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REPORT OF FAITH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

TO THE BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
(Collingswood Synod)

November, 1957.

This twenty-first year of the operation of Faith Seminary marks the sixth year of our occupation of the Widener property. We constantly marvel at the home that the Lord has provided for this portion of His work. Not only is its appearance and stability far beyond anything that we ever could have dreamed of possessing; its fitness for the work of a theological seminary becomes more apparent all the time.

Within the last two years Faith Seminary, along with many other of our agencies, underwent something of an upheaval. The results were very much in evidence during the past year, but are far less so this year. While our student body is considerably smaller, its members show a very fine spirit, and we feel that we are making real progress.

In the place of those faculty members who chose to break off fellowship with us, the Lord has provided others of equal or superior teaching ability. As an educational institution the seminary is now as fine as it has ever been. Although some of our faculty members do not yet have as much experience as some of the former members had come to have after being with us for a considerable period of time, they are men of real potentiality, with a thoroughly scholarly spirit and approach, and with pedagogical ability superior to anything that we have had in the past.

The seminary has been fortunate in finding in its senior class a man who was able to step into the work of Acting Registrar and to do an excellent job. Mr. Richard Smitley divided his senior course over two years, taking the greater part of it during the first of the two years. The job that he did last year was very excellent. This year we are hoping for even better results, since he is able to devote a larger part of his time and attention to the work of Acting Registrar.

During the first semester last year we were privileged to have Dr. David Hedegard of Motala, Sweden as visiting professor. Dr. Hedegard's lectures were received with great acclaim by all the students, and made a very substantial contribution to the scholarship and to the Christian testimony of the school.

Unfavorable rumors about Faith Seminary have been widely circulated in the last two years. It is hoped that everything possible may be done to counteract these rumors and to provide college students with knowledge of the opportunities available here for solid training for an uncompromising presentation of the truth of God. The Junior class this year, though not as large as some others that we have had, gives evidence of being of a high calibre, both intellectually and spiritually. Efforts are being made to make the work more practical and also more solid, and it is hoped that the training will prove to be better than ever before.