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To Raymond Surburg on
His Seventieth Birthday

For the first time in fifteen years the name of Raymond Surburg does not appear in the listing of the editorial staff as the book editor of this journal. Having reached his seventieth birthday on July 3, 1979, Dr. Surburg has begun modified service on the teaching faculty of Concordia Theological Seminary. In the case of Dr. Surburg this is mostly a formality as he continues to carry a nearly regular teaching load during the 1979-1980 school year. Born in Chicago, Illinois, he attended Concordia College, Milwaukee, and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, graduating from the latter institution in 1933. He was awarded the M.A. degree by Columbia University (New York City) in 1934; the Th.D. by American Theological Seminary (Wilmington) in 1942; the M.R.E. by Biblical Seminary (New York City) in 1946; and the Ph.D. by Fordam University (New York City) in 1950. After serving a five-year pastorate at Trinity Lutheran Church, Clifton, New Jersey, he was pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brooklyn, New York, from 1941-1954. He then served on the faculty of Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebraska, before assuming responsibilities for Old Testament instruction at the seminary in 1960. Dr. Surburg has had a rich career of service to the church — in the parish ministry for eighteen years and in synodical schools for twenty-six years. He is now marking his twentieth year of service to Concordia Theological Seminary. He served as chairman of the Department of Biblical Studies until the close of this past academic year.

In 1964 the Seminary under the presidency of Dr. George Beto made the decision to upgrade THE SPRINGFIELDER into a theological journal for the pastors of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Since that time Dr. Surburg has served as Book Review Editor of the journal. In this position he became an influence for conservative, evangelical, and confessional theology during a period of crisis in the church. His articles and reviews have appeared in nearly all the major journals of the Synod. He has earned a reputation as an articulate spokesman for the Synod’s traditional views on Biblical inspiration and inerrancy. Being widely read, Dr. Surburg has brought a wealth of knowledge to his Old Testament lectures at the Seminary. His lectures are unmatched for the frequency with which they cite ancient and modern authorities. Yet he has conducted his studies within the doctrinal boundaries set by the Lutheran Confessions.
In 1978 the graduates had a portrait of Dr. Surburg commissioned and presented it as the class gift to the Seminary. This fact is but one testimony to the high esteem in which he is held by his colleagues and the students. On the occasion of his seventieth birthday the faculty of Concordia Theological Seminary and especially the editorial staff of the CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL QUARTERLY congratulates Dr. Raymond Surburg and recalls with gratitude and fondness his contribution to the Seminary's theological journal. As a tribute to him a selected bibliography of his writings is being printed in this issue.

The Editors