



Covenant Seminary Newsletter

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DR. BUSWELL RETIRES

Because he has rendered such a remarkable stewardship of the time which God has given him, inspiring all who knew him personally by filling every spare moment of his days with accomplishment (memorizing scripture in Greek while taking his exercise, reading a book while waiting for a meeting to begin, etc.), it was entirely fitting that Dr. J. Oliver Buswell, Jr. should bring the seminary's commencement address on the subject of "The Christian's Attitude Toward the Passage of Time." This was Dr. Buswell's last official appearance for the seminary as a member of the regular faculty. Having reached the age of 75 during this school year he has retired from the teaching faculty, but will retain his position as Emeritus Dean of the Faculty of Covenant Theological Seminary for what all of his friends hope will be many years of fruitful service for the Lord.



Dr. Buswell

Dr. Buswell's message, delivered without notes, was a fitting climax to a long and distinguished career in the service of Christ as pastor, chaplain, educator, and author. When he entered the army chaplaincy during the first World War, he was the youngest chaplain on active duty. Leaving a pastorate in New York, it was he who as the youngest college president in the country at the time, raised Wheaton College from a small, obscure Midwestern school to a commanding position as the outstanding Christian college of the day. After leaving Wheaton he taught for a time at Faith Theological Seminary in Philadelphia and then accepted the presidency of the National Bible Institute of New York City which under his leadership became Shelton College.

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DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT APPOINTED

Covenant Seminary takes great pleasure in announcing the appointment of Mr. Louie Barnes, Jr. as Director of Development. This appointment culminates a search of many months to locate the person to fill this important position. The board and administration feel gratified that Mr. Barnes has accepted the position, and he has already begun his work.

Louie Barnes was born in Macon, Georgia, and moved to California in his early teens. While he found Christ as his Saviour at the age of 12 in New Orleans, he did not hear the call to full-time Christian service until 1965. He was at that time employed by Sears Roebuck and Company and rose to the position of Assistant National Sales Manager with that corporation. Yielding his life for Christian service, he enrolled at Bob Jones University from which he was graduated with a Bible major and a chemistry minor in 1968.

Mr. Barnes and his wife, Lavonda, have four children, Georgia, 7; Stephen, 4; Dorothy, 2; David, 6 months. He is at present an elder and Sunday School Superintendent in the Hazelwood RP Church. President Rayburn in announcing the appointment of Mr. Barnes said, "The Lord works in unusual ways. We have searched in many places for just the right man to fill this important position, and the Lord had him right here all the time. I am convinced that the Lord has given us definite leading in this matter, and we expect great things from Louie Barnes in future months."



Louie Barnes

LARGE CLASS IS GRADUATED

At the Commencement Exercises this year twenty six graduates received degrees from the seminary. This was the largest graduating class in the history of the school, but it is also a class which has demonstrated spiritual maturity as well as academic excellence. Two of the men, Ralph Hampton and Mark Pett, were graduated Magna Cum Laude. Four others, Nicolaas Cornelisse, Joseph Hall, William Simmons and Charles Townsend, were graduated Cum Laude.

Arthur Valiant was the single recipient of the Master of Theology degree. Mr. Valiant earned his M. Div. at Covenant Seminary, and expects to go into the teaching field in Bible or theology.

Eight men and women received the degree of Master of Arts in Bible. A substantial number of these are foreign nationals preparing to teach or serve the Lord in other capacities in their home countries. Thena Ayres of Vancouver, Canada, is on the staff of Canadian IVCF. T.C. George has already returned to his native India. Harold Law looks forward to teaching in Hong Kong. Nancy Lo is working for a mission agency in the States for one year before returning to Hong Kong. Marsha Hunt Petty of Philadelphia has been on the eastern staff of IVCF. Ernest Stiner and Chalmer Stubbs have positions as directors of Christian Education in local churches. Leonard Wu plans to return to Covenant Seminary for the full M. Div. course in the fall after he makes a visit to his home in Taiwan during the summer. He is presently working in New York City.

Seventeen of the graduates received the Master of Divinity degree which is awarded for the completion of the regular three-year seminary course. This course is the standard preparation required for the ministry in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod, as well as many other denominations. We feel sure that readers of this Newsletter will be interested in a brief introduction to each of these men.



MacDonald Bell



Nick Cornelisse

MacDonald Bell, who came to Covenant Seminary from New Zealand on the recommendation of Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones of London, England, is prayerfully considering several possibilities of ministry which are possible for him. One is the pastorate of

an English-speaking Presbyterian church in Taiwan. Since he is taking the summer internship course at Missouri Baptist Hospital to complete his degree requirements, he is not forced to make an immediate decision, although he feels a strong pull to return to New Zealand.

Nicolaas Cornelisse came to Covenant Seminary from Canada, and interrupted his studies here to spend some time at the Free University of Amsterdam. He was also a worker at L'Abri in Switzerland for more than a year. Nick won the first faculty scholarship for graduate studies in theology, and he will begin his studies toward the doctorate at the Free University of Amsterdam in the fall.



Phil Edwards



Wyatt George

Philip Edwards looks forward to teaching Bible in a Christian school, perhaps on the mission field. He is at present the only Caucasian member of the Chinese Gospel Church in St. Louis.

J. Wyatt George expects soon to be located in a Reformed Presbyterian pastorate and is considering several possibilities. He is also completing his seminary course by taking the special hospital internship program at the Missouri Baptist Hospital. Wyatt's wife is the former Betsy Clark, daughter of Dr. Gordon Clark. The Georges have recently welcomed their first baby boy, Seth, into their home.



James Hall



Joseph Hall

James Hall is the son of Assembly of God missionaries to Africa, and he grew up on the mission field himself. He expects to accept a pastorate in the Assemblies.

Joseph Hall has assumed his duties as Librarian here at Covenant Seminary. He earned his Master's Degree in Library Science at the University of Michigan and served on the library staff at the University of Iowa before coming to Covenant to complete his theological education.

Ralph Hampton, who was graduated Magna Cum Laude, is a Free Will Baptist and has accepted a teaching position on the faculty of the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, for the fall. This is the school from which he was graduated.

David Karlberg served as Youth Director at Memorial Presbyterian Church during his seminary course here. He has taken a similar position in a church in Pittsburgh where he will pursue graduate studies.



Ralph Hampton



David Karlberg

Clarence Mays, another graduate of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, looks forward to a Baptist pastorate, although he is also considering further graduate studies.

Dennis McDonough has accepted a position as Assistant Pastor in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Baltimore, Maryland. Dennis spent a year as a seminary intern in the Baltimore Church working under Pastor Frank Smick, and the church asked him to return as a permanent member of the church staff.



Clarence Mays



Dennis McDonough

Mark Pett, who was President of the Student Council during his senior year and was graduated Magna Cum Laude, has accepted the position of Assistant Pastor to Dr. Richard Gray in the Calvary Presbyterian Church of Willow Grove, Pennsylvania. Mark spent his last year in seminary as an associate chaplain in the Missouri Baptist Hospital after completing the internship course there.

William Simmons and his wife are making application to W.P.M. for service on the foreign mission field, but in the meantime Bill may take further study since he looks forward to teaching in a seminary or Bible school on the field.



Mark and Linnea Pett



Bill Simmons

William Swenson has already been ordained and installed as pastor of the Glen Ridge Reformed Presbyterian Church in Chesterfield, a suburb of St. Louis. This was the first church formed under the "Jerusalem Project" program of National Presbyterian Missions and is now a self-supporting congregation with its own property. Bill has been acting pastor from the beginning.

Gareth Tonnessen is another student returning to the church where he served his seminary internship. Gary and his wife are back in Seattle working in the Evangelical Presbyterian Church there, at least for the summer. Since the church will be calling a new pastor, with Mr. Malkus going to N.P.M., future plans for the Tonnessens are a bit uncertain at present.



Bill Swenson



Gareth Tonnessen

Charles Townsend came to the seminary to get a good grasp of theology but looks forward to teaching on the college level in the field of English. He is expecting to pursue graduate studies in English at St. Louis University in the fall.

Robert Weeber, Jr. is candidating in various Reformed Presbyterian churches and looks forward to the pastorate.



Charles Townsend



Robert Weeber

William Wolfgang who left the business world because of his call to the ministry is now very temporarily working at the Creve Coeur Bank to take care of family expenses while candidating in Reformed Presbyterian churches. Bill and his wife anticipate the pastorate.



Bill Wolfgang

DR. BUSWELL RETIRES (Cont'd.)

When his church which he had always served faithfully established its own school, Covenant College and Theological Seminary, Dr. Buswell responded to the call to the position of Dean of the Seminary Faculty. After a few years he gave up the administrative responsibilities of the deanship but has continued to serve on the faculty.

Following Dr. Buswell's commencement address, President Rayburn presented to him a leather bound volume of letters of appreciation gathered from scores of his former students, faculty colleagues and administrative associates. The book contained letters from the presidents or executive heads of fourteen theological seminaries each of whom had been a former student of Dr. Buswell's. There were letters from many college presidents, college and seminary faculty members, editors, missionaries and pastors, each of them speaking of the great influence and blessing of Dr. Buswell's life and ministry.

Dr. and Mrs. Buswell and Miss Alice Spaulding, Mrs. Buswell's sister who has lived with them for many years and served at the seminary as an assistant in the library, will be moving this summer to the Presbyterian Home in Quarryville, Pennsylvania. From this headquarters Dr. Buswell will continue to carry on a preaching and teaching ministry in churches and conferences. He will also continue his writing ministry.

In introducing Dr. Buswell at commencement, President Rayburn said, "Covenant Theological Seminary itself will always through the years ahead be a monument to the wisdom and dedication of this great man."

SCHOLARS WORK ON TRANSLATION

For two weeks a diligent group of highly qualified New Testament scholars worked together on the Covenant Seminary campus in the translation of several sections of the New Testament for the new contemporary translation which is being sponsored by the New York Bible Society. Covenant's Drs. Wallis and Mare worked in close cooperation with men from several other conservative seminaries in the checking and rechecking of the text. Dr. Edwin Palmer was chairman of this group. He is also the general director of the translation work for the Bible Society.



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