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ONE PRESIDENT NAMED FOR BOTH RCA SEMINARIES

Administrative Structure Set: Eenigenburg, Thomas, Named Deans; Kleinhekseel, Gates, Presidential Assistants

At its May 12-13, 1969 meeting, the Board of Theological Education, RCA, accepted the resignations of President Ridder of Western and President Jamison of New Brunswick Seminary. The Board then proceeded to name Dr. Herman J. Ridder as President of both seminaries in a move to achieve a unified administration, parallel with the earlier unification of the governing Board of Trustees. The appointment of two Deans and two Assistants to the President of the Reformed Church in America seminaries was subsequently made. Dr. Elton M. Eenigenburg was named to serve as the Academic Dean of Western Seminary and Henry Kleinhekseel became the Assistant to the President. At New Brunswick Seminary, Dr. Norman E. Thomas was made Dean while Walter C. Gates became Assistant to the President.

In each case, the Dean will be responsible to the President in all matters relating to academic affairs and will be the administrative head of the school in the absence of the President. The assistant to the president will be responsible for all non-academic matters.

Eenigenburg joined the faculty of Western in 1952 as Professor of Historical Theology and Church History following pastorates in legion. He now continues in that post under the new administrative structure. Thomas is now serving as the minister of the historic First Reformed Church of Albany, New York. He is a 1941 graduate of Rutgers University and graduated in 1944 from New Brunswick Theological Seminary. During his term as president of the General Synod in 1961-62, Central College of Pella, Iowa, conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1966 he received the Master's degree in Theology from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He served as an Army chaplain during the Korean war. His previous parishes include St. Johnsville, New York and Schenectady, New York. He has just completed a seven-year assignment as co-chairman of the Joint Committee of Twenty-Four in the merger discussions with the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.

The new appointments were made in consultation with each faculty and the executive committee of the Board of Theological Education, R.C.A.

Henry Kleinhekseel became Business Manager at Western in 1961. Recently his title was changed to that of Assistant to the President. A graduate of Hope College, Mr. Kleinhekseel came to Western from his position as Production Manager of the Holland-Suco Color Company, a division of Chemetron Corporation.

Walter Gates has been at New Brunswick since 1961, serving as Business Manager there. A graduate of Syracuse University, Mr. Gates was employed as Eastern Sales Manager for the Twin Harbors Lumber Company of New York City prior to his coming to New Brunswick.

The Curriculum Design Committee, named earlier by the board, and composed of faculty and students of the two seminaries, is expected to make its final report to the board in the fall of 1969. The report is based upon a concept developed by the Program Design Committee of the new board, characterized as a two-level, two-site program of theological education for the Reformed Church. Plans for the implementation of the new program will become the responsibility of the newly named president.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees granted a one-year sabbatical leave to Dr. Wallace N. Jamison who has not been given such a privilege during the eleven years of his service with New Brunswick Seminary.

Osterhaven Continues Catholic Conversations

In the aggiornamento, or updating, that a large part of the Roman Catholic Church has been experiencing since the Second Vatican Council, significant inter-confessional dialogue has been initiated upon the invitation of the bishops of the Roman Catholic Church. Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven, professor of systematic theology at the seminary and a participant in the Roman Catholic-Reformed/Presbyterian Consultation, has been representing the Reformed Church in America in these conversations for the past three and one-half years. Responsible to the Synod of American Bishops and the North American Area Council of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, the Consultation consists of fourteen members from each confessional body and meets semi-annually. The next meeting is scheduled for October 29 - November 1 in Holland, Michigan. Current topics of conversation are inter-faith marriage, ordination, episcopacy, and papal primacy. The May meeting in Charleston, South Carolina, was concluded by a luncheon on the U.S. Navy fleet flagship and a tour of Charleston harbor on the admiral's yacht, a step removed from theological conversations!

Pictured above is Dr. Osterhaven with Bishop Allen J. Babcock of Grand Rapids. Bishop Babcock is chairman of the Ecumenical Commission of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Grand Rapids, of which Dr. Osterhaven is an associate member.

DR. NORMAN E. THOMAS

Long Branch, New Jersey; Passaic, New Jersey; and Chicago, Illinois. A graduate of Rutgers University in 1937 and Western Theological Seminary in 1940, he received his Master's degree in Theology from Princeton Seminary in 1943 and his Ph.D. from Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary in New York City in 1949. His degree was in the field of philosophy of religion and ethics. In 1963 he was named Academic Dean at Western and Professor of Christian Ethics and Philosophy of Rel-
From the President's Desk

The news of the appointment of a single president for both of our seminaries was met with amazement by a church that was beginning to wonder whether it could any longer stay together as a united denomination. One may have legitimate questions about the specifics of the action, but there can be little argument about the necessity or the inevitability of such a move. For those of us who have worked most closely with the program, the divided administration of the two schools became more and more a source of frustration as the Board of Trustees sought to carry out its Synod-given mandate to "unify theological education."

But what does this action mean for theological education? None of us knows exactly what will be involved. But let it be said that no other decisions have been made beyond those already publicly announced. All we have done is to create the situation in which future decisions can be made which, we trust, will further theological education in the R.C.A.

Bold New Approach

There are several aspects, however, that this action has already made possible. Obviously, this is a bold new approach to an old problem in the R.C.A. Some kind of unification has long been the desire of great numbers of ministers and laymen in the church as they considered the fine, but separate, contributions of the two institutions. The Board has now made it possible for men of vision and heart to create the kind of program that would make of us a model, rather than an "also ran."

The End of "Over-againstness"

We now have a chance to end the over-againstness that has so long characterized the efforts of our schools. Always carried out in a friendly atmosphere, there was yet a sense of rivalry that could not be denied. Both schools had their distinctive achievements which, nonetheless, lacked the fullness that the other campus might have added. Competition is important for survival, as we all know, but competition must be measured against a proper opponent. When we were pitted against each other, we succeeded in building a spirit of rivalry that often produced an atmosphere of division and suspicion, as alumni of the two schools served in the various judicatories and committees of the denomination. That kind of competition will now be ended through various administrative efforts to blend the distinctive features of both campuses without destroying the particular contribution each is best qualified to give. For example, this will be the last issue of The Theolog since with the coming of fall the newsletters of both seminaries will be combined in a single publication. Also, New Brunswick faculty members will be included in equal editorial direction of The Reformed Review; making that scholarly paper the theological journal of the seminaries of the R.C.A. Other steps are also being planned that will make this dream more of a reality.

A Chance for Something New

The change made will also enable us to do "some new thing" in theological education. This is a phrase that has been used from the beginning in the current studies of unification. As a church, we had the resources to do what needs to be done. We have excellent, qualified, and dedicated faculty members on both sites. We have an unparalleled source for ministerial leadership in our youth who can be challenged to a meaningful concept of ministry. There is something of a "brain drain" going on that needs to be averted. Our young men will be attracted to a first-rate program in theological education. We have a great number of congregations who have always—from the very beginning—demanded a trained and godly ministry. We have two sites that presently represent vast resources in social, educational, and cultural varieties so necessary for theological education today. When the plan for theological education is presented it needs to take into account all of these factors, and out of these various aspects build a design for theological education which will put us in the vanguard of the preparation of ministers.

Provide for Professional Development

The unification of our program will also enable us to spend much more time, effort, and money on continuing professional development of ministers who are presently serving the church. Because our interest until now has been so narrowly focused on those preparing themselves for ordination, we have had little thought or energies remaining for the needs of men already in the ministry. I see great opportunities in this area and plan to present a proposal that will provide for the professional growth needs of these people already deeply involved in ministry.

We honor the past and salute the heroes of yesterday. Names like Livingston, Pieters, Beardslee, and Mulder are honored names among us. Most of us know that history fairly well. But right now our faces are turned to the future. Building on the contributions of these stalwarts and a great host of others, we have the opportunity to make significant strides in bettering the process of theological education so that, not just individual heroes stand out of the host of their colleagues, but the era itself may be described as one of greatness. For that purpose we covet your trust, wisdom and prayers. The task is a great one, but the God whom we serve is greater.

Give us your hand!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Increased Enrollment At Western

As this issue of the THEOLOGOLOGY went to press, there were 35 new students scheduled to enter the B.D. program, 9 new candidates for the Master of Christian Education degree, and 4 additional candidates for the Master of Theology degree.

The newly entering B.D. candidate students, numbering 35, are a 25% increase over last year's junior class of 28 students. This reported total may be increased through applications presently in process through the office of the Academic Dean.

LAST CALL FOR PAR

The "Seminary in the Rockies" scheduled for July 21-28, has been enthusiastically received by many Western alumni. Dr. Piel and Professor Wilterdink will represent Western, along with leaders from Calvin Seminary and the Bethesda Hospital in Denver. Meeting on the TMCA campground in Estes Park near Denver, the group will consider the subject "Church and Society—Contemporary". The fellowship and inspiration of this event should entice many to it this year.

The Wisconsin PAR, scheduled for July 28 to August 1, is rapidly approaching. To be held at Camp Byron near Brownsville, Wisconsin, the PAR Institute will be based on a format similar to previous study seminars. Dr. William C. Brownson is serving as registrar, and he will be accompanied by Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven, Western's Professor of Systematic Theology, who will give a series of studies on "Contemporary Theology." Dr. Brownson will discuss sermon exegesis and will conduct preaching laboratories for the participants. Here is an opportunity for Western alumni, their wives and families as well, to participate in an event which blends academic opportunities with recreational activities.
FACULTY SERVES BEYOND THE CAMPUS

Dr. James I. Cook, professor of Biblical Languages and Literature, gave the annual exchange lecture series at New Brunswick Seminary in New Jersey this spring. His series of three lectures included an illustrated one on "Biblical Archeology," "The Concept of Adoption in the Theology of Paul," and "The Old Testament Concept of the Image of God."

Dr. John H. Piet, professor of English Bible and Missions, published an article in Eternity magazine, the April 1969 issue, on the subject "Who Said Christ Could Forgive?" The article is a biblical study in the doctrine of forgiveness, based on Col. 1:14.

Dr. Donald J. Bruggink, professor of Historical Theology and Church History, was honored by Societies of Architects on the state level in Michigan, as well as on the national level. The Michigan Society of Architects conferred upon him an honorary membership "in recognition of his dedicated service to the profession of architecture." At the Thirtieth National Conference on Religious Architecture held in St. Louis, Missouri this spring, Dr. Bruggink was elected by the Board of Directors to an honorary membership in the National Guild for Religious Architecture. This group is the largest in the United States concerned with religious architecture, and is an affiliate of the American Institute of Architects. It publishes the quarterly journal "Faith and Form." In granting the membership, Mr. Robert L. Durham, past-president and member of the board, cited Dr. Bruggink's contributions to the field of church architecture through his book Christ and Architecture, Building Reformed/Presbyterian Churches. He also took note of Bruggink's articles in various architectural periodicals, and cited his leadership in the American Society of Church Architecture, together with his assistance to churches in dealing with their architectural opportunities. A sponsor of the National Conference, called the American Society of Church Architecture, reected Dr. Bruggink to the post of first vice-president of that organization.

Dr. Lester J. Kuyper, professor of Old Testament, and Dr. James I. Cook, professor of Biblical Languages and Literature at Western, were the official Western Seminary delegates to the General Synod, R.C.A., which met at Rutgers in New Brunswick, N.J. from June 7 to 11.

Dr. James I. Cook will serve as the instructor for Western's summer Greek program which is scheduled from July 8 to August 27. On the date the THEOLOG went to press, 13 students were enrolled for this program, which enables them to qualify for entrance into the regular B.D. program at Western this fall.

INNER CITY BECOMES WESTERN'S CLASSROOM

Seminar Classes Visit Chicago Ministries

Two seminar classes at Western toured inner city ministries in the Chicago area as part of third quarter course requirements. Organized and directed by Professor Hugh A. Koops of Western's Christian Education Department, the group attempted to understand the church as it relates to our contemporary culture, and as it experiments in individual and group ecumenical ministries.

The Bethel Lutheran Church in Chicago's west side was the first stop for the study group. It is involved with eleven other churches in a community-oriented program called Christian Action Ministries (CAM).

The thrust of the program is to provide help for persons at particular points of need. Currently it is involved in public housing, employment assistance, and tutorial programs for high-school dropouts.

The "Fifth City" program of the Ecumencial Institute gave another exposure to the study group. It is an attempt to restructure life on Chicago's west side.

Also surveyed were two Reformed Church projects. The Lathrop Homes on Chicago's north side is a ministry conducted by the Rev. Roland Rutmeyer. A similar ministry is being given by the Rev. Herbert DuMont at the Robert Taylor Homes in Chicago.

In a complete change of pace, the seminar classes visited and worshipped with the Brothers of Taize. This community is a Protestant monastic effort being carried on in downtown Chicago. The men of the Taize community are regularly employed in the area, and serve in a variety of ministries and types of worship through disciplined living through that monastic order.

Historic Fourth Presbyterian Church was the site of a visit to the Vanguard Bookstore-Coffeehouse. The Rev. Andy Templeton conducted a worship service and introduced his insights into what an established traditional downtown church can do to minister effectively in its community area.

Western's class of 1944 held its 25th reunion on Tuesday, May 27. Of the original 22 graduates, 11 were present. The wives and the graduates from left to right, seated, are: Mesdames Tunis Miersma, Henry Voogd, George Chemnitz, Harold Colenbrander, Howard Van Egmond, Henry Zylstra, Frederick Dolfin, Robert Swart and John Hoekstra. Standing, left to right, are the 1944 graduates: the Rev. Tunis Miersma, Theodore F. Zandstra, Henry Voogd, George Chemnitz, Harold Colenbrander, Howard Van Egmond, Henry Zylstra, Frederick Dolfin, Robert Swart, John Hoekstra and Henry Poppen.

The study seminar was an experiment in a new learning-model. Involvement with the various ministries observed by the group at first hand gave an excellent opportunity to get a feel for what the church can do to face the problems and opportunities for ministry in metropolis.

AWARDS GRANTED AT HONORS ASSEMBLY

Highlight of the Western honors assembly was the awarding of two graduate fellowships. Named the "John and Mattie L. Oosterhaven Graduate Fellowship Awards" these grants were made to Dennis Voekul of Baldwin, Wisconsin and Robert White of Homewood, Illinois. Voekul has been accepted at Harvard University and White will enter Union Seminary and Columbia University in New York City.

The senior class at Western voted to pool all their award grants into a single fund, and to present this combined gift to the Western Seminary Missionary Fund. This year's project was the purchase of theological reference books for pastors in the United Church of South India. The ties between the Church of South India and Western are close, because Indian pastors from that area have attended Western Seminary in recent years in the Master of Theology Degree program. Senior prizes pooled for this purpose reached $315 total and consisted of the George N. Makeley prizes for sermon content, sermon delivery, and systematic theology, also the Henry W. Fietenpol prize for senior excellence.

Makeley prizes were given in New Testament language to two juniors, William Fennema for first prize in New Testament Language and Literature, and James De Good, second prize. In the Makeley Old Testament Language and Literature prize, first place went to Harold Lay, and second place to Don Damsteeg.

The De Kline English Bible prize was awarded to James De Good for first place and Harrison Harnden for second place.
YOUTH MINISTRY CONTINUED IN HOLLAND

Holland Class of the Reformed Church has maintained a youth work in the area, using Western Seminary Students assigned to the Holland City Mission program.

Robert Terwilliger has been given a summer assignment in this program this year. Terwilliger is a native of Wallkill, New York and a graduate of Hope College, who has completed his junior year at Western.

Another graduate from Western's junior class, James Baar, of Wyckoff, New Jersey has been given a summer assignment, working for an association of churches of several denominations in the Holland area. He will be working out of a youth center which is now in the process of being acquired for this purpose. A Board of Trustees, including ministers and laymen from the area, has been established to acquire the property and to administer the property and the program. Baar will be working in close cooperation with Terwilliger in an overall ministry for the youth of the greater Holland area.

JAMES I. COOK PLANS NEW KIND OF SABBATICAL

Professor James I. Cook, professor of biblical languages and literature at the seminary, is planning a new kind of sabbatical for this next year. He will become the Minister of Social Action of the Hope Reformed Church in Holland during the next academic year. As director of this program, he will focus the congregation's concerns in various areas of social ministry.

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in their first year in this Core. The Core will focus on some aspect of social pathology in the community and have regular seminar sessions dealing with this problem. To these seminar sessions will be brought experts in theology and Bible and some of the secular disciplines to teach the student how to deal with a problem in such a way as to bring his theological and secular resources to bear upon that problem. The Core concept is much in review in current studies on theological education, but thus far there has been very little actual practice in applying it in life.

During the year, Dr. Cook will have no responsibilities at the seminary excepting to report to the president on the success of the Core concept. This experiment will be watched closely since much of the new design for theological education involves the usage of the Core concept.

VIDEO TAPE EQUIPMENT PRESENTED TO WESTERN

Alumni Gift Demonstrated at Annual Meeting

A highlight of the program for the annual alumni meeting at Western Seminary on commencement day was the presentation and demonstration of video classroom equipment, the gift of the alumni to their alma mater. Named the "Albertus Pieters Mass Communications Project," the gift commemorated the 100th anniversary of Pieters' birth. The alumni responded in a very generous fashion to this opportunity to give tribute to Western's distinguished graduate, whose career as missionary, teacher and professor made a dynamic impact upon his generation.

The highest alumni gift ever made by Western alumni was given this year, when 212 donors gave an aggregate gift of $2,500.00, to be applied to the Albertus Pieters Mass Communications project, the video-tape classroom equipment.

The executive committee of the Alumni Association is especially grateful to the many alumni who made donations for the first time this year. It is hoped that many of the 900 alumni who have not yet found it possible to contribute toward this project will be able to do so in order to complete the purchase of the equipment, the total cost of which is $3,065.00.

Dr. Piet and Dr. Osterhaven of Western's faculty held a dialog over the life, career and ministry of Dr. Pieters, while the newly acquired cameras and tape deck were used to record the program. Simultaneously, two large black and white television receivers showed the alumni audience what was happening on the stage as it happened. The equipment was assembled and operated by Professor Hugh A. Koops of Western's Christian Education Department.

One hundred seventy-five alumni gathered for the annual meeting. In an election of officers, the Rev. Peter Muyskens of the Olivet Reformed Church of Grandville was named President, Dr. Elton J. Bruins of Hope's Bible Department became Vice-President, the Rev. John Nieuwma, pastor of the First Reformed Church of Grandville, Michigan, was named Secretary-Treasurer, and the Rev. Raymond Schaap of Holland was named Necrology Secretary.

Officers of the Western Theological Seminary Alumni Association are shown: left to right, Dr. Elton J. Bruins, former secretary-treasurer and now vice-president; Rev. John Nieuwma, secretary-treasurer; Rev. Ralph Menning, past-president; Rev. Peter Muyskens, formerly vice-president, now president; and not shown, Rev. Raymond Schaap, necrology secretary.

President Ridder reported briefly to the alumni on the present status of the program to create a unified theological training for the Reformed Church. He also reported the significant actions taken at the most recent meeting of the Board for Theological Education, held in Chicago on May 12 and 13.

The alumni expressed their appreciation to the Rev. Ralph Menning for his leadership of their association during his years of office as Vice-President and President.

DR. JAMES I. COOK

At the same time, Professor Cook will be working with an experimental group called the Core. This will be eight students selected from the incoming junior class who will spend twenty-five percent of their time
FIFTY YEAR CIRCLE OF ALUMNI ORGANIZED

Featured highlight of the alumni dinner on May 28 was the introduction to the group of the newly organized Fifty-Year Circle of Western Seminary alumni. The Rev. John S. Ter Louw, class of 1919, advanced the suggestion that this group should be organized for his alma mater. Working in consultation with President Ridder and Henry Kleinheksel, Assistant to the President at Western, Rev. Ter Louw corresponded with all eligible living graduates of the classes of 1919 and earlier.

Eight members were presented to the group at the alumni dinner. An artist's conception of an appropriate lapel pin for each member of the Fifty-Year Circle was displayed at the meeting. The pins will be awarded to each eligible member of the circle when they become available from the manufacturer.

As a response to the expressed interest of many members of the new circle in creating a suitable project for their group, the Albertus Pieters Memorial Scholarship Fund was instituted by them. A number of gifts for this cause have already been received to establish this memorial fund, which will be used to provide loans to Western students, with repayment to be made following commencement, so that the fund will serve as a rotating source of financial aid to future generations of Western Seminary students. It is hoped that each year the next eligible class will be led to participate in this long range memorial fund.

STUDENT OFFICERS NAMED FOR NEW YEAR

Herman Gruis of Hollandale, Minnesota, was elected by the student body of Western Seminary to be president of the student council for the 1969-70 academic year. Named as faculty representative was Professor Robert Nykamp; administrative representative is Henry Kleinheksel. Chairman of the Missions Committee is Wayne Van Kampen; the Academic Committee, Charlotte Assink; the Social Action Committee, Dan Kershner; the Fellowship Committee, Virgil Dykstra; the Worship Committee, Mark Lemmenes; and editor of POEMA, Robert Dahl.

As student representatives on the important curriculum study committee, meeting jointly with New Brunswick and Western faculty members and students are Gene Pearson carrying over from last year, and James DeGood named to replace Robert White.

At the beginning of the first quarter this fall, class representatives will be elected to the student council, after which a secretary and a treasurer will be elected by the new group.

In an election held by members of Adelphia, Western's organization of student wives, Sandra Pearson was named the new president, Sandi Hekhuis the new treasurer, and Barbara Huizenga the new secretary.

Seven members of the newly organized Fifty-Year Circle of Western alumni were present at the annual meeting. Shown above, left to right, are: Rev. John C. Van Wyk, Dr. John S. Ter Louw, Rev. Frederick J. Van Dyk, Dr. Miner Stengena, Rev. Charles A. Stoppels, Rev. Herman Maassen, and Rev. Herman J. Potter.

As long-standing members of the First Reformed Church of Lansing, Illinois.

The donors have expressed the hope that during future years additional gifts will become available to augment the "Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ridder, Sr. Memorial Fund" so that it may become increasingly effective in providing meaningful scholarship awards either to Western Seminary students and/or seminary alumni, under policies to be set up from time to time by the administrative office at the seminary.

Initial Ridder Scholarship Award winners will be announced at a later date.

Mr. Nick Ridder, oldest living son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ridder, Sr. makes a presentation of the combined gift of the Ridder children to establish the "Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ridder, Sr. Memorial Fund" at Western Seminary. Shown at left, receiving the gift, is Mr. Henry Kleinheksel, Assistant to the President at Western.
WAYER SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED FOR 1969-70

The announcement was made recently of the award winners of the Wayer Presidential Scholarships for the 1969-70 academic year at Western Seminary. Seven full tuition scholarships were given by Western as a result of the fund set up by the Rev. and Mrs. James Wayer. Proceeds from this fund are used to give tuition scholarships to outstanding students of high academic achievement.

The winners this year are Donald Damsteegt, James De Good, and Harrison Hamden, who have just finished the junior year and will be middlers next year. In the middler class, Eugene Pearson was the winner of a Wayer Scholarship. In addition, Wayer Scholarships were given to three incoming students. They are: Richard Veenstra and Harvey Heneveld, both graduating from Hope this spring; and Donald Hoekstra, a graduate of Central College in 1967.

European Travel Seminar Studies Church History

On June 12, a party of thirty persons left the States via DCS KLM jet for Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Under the direction of Dr. Donald J. Bruggink, the second edition of the Western Christendom Travel Seminar undertook its study of the Christian heritage by traveling from Amsterdam to Rome by chartered bus, and then working back up through the Italian peninsula into Switzerland, then France, Belgium and the Netherlands to retrace the great eras of Christian history in Western Europe.

Academic in nature, at least one member of each participating couple submitted a scholarly paper on some phase of the history of Christendom in Western Europe, with the assembled papers to be later bound into a hard volume book for permanent reference purposes.

Included in the group are members of the present student body at Western, recent graduates of the school, members of the administrative staff of Western and other friends. The group will return to the States on July 4.