1925-1926. Catalog

Western Theological Seminary
Western Theological Seminary

REFORMED CHURCH in AMERICA

CATALOG
1925 - 1926

HOLLAND, MICHIGAN
CALENDAR

1925

September 16, 2 p. m. Entrance examinations.
September 17, 8 a. m. Lectures begin.
November 25-December 1. Thanksgiving recess.
December 18, noon Christmas recess begins.

1926

January 6 Lectures resumed.
January 28 Day of prayer for colleges and higher schools.
January 29-30 Semester examinations.
March 10 Day of prayer.
May 11-12 Final examinations and meeting of Board of Superintendents.
May 12 Commencement.
Sept. 15, 2 p. m. Entrance examinations.
Sept. 16, 8 a. m. Lectures begin.
Nov. 25-30 Thanksgiving recess.
Dec. 18, noon Christmas recess begins.

1927

January 5 Lectures resumed.
January 28-29 First semester examinations.
January 27 Day of prayer for schools.
March 9 Day of prayer.
May 10-11 Final examinations and meeting of Board of Superintendents.
May 11 Commencement.
BOARD OF SUPERINTENDENTS

Ex-Officio

Pres. J. E. Kuizenga ........................................ President
Pres. Edw. D. Dimnent ...................................... President of Hope College

From the Synod of New York

From the Synod of Albany
Rev. G. Hondelink, Rochester, N. Y. .................................. 1929

From the Synod of New Brunswick

From the Synod of Chicago
Rev. T. W. Muilenberg, South Holland, Ill. .................................. 1930
Rev. Gerrit Tysse, Holland, Mich. .................................. 1927
Elder C. Dosker, Grand Rapids, Mich. .................................. 1926
Rev. R. D. Meens, Kalamazoo, Mich. .................................. 1929

From the Synod of Iowa
Rev. H. J. Pietenpol, Otley, Ia. .................................. 1927
Rev. A. Haverkamp, Sioux Center, Ia. .................................. 1930
Elder C. Wormhoudt, Pella, Ia. .................................. 1929
Elder P. DeBeer, Stout, Ia. .................................. 1928
Rev. W. Denekas, Pekin, Ill. .................................. 1929

From the Classes
Chicago .................................. Rev. Peter Swart .................................. 1928
Grand Rapids .................................. Rev. Abraham Klerk .................................. 1926
Holland .................................. Rev. John Van Peursem .................................. 1928
Illinois ........................... Rev. J. P. Winter ....................... 1926
Kalamazoo ........................ Rev. J. J. Hollebrands .............. 1929
Muskegon ........................ Rev. J. Bovenkerk .................... 1929
Cascades ........................ To be appointed ...........................
Dakota ............................ Rev. Geo. E. Cook .................. 1928
Germania ........................
Pella ............................... Rev. C. Dolfin ..................... 1929
Pleasant Prairie ................ Rev. H. Achtermann ................. 1928
East Sioux ........................ Rev. J. D. Dykstra ............... 1929
Wisconsin ........................ Rev. Fred Lubbers .................. 1929
West Sioux ........................ Rev. A. F. Laman .................. 1929

Officers of the Board

President .................................................................
Vice President ........................ Rev. John Van Peursem
Stated Clerk ......................................................... Rev. G. Tysse

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 John E. Kuizenga, D. D.,
President
Professor of Practical Theology,
4 East Fourteenth St.

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

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
Secretary of the Faculty
29 East Sixteenth St.

* Dosker and Hulswit, Professor of Bible and Missions
  In memory of Rev. and Mrs. N. Dosker and
  and Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Hulswit.

The Reverend Albertus Pieters, D. D.,
Special Instructor in Foreign Missions,
141 East Tenth St.

* To be elected June, 1926.
Committee on Examination and Reception of Students

Pres. Edw. Dimnent
Rev. G. Tysse
Rev. John Van Peursem

Members of the Seminary Faculty

Special Lectures

Prof. Edward Worcester, D. D., Professor of Systematic Theology at New Brunswick, N. J.
I. "Authority and Liberty."
II. "Permanent Focus of Faith."

Rev. T. W. Davidson, D. D., Pastor of Hope Church, Holland
"The Minister and His Books"
"Intellectual Background of the Minister"

Rev. Simon Cornelius, Native Pastor at Vellore, India
"The Indian Church"

Rev. W. H. Farrar, Missionary at Arni, India
"Some Phases of the Indian Work"

Rev. John Banninga, D. D., Principal of Theological Seminary at Pasumalai, India
"Movements Toward Church Union in India"

Rev. John Van Ess, D.D., Missionary in Arabia
"Political Situation in Arabia"
"Lights and Shadows of Missionary Life in Arabia"
Two Lectures
STUDENTS

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Rev. Edwin W. Koepppe .................................................... Amoy, China
Clarence Holleman, M. D. .................................................. Leng Na, China

SENIOR CLASS

Bert Brower, A. B. ............................................................ Hamilton Hope College, 1923.
Jacob A. De Jong ............................................................. Pella, Iowa Grundy College.
First Year, Princeton Seminary.
George M. Flikkema, A. B. ............................................. Grand Rapids Central College, 1923.
Raymond A. Lubbers, A. B. .......................................... Sioux Center, Iowa Hope College, 1923.
Anthony Meengs, A. B. ..................................................... Holland Hope College, 1922.
First Year, McCormick Seminary.
Dick Mulder ................................................................. Parkersburg, Iowa Grundy College.
First Year, Princeton Seminary.
Isaac Scherpenisse, A. B. ................................................ Grand Rapids Hope College, 1923.
MIDDLE CLASS

    Moody Institute.
    North Park College.

Henry G. Korver, A. B........................................... Alton, Iowa
    Hope College, 1924.

Clarence Laman, A. B........................................... Holland
    Hope College, 1923.

John Minnema, A. B........................................... Holland
    Hope College, 1924.

Clyde K. Niewenhuis, A. B.................................. Avon, S. D.
    Hope College, 1924.

Jacob Prins, A. B........................................ Fulton, Ill.
    Hope College, 1924.

Herman Rozendaal, A. B.................................. Sully, Iowa
    Central College, 1924.

Gerrit J Rozeboom, A. B.................................. Sioux Center, Iowa
    Central College, 1924.

Richard J. Van Farowe, A. B.................................. Zeeland
    Hope College, 1924.

JUNIOR CLASS

Jacob Blaauw, A. B........................................ Chicago
    Hope College, 1925

Leonard De Moor, A. B..................................... Kalamazoo
    Hope College, 1924
    U. of M., 1925

Richard A. De Jong......................................... Holland
    Grundy College

Peter De Beer, A. B.......................................... Stout, Iowa
    Central College, 1925

Rensa Dykstra, A. B........................................ Blue Island, Ill.
    Hope College, 1925
John Fryling ............................................................ Zuni, New Mexico University of Dubuque
William Goulooze, A. B .......................................... Holland Central College, 1925
Josh M. Hoogenboom, A. B ....................................... Clymer, N. Y. Hope College, 1925
Percy J. Kinkema, A. B ........................................... Grand Rapids Hope College, 1925
Peter Kuiken, A. B .................................................. Pella, Iowa Central College, 1925
James C. Ottipobi, A. B ........................................... Elgin, Okla. Hope College, 1925
John Rikkers, A. B .................................................. Holland Calvin College, 1925
A. Cornelius Roos, A. B .......................................... Holland Hope College, 1925
Anton A. Schermer, A. B .......................................... Holland Hope College, 1925
Murray Steinkamp, A. B .......................................... Holland Central College, 1925
Anthony Van Zante, A. B ......................................... Pella, Iowa Central College, 1925
Jerry A. Veldman, A. B ........................................... Grand Rapids Hope College, 1925
Henry D. Voss, A. B ................................................ Holland Hope College, 1925

CANDIDATES FOR THE TH. M. DEGREE
Bert Brower ............................................................. Hamilton
Luke S. Brunsting .................................................. Holland
Cornie A. De Bruin ................................................. Pella, Iowa
George Flikkema .................................................. Grand Rapids
Anthony Meengs ................................................... Holland
George H. Mennenga .............................................. German Valley, Ill.
SUMMARY

Graduate .............................................. 2
Senior Class ......................................... 11
Middle Class ......................................... 9
Junior Class ......................................... 18
Candidates for Th. M. Degree .................. 22
Total .................................................. 62
Deduction for double count .................... 22
Total attendance .................................... 40
MIDDLE CLASS
COURSE OF STUDY

HEBREW—LANGUAGE AND EXEGESIS

Junior Class

Course 1. The Hebrew Language. A. B. Davidson's text-book will be used as a guide. Translations in writing of model sentences from Hebrew into English and from English into Hebrew, supplemented in the second semester by translations from the books of Joshua and Samuel. Study of a select vocabulary. Four hours a week through the year.

Course 2. Continuation Course. Summer Correspondence Course. The Book of Joel will be taken up during the summer of '25.

Middle Class

Course 3. Lectures on Prophets and Prophecy.


Course 5. Lectures on Graphical Inspiration as related to The Prophetical Books.

Senior Class

Course 6. Lectures on Old Testament Inspiration: Revelation and Inspiration; Lyric Inspiration; Chromatic Inspiration; Prophetic Inspiration; Instruments of Inspiration. These lectures will be supplemented by a study of the original of the Old Testament references, as a basis for advanced Hebrew.

Course 7. Messianic Prophecy. A study of the doctrinal background, together with the Pentateuchal
question. Development of the Messianic Idea in a Series of Exegetical Lectures beginning with the "Protevangel."


Course 9. The Canon of The Old Testament. One hour a week through the second semester.

Courses for Th. M. Degree by arrangement with the Professor in charge.

GREEK—LANGUAGE AND EXEGESIS

Junior Class

Course 1. Introduction to the New Testament. This course aims to acquaint the student with questions of higher criticism relating especially to the canonicity, integrity, place and scope of all New Testament writings. One hour a week through the year.

Course 2. Introduction to the Greek of the New Testament. Lectures are given on the Language of the New Testament in the light of the papyri discoveries. The Gospel, according to Mark, is studied and is supplemented with selected portions from the other gospels. Two hours a week through the year.

Middle Class

Course 3. Biblical Hermeneutics. Comprehensive knowledge of the principles of sound interpretation of both Old and New Testament is sought in this course. Special attention is given to parables, allegories, types, symbols, Messianic prophecies and apocalypses. One hour a week, first semester.

Course 4. General Introduction to the Epistles of Paul. This is a combination of the English Bible and
study of the Greek. Paul’s missionary approach and methods of work, Christology, doctrine of justification, Christian ethics, and other subjects are studied with care. Two hours a week, first semester.

Course 5. A continuation of Course 4 with the exegetical study of Romans, Galatians and Colossians. Three hours a week, second semester.

Senior Class

Course 6. Exegesis of the Epistle to the Hebrews. This “first Christian Apologetic” is studied for its argument for the finality of Christianity. Questions of authorship, destination and scope are treated at length. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 7. The Gospel according to John. The question of Johannine authorship of New Testament writings is carefully studied. Comparison is made with the Synoptic Gospels. Selected portions are given close exegetical study. Two hours a week, second semester.

Courses open to Th. M. candidates:

Course 8. The Beginnings of Christianity, studies in the Acts.


HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

Junior Class

Course 1. The English Bible. A study of the Historical books of the Old Testament, in which the English Bible is used as the text-book. There are also readings on special subjects and reviews of works on the Old Testament. The aim of this course is to acquaint the student with the main contents of each book; to discuss the conservative and critical views, and the bearing of Modern research upon them. It also traces
the conflict between the Israelite and the Canaanite culture after the conquest of the land under Joshua, and the consequences to which it led. First semester.

Course 2. Intertestamentary History. The political developments of the period; the religious life, religious parties, institutions and the literary work of the Jews; also the intellectual and religious development of the Greeks and Romans. The aim of this course is to learn what contributions were made by the Jewish and Gentile world for the preparation of the Christian movement. Second semester.

Course 3. The Apostolic Age. A study of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; the beginning and growth of the church; the work of the Apostle Paul; some of its problems, its organization, character of its life, its worship and ordinances. Second semester.

Course 4. The Patristic Age. The Ancient Church. The expansion of the Christian Church during the second and third centuries; its conflict with the political and the intellectual forces of the Roman Empire; internal developments; the process of centralization and unification, and the emergence of the Old Catholic Church. Second semester.

Middle Class

Course 5. The Imperial Age. The Imperial State Church. The relation between church and state, and their influence upon each other; the Barbarian invasions of the Roman Empire; the doctrinal controversies; the ascetic movement, and the various movements of protest against the secularizing influences in the church. First semester.

Course 6. The Middle Ages. The Latin Church. The missionary operations of the church; the church and the Holy Roman Empire; factors entering into the growth, triumph and the decline of the Papacy; the
Monastic development; the scholastic movement; the character of Christian life and worship, and the several movements, such as mysticism, reform parties and the Renaissance, preparatory to the Protestant Reformation. First semester.

Course 7. The Period of the Reformation. The forces leading to the Protestant Reformation; its essential character; fundamental principles; its progress and fortunes in the several countries of Europe; the conflicts to which it led, and the results. Second semester.

Senior Class

Course 8. The Reformation Era. The Counter-Reformation; the thirty years war; the theological controversies in the Lutheran and Reformed Churches; the polity and worship of the Protestant churches. First semester.

Course 9. The Modern Era. Denominational development. A study of the various denominations in Europe and America; the intellectual revolution, such as Deism in England, scepticism in France, rationalism in Germany and Modernism in the Netherlands; the various revival movements, such as Quakerism, Pietism, Moravianism, Jansenism, Methodism and the Great Awakening; also reform and Union movements. Second semester.

Following courses are open to candidates for the Th. M. Degree:

Course 10. The Theological Controversies of the Ancient Church.

Course 11. The Calvinistic Reformation.

Course 12. The intellectual revolution of the modern era.

Other courses by arrangement.
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Junior Class

Course 1. Encyclopedia and Methodology. The object of this course is to become acquainted with the field of theological studies in its four main divisions, the exegetical, the historical, the systematic and the practical. Also to consider methods of approach to subjects and the way of dealing with them.

Course 2. Authority. The nature of authority; the special need of authority in religion; Christ, the revealer of God; the claims of the writers; the contents of the Bible; prophecy and the supernatural; archaeology, modern science and the Scripture; revelation and inspiration; the witness of the Spirit; false theories of the Bible; primitive revelation and primitive religion.

Course 3. The Doctrine of God. The idea of systematic theology; the sources; the existence of God; confirmatory arguments, the ontological, the cosmological, the theological, the anthropological; anthropomorphism; the personality of God; the fatherhood; the attributes; the unity of God; tri-personality; the eternal generation of the Son and the procession of the Spirit; the sovereignty of God; the decrees; the God of love.

Middle Class

Course 1. The Doctrine of Creation. The ad intra and ad extra works of God; ex nihilo; the laws of the universe; creation days; why God created a universe; the work of the tri-une God; erroneous views; evidence for a spiritual order; the nature and rank of angels; their ministry; Satan and evil angels; demon-possession, spiritism; the nature of the divine government; special providence; the supernatural; dark problems; erroneous views.
Course 2. **The Doctrine of Man.** The creation of man; the evolutionary theory; the immortality of the soul; the image of God in man; the unity of the race; original righteousness; the fall of man; the nature of sin; the universality of sin; God’s relation to and attitude towards sin; man’s inability to save himself.

Course 3. **The Doctrine, the Person and Work of Christ.** The transition; Jesus the mediator; the virgin birth; humanity of Christ; sinlessness; deity; the union of the natures; the purpose of the incarnation; vicarious suffering and death; limited and unlimited atonement; erroneous views; the place of the cross in the gospel message; Christ as prophet, priest and king.

Course 4. **Doctrine of the Holy Spirit.** Reasons for separate treatment; names and symbols; the love of the Spirit; the Spirit in relation to creation; the scriptures; to Christ; to the new life; the graces of the Spirit; the gifts; the witness of the Spirit; hindering the Spirit; the Holy Spirit and the unregenerate; Pentecost.

Course 5. **The Doctrine of Salvation.** The plan of salvation; the grace of God; predestination; vocation; regeneration; faith; justification; repentance; conversion; sanctification; perfection; assurance; good works; mystical union; perseverance.

**Senior Class**

Course 1. **English Bible.** Daniel and Revelation.

Course 2. **The Doctrine of the Church.** The nature of the church; the kingdom of God; the mission of the church; the unity of the church, the means of grace; the sacraments; the word; prayer.

Course 3. **The Doctrine of Last Things.** The idea; death; the disembodied state; intermediate places; premillennialism; post-millennialism; the millenium; the
antichrist; the second advent; the resurrection; the general judgment; condition of the lost; the redeemed earth; heaven and the state of the blessed.

Course 4. Christian Ethics. The laws of God; obedience; the human will; conscience; the ethics of the Old Testament; of the New; one system among many; ends; the glory of God the end; the will of God, the law of Christian ethics; the ten commandments; the sermon on the Mount; the family; relation between church and state; peace and war; private property; socialism; poverty and wealth; industrial life; ethics of the inner life; legal obedience; loving obedience; Christian sociology; Christian civilization.

Course 5. During the latter half of the second semester the subject of Systematic Theology is reviewed.

The number of hours given to the various courses depends on the importance of the subject.

The following courses are open to candidates for the Th. M. Degree:

Course 1. The Doctrine of the Trinity.
Course 2. The Incarnation.
Course 3. Modernism.

PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

Junior Class

Course 1. Homiletics. General theory of preaching, logical and rhetorical outlines, types of sermons, text analysis with outlines, different types of sermons; inductive study of sermons from the great preachers; delivery of sermons with extra time given to elocution. Two hours a week, first semester.
Course 2. **Pastoral Theology.** Practical encyclopaedia, the office in the church, pastor's care of himself for health and efficiency, home life of the pastor, various kinds of pastoral calling, various types of doubt and difficulty, calling on the sick, conduct of funerals; personal work; conduct of public service, parts of the public service. Two hours a week, first semester.

Course 3. **Homiletics, continued.** Delivery of sermons, continuous outlining of sermons, suggestions on delivery and pulpit elocution; studies in the history of preaching and in contemporary types of sermonizing. Two hours a week, second semester.

Course 4. **Introduction to Psychology of Religion.** General types of psychology and consequent types of theory of religion; human nature and its essential constituents, nature of instinct, religion and human nature; development of religion in the life of the individual; religious types normal and abnormal; conversion; prayer; mysticism. Two hours a week, second semester.

**Middle Class**

Course 5. **Religious Education.** Most of the students have taken courses in the history of education, psychology, pedagogy, and administration in their college work; hence this course gathers up the applications of these courses to the special history of religious education, theory of religious education, child-study, and curriculum. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 6. **The Institutions of Religious Education and Young People’s Work.** Special pedagogy of Religious education, the function of the home, the week day Bible school, the Sunday school, the various Christian schools, the various kinds of organizations for work with children and young people, children's sermons and junior congregation. Two hours a week, second semester.

Senior Class

Course 8. Church and Community. Sociology of the group and the community; objectives of the church; how to begin in a new community; the community survey; evangelism; the rural church—the industrial revolution, with effects on country life, various types of country community, the work of the rural church; city problems and the city church; community problems on the foreign field. Three hours a week, first semester.

Course 9. Church Administration. Types of polity, church and state, constitution of the Reformed church, principles of church organization, church finance, church government, church program, principles of efficiency. Two hours a week, second semester.

Course 10. Homiletics. Doctrinal preaching, with sermons on the catechism. One hour a week, second semester.

Special Courses for the Th. M. Degree

Course 11. Psychology of Religion. Typical psychologies of religion as exhibited in the books of various schools; the nature of Psycho-Analysis and the psychology of the Unconscious; special studies in mysticism.

Course 12. The Philosophy of Religion. Subject as defined and distinguished; nature of religion, as deduced from psychology and science of religion, theism and its problems, Christianity and theism.
Other courses may be had, if there be sufficient who wish to take them.

In addition to the regular courses in preaching, seniors and middlers preach before the student body, with at least two of the professors present. The student is subject to the criticism of all present. Outlines of the sermons preached are submitted to the professors in advance.

Outline of Course in Missions

(On the basis of work done in 1924-25)

General Purpose: To give such a view of the missionary, his life, and his work, as can be obtained only from one who has had 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. The course includes twenty sessions with the Senior and Middle Classes. (From '25-'26 on, with the Middle Class only.) Examinations are given, papers are written, and collateral reading is required as in other courses.

Subjects Covered: Theory of Missions; qualifications, preparation, appointment, travel, language study, etc., of missionaries; conditions of life in the foreign field; relation of missionaries to the social, moral, religious, and political life of the people to whom they are sent; characteristics of Asiatic civilization; the Board and the Mission, their organization, scope and limits of their authority; methods of transacting business; elementary Comparative Religion, especially with reference to Buddhism; the church in non-Christian lands, its importance, development, relation to the Mission, etc.; evangelistic and educational methods and problems, etc., etc.
Courses in 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).
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 testimonial 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. 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
admit him to examination for licensure in all evangelical churches.

3. All students who complete the regular course and have the degree of Bachelor of Arts (A. B.) from an accredited college, will receive in addition to their professorial certificate the degree of bachelor of theology (Th. B.)

4. The degree of master of theology (Th. M.) will be given to those students who have completed the following work, and are recommended by the faculty as having fulfilled all conditions:

   (a) The student shall hold the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Hope College, or some other accredited college.

   (b) The student shall have completed three full years in the Western Theological Seminary, or in some other Seminary whose standards are acceptable. At least the last two years shall have been pursued in this Seminary.

   (c) The applicant shall have maintained throughout each separate semester of his regular theological course an average standing of at least 85%.

   (d) The student shall have done special work during the course equivalent to at least one hour a week for three Seminary years. Two-thirds of this work must be in one department as major work.
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 through 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 Hoppers 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 in 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 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 through 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. 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 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 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:

Rev. Jacob Van der Meulen, D. D., acting professor 1920, professor 1921.
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