

I would meet with them and they would ask any question they wanted to about the seminary and we would discuss it for a while. It was very strange that one of these seniors, a very fine chap, had a queer quirk. During the meeting he would sit over on the side with his watch in front of him, and "Oh, we've got to get to work, can we get through, can we finish this meeting", and it made me nervous the way he was always anxious to finish it up.

After it was over he'd go and talk over what we'd discussed with other people for 2 or 3 hours, but he was always in such a rush that that probably == that irritation probably had a good bit to do with my discontinuing those meetings after a time when I felt we were really pretty well established. I think they were a real help that first year.

Then we had some part-time teachers. We had Dr. Lathem would come down, and he taught a course in Pastoral Theology. He would write out a lecture, and it would take maybe half an hour to give. He would simply read it. When it comes to pastoral experience he was as fine as anybody in the country, but he certainly was no teacher.

We had one student, I remember, who thought this class had in it just the things he wanted. Just reemendous! But I never heard anybody else who was particularly impressed with him. He would read his lecture and, I remember once I visited his class, and he read his lecture. He got through 15 minutes before the end of the class. He said, That's the end of the lecture! And he ~~said~~ said, It's a good lecture." It was too.

If they would ask him questions, his pastoral experience could be of tremendous help. But as a teacher to plan a course and give it he certainly was not outstanding. We did not keep him more than a year or two.

Neher: What subjects did he teach again?

Pastoral theology. Dr. Laird conducted the courses in homiletics, and he himself was a master at sermon preparation and delivery. How good he was as a teacher, I really don't know. Dr. Laird's minister of music was Mr. Curtis. I mentioned ~~to~~ him to you before. He was very good on voice production, and that sort of thing. We got much benefit from what he gave. He had very little knowledge how to handle a class, how to manage a class. After a year or two I said, I would manage the class, and he would provide the knowledge. I would manage the class. We worked together very happily that way. I think it doubled or tripled the value of his class. But it made quite a bit of extra work for me, of course.

Then there was the matter of church history. At this time for that year H. McGallister Griffiths took over direction of the Independent Board, for that year after I'd handled it for the summer. When fall came I could no longer be concerned with that particularly. So they had Dr. Griffiths come in and take it. He was a genius, but an undisciplined genius. He was a very interesting character in many ways.