

STATEMENT OF DR. ALLAN A. MacRAE
regarding the resolution posted by certain faculty members

When one of the younger members of the faculty spoke to me about the resolution he had written, and said that he was hoping to get others to sign it, I told him that I regretted his decision because of the great danger of confusion and misunderstanding which might result from airing these matters in public.

It is gratifying to read the expressions in the first portions of the resolution that has been posted. I have never had any reason to question that these were the sentiments of all the members of our faculty. I believe them all to be honorable men, and consequently I know that they would not continue in the faculty of an institution if they were to cease to believe in its fundamental principles.

The fourth statement, however, could easily be interpreted as implying that I had done things worthy of public censure. Consequently I feel that it is necessary for me to state that in eighteen years as president of this institution I have never in any way interfered with the freedom of members of the faculty "to participate in the internal affairs of their particular denominations in accordance with their own consciences." Nor has the Board of Directors or its Executive Committee ever taken any action involving such interference. Any charges that I or they have ever done so are totally false.

However, it is necessary, in order to avoid any danger of future misunderstanding, to point out that the fourth statement in the resolution, if taken by itself, could easily lead to serious misunderstanding. Of course, faculty members are free "to differ with other members of the faculty, or with members of the Board of Directors, or with other Christian leaders." No one has ever questioned such freedom. Yet it, like everything else in life, has limits, and cannot simply be declared with no qualification whatever. Thus if a member of the faculty of an institution were publicly to malign another member of the same institution, using un-Christian language about him, or making serious charges against his integrity, no Board of Directors worth its salt would sit idly by and let both members remain on its faculty. If a man could not use Christian and parliamentary language about another, and insisted on spreading in an irresponsible way charges that should properly be brought only before a judicial body, the Board of Directors of almost any institution would feel it to be necessary to dismiss such a man, even if there was reason for thinking that there was a possibility that some of his charges might be true.

It should further be noted that the statement seems to imply that there are two completely separate segments to a man's life, one consisting of his activity as a teacher in Faith Seminary, and the other consisting of his activities as a member of a denomination. It is true that there are many points at which an activity in either of these spheres might be entirely unrelated to the responsibilities involved in the other sphere. Yet Faith Seminary is not an institution for the teaching of mathematics or chemistry, but for the teaching of men who desire to serve God in the situation of our day. It is a part of the Twentieth Century Reformation movement. It was founded to work for the salvation of souls throughout the world, to train men who would be solidly grounded in the great Truths of the Word of God, and convinced of its dependability and trustworthiness, fitted and ready to oppose the great Apostasy of our day. No student is required to accept any particular doctrinal position, or to make any promises regarding his future alignments. He comes to an educational institution, and so long as he comports himself in a Christian and courteous manner, he is free to think what he chooses. The faculty, however, are selected, not only on the ground that they are capable of teaching Hebrew and Greek, but also because the Board of Directors believes that their lives and witness are such as will promote the great object of the Seminary. If a faculty member were to promote such viewpoints and activities in his denomination as would effectively injure the Cause to which the