivalent. At least the last two years shall have been pursued in the Western Seminary.

3. The applicant shall have maintained throughout each separate semester of his theological study an average standing of at least 85 per cent.

4. The applicant shall have pursued during each year of his theological study special courses requiring one hour of class room work each week. Two years of this work shall be in one department of the Seminary, and the remaining year’s work in another.
PROFESSORATE

The intention of the Reformed Church to establish educational institutions which would provide for her young people in the rapidly growing West, found expression in Hope College, which was incorporated in the year 1866. Seven members of the first graduating class petitioned the General Synod for permission to continue their theological studies at the College. Synod granted the request and arranged for the professors of the College to give the necessary instruction. In 1867 the Rev. Cornelius E. Crispell was formally elected "Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology at Hope College," and with assistance from the other professors he was directed to give theological instruction in connection with his duties in the College. For a supervising body, Synod divided its Board of Superintendents of the Seminary at New Brunswick, which was composed of one delegate from each Classis throughout the Church, into an Eastern and Western Section, the Western to have charge of theology at Hope College.

Its work was greatly embarrassed by the lack of money, and its relation to the Synod was not according to the traditions of the Church. This condition finally led to a suspension of theology in 1877, the Synod at the same time emphatically assuring the western churches it would gladly restore the school as soon as endowment could be secured.

In 1884, endowment for one professorship having been secured, mainly thru the sacrifice of the western churches, Synod elected the late Rev. Dr. Nicholas M. Steffens as Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, with the Rev. Peter Moerdyke and the Rev. Henry E. Dosker as temporary Lectors.
Dr. Steffens resigned his position in 1895, and the late Rev. Dr. Egbert Winter was chosen his successor. He resigned in 1904 and the late Rev. Dr. G. H. Dubbink was elected his successor, filling the position until his death in July, 1910. The Board of Superintendents requested Dr. Steffens to take charge until the Synod should meet in June, 1911, when he was chosen professor and remained in active service until his death, July 24, 1912.

Since that time the Rev. Dr. Blekkink has occupied the position; for one year on appointment of the Board, and since 1913 by election of General Synod.

In 1888 a second professorship was established for Biblical Languages and Literature. The Rev. Dr. John W. Beardslee was elected professor and remained until 1913, when, at his own request, he was declared Emeritus. He continued teaching, however, doing part of the Hebrew work, until 1917. The Rev. Dr. John W. Beardslee, Jr., was elected as his successor. Dr. Henry Hospers was appointed acting professor for 1917-1918, and elected professor of Hebrew, 1918.

In 1894 a third professorship was established for Historical Theology and the Rev. Henry E. Dosker was elected professor. He resigned in 1903. The Rev. Dr. Nicholas M. Steffens was elected his successor. He remained until 1911, when he was transferred to the chair of Systematic Theology. The Rev. Dr. Matthew Kolyn was chosen Lector in 1910 and by the General Synod made a permanent professor in 1911. Dr. Kolyn died 1918, and the Rev. S. C. Nettinga was appointed acting professor for 1918-1919.

In 1907 a fourth professorship, that of Practical Theology, was established and the Rev. James F. Zwemer elected professor. In 1916 he was declared Professor Emeritus and the Rev. John E. Kuizenga was elected in his place.
BUILDINGS

Semelink Family Hall.—For nearly thirty years the Seminary had no home, but occupied two very unsuitable rooms in a building on the college campus. In 1895, however, God moved the heart of Mr. Peter Semelink of the Vriesland church to erect a fine brick building, now known as the “Semelink Family Hall.” It is furnished with modern conveniences, and contains five excellent lecture rooms and a commodious chapel.

The Library.—The new Library building is completed and is now in use. Its dimensions are about forty-eight by fifty-four feet. It has a basement well lighted and provided with book-shelves for the storage of a large number of books. The main floor has a wide hall, on one side of which is a large reading room and reference library containing the leading theological encyclopedias and magazines. On the opposite side of the hall is a room designed for research work and committee meetings. These rooms and their furniture are of solid oak. At the rear is the stack-room with shelf-room for about 25,000 volumes and so arranged as to admit of a second story when that is necessary.

Already about 11,500 books are on the shelves, with card catalogues and other facilities for consultation. The students also have free access to the large library of Hope College, and to the public library of the city of Holland.

Valuable donations were received during the year from our Board of Publication and Bible School Work, from Hope College Library, and from the library of the Rev. C. Van Santvoord.
Dormitory.—The common life of the Seminary finds its fullest realization in the new dormitory, a splendid building of brick and stone, standing on the highest part of the campus. Along the first and second stories of both sides of the building extends a broad porch. The spacious entrance hall is fitted with wall seats. At right and left are two reception rooms, which, with the hall between, form an ideal gathering place for the students and their friends. Throughout the building the woodwork is of oak; the floors are of maple. The corridors are roomy, well lighted and ventilated. In the basement there is a large room equipped with gymnastic apparatus; both shower and tub baths are provided.

There are thirty student rooms, four of which are arranged en suite for the joint occupancy of two students. These rooms are large, each with artistic table, study chair and rocker, and bookcase built in the wall. In each room is an alcove, to which both hot and cold water are piped. Each Spring before the close of school the students of the two upper classes, in order of classes, draw for the choice of their next year’s rooms. New students are assigned rooms in order of application.

Power Plant.—The physical comfort of the Seminary is much enhanced by the Power Plant, a neat red brick building where steam is generated and piped to all the buildings, and where the electric light and water systems have their center. This provision saves the other buildings much noise and dirt, and greatly diminishes the fire risk.
THE STORY OF OUR FINANCES

Napoleon's saying, that an army moves on its stomach, has its application in the history of schools. The progress of any institution is like unto the march of an army, since it draws upon its friends for every need it creates, as it moves forward in its career.

From the minutes of the Synod of 1874 we learn that the cornerstone of the foundation of an Endowment for the Seminary had been laid as early as 1874. Two gifts of $100 each had been received by the Board of Education for the Endowment of the Professorship of Didactic and Polemic Theology. The names of the donors deserve mention. They were the Rev. T. S. Dusinberry of Livingston, N. Y., and the Rev. E. Vedder of Jerusalem, N. Y., pastors of small churches, evidently with great faith in the growth of the Western School of Theology.

This $200 endowment fund had grown in 1875, through the personal efforts of Prof. Dr. Crispell, to $2,093.97 collected from several churches in New York, the subscriptions ranging from fifteen cents to one hundred dollars.

In that year the salaries of the theological teachers were officially fixed at $1,500, until the income of endowments should exceed that sum.

During the year 1875-1876, the endowment had increased to $3,688.52, and the Synod of 1876 authorized Dr. Crispell to select associates to assist him in soliciting funds for the endowment of his professorship.

When in 1877 the General Synod "directed the Council of Hope College, in view of the present embarrassed condition of the finances of the College, to sus-
pend the Theological Department,” the whole amount of the endowment held by the Board of Direction for the Professorship of Didactic and Polemic Theology was, including interest on hand, $4,957.09.

In 1883, when the Synod provided for the resumption of theological instruction upon certain conditions, the total of the endowment, with accrued interest, secured before the suspension of theological instruction, amounted to $6,563.19. It awaited completion; and not in vain.

During that year, under direction of the Council of Hope College, a committee, composed of Revs. N. M. Steffens, H. E. Dosker, P. Lepeltak and J. F. Zwemer, raised in the western churches some $24,000, which completed the $30,000 endowment of the Chair of Didactic and Polemic Theology.

The Synod of 1884 also made provision for the services of a Lector, who was to begin his work, but “not until there shall be at least $700 a year secured by subscriptions or otherwise.”

This amount was pledged, a Lector was chosen, but he declined the office.

Thereupon the Revs. P. Moerdyke and H. E. Dosker were appointed as temporary assistants. The money raised for a Lector was divided between these pastors for their services as instructors in the Seminary.

The Synod of 1885 proposed the election of a Professor of Biblical Languages and Exegesis, who was not to be inaugurated until suitable provision had been made for his support. For his support, and until a permanent endowment could be raised, a thousand dollars was to be secured, $500 to be appropriated by the Board of Education and $500 to be gathered by sub-
scriptions or otherwise in the churches within the Part. Synod of Chicago.

The Revs. P. Lepeltak and Jas. F. Zwemer were to take charge of this fund.

The Rev. Daniel Van Pelt was elected to the above named professorship, but he declined to serve.

In 1886 the Synod decided upon the services of either one or two Lectors, and a committee, consisting of Revs. G. H. Mandeville, D. D., P. Lepeltak and Jas. F. Zwemer, was appointed to raise an endowment for the second chair, and also to secure funds to pay the salary of the Lector or Lectors.

The salary of the Lector was fixed at $1,200 per annum, and of this amount $900 was to be raised at the west and $300 at the east. The old committee was retained; and it was resolved that an effort be made throughout the church to raise an endowment of $30,000 for the Second Chair.

In view of the assurance given the Synod by the Committee in charge, that the $1,200 needed for the salary of a second professor had been secured by pledges from churches and individuals, the Synod proceeded in 1888 to elect a Professor of Biblical Languages, Literature and Exegesis. However, "with the distinct understanding, that the said professor-elect shall not be installed, nor have any claim for support upon the General Synod, until the sum of $30,000 for the endowment of the aforesaid professorship be secured and placed in the hands of the Board of Direction." The Rev. John W. Beardslee, D. D., was elected, and he accepted the appointment.

In April of that year, 1888, the Council of Hope Col-
lege had taken action looking to a financial advance for the western institutions.

Authorized by the Synod to employ agents, one for the east and one for the west, to collect funds for the endowment of the College, the Theological Seminary and the Northwestern Academy, the Council elected the Rev. John W. Beardslee for the East and the Rev. James F. Zwemer for the West.

The plan was to secure $100,000 from the whole church for the Western Institutions, the Western Agent being expected to raise at least $70,000.

This sum of $100,000 was to be divided as follows: $50,000 for the College, $20,000 for the Academy, and $30,000 for the Seminary, as the endowment of its Second Chair, to which a professor had been elected.

Both brethren accepted this appointment and began their labors with promising success. However, the election of Dr. Beardslee to a professorship in the Seminary precluded his continuance in these financial labors, and the task of securing an endowment for the Second Chair of the Seminary, of increasing the endowment of Hope College, and of laying the foundation of an endowment for the Northwestern Academy was committed to Rev. Jas. F. Zwemer. To him, as Agent, was now also entrusted the ingathering of the moneys annually needed for the salary of the Second Professor, until his Chair was endowed, and the endowment income should provide for his salary.

From that time on the endowment of the Second Chair grew apace and the salary of the Professor was paid regularly and quarterly at the rate of $1,200 per annum.

In the year 1894 the General Synod, upon the re-
quest of the Board of Superintendents, established a third professorship in the Western Theological Seminary, entitled "The Professorship of Historical Theology," and proceeded to elect a professor for this Chair. But again the Synod was "not to become responsible for the salary of the professor until an endowment of at least $30,000 shall have been secured; and, further, that such professor was not to enter upon his work until the sum of $1,200 per annum had been secured by reliable pledges for the period of five years."

In September, 1890, the Rev. Jas. F. Zwemer took charge of the Northwestern Academy at Orange City, Iowa, as its Principal, and was released by the Council of Hope College from responsibility as its Financial Agent; but he continued to take care of the so-called Lector Fund for the Seminary, thus providing for so much of the salary of the second professor as was not secured by interest on payments and pledges on account of the Second Endowment, which at this time amounted to $29,000 including negotiable notes and pledges.

Meanwhile Mr. Zwemer had also secured from the western churches pledges for the period of five years from 1894 to 1899 to the amount of $1,200 per annum for the annual salary of the Third Professor.

In 1899 the Board of Superintendents asked "the General Synod to appoint the Rev. Jas. F. Zwemer its Agent to secure an additional endowment of $50,000, thereby increasing the endowment of the Seminary to $100,000. Thirty thousand dollars for each one of the three Chairs, and ten thousand dollars for the maintenance of Semelink Family Hall and for incidental expenses." This appointment was made, and in the fol-
General Synod’s Agent for the Western Theological Seminary.

During the year 1901, upon recommendation of the Agent, a successful attempt was made to equalize the salaries of the three professors; see the minutes of Synod, 1891, page 1051.

The year 1902 witnessed a marked advance in the financial history of the Seminary. The salaries of the professors were increased from $1,200 to $1,400 per annum. Mr. Peter Semelink donated $3,000 as endowment for the maintenance of the Seminary buildings, and the full amount of $30,000 to complete the Second endowment was paid over to the Treasurer of Synod.

The response of the churches to the appeals made by the Agent for the Seminary Salary Fund being so liberal, the Synod of 1904 authorized its Agent to continue securing pledges to said Fund, “so as to apply to the support of a prospective Fourth Chair, when no longer required for the support of the Third.”

In view of the great need of additional teaching force, that Synod also established a Fourth Chair, namely, that of “Practical Theology,” the professor for said Chair to be elected whenever the endowment of the Third Chair was complete, and pledges for the annual support of the Fourth Professor were found to be sufficient by the Board of Direction.

These financial conditions were finally met by the labors of the Rev. Jas. F. Zwemer as General Synod’s Agent, when, in accepting his report made to the Synod of 1907, the Committee on the Professorate officially “announced that the requirements for the Fourth Professorship had been fulfilled.”

Thus the $100,000 endowment for the Western
Theological Seminary was completed, endowing three Chairs each in the sum of $30,000 and securing an additional endowment of $10,000 for the "Property Fund," and the support of a Fourth Professor was secured from the Salary Fund.

This income was increased so much by the liberality of the Western churches, that in 1909 the Synod was enabled to give its professors in the Western Theological Seminary $1,500 as their annual salary, which was but a return to the annual salary fixed by the Synod when it elected the first Professor for its Western School of Theology in the year 1867, fifty-two years ago.

As proof how this method of giving annual contributions to the Seminary, for the supplemental support of its teaching force, has found a place in the affections of its constituency, virtually taking the place of a four per cent. $100,000 endowment invested in the hearts of the friends of the Seminary, we close the review of the romantic history of the finances of this Seminary with a brief exhibit of the income of this "Salary Fund" since 1894, when the third professor was elected and this novel method of supporting an unendowed chair and of supplementing the income of limited endowments was endorsed by the General Synod.

It was first attempted on the five-year plan. But each succeeding cycle of years proved that it is no longer a trial, but may be depended upon as a perennial source of income. Let the following figures prove the assertion:

Total of the first five-year cycle, $5,984. Average per year, $1,196.
Total of second five-year cycle, $7,321. Average per year, $1,464.
Total of third five-year cycle, $7,965. Average per year, $1,593.
Total of fourth five-year cycle, $9,825. Average per year, $1,963.
And now the total of the fifth cycle, May, 1914, to May, 1919, to this semi-centennial year, is $18,368, and its average, $3,673.
This Semi-Centennial year crowns these cycles of struggle with the announcement that the efforts of the Professor in charge of the Finances have been successful in raising each one of the three $30,000 Endowments to $40,000.
We desire for this wonderful story of our financial development and growth from poverty into what we now possess and what was so often a forced culture, first to thank Him whose is this Seminary, and whom it serves, and then the many, many friends throughout the entire Church who often and so liberally responded to appeals in its behalf. The secret of success in all these financial labors lay in the fact that its toilers held to the Pauline encouragement: "Let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."
THE RECORD OF OUR CHAIRS

The First: that of Didactic and Polemic Theology, established 1867:

It was suspended for seven years, and re-established in 1884. Known since 1907 as the Albertus C. Van Raalte Chair.
Rev. Evert J. Blekkink, D. D., 1912-

The Second: that of Biblical Languages and Literature, known since 1907 as the Cornelius Van der Meulen Chair:

Set apart to Old Testament Languages in 1913.
Rev. Henry Hospers, D. D., 1917-

The Third Chair: that of Historical Theology, known since 1907 as the James A. H. Cornell Chair.

Rev. S. C. Nettinga, D. D., 1918-

The Fourth Chair: that of Practical Theology:


The Fifth Chair: that of New Testament Language and Exegesis:

FORM OF BEQUEST

I give unto the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America........................................... Dollars for the maintenance and support of the Theological Seminary of said church, located at Holland, Michigan.

Or

I give unto the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America........................................... Dollars for the establishment of a Professorship in the Theological Seminary of said Church, located at Holland, Michigan, to be named:

Or

I give unto the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America........................................... Dollars to the fund for the purchase of books for the Library of the Western Theological Seminary, located at Holland, Michigan.
THE ALUMNI OF THE WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND THEIR PLACES OF SERVICE

1869


WILLIAM B. GILMORE—Prin. Amelia Institute, Va.; Prin. Female Dept. Hope College; Spring Lake, Ill.; Havana, Ill. Died April 24, 1884.

PETER MOERDYKE—Macon and South Macon; Asst. Prof. Latin and Greek, Hope College; First Grand Rapids, Mich.; "Trinity," Chicago, Ill.; South Bend, Ind.; without charge, Pasadena, Cal.


HARM WOLTMAN—Fulton, Wis. Died April 30, 1870.

1870

JAMES DE PREE—Spring Lake, Mich.; First Sioux Center, Ia.; North Yakima, Wash.; without charge, Sioux Center, Ia.

ENNE J. HEEREN—Missionary to India. Died at Pueblo, Col., Oct. 15, 1878.
The Faculty in 1913

Prof. James F. Zwemer, D. D.

Prof. Evert J. Blekkink, D. D.

Prof. John W. Beardslee, D. D., LL. D.
The Faculty in 1919

Prof. Evert J. Blekkink, D. D.

Prof. John E. Kuizenga, D. D.

Prof. James F. Zwemer, D. D.


1871


William Visscher—Died at Bellevue Hospital, New York, N. Y., Feb. 11, 1872, while preparing for Medical Missionary.

1872


1873


Seventh Grand Rapids, Mich.; General Synod’s Agent for its Western Theological Seminary; Prof. Practical Theology, Holland, Mich.; Prof. Emeritus, in charge of the Seminary Finances.

1874

John Hoffman—Oostburg, Wis. (Presb. Church, Baldwin, Wis.); Clymer, N. Y.; Sayville, N. Y.; First Cleveland, Ohio; Sully, Ia.; Rotterdam, Kan.


1875


Andrew Wormser—Bethel, Ia.; First Cleveland, Ohio; First Grand Haven, Mich.: Wormser City, Mont.; without charge, Died at Winatchie, Wash., 1914.

1876


Helenus E. Nies—Saugatuck, Mich.; Union, Paterson, N. J.; without charge, Paterson, N. J.

1877


Cornelius Wabeke—Marion, N. Y. Died at Marion, Feb. 21, 1880.

Theological Instruction Suspended till 1884.
1886


1887


Simon Hogenboom—Marion, N. Y.; First Cleveland, Ohio; Ontario, N. Y.; Fourth Kalamazoo, Mich.; Ontario, N. Y.; Newark, N. Y.; Sodus, N. Y.


Peter Irman—Waupun, Wis.; First Marion, N. Y.; Eighth Grand Rapids, Mich.; Maurice, Ia.; Second Marion, N. Y. Died Sept. 16, 1911.

1888


Peter Wayenberg—Pultneyville, N. Y.; Maurice, Ia.; Died Aug. 5, 1893.

1889


1890

Ill.; Third Pella, Ia.; Fourth Holland, Mich.; Hull, Ia.; Fifth Muskegon.


1891


Albertus Pieters—Missionary, Nagasaki, Japan.


1892

Anthony M. Van Duine—Holland, Neb.; Newkirk, Ia.; Alton, Ia.; South Holland, Ill.; First Englewood; Holland; Passaic, N. J.

1893


1894

**John Sietsma**—Sheboygan and Sheboygan Falls, Wis.; "Hope," Sheboygan, Wis.; Oostburg, Wis.; Eighth, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Gano, Ill.; Second, Little Falls, N. J.

**Jerry P. Winter**—Manito and Spring Lake, Ill.; South Bend, Ind.; American Ref., Orange City, Ia.; Clinton, Okla.; Fairview, Ill.


**John Luxen**—Lansing, Ill.; Third Kalamazoo, Mich.; First Muskegon, Mich.; Union, Paterson, N. J.


**Andrew Reeverts**—Monroe, S. Dak.; "Immanuel," Belmond, Ia.; Peoria, Ill.


**Cornelius M. Steffens**—Second Rochester, N. Y.; First Little Falls N. J.; Agent of The Christian Intelligencer; Pres. Dubuque College, Dubuque, Ill.

**Herman Van der Ploeg**—New Era, Mich.; Coopersville, Mich.; Luctor, Kan.; Prairie View, Kan.; Cl. Miss., Classis of Iowa; Edgerton, Minn.; Litchville, N. Dak.; Sheboygan Falls, Wis.

**Seth Van der Werf**—Northwestern, Chicago, Ill.; Gibbsville, Wis.; First Holland, Mich.; First Pella, Ia.; Field Sec. Board Dom. Miss. R. C. A.

**Henry G. Veldman**—Cedar Grove, Wis.; First Pella, Ia.; Milwaukee, Wis.; First Holland, Mich.

1896

**Henry Huizenga**—Missionary (Baptist Ch., Ongole, India).


**William Miedema**—Centerville, S. Dak.; Bushnell, Ill.; Norwood Pa-k. Ill.; Presb. Church, Buchanan, Mich.; Presb. Church, California.


1897


DOUWE DE GROOT—Otley, Ia.; Roseland, Minn.; (Presb. Church, Hospers, Ia.).


PETER SWART—Lansing, Ill.; Hingham, Wis.; Oostburg, Wis.

JOHN W. TE SELLE—Carmel, Ia.; Hospers, Ia.; North Yakima, Wash.; without charge, Crawford, Col.

AART VAN ARENDONK—Luetor, Kan.; Sheldon, Ia.; Cl. Miss. of the Classes Grand River, Holland and Michigan; Grand Haven, Mich.

1898


JOHN ENGELsMAN—Randolph Center, Wis.; Rock Valley, Ia.; First Orange City, Ia.

John H. E. Te Grootenhuis—“Ebenezer,” Morrison, Ill.; Detroit, Mich.; Bethel, Minn.; Clifton, N. J.


1899

Edward Kelder—Constantine, Mich.; Knox and Second Berne, N. Y.; Coytesville, N. J.

J. William Kots—Friesland and Sandstone, Minn.; Carmel, Ia.; Cl. Miss. Classis Iowa.


1900


Jacob Brummel—Grand View, S. Dak.; Cl. Miss., Classis of Dakota; Roseland, Minn.; Armour, S. Dak.; without charge.

George E. Cook—Without charge, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Churchville, Minn.


John de Jonge—Wormser City, Mont.; Pella, Neb.; Rock Valley, Ia.; Edgerton, Minn.

B. D. Dykstra—Bethlehem, Ia.; Prin. Academy, Harrison, S. Dak.; Chas Mix, S. D.; Cl. Miss., Classis Dakota.

Gerrit G. Huizenga—Missionary (Baptist Church, India).

H. P. SCHUURMANS—Ninth Grand Rapids, Mich.; “Bethel,” Leota, Minn.; Newkirk, Ia.; First Chicago, Ill.; South Holland, Ill.; Sixth Paterson, N. J.


1901

JOHN J. BANNINGA—Missionary under A. B. C. F. M., Madura, India.

ABRAHAM KLERK—Greenleafston, Minn.; Cedar Grove, Wis., Cl. Miss., Cascades.


ANTHONY VAN DER WERF—Koster, Ind.; Randolph, Wis.

1902


FOLKERT B. MANSEN—Raritan, Ill.; Cl. Miss., Classis Pella; Bethany, Ia.; Eddyville, Ia.; Prairie View, Kan.


WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

1903

JOHN H. STRAKS—Clymerhill, N. Y.; Gibbsville, Wis.

ART B. VAN ZANTE—Fairview, Ill.; (Presb. Church) Wash.

JOHN W. BEARDSLEE—Prof. Hope College, Holland, Mich.; Prof. West. Theological Seminary; Prof. New Brunswick Seminary.

HARRY P. BOOT—Missionary, Amoy, China.


HENRY HEUNEMANN—Fostoria, Ia.; Second Lennox, S. Dak.


1904


WOLBERT DENEKAS—Melvin, Ia.; Castlewood, S. Dak.; Dempster, S. Dak.; Second, Pekin, Ill.

GEORGE H. DOUWSTRA—Lansing, Ill.; Hospers, Ia.


JOHN E. KUIZENGA—Graafschap, Mich.; Prof. Hope College, Holland, Mich.; Prof. Practical Theology, Western Theological Seminary.


1905

CORNELIUS DEELSNYDER—De Motte, Ind.; Luctor, Kan.; Galesburg, Ia.; without charge.

MARTIN E. KOSTER—Danforth, Ill.; First Fulton, Second Fulton, Ill.; E. Williamson, N. Y.
John Vander Beek—Oak Harbor, Wash.; Churchville, Minn.; First Maurice, Ia.


1906


Peter Grooters—Churchville, Minn.; Greenleafston, Minn.; Otley, Ia.


Henry Tellman—East Overisel, Mich.; Pultneyville, N. Y.

A. J. Van Lummel—Sixth Patterson, N. J.; Boyden, Ia.; Seventh, Grand Rapids, Mich.

1907


Willis G. Hoekje—Missionary, Saga, Japan.

J. J. Hollebrands—“Bethel,” Leota, Minn.; Waupun, Wis.; First Kalamazoo, Mich.

John Steketee—Raritan, Ill.; Clarksville and New Salem, N. Y.; Flatbush, N. Y.

John Van Zomeren—Second Muskegon, Mich.; Second Cleveland, Ohio; Trinity, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Albert A. Wubbena—Chancellor, S. Dak.; Bristow, Ia.

1908

Gerrit Bosch—Lafayette, Ind.; Newton, Ill.; Steen, Minn.

WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

GERRIT J. PENNINGS—Missionary, Busrah, Arabia.

MARTIN C. RUISAARD—Grandville, Mich.; Otley, Ia.; Sheboygan, Wis.

CORNELIUS VAN DER SCOOR—Baldwin, Wis.; Grandville, Mich.; Williamson, N. Y.

1909

ARIE MUYSKENS—Sioux Falls, Ia.; Presb. Church, Detroit, Mich.

BERNARD ROTHCHAFER—Missionary, Madanapelle, India.

WILLIAM ROTHCHAFER—Oak Harbor, Wash.; Pella, Neb.

ZWIER ROETMAN—Ustick, Ill.; Holland, Neb.


1910

BENJAMIN DE YOUNG—Missionary, Gray Hawk, Ky.; Clymerhill, N. Y.; Newark, N. Y.


CORNELIUS MULLER—Bethany, Ia.; West Sayville, N. Y.

HENRY PANNKUK—Meservey, Ia.


JOHN J. VAN DER SCHAAR—Marion-Litchville, N. Dak.; Spring Lake, Mich.; Leota, Minn.

1911

JOHN W. DOUMA—Hull, Ia.; Meth. E. Church; died, Larrabee, Ia., Jan., 1919.
ANTHONY HAVERKAMP—Monroe, S. Dak.; Second Sioux Center, Ia.

HUBERT KUYPER—Missionary, Tokyo, Japan.

JOHN A. RUGGEN—Conrad, Mont.; Monroe, S. Dak.


1912


WILLIAM DUVEN—Manhattan, Mont.; Conrad, Mont.

BERNARD FLIKKEMA—Sheboygan Falls, Wis.; Cl. Miss., Oska-

loosa, Ia.

AREND T. LAMAN—Lafayette, Ind.; Baldwin, Wis.


3, 1914.

HENDRIK M. PETTERSON—De Motte, Ind.; Lafayette, Ind.; Cor-

sica, S. Dak.

HERMAN J. POTGETER—Sibley, Ia.; Presb. Church.


JOHN P. KRUYS VOORBERGE—Ustick, Ill.; Vespers, Wis.

ISAAC VAN WESTENBURG—Second Marion, N. Y.; Immanuel,

Grand Rapids, Mich.

JOHN WOLTERINK—Clymerhill, N. Y.; Second Marion, N. Y.

1913

ROBERT W. DOUMA—Twin Lakes; Ada, Mich.

HENRY K. PASMA—Oostburg, Wis.; Lynden, Wash.

HARRY E. REINHART—Chandler, Minn.


JAMES A. VERBERG—Second Grand Haven, Mich.; Presb. Church,

Boston, Mass.

JEAN A. VIS—New Sharon, Ia.; Morrison, Ill.
1914

DIRK DYKSTRA—Missionary, Busrah, Arabia.

JACOB HEEMSTRA—“Trinity,” Chicago, Ill.; Prof, Central College, Pella, Ia.


EDWARD HUIBREGTSE—New Sharon, Ia.


ALLEN F. MARCLEY—First Cleveland, Ohio; Saugerties, N. Y.; Lishas Kill, N. Y.

ROYAL STANTON—Ephrata-Stone Arabia, N. Y.

TENNIS OLDENBURGER—Chas Mix, S. Dak.; without charge.

BENJAMIN J. WIJNVEEN—Harlem, Mich.; Utsick, Ill.

1916


HENRY COLENBANDER—Sioux City, Ia.; Rock Valley, Ia.


JOHN M. DE VRIES—Cromwell Center, Ia.

LAMBERTUS HEKHUIS—Missionary, Chittoor, India.

GEORGE G. HENEVELD—Killduff, Ia.; Unity, Muskegon, Mich.

ALEXANDER VAN BRONKHorST—Missionary, Nagasaki, Japan.

MARINUS J. DEN HERDER—Livingston, N. Y.

GEORGE B. SCHOLTEN—Gardiner, N. Y.


BEREND T. VAN DE WOUIDE—Newton, Ill.; Portage, Mich.


1915

JOHN E. BENINK—Immanuel Roseland, Ill.; Clymer, N. Y.
John W. Brink—North Marion, N. Dak.
Oliver G. Droppers—Byron Center, Mich.; Class. Missionary, Classis of Michigan.
Hubert S. Muilenburg—Inwood, Ia.
Thomas G. Van den Bosch—Penn. Lane, Ill.; First Cleveland, Ohio.
Bart R. Van Zyl—Sanborn, Ia.
Frederick Zandstra—De Motte; Mt. Greenwood, Ill.

1917

John J. Althuis—Lafayette, Ind.
Henry A. Bilkert—Missionary, Bahrein, Arabia.
George Bonte—Washington, Ackley, Ia.
Harry Hoffs—Biglow-Sibley, Ia.; Coopersville, Mich.
Henry C. Jacobs—Fifth Albany, N. Y.
Robert Kroodsma—Manhattan, Mont.; Clymerhil, N. Y.
Henry Poppen—Missionary, China.
Henry Van Eyck Stegeman—Missionary, Japan.
John Van Strien—Pine Bush, N. Y.
John C. Van Wyk—Missionary, India.
Henry M. Veenschoten—Missionary, China.

1918

ROELOF DUIKER—Strasburg, N. Dak.
LUPPO POTGETER—Immanuel, Roseland, Ill.
MINOR STEGENGA—Palmyra, N. Y.
HENRY DARWIN TER KEURST—Milwaukee, Wis.

1919

ALBERT BAKKER—Bethany, Ia.
FRED H. DE YOUNG—Graduate Study, Princeton, N. J.
FRANK DE ROOS—Graduate Study, Princeton, N. J.
CORNELIUS DOLFIN—Hudsonville, Mich.
JOHN B. FRERICHs—Scotland, S. Dak.
EDWIN B. KOEPEPE—Foreign Missionary, under appointment.
JOHN KUITE—Graduate Study, Princeton, N. J.
RAYMOND J. LUBBERS—Graduate Study, Princeton, N. J.
HERMAN MAASEN—Beaverdam, Mich.
GRADUS VAN DER LINDEN—First Jamestown, Mich.
HARRY VAN EGMOND—
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