1923

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Western Theological Seminary

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CALENDAR

1923

September 19, 2 p. m........Entrance examinations.
September 20..................Lectures begin.
November 28-December 4...Thanksgiving recess.
December 21, noon..........Christmas recess begins.

1924

January 9......................Lectures resumed.
January 29-30................First semester examinations.
January 31....................Day of prayer for schools.
March 12......................Day of prayer.
May 13, 14....................Final examinations and meeting of
                           Board of Superintendents.

September 17, 2 p. m........Entrance examinations.
September 18, 8 a. m........Lectures begin.
November 26-December 2...Thanksgiving recess.
December 19, noon..........Christmas recess begins.

1925

January 7......................Lectures resumed.
January 29....................Day of prayer for colleges and higher
                           schools.
January 30-31.................Semester examinations.
March 11......................Day of prayer.
May 12, 13....................Final examinations and meeting of
                           Board of Superintendents.
May 13..........................Commencement.
BOARD OF SUPERINTENDENTS

Ex-Officio
Pres. E. J. Blekkink .................................................... Acting President
Pres. Edw. D. Dirmen .............................................. President of Hope College

From the Synod of New York

From the Synod of Albany
Rev. G. Hondelink, Rochester, N. Y. .................................. 1924

From the Synod of New Brunswick

From the Synod of Chicago
Rev. T. W. Muilenberg, South Holland, Ill. .............................. 1927
Rev. Gerrit Tyssse, Holland, Mich. ................................... 1928
Elder Herman Teninga, Chicago, Ill. .................................. 1928
Elder C. Dosker, Grand Rapids, Mich. ................................ 1924

From the Synod of Iowa
Rev. H. J. Pietenpol, Otley, Ia. ..................................... 1927
Rev. A. Haverkamp, Sioux Center, Ia. ................................ 1925
Elder C. Wormhoudt, Pella, Ia. ....................................... 1924
Elder P. DeBeer, Stout, Ia. ........................................... 1928

From the Classes
Chicago ......................................................... Rev. Peter Swart ............................................. 1928
Grand Rapids ..................................................... Rev. Abraham Klerk ........................................ 1926
Holland .......................................................... Rev. John Van Peursem .................................... 1928
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Rev. J. P. Winter</td>
<td>1926</td>
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<td>Kalamazoo</td>
<td>Rev. J. J. Hollebrands</td>
<td>1929</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muskegon</td>
<td>Rev. J. Bovenkerk</td>
<td>1929</td>
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<td>Cascades</td>
<td>To be appointed</td>
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<td>Dakota</td>
<td>Rev. A. Rozendal</td>
<td>1928</td>
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<td>Germania</td>
<td>Rev. Henry Huenemann</td>
<td>1925</td>
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<td>Pella</td>
<td>Rev. John Wesselink</td>
<td>1924</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleasant Prairie</td>
<td>Rev. J. G. Theilken</td>
<td>1928</td>
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<td>East Sioux</td>
<td>Rev. J. D. Dykstra</td>
<td>1924</td>
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<td>West Sioux</td>
<td>Rev. Fred Lubbers</td>
<td>1924</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>*Rev. G. J. Hekhuis</td>
<td>1924</td>
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**Officers of the Board**

*President* *Rev. G. J. Hekhuis*  
*Vice President* Rev. John Wesselink  
*Stated Clerk*  

*Removed from Classis.*

**Trustees of the Seminary**

HON. GERRIT J. DIEKEMA, LL. D., President  
DR. S. C. NETTINGA, Treasurer  
MR. JOHN N. TROMPEN  
MR. A. MEYER  
DR. E. J. BLEKKINK  
MR. CORNELIUS DOSKER  
MR. HENRY E. LANGELAND
THE FACULTY

The Reverend Evert J. Blekkink, D. D.,
Acting President,
Professor of Systematic Theology,
Librarian
303 College Ave.

The Reverend John E. Kuizenga, D. D.,
Secretary of the Faculty,
Professor of Practical Theology,
4 East Fourteenth St.

The Reverend Henry Hospers, D. D.,
Professor of Old Testament Languages and Literature,
In charge of Student Preaching,
26 East Twelfth St.

The Reverend Siebe C. Nettinga, D. D.,
Professor of Historical Theology,
Treasurer of the Trustees of the Seminary,
133 West Eleventh St.

The Reverend Jacob Vander Meulen, D. D.,
Professor of New Testament Language and Literature,
29 East Sixteenth St.

The Reverend Albertus Pieters, D. D.,
Special Instructor in Foreign Missions,
141 East Tenth St.
Committee on Examination and Reception of Students

Pres. Edw. Dimnent
Rev. G. Tysse
Rev. John Van Peursem
Members of the Seminary Faculty

Special Lectures

The Rev. N. Boer, Grand Rapids, Mich.,
"Present Day Palestine."

The Rev. Willis Hoekje, Fukuoka, Japan,
"The Japanese Catastrophe."

Dr. Thomas W. Davidson, Brooklyn, N. Y.,
"Does It Matter What We Believe?"

Chancellor Cook, Netherlands Legation at Pekin,
"Present Day Religions in China;"
"Present Day Movements in China."

Mayor E. P. Stephan, Holland,
"The Minister and City Government."

The Hon. Gerrit J. Diekema, Holland,
"The Gospel and the Law."

The Rev. H. P. Boot, Amoy, China,
"History, Possibilities, Progress, and Promise of the Amoy Mission."

The Rev. John Timothy Stone, Chicago, Ill.,
"Vital Faith."

The Rev. D. C. Ruigh, Nagasaki, Japan,
"First Hand Experiences in Japan After the Earthquake."
STUDENTS

SENIOR CLASS

Thomas Baker ...........................................................................................................Yakima, Wash. Hope College Special.
Dave Bogard, A. B. .............................................................................................Pella, Iowa Central College, 1921.
Henry Fikse, A. B. ...............................................................................................Steen, Minn. Central College, 1921.
Francis Peter Ihrman, A. B. ................................................................................Holland Hope College, 1921.
Ira John Hesselink, A. B. ......................................................................................Kalamazoo Hope College, 1922
Bernard Dick Heetbrink, A. B. ...........................................................................Firth, Neb. Hope College, 1921.

MIDDLE CLASS

Richard J. Blocker, A. B. .......................................................................................Holland Hope College, 1922.
Winfield Burggraaff, A. B. ...................................................................................Decatur Hope College, 1922.
Martin Ralph DeHaan, M. D. ..............................................................................Holland University of Illinois, 1914.
Garrett Edward De Jong, A. B. .............................................................................Orange City, Iowa Hope College, 1922.
Henry J. Harsevoort, A. B. ...................................................................................Holland Hope College, 1922.
Justin H. Hoffman, A. B. ........................................... Hamilton Hope College, 1922.
Bert Henry Pennings, A. B. ...................................... Orange City, Iowa Hope College, 1922.
Richard Rozeboom, A. B. ........................................... Sioux Center, Iowa Central College, 1922.
Abraham Rynbrandt, A. B. ........................................... Jamestown Hope College, 1922.
Stanley Dwight Schipper, A. B. ................................... Holland Hope College, 1922.
Edward H. Tanis, A. B. ............................................. Hamilton Hope College, 1922.
John B. Vander Ploeg, A. B. ....................................... Holland Hope College, 1922.

JUNIOR CLASS

Dick Anton Elings .................................................. Conrad, Montana (Equivalent of college course.)
George M. Flikkema, A. B. ......................................... Holland Central College, 1923.
Raymond C. Lubbers, A. B. ........................................ Sioux Center, Iowa Hope College, 1923.
Isaac Scherpenisse, A. B. ........................................... Grand Rapids Hope College, 1923.
SEMELINK HALL

AND BEARDSLEE LIBRARY
CANDIDATES FOR THE B. D. DEGREE

Dave Bogaard, A. B. .......................................................... Pella, Iowa
Henry Fikse, A. B. ......................................................... Steen, Minnesota
Harry Hager, A. B. ......................................................... Paterson, N. J.
Enos E. Heeren, A. B. ............................................. German Valley, Ill.
Ira J. Hesselink, A. B. ................................................. Kalamazoo, Mich.
Frances Ihrman, A. B. .................................................. Holland
Cornelius Lepeltak, A. B. .............................................. Vesper, Wis.
Justin H. Hoffman, A. B. ............................................. Hamilton
Bert Pennings, A. B. ..................................................... Orange City, Ia.
Abraham Rynbrandt, A. B. ........................................... Jamestown
Edward H. Tanis, A. B. ................................................. Hamilton
Paul E. Trompen, A. B. ............................................... Chicago, Ill.

SUMMARY

Senior Class ................................................................. 10
Middle Class ................................................................. 13
Junior Class ................................................................. 11
Candidates for B. D. Degree ........................................... 12

Total ................................................................. 46
Deduction for double count ........................................... 12

Total attendance ...................................................... 34
COURSE OF STUDY

HEBREW—LANGUAGE AND EXEGESIS

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 thru the year.

Middle Class

Course 2. Hebrew Poetry, its external form and its 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.

Course 4. The Canon of the Old Testament.

Course 5. Lectures on Prophets and Prophecy.

Senior Class

Course 6. Minor Prophets, with the text of Joel, Amos, John, and Habakkuk. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 7. Lectures on Old Testament Inspiration: Revelation and Inspiration; Lyric Inspiration; Chromatic Inspiration; Prophetic Inspiration; Instruments of Inspiration. These lectures will be supplemented by translation of the references in the Old Testament as a basis for advanced Hebrew. Three hours a week, second semester.

Course 8. Old Testament Introduction. One hour a week, second semester.
Following courses open for candidates for B. D. degree:

Course 9.—Shem Jahveh.
Course 10.—Cochma and Logos.
Course 11.—Isaiah; Introduction and Exegetical.

The study of advanced Hebrew will supplement these courses.

GREEK LANGUAGE AND EXEGESIS

Junior Class

Course 1. Introduction to the New Testament. This course treats all questions of Higher Criticism relating to canonicity, integrity, place, purpose, and plan of composition of all the New Testament writings. One hour a week thru the year.

Course 2. Introduction to the Greek of the New Testament. Lectures on the language in the light of the papyri discoveries; exegetical study of the Gospel according to Mark, and selected passages from the other gospels, with a cursory reading of the Gospel according to Matthew. Two hours a week thru the year.

Middle Class

Course 3. Biblical Hermeneutics. This study contemplates furnishing the student with the principles of sound interpretation of both Old and New Testaments. Parables, allegories, types, symbols, Messianic prophecies, apocalypses, receive special attention. One hour a week, first semester.

Course 4. General Introduction to the Epistles of Paul, with consideration of his missionary approach and methods of work. Exegesis of Romans, following Paul's carefully worked out argument that justification for both Jew and Gentile is thru faith in Christ Jesus. Paul's Christology, the relation of divine sover-
eighty to the freedom of the will, Christian ethics, and other questions are studied with care. Two hours a week, first semester.

Course 5. The Epistles to the Galatians and Corinthians (1). The Galatian theories, Paul’s conception of the law, the Judaistic controversy, the Corinthian problems, the gift of tongues, and the resurrection are given special attention. Three hours a week, second semester.

**Senior Class**

Course 6. Epistle to the Hebrews. Studied as the “First Christian Apologetic” for its argument for the finality of Christianity. Questions of authorship, purpose and destination are treated at length. Students are required to write theses on these subjects. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 7. The Gospel according to John. The authorship of all the New Testament writings attributed to John the apostle receives careful attention. Purpose, literary character, and contents are compared with those of the Synotic Gospels. Exegetical study of selected portions. Two hours a week, second semester.

Course 8. Cursory reading of Second Corinthians. One hour a week, second semester.

Courses open to candidates for B. D. Degree:


Course 10. The Pastoral Epistles.

Course 11. The General Epistles.

**HISTORICAL THEOLOGY**

**Junior Class**

Course 1. English Bible, Historical Books of the Old Testament; Text-book the English Bible. The aim
of this course is to become familiar with the contents of each book; to note the outstanding doctrines in their historical setting; to discuss the critical problems involved, especially the problem of the Pentateuch. It also seeks to trace the development and methods of revelation and to understand the Mosaic, Prophetical, and Monarchical institutions of the Bible. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 2. Church History. Apostolic and Patristic Age. Besides tracing the origin and growth of the Christian church during these periods, special study is made of the Jewish and Gentile Preparation for the Christian era, during the Intertestamentary period; the change in its organization; and the principles underlying the heretical and schismatic movements of the age. Three hours a week, second semester.

Middle Class

Course 3. Church History. From the conversion of Constantine, 312 A. D., to the peace of Westphalia, 1648 A. D. A study of the conflict between church and state; the missionary operations of the church; the principles underlying the ascetic movement; causes and fruits of the doctrinal controversies; the growth, culmination and decline of the papacy; the various reform movements; the causes of the Protestant Reformation, and the changes brought about by the latter movement. Three hours a week thru the year.

Senior Class

Course 4. Church History. From the peace of Westphalia to the present time. A study of religious liberty; modern denominationalism; the religious revival movements. Also the intellectual and political upheavals in their relations to the church, and the various humanitarian, educational and missionary activities of the church. A special study is made of the
Reformed Church in America. Three hours a week, first semester; three hours a week, second semester.

Following courses open to candidates for the B. D. degree:

Course 5. Missionary operations of the church.
Course 6. The doctrinal controversies of the early church.
Course 7. Causes, Progress and Results of the Reformation.
Course 8. The Calvinistic Reformation.
Other courses by arrangement.

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Junior Class

Course 1. *Encyclopedia and Methodology.*
Course 4. *Creation of the Universe.* The Spiritual Order. World-View.

Middle Class


**Senior Class**

Course 11. **Studies in English Bible.** Daniel and Revelation.


Course 13. **Christian Ethics.** End, Law and Realization. Relation to philosophic and non-Christian systems.

Course 14. **Confessional Theology.** Creeds of Christendom.

Course 15. Review of entire system of Dogmatic Theology. The time is from three to twelve weeks for the several courses, according to their importance.

Following Courses open to candidates for the B. D. Degree:

Course 16. The Doctrine of the Trinity.

Course 17. The Incarnation.

Course 18. Modernism.


**PRACTICAL THEOLOGY**

**Junior Class**

Course 1. **Homiletics.** Theory and practice of preaching. General theory of preaching, various special sermons, continuous analysis of texts and outlining of sermons; inductive study of great sermons;
preaching before the class, with attention to elements of elocation. Three hours a week, first semester; one hour a week, second semester.

Course 2. Pastoral Theology and Liturgics. Nature of worship, and its psychology; various elements of the public service; liturgical and non-liturgical service; Reformed church liturgy; nature of the office in the church; duties of officers and members; minister’s care of himself; minister’s care of others, various types of pastoral visiting, normal religious development, types of development, dealing with special classes, personal work, mid-week services. Two hours a week, second semester.

Middle Class

Course 3. Religious Education. History, theory, child study, curriculum, principles of pedagogy; catechetics, Sunday school, the home, young people’s societies. Two hours a week thru the year.

Course 4. English Bible. Expository studies in Poetical books and in some Pauline epistle, to illustrate method of English Bible Study, and expository preaching. One hour a week thru the year.

Senior Class

Course 5. Church and Community. Elementary sociology of the group; the community and its institutions; the country church and its problems; the problems of the city; Missionary problems. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 6. Church Administration. Types of polity, constitution of the Reformed church, government, program, finance, efficiency. Two hours a week, second semester.

Course 7. Doctrinal Preaching, with sermons on the Catechism. One hour a week, second semester.
Following courses are open to candidates for B. D. Degree:

Course 8. Psychology of Religion.
Other courses by arrangement.

In addition to the regular courses in preaching, seniors and middles preach before the student body, with the professor of this department and one of the other professors present. Sermons and delivery are subject to criticism of all present.

**English Bible**

Course 1. The Historical Books (see Course 1, Historical Theology).
Course 2. Poetical Books (see Course 4, Practical Theology).
Course 3. Prophetic Books of Old Testament (see Courses 3, 5, 6, Hebrew).
Course 4. Apocalypses, Daniel and Revelation (see Course 11, Systematic Theology).
Course 5. Gospels and Paulinism (see Courses 1, 3, 4, Greek Department).
Course 6. Expository Preaching on Epistles (see Course 4, Practical Theology).

**Foreign Missions**

**General Purpose:** To give such a view of the missionary, his life and work, as can be obtained only from one who has personal experience; thus to be of direct service to pastors to help them understand the missionaries, and also to help those who may be called to the foreign service. Ten Lectures to senior class.

1. The Missionary Enterprise.
2. The Missionary Himself, the Agent of the Enterprise.
3. The Missionary, the Board, and the Mission.
4. The Missionary and the People Among Whom He Labors.
5. The Relation of the Church at Home to the Church Abroad.
7. Evangelism: Definition, Methods, Missionary's Part in, Aims, Degree of Success, Joys and Sorrows.
10. Undetermined—reserved to finish the course and for special discussion.

THE CALENDAR YEAR

The Calendar.—The Seminary opens on the third Wednesday in September, at 2:00 P. 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 one student 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 proof 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 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.

Scholarship.—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 in the Dormitory parlors, and once a month 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. 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.

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.

Diplomas, Degrees

1. Every student who does not complete the course will receive a statement of work actually done.

2. Every student who completes the full course will receive the Professorial Certificate which will ad-
mit him to examination for licensure in all evangelical churches.

3. All students having an A. B. degree (or other equivalent degree) will on recommendation of the seminary faculty receive from the Council of Hope college the degree of Bachelor of Theology (Th. B.).

4. 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. 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. He was elected professor by Synod in June, 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, being put in charge of the finances of the seminary, and the Rev. John E. Kuizenga was elected in his place.

In 1913 the fifth professorship was established, and Synod elected the Rev. John W. Beardslee, Jr., Professor of New Testament Language and Literature.
He resigned in 1917. Owing to lack of income the position was not filled until 1920, when the endowment of this chair having been secured, the Rev. Jacob Vander Meulen, D. D., was appointed acting professor for the year 1920-1921, and elected professor in June, 1921.

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.

Beardslee 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 13,000 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.

The library is constantly growing. Books are added by purchase as the funds permit. Others are added
by friends who send either books or money with which to buy them. A large and significant addition has been made this year thru the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Teninga of Chicago, who bought the valuable library of Prof. Tiemen DeVries of Evanston, Ill., and made it a gift to the seminary.

The 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 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. Thruout 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 is 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.

The 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.
Gifts, Endowments, Contributions

The Western Theological Seminary, which began with no buildings, no endowment, no library, and but one professor, has now buildings and grounds valued at $150,000, a library worth $30,000, and endowment of $170,000, five full time professors, and additional lecturers on theological subjects as time and circumstance may demand.

For the first seven years the institution was supported entirely by individual gifts and annual contributions of the churches.

The foundations for an endowment were laid in 1874, when two honored names in the ministry of the Reformed church gave $100 each to the Board of Education for theological instruction in the Western seminary.

At present about one-half the income of the institution that is needed for professors' salaries, library expenses, light, heat, janitor's service, repairs and upkeep of the property comes from the churches. This will decrease with the increase of the endowment.

At the annual meeting in June, 1923, of the General Synod at Asbury Park, the Synod unanimously declared itself in favor of more than doubling the endowment. Since this came from the highest legislative body of the church, it may be regarded as the voice of the whole church. The Synod said: "The Western Theological Seminary is not sufficiently endowed, there being only an endowment of $170,000 for the five chairs. This should be increased in the near future to at least $200,000."

From the financial, as from every other point of view, the Western Seminary has never been in a better, more promising condition than it is today.
There are three or more ways in which the endowment may be increased:

By a direct gift of a certain amount with the expressed desire that it shall be added to the endowment. By this method the donor sees the results of his gifts while he lives.

On the annuity plan by which the Seminary guarantees the donor from 4% to 8% interest, depending on age, on the principal till the time of death, when the income of the principal goes to the support of the seminary. In this way the donor is relieved from all anxiety of investing and re-investing the capital, and the possibility of losing it. It also prevents all possible litigation after his death.

There are conditions in which property is held such that the only and best way to increase the endowment of the seminary is by making the gift in the last will and testament.

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Forms of Giving

1.

I give to the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in America dollars for the maintenance of the Theological Seminary of said church, located at Holland, Mich.

2.

I give to the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in America dollars for the Endowment Fund of the Theological Seminary of said church located at Holland, Mich.
3.

I give to the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in America dollars for the endowment of the Western Theological Seminary of said church located at Holland, Mich., on the following conditions:

That said Trustees guarantee to pay per cent. interest, annually to myself and wife till the time of our death, and after that the principal shall be added to the endowment of the institution; and the income to be used for the support and maintenance and support of the seminary.

4.

I give to the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in America dollars for the beautifying of the grounds of the seminary located at Holland, Mich., and for the perpetual care.

5.

I give to the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in America dollars to the fund for the purchase of books for the library of the seminary located at Holland, Mich.

6.

I bequeath in my last will and testament to the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in America dollars for the maintenance and support of the seminary of the said church located at Holland, Mich.
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:

Rev. John E. Kuizenga, D. D., 1915-

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

INDEX

Buildings ................................................................. 25
Calendar ......................................................................... 2
Committee on Reception of Students................................. 6
Diplomas, Degrees ............................................................ 21
Endowment .................................................................... 27
English Bible .................................................................. 17
Faculty .......................................................................... 5
Foreign Missions ............................................................. 17
Lectures, Special ............................................................. 6
Opening Day .................................................................. 18
Students ......................................................................... 7
Study, Course of ............................................................. 10
Superintendents, Board of ................................................. 3
Trustees of Seminary ......................................................... 4