

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

May 22, 1963

Theology is the science of God. It belongs to the center of life. It underlies all the Church believes and is intended to achieve in human life. Theological education would therefore be determinative and directional in the total Christian way of faith and life. The need for understanding the content, and strengthening the institutions of Christian theological education should be self-evident. The Standing Committee on Theological Education believes that the General Assembly should continue to express its conviction concerning the all-important role which theological education plays in the ministry and mission of the Church of Jesus Christ in the world. We are therefore happy to serve the Council on Theological Education and the seminaries of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America in presenting this report to the 175th General Assembly.

I. ANNUAL REPORTS

We have examined the annual reports of all United Presbyterian Seminaries and request that the 175th General Assembly receive these reports as presented.

II. CURRENT STATISTICS

Current statistics in regard to the seven seminaries may be summarized as follows:

- 1. Total number of ministerial students 1,520
- 2. Total number of this year's ministerial graduates. 465
- 3. Total assets of the seminaries \$52,467,720
- 4. Total operating receipts \$ 4,792,161
- 5. Total expenditures for year. \$ 5,080,666
- 6. Total faculty members. 194
- 7. Total post-graduate students 141
- 8. Total volumes in the libraries 1,169,155

III. FACTS OF INTEREST IN RELATION TO SEMINARIES

- A. Pittsburgh Seminary. A new air-conditioned library is under construction at Pittsburgh Seminary, given by the Richard King Mellon Foundation and the Sarah Mellon Scaife Foundation.
- B. Princeton Seminary. Princeton Seminary's Center of Continuing Education began operation in the fall of 1962, and the Rev. Richard M. Gilbert became Director of Continuing Education in January, 1963.
- C. McCormick Seminary. At McCormick, two new buildings are under construction - the McGaw Memorial Library and the James G. K. McClure Memorial Chapel.
- D. Dubuque Seminary. Dubuque Seminary faces the necessity of cutting back on the number of students admitted, due to lack of facilities to care adequately for the resident student body.

E. Louisville Seminary. Louisville Seminary has developed a new campus on a 38-acre site, and a revised curriculum went into effect in the fall of 1962.

F. Johnson C. Smith Seminary. Johnson C. Smith Seminary has plans to revise its entire curriculum within the next two years, and hopes to add three new professors.

G. San Francisco Seminary. In April of 1963, over Station KXXK-FM, San Francisco Seminary began its regular broadcast schedule in stereo-multiplex, providing programming of the fine arts, symposiums and discussions, and continuing education.

IV BOARD ELECTIONS

We request that the General Assembly confirm the following elections to Boards of control:

Dubuque

Rev. Donald B. Blackstone 1965
 Mr. George L. Cassat 1965
 Mr. George W. Lindquist 1965
 Mr. David B. Cassat Life membership

Louisville

Rev. Walter R. Courtenay 1965
 Mr. R. M. Smith 1965
 Rev. Arthur R. Hall 1966

McCormick

Rev. Kenneth G. Neigh 1964
 Rev. Orlo Choguill 1965
 Rev. Raymond V. Kearns, Jr. 1967
 Rev. Richard H. Hutchison 1967
 Rev. William H. Killam 1967
 Rev. William C. Schram 1967

Princeton

Mr. Luther I. Replogle 1964
 Rev. Irving A. West 1964
 Mr. Robert E. Wilson 1964
 Mr. James M. Tunnell, Jr. 1966
 Rev. James E. Spivey 1966

San Francisco

Rev. Albert Myron Nichols 1968

Auburn

Lloyd G. Schell, Ph.D. 1963
 Mr. John L. McCreight 1965

Omaha

Rev. Donald Duly 1963
 Rev. James Cottrell 1964

Delete

Delete

V FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Dubuque

- Rev. Herbert Doran - Professor of Preaching
 Rev. Charles Carlston, Ph.D. - Professor of New Testament Literature and Exegesis
 Rev. Charles Mitchell, Ph. D. - Associate Professor of Church History

McCormick

- Rev. Lewis A. Briner - Professor of Pastoral Theology and Liturgics
 Rev. Thomas A. Schafer, Ph.D. - Professor of Church History
 Rev. Clinton D. Morrison, D. Theol. - Professor of New Testament

Delete

Pittsburgh

- Rev. Markus Barth, Th.D. - Professor of New Testament
 Rev. Edward Farley, Ph.D. - Associate Professor of Systematic Theology
 Rev. Dietrich Ritschl, Ph. D. - Professor of History of ~~Biblical Interpretation and Doctrine~~

Princeton

- Rev. Arthur M. Adams - Professor of Practical Theology

San Francisco

- Rev. Herman C. Waetjen, Th.D. - Assistant Professor of New Testament

Auburn

- Rev. Paul L. Lehmann, Th. D. - Professor of Systematic Theology
 Rev. Robert W. Lynn, Th.D. - Associate Professor of Religious Education and Church and Community

VI REPORT OF THE COUNCIL ON THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

We commend the Council on Theological Education for its work and request that the report of the Council on Theological Education (pp246-251) be received, approved, and inserted in the Minutes of the 175th General Assembly.

VII FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have noted that the Financial Statements of the Council on Theological Education, as of December 31, 1962, were audited and certified by Lybrand, Ross Brothers, and Montgomery, Certified Public Accountants of New York City, and were found in order.

VIII RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Concerning a Petition For A New Seminary. The Standing Committee on Theological Education received the report of the Council on Theological Education, accepts its recommendation and transmits it for approval by General Assembly as follows:

The Council on Theological Education reported to the 174th General Assembly through the Standing Committee on Theological Education the receipt on April 5, 1962, on referral by the General Council, of a signed petition from a group of interested laymen and ministers expressing the desire "to establish a new theological seminary at some location in the continental U.S.A. which, because of its purpose and location, will supplement the work of our existing seminaries."

It further reported that discussion of the petition was being carried forward with representatives of the petitioning group and a special committee of the General Council, and that subsequent recommendations would be made by the Council on Theological Education in the light of (1) the relation of the petition to the work and mission of the Church as a whole; (2) its relation to the total theological enterprise of the United Presbyterian Church; and (3) its relation to a particular institution, its location, status, and program of study.

The 174th General Assembly received this report, approved the procedures contained therein, and requested the Council on Theological Education to report further to the 175th General Assembly.

The Council on Theological Education now makes this further report, and submits its recommendations:

1. Three meetings have been held with representatives of the petitioning group and the special committee of the General Council. These meetings have been marked by a spirit of mutual respect and common concern.
2. The Council on Theological Education would express its appreciation of the central concern of the petitioners for evangelism and especially, for the communication of the Gospel to "the working man." It would note that, with all sensitive men and women in The United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the faculties, administrations and governing boards of our existing seminaries share this concern.
3. The Council on Theological Education would further express its hope that the petitioners would continue to exhibit their concern in creative and concerted support of the work of such agencies of The United Presbyterian Church as are charged expressly with reaching the unchurched multitudes with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. There is need for such support, and for imaginative action which will communicate the Good News in ways that are telling and effective.
4. The Council on Theological Education would record its appreciation of the efforts now being made in our several existing seminaries to prepare for vocations in the Church men and women who will couple their Biblical, theological and historical awareness with broad understanding of the factors which enter into the shaping of a society that is in the midst of a cultural, technological, urban revolution. It would note that the major program Boards of The United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America have lent direct and substantial support to such programs as the Presbyterian Institute of Industrial Relations in Chicago and the Institute of Church and Society in San Francisco.

On the basis of the discussions arising out of the referral of the petition, the Council on Theological Education expresses its judgment that the emphases desired by the petitioners are presently undertaken in the existing seminaries of The United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and recommends that the General Assembly reply negatively to the petition. In making this recommendation, the Council on Theological Education respectfully calls to the attention of the General Assembly the present and projected enrollments in our existing seminaries, and notes that, provided these schools are adequately supported, the scope of the United Presbyterian theological enterprise as presently conceived is sufficient to meet the needs of the Church. Further, the Council on Theological Education respectfully calls to the attention of the General Assembly that, in any subsequent consideration of the total strategy of the enterprise of theological education, The United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, is committed by its present decisions to explore further the desirability and feasibility of joint operation with the Presbyterian Church in the United States at Austin Seminary.

We request that the entire preceding report on this matter be inserted into the Minutes of the 175th General Assembly.

B. Concerning Austin Seminary. We recommend that the 175th General Assembly reaffirm the conviction of the 174th General Assembly "that the objective of a single, major Presbyterian seminary in the Southwest can best be achieved through the united action of The United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America and the Presbyterian Church in the United States in relationship to Austin Seminary."

C. Concerning Johnson C. Smith Seminary. We recommend that the Council on Theological Education be commended for its on-going study of Johnson C. Smith Seminary, and note with approval the progress of the Council's special study committee charged with this project, as well as the able part played by President Rufus Perry throughout.

D. Concerning Enlistment and Quality of Students.

1. We recommend that General Assembly give careful attention to the enlistment of sufficient numbers of dedicated and qualified young persons for the work of ministry in church vocations.

2. We recommend that the Division of Vocation and Ministry of the Board of Christian Education be commended for its thorough and persistent effort in the cause of enlistment, for the publication of the new pamphlet The Church and Enlistment, and for its excellent cooperation with the Council.

3. We recommend that Monday Morning and Presbyterian Life be asked to cooperate in bringing to the attention of pastors and parents the need to challenge the ablest and most promising of our young people with the opportunities of church vocation.

E. Concerning Church Support. We recommend that the 175th General Assembly reaffirm the urgent request of the 174th General Assembly that the General Council "take such steps as may be necessary in the normal budget-making process to assure that by the year 1970 the allocation for theological education within the basic section of the general mission budget be not less than ten percent of the total." We commend the Commission on Capital Needs for recognizing the importance of theological education in the life of the Church,

and urge its continued recognition of the capital needs of our seminaries.

F. Concerning Knowledge of the Bible. We recommend that the seminaries make every possible effort to increase knowledge of the English Bible on the part of every seminary student, in both breadth and depth. We also recommend that this General Assembly remind the churches that it is a primary responsibility of both the home and the church schools to impart to young persons a more adequate knowledge of the Bible.

G. Concerning Candidates under Care of Presbytery. We recommend that General Assembly urge the presbyteries to give consideration to the financial burden sometimes borne by candidates under their care when mandatory appearances before presbyteries or their committees are expected, and we recommend that presbyteries study appropriate means of aiding them.

H. Concerning Presbyterian Graduate Fellowships. We recommend that General Assembly commend both the Council on Theological Education and the Board of Christian Education for the program that has provided forty-four persons with financial assistance as they complete doctoral degrees.

I. Concerning A Study of the Areas of Cooperative Effort In Graduate Education. We recommend that the General Assembly request the General Council to initiate a study involving the Council on Theological Education, the Board of Christian Education, the Board of National Missions, and the Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations to investigate the functional relationships which exist, and the areas of cooperative effort which ought to be projected between the agencies of the Church which are concerned with institutional education at the collegiate and graduate level, with the request that the results of this study be reported to the 176th General Assembly.

J. Concerning Continuing Education. We recommend that General Assembly, through the presbyteries, call attention of church sessions to the need to assist pastors by making time and financial allowances available for continuing education, and that the Board of Christian Education be commended for its program of "continuing education for pastors," and be requested to include in the annual session reports questions concerning time spent in formal academic study by each pastor.

K. Concerning a Popular Meeting. We recommend that the General Assembly request the General Council to consider holding a popular meeting highlighting theological education at the 176th General Assembly, if the way be clear.

John Arthur Visser,
Chairman

J. C. Wynn,
Secretary