

# The Dean's Letter

W. D. TURKINGTON

The twenty-fifth annual commencement of Asbury Theological Seminary on May 30, 1948 was marked by the graduation of the largest class in the history of the institution. Fifty-eight seniors received the Bachelor of Divinity degree and three received the Master of Religious Education degree. Bishop Ralph Cushman of the St. Paul area of the Methodist Church addressed the graduates on the theme, "The Centrality of Christ."

Two missionary bishops of the Methodist Church were honored by the seminary during the commencement exercises. Bishop Shot K. Mondol of India and Bishop Dionisio D. Alejandro of the Philippine Islands were awarded the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

The summer quarter is in session as this issue of the *Seminarian* goes to press. A faculty of ten professors and a student body of ninety-one men and women compose the summer quarter personnel. The summer program is organized into two sessions of five weeks each, thus making it possible for students to complete one-half a quarter's work if a longer period of time cannot be given to summer study.

During the summer Dr. Kuhn of the seminary faculty and editor of the *Seminarian* will, in company with Mrs. Kuhn, make an extended evangelistic tour in England, Ireland and on the continent. He will be an observer at Amsterdam during the sessions of the World Council of churches. Other faculty members will be engaged in various types of preaching and teaching ministries during the summer months.

Dr. Harold C. Mason, Ed.D., D.D., LL.D., who for a number of years has been professor of Christian Education in Northern Baptist Seminary in Chicago, comes to Asbury Seminary with the opening of the fall quarter on September 21 as the head of the same department in this institution.

Dr. Robert P. Shuler, Jr., B.D., Ph.D., has been engaged as professor of Old Testament to begin his work in the fall. Dr. Shuler is an alumnus of the seminary and has done his work for the doctorate in the University of Southern California.

Professor John S. Tremaine, B.Mus.Ed., M.Mus., from Glide Methodist Church in San Francisco, California, comes to the seminary as chairman of the department of Church Music. Mr. Tremaine has had extensive and highly successful experience in the training of church choirs. He will give attention to the training of the Seminary Glee Club and the quartettes of which the seminary sponsors a number.

Rev. W. E. King of Chicago, Illinois, has been added to the staff as director of publicity and brings with him a large experience in this field. Mr. King has assisted in many church publicity campaigns and has worked with Trinity Builders, a church building corporation. Rev. King will also present a course for seminary students in church publicity and religious journalism.

Applications for admission for the fall quarter of the current year indicate the largest student body in the history of the institution. Between three and four

hundred young men and women have expressed their desire to complete their theological training in Asbury Theological Seminary. Shortage of housing facilities makes it impossible to receive all these. These applications have a wide coverage geographically, denominationally and in the number of colleges and universities represented.

The seminary building program is being rushed during the summer months. An apartment building to house married students will be completed before the opening of the fall quarter on September 21. The central heating plant is also under construction. This too must be completed before the fall session opens.

In all its program Asbury Theological Seminary is seeking to keep step with the very best in theological education and at the same time is seeking to provide a vital spiritual atmosphere in which God-called young people may study for the answering of the call which is upon their lives.

"If we can have a faithful ministry the Word of God will be preached, the church will be spiritual, righteousness will prevail, laws will be enforced, vice will be suppressed, the home and human life will be sacred, the nation will prosper, the missionaries will go to the ends of the earth and untold millions of souls will be saved." So wrote the distinguished and now sainted founder of Asbury Theological Seminary, Dr. Henry Clay Morrison, as he contemplated the mission of the institution to which he gave such splendid leadership and enduring inspiration.

## *In This Issue*

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GEORGE A. TURNER (Ph.D., Harvard University) is professor of English Bible in Asbury Theological Seminary and Associate Editor of the journal.

PAUL STROMBERG REES (M.A., University of Southern California) is pastor of the First Covenant Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and needs no introduction to most of our readers. Published in this issue is the second of his Glide Lectures.

RALPH M. EARLE, JR. (Th.D., Gordon Divinity School), is professor of Biblical Literature in the Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Missouri, and is an occasional contributor to this periodical.

PAUL F. ABEL (B.D., Asbury Theological Seminary) is graduate assistant in Church History in the Seminary for the coming year.

J. HAROLD GREENLEE (Ph.D., Harvard University) is professor of New Testament Greek in Asbury Theological Seminary, and secretary-treasurer of the Seminary Alumni Association.

JOHN C. BLACKFORD (B.D., Asbury Theological Seminary) is Associate Pastor of Park Avenue Methodist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota; during the war, he was a chaplain in the United States Navy.