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New Developments at Springfield

DR. J. A. O. PREUS, Acting President

THE Curriculum Commission of the Board for Higher Education in its meeting of February 16 and 17, 1962, resolved "to recommend to the B. H. E. that it needs to give formal approval to the revised program at Springfield." This short and seemingly unimportant resolution marks the culmination of a four-year study program conducted by the Springfield faculty, its departments, and its Academic Policies Committee, with regard to the curriculum of the Seminary.

This study has resulted in the reduction of the number of hours required for graduation, the adoption of several new courses into the curriculum, the establishment of a system of electives, and the eventual awarding of the Bachelor of Divinity degree and the accreditation of the institution with the American Association of Theological Schools. The increase in outside work required of the students, an emphasis on independent research, and intensive library work characterize the program of up-grading the work of the institution. In the opinion of the Faculty, as well as educators throughout our church, this marks a definite improvement. Other things accomplished during this period have included the formalization of the objectives of the school and its four departments, the preparation of outlines and syllabuses for all the courses, and the introduction of Hebrew into the curriculum. At present a bachelor's degree is required of all men under twenty-five who apply for admission; however, our long-standing practice of admitting qualified older men who do not have the bachelor's degree is still in force.

Our readers are probably already familiar with the fact that in the past four years the size of the faculty has nearly doubled, and that we have built a new library, a new dormitory, and a new heating plant. The enrollment has increased steadily, despite a decline in seminaries throughout the country, and now is over 500. A chair of Stewardship, financed by the Mantai Trust, will be established for the coming school year.

The faculty, and we hope the students, have been highly gratified at the great advances made at our Seminary during the

past few years. We hope that under the guidance of God, and with the wisdom which He gives us, that continued academic advances may be made, not merely for the sake of academics, but for the sake of the work of His Kingdom in which we are so vitally and importantly engaged.

In Memoriam

Dr. Walter W. F. Albrecht, 1885-1961 Springfield, 1927-1961

PROFESSOR MARTIN H. COYNER, 1890-1962 Springfield, 1928-1960

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13.