

Seminary is devoted, this could not but result in "interfering with the cooperation which has marked the work of the faculty and the Board of Directors from the year the Seminary was founded."

Thus if a member of the faculty were actively to assist the activities of those who would insist that every minister and elder in a denomination was bound by his ordination vows to endorse whatever might be voted by a temporary majority at a meeting of the Synod, he would not only be in direct opposition to the Westminster Confession of Faith, one of the doctrinal standards of the Seminary, which expressly declares that "Synods and Councils may err," but would in addition be contributing to the establishment of a situation in which a majority vote at any time might compel him to endorse actions forbidding Christian people to contribute to any independent agency, or, specifically, to the Seminary itself. No reasonable person could expect an institution to maintain on its faculty people who would thus take positions contrary to its doctrinal standards and dangerous to its very existence.

Such resolutions as the one which has been posted do not exist purely in the realm of theory. Leaders in the apostate National Council of Churches, and in the World Council of Churches, unable to answer the arguments of Bible-believers, have resorted to wide-spread slinging of mud and spreading of false charges against the character and integrity of men whom God has greatly used in the furtherance of His Truth. Some of these men are officers of the Board of Directors of Faith Seminary. If these charges were disseminated only by unbelievers, they would probably soon die of their own weight. Unfortunately, however, Satan comes as an angel of light, seeking to deceive the very elect. Misguided evangelicals have joined in the spreading of these false and malicious charges. Some good people have thoughtlessly given aid and comfort to such dissemination, and have believed such charges without any proper investigation as to their truth. When the character, integrity, or truthfulness of any of the officers of the Board of Directors of an institution is thus attacked, it is inconceivable that members of the faculty that work under its direction should take any part in the circulation or support of such attacks without first severing their connection with the institution involved. No respectable institution would tolerate such conduct.

Members of the faculty are of course free to differ with the opinions of the other members of the faculty or of the Board of Directors and to express their differences clearly and forcefully. But if such differences should involve attacks upon the very existence of institutions which have played a vital part in the progress of the Twentieth Century Reformation, or should involve the spreading of statements detrimental to the character and integrity of officers of the Seminary, the situation would be quite different.

One possible source of confusion ought to be dealt with. I have never believed that it was the duty of the Board of an institution to continue a man in its teaching staff forever, simply because there were no charges against him. I believe it to be the duty of the Board constantly to examine the general impact of its administrative officers and teachers in order to determine whether their continuance is for the best interests of the institution. Many times in the past eighteen years I have urged the Board not to hesitate to drop me if at any time they felt that the institution could be better served by the assignment of my duties to someone else. The Seminary is not simply a source of livelihood for its faculty and staff. It is a movement for the accomplishment of a portion of God's work in the world. The Board of Directors has the responsibility before God of determining whether this work can be best accomplished by the continuance of any particular individual.

In order to allay any possibility of misunderstanding, let me state that I have never heard or read a public statement by any member of our present faculty which would seem to me to offer any ground for questioning his fitness for continuing as a member of the faculty or which might conceivably be presented by any member of the Board as a reason for his dismissal. If such a statement were thus to be presented, I would feel it to be my duty vigorously to oppose any such action.