



# CTS TOWER NEWS

For Christ and the Churches

WINTER 1987

## Snyder Installed As Academic Dean

Dr. Graydon F. Snyder was installed as the Seminary's Academic Dean in ceremonies January 18.

Coupled with CTS' Winter Convocation, which Snyder served in presenting the Convocation address, the Sunday afternoon event was held in the Hyde Park Union Church, and attended by members of the boards of trustees and associates, faculty, administration, staff, students, and friends of the Seminary, as well as members of the West side Chicago church where the Snyder family long has worshipped.

Snyder becomes CTS' third Academic Dean in the past quarter century, succeeding recently retired Yoshio

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Fukuyama. The latter's predecessor, Perry LeFevre, Professor of Constructive Theology, provided the charge to Snyder.

Officially installing the new Dean were The Reverend Dr. Robert S. Alward, Senior Minister, Glenview Community Church, former Chairman and current Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, and CTS President The Reverend Dr. Kenneth B. Smith.

Also participating in the ceremonies and representing the United Church of Christ were The Reverend Dr. W. Sterling Cary, Conference Minister, Illinois Conference, United Church of Christ, and Earl Talbot, Moderator, Chicago Metropolitan Association, Illinois Conference, UCC.

In addition to those who marched in the processional and LeFevre, faculty participants in the ceremonies were Dorothy C. Bass, Andre M. LaCocque, and William R. Myers.

Student participants were Robert Wang, Yvonne White-Morey, and Geneal Wilson.

Installation ceremony participants - and highlights of their remarks - included:

William Myers, representing the faculty: "In our welcome of you, and yours of us, is the greater recognition that we are all chosen by that one we name as God. We dare to claim God's presence even as we welcome, embrace, nurture and challenge you, Graydon Snyder, as the new Academic Dean of Chicago Theological Seminary. May God's spirit always be with you."

Geneal Wilson, third year M.Div. student, extended greetings from the student body: "At a time of beginning, hope is always present. Our hope contains both anticipation and expectation. We look forward with anticipation to the strengths you will bring to this community and institution: those of your scholarship, your person, and the religious tradition which has helped shape you."



Dr. Snyder delivers Convocation Address



Gigantic "Welcome Grady" banner flaps in breeze as it dangles from heights of CTS' Victor Lawson Tower.

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## Dr. Perry LeFevre's Charge to New Dean

"By constitution, the seminary faculty and the academic dean are charged with the development of all policies and proposals concerning academic and educational matters, and the dean is especially charged with the nurture of the faculty and the development of curricula.

It is clear that from most theological points of view the seminary is not a church, and yet we are like a church in many ways.

Among the faculty and students, there are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit. There are varieties of service, but the same Lord. There are many forms of work, but all of them are the work of the same God.

In each of us the Spirit is manifested in one particular way, for some useful purpose. But all these gifts are the work of one and the same Spirit. Having these gifts according to the grace that is given us, we, students and faculty, individually and collectively affirm our freedom, our freedom in the spirit, but we know that pure autonomy or self-determination are not freedom in the Spirit, or freedom in Christ, and therefore we wish to call you to an *oikodomic* deanship, to what, in the language of earlier times might have been called an *edifying* deanship.

We are free to do everything, but as Paul asks, does everything help the building up of community? Our life together is a function of the reality of our freedom. But this freedom is not absolute. Therefore, in your deanship we invite you to help in building this teaching and learning community, that in building up our common life, our freedom can serve the love that builds up, not only the life of this seminary, but that of our churches, and through them the public realm itself."

"This, Grady, is our invitation to you; this is our call, that your deanship may be  
(continued on next column)

Excerpts from

## Dean Snyder's Convocation Address

"*Experience alters and develops our common story.* In theological education it is essential to tell the story of the faith well. Theological education must begin with integration of the biblical story. Otherwise we are forced to construct a faith out of ideas or ideologies. It is equally critical that the faith story be known and understood in current ways of knowing and communicating. But the faith story becomes real for us only in common experience. It is life experience which changes the story and/or makes us part of it. I do not believe conversion occurs by changing ideas, nor by instilling guilt. I believe we become persons of faith by experiencing for ourselves the quality of the faith story. . . . If our analysis is right, the development of the faith story depends on experience which buttresses, alters, or substantiates the tradition. I can think of many instances when critical experiences have created a new story.

### Conversion, change

I believe a seminary curriculum must allow for such experiences. To be sure we cannot predict where they will happen. It could be in the classroom, the hallway, the coffee time, the library, at home. But a seminary curriculum needs to understand how conversion and change occurs. . . .

*Language and communication serve to include the entire community in the narrative.*

I, for one, have believed that historical material should be transmitted accurately. I have been very happy to translate pronouns in such a way that men and women could be included, but I have been reluctant to speak of Jesus or Lord in

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*oikodomic*, edifying, upbuilding of our life together, and that of our churches, and of the world beyond."

any other than the historical masculine. It has seemed to me we have no right to change history.

Maybe that comes also from teaching Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic and Latin. There is something about teaching the original languages that makes you reluctant to change.

### Universal language

But I have come to realize that language does not serve us for historical purposes. Language enables a community to achieve its goals. A community of faith with universal vision needs a universal language. I remember a few years ago when women were hired on faculties as a concession to a growing minority. Now I realize that it was not simply a concession to a minority in theological education, but a necessity for our own wholeness and unity. It was male students above all who recognized the importance of that unity. At first we thought it was a matter of consciousness raising. But it is not. Language must portray the limits and potentialities of the group. The issue is not language. The issue is human wholeness and the nature of the Kingdom.

The male-female issue is not the only language problem. I think we have only begun to tap the problem of crosscultural communication. The Association of Theological Schools still considers globalization a key problem of US theological education. The issue is not how to serve other people, or make concessions to so-called foreign students. The issue is how to find our own wholeness in the totality of world peoples. Talking is essential. When we stop talking, there is no longer a possibility for a common story. Perhaps the ultimate sin is to stop talking, to give up on the vision of the Kingdom.

*Story serves as the basis for both*  
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Dean Snyder is officially installed by Trustee Robert S. Alward (left) and President Kenneth B. Smith (right).

## Winter Convocation Highlights

During the January 18 joint Installation/Convocation, President Dr. Kenneth B. Smith:

- welcomed Assistant Professor Bonganjalo Goba and his family, who arrived from South Africa in December;
- announced the promotion of Susan B. Thistlethwaite to the rank of Associate Professor, a tenured position;
- announced the appointment of Bonnie Miller-McLemore as Assistant Professor of Religion, Personality and Culture;
- commended faculty members Dorothy Bass, Andre LaCocque and William Myers regarding books recently or soon-to-be published;
- announced that the Seminary has received a planning grant from the Joyce Foundation of Chicago for development of a Fall '87 conference on the teaching of values in the public schools.

Smith also announced the granting of the Master of Divinity degree to Leon M. Miller Jr., and of Doctor of Ministry degrees to: Anne B. Abernethy, currently a participant in the Ph.D. program of the CTS/Pastoral Psychotherapy Institute; Raymond Legania, Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Chicago; and Sonia L. Wagner, Director, National Pastoral Institute, Melbourne, Australia.

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*praxis and reflection.* There are few things more basic to theological education than this. It is the family story which develops the child, the narrative of faith, the Bible, which forms the faith community. If you wish to support people or alter society it is the narrative which needs to be addressed. And that is done through action. Moral admonitions or theological propositions will not do. Neither will aimless causes.

Most of us learned this in an early age. Many of us participated in work camps because we believed the service story. We worked for peace by doing projects together — not because the projects were so important, but because in working together — Greek, Egyptian, Arab, Polish, German, American — we could reflect on the nature of peace and reconciliation. Action and reflection follow the story. I think our goal of peace cannot be easily achieved through proclamations or meetings at “the summit”. Peace will come when the people of the world can affirm each others' stories and make them their own. The world needs a universal story. For our time this may well be the primary concern in theological education.

## Career Profile of New Dean

Dr. Graydon F. Snyder served as Dean of Bethany Theological Seminary, Oak Brook, Illinois, from 1975 to 1986.

Dr. Snyder, a member of the Church of the Brethren, with which Bethany is affiliated, joined its faculty in 1959. He was Associate Professor and Professor of Biblical Studies, and Weiland Professor of New Testament Studies.



Dr. Snyder

A graduate of Manchester College, North Manchester, Indiana, he holds a divinity degree from Bethany Theological Seminary and a doctor of theology degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. He was a teaching fellow at Princeton, and a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Oslo, Norway.

Dr. Snyder also engaged in graduate study at Goettingen University in Germany, at the Pontifical Institute of Christian Archaeology, Rome, and at Cambridge University, England.

The author of numerous journal articles and books, including *In His Hands* and *Ante Pacem*, he is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and of the Chicago Society of Biblical Research, which he served as President in 1969-1970.

Dr. Snyder has served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Bethany Hospital Foundation since 1981.

A native of Peru, Indiana, Dr. Snyder and his wife, the former Lois Horning, have three children.

## WCC Hosts Nigerian Feminist Theologian

The Women's Concerns Committee of CTS presented Mercy Amba Oduyoye on “African Feminism: Our View and Theirs” in Graham Taylor Hall in late February.

Oduyoye is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria. Previously she served as visiting lecturer at Selly Oak Colleges in England and at Harvard University.

Oduyoye's visit to CTS, included a supper with students and faculty, lecture at 7:30 p.m., and following reception in CTS' Joseph Henry George Commons, and was partially sponsored through a grant from the Florence Hamersley Walker Memorial Fund.

A native of Ghana, Oduyoye holds a bachelor of arts degree in religion from the University of Ghana and a master of arts degree in theology from Cambridge University. She has worked and travelled extensively for several ecumenical organizations, including the Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians, the World Student Christian Federation, the All Africa Conference of Churches, and the World Council of Churches.

Women's Concerns Committee coordinators are faculty members Dorothy Bass, Cheryl Miller, Bonnie Miller-McLemore, and Susan Thistlethwaite; students are Susan Grubb, Katie Lambertson, Linda Noonan, and Marsha Thomas.

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## Faculty Focus

**Dorothy Bass'** co-authored *Women in American Religious History: An Annotated Bibliography and Guide to Stress* has been published by G.K. Hall.

**Dow Edgerton** participated in training of licensed lay ministers of the Northern Association, Illinois Conference, United Church of Christ; authored article on Rilke titled "The Ways of Praise", appearing in January issue, *Theology Today*.



**Bonganjalo Goba** arrived with his family in December; he resumed his teaching in the areas of ethics and Third World theology in the Winter term.

**Andre LaCocque's** book *Daniel In His Time* will be published by South Carolina Press. He will lecture at Rice University this Spring.



**Bonnie Miller-McLemore** has been appointed Assistant Professor of Religion, Personality and Culture.

## Organ Concert Series Slated

CTS's third annual organ concert series will include four concerts in Graham Taylor Hall, each featuring an internationally acclaimed artist.

Performing on CTS's magnificent Reneker organ will be Peter Hurford March 15, Thomas Wikman April 5, Christoph Albrecht April 26, and David Schrader May 17. Each of the four Sunday concerts will begin at 4 p.m. and will be followed by a wine and cheese reception for the guest artist and ticket holders.

Hurford, who was extremely well received in a previous series' appearance, and one of the world's foremost interpreters of

Bach, will play an all-Bach program. Master of the Music at St. Alban's Cathedral, England, for 21 years, and founder of the International Organ Festival, he has toured extensively in Europe, North America, Australia, and the Far East.

Wikman, who serves as CTS organist and is founder and music director of Music of the Baroque, will perform works of Bach, Couperin, and Pachelbel in his April 5 concert.

Albrecht is organist and choirmaster of St. Mary's Church in East Berlin, and has performed in Eastern and Western Europe and in the United States. He will play Bach, Buxtehude, and Schumann.

Schrader's May 17 concert will feature works of Correa, Bruhns, and de Grigny. Organist at Chicago's Church of the Ascension, he has performed in solo appearances with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and as organist and harpsichordist with Music of the Baroque.

First played publicly in its dedicatory concert in Spring, 1984, the Reneker organ was designed and built by Karl Wilhelm of Mont-St.-Hilaire, Quebec. It resembles organs built in Germany in the 17th and 18th centuries, considered to be unsurpassed.

Costs of the concert series are underwritten in part through a grant from Regents Park in Hyde Park. Tickets for the series are \$40 and may be obtained through the Seminary.

## "Easter Worship Resources" Held

In cooperation with the Chicago Chapter, American Guild of Organists, the Seminary presented a one-day workshop February 7 for pastors and church musicians on Worship Resources for Easter.

Held in Graham Taylor Hall and utilizing the Reneker organ, the workshop was designed for organists and choirmasters who are not full-time church musicians, and for pastors who wish to develop better liturgical leadership in cooperation with musical colleagues.

The session, with its Easter worship focus, included emphasis on hymns and hymn settings, calls to worship and musical responses, psalmody, integration of spoken and musical prayer, and a "demonstration" worship service.

**William Myers'** *Theological Themes of Youth Ministry* will be published by Pilgrim Press. During the second half of this past year he served as CTS' assistant and then acting academic dean.

**Widick Schroeder**, on sabbatical this term, is working on research in the area of peace, justice, and human rights.

**Graydon Snyder** preached ordination sermon at The Little Home Church by the Wayside (UCC), Wayne, IL; in the congregation were members and clergy from UCC churches in Bartlett, Batavia, Dundee, Elgin, Fox Valley, Geneva, La Grange and St. Charles.

**Susan Thistlethwaite** has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. Her article "Inclusive Language and Linguistic Blindness" appears in *Theology Today's* January issue.



Thomas Wikman

# “The Mystique of Chicago Theological Seminary”

Remarks of  
 VICTOR OBENHAUS  
 Professor Emeritus  
 Chicago Theological Seminary  
 at the  
 Annual Donor Recognition Dinner  
 October 14, 1986  
 McGiffert House  
 Chicago Theological Seminary

President Smith, Chairman Keller, friends of the Seminary, faculty, and students; I want to express my appreciation for the privilege of addressing this Donor Recognition Dinner. Also, I would like to thank Widick Schroeder for his gracious and generous introduction. I understand it's all right to accept such words providing you don't inhale.

I ask your indulgence to make a few personal comments. We are reminded that visual aids are helpful in relating to an audience, so I have a visual aid. It is a telegram dated September 1, 1905. It is from Joseph Henry George, President, and is addressed to the Reverend Herman Obenhaus, Superior, Wisconsin. It reads: "Unanimous recommend to Board for Associate Professor. Action Tuesday." I should add that "recommend" was to the German Institute of CTS.

Whenever I look at the portrait of Joseph Henry George in the center of the Commons bearing his name I have a very grateful feeling. A few feet to the east of his likeness is the portrait of Betty Reneker. A picture I prize in my study is that of Mrs. Reneker handing me the parchment containing my honorary doctorate, awarded at the Commencement of 1974. Standing there, also, is Widick Schroeder, who had just read the citation.

## CTS Presidents remembered

Between the portraits of President George and President Reneker is that of President Albert W. Palmer, from whom came the invitation to CTS and the

Federated Theological Faculty. It is a pleasure to note that President Palmer's daughter, Helen, is in this goodly company this evening.

On that same wall is the portrait of Ozora Davis, the first President I actually knew. And again I can say with much pleasure that Josephine Davis, his daughter-in-law and Susan, her daughter, also are with us tonight. All of you know that the portrait of Graham Taylor is also on that wall. He served as Acting President for approximately two years, between the departure of President George and the arrival of Ozora Davis in 1908. The Seminary Board tried repeatedly to get him to accept the Presidency but he adamantly refused. He did not want to be deflected from his work at Chicago Commons. Finally on that wall is the portrait of the man I was called to succeed, Arthur E. Holt. Later I shall have occasion to refer to some of these remarkable people.

So my credentials for addressing this gathering consist in part in the fact that I have known all of the Presidents since Joseph Henry George. Now to the more contemporary.

There is no one related to the field of education, or many other fields, but who is aware that this is the 350th anniversary of the founding of Harvard College. One weekly magazine with enormous circulation devoted much of an entire issue to the phenomenon of that institution, America's first and most highly endowed university. That magazine, and many others taking note of the celebration, referred to "the



Professor Emeritus Victor Obenhaus addressing Donor Dinner guests.

Harvard mystique". What is that something Harvard seems to possess which makes it first choice for many applying students, for many benefactors, and even faculty?

## Mystique defined

Mystique is defined as "an attitude developed around an institution enhancing the value or significance by endowing it with an esoteric truth or meaning intended to serve as a guide to action". That is an endowment different from what one refers to most frequently in relation to Harvard; but the history of that institution and its mystique is more closely related to an endowment other than financial.

My wife and I have recently read aloud a fascinating biography of Cotton Mather. In some respects it is a history of the earliest days of Harvard College. Cotton's father,  
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Increase, had been President and Cotton wanted desperately to succeed him. Difficult as it may be for us to realize but Harvard had only about a dozen students at that time, and all of them were training for the Congregational ministry.

The power of that institution, even in the seventeenth century, diminutive though it was, was awesome. Also, it must be added, was the power of the Congregational clergy in Boston. Royal governors quaked before that power and vied for the favor of those clergy. The power derived from God, the authority of the Word, the people who interpreted it, the churches in which it was preached and the College which trained those interpreters: no wonder it had mystique! — even from the beginning. It's quite a distance from that period to the tourists walking in Harvard Yard who asked a custodian the meaning of the inscription they had just read, "Pro Christo et Ecclesiae" (similar to our own cornerstone). He hesitated a moment and then replied, "I don't know exactly, but the boys tell me it means 'To hell with Yale'."

Some years ago I saw in New York a long time friend who had recently transferred from Harvard to a professorship at Princeton. It was a surprise to many of us. I asked him about it. "Well, I'll tell you," he said. "That Harvard mystique is vastly overrated." He laughed but admitted it was a reality.

Well, it's about mystique that I want to talk briefly tonight. The *mystique* of Chicago Theological Seminary. I don't think I can be accused of overworking a theme, because I have never heard this mentioned before. I also know, however, that talking about something so intangible may cause it to evaporate. But I'm going to run that risk.

#### Thesis stated

It is my thesis that within the history of our Seminary there have been some extraordinary transitions, or metamorphoses, or even it has been transmogrified, if you want to get tony about it. It is all of this, and more, which has contributed to its mystique.

A few moments ago I mentioned the German Institute of CTS. The Seminary was intended to train ministers to serve the vast influx of new immigrants to our shores. We also had a Swedish Institute. It later became the basis for the North Park College Seminary. There was also a Danish-Norwegian Institute. Even a Bohemian Institute was planned. We were great on Institutes in those days. Graham Taylor inspired the establishment of the Institute for Philanthropy which subsequently metamorphosed into the School of Social Service Administration of the University of Chicago. Across the Midway they still speak in reverent tones when the names of Grace Abbot and Sophonisba Breckenridge



"It is my thesis that within the history of our Seminary there have been some extraordinary transitions, or metamorphoses."

are mentioned, and also the third member of the triumvirate which founded SSA, Graham Taylor. There is a room in SSA named in his honor.

At the very first faculty dinner I attended at CTS the guest was Dean Wright of SSA. The subject discussed was the relating of religion and social work through a joint program between CTS and SSA. Her reply was "Never". That was 42 years ago. And here we are today with a joint program in social work. Here is one of those imaginative transitions in which the Seminary has engaged.

#### Move to Hyde Park

A still earlier and even more significant transition was hinted at a few moments ago. It has to do with those Institutes. You may have wondered what happened to them. All of us are familiar with the Americanization process. Well, those German and Swedish and Danish and Norwegian churches began to speak English. Training foreign language pastors became less necessary.

At approximately the same time there came to the Seminary a suggestion that it move to the University of Chicago. After some jerky starts the move was made. The rest is history. All of this and much more of what I am narrating is fascinatingly told in Cushman McGiffert's history of CTS, NO IVORY TOWER. As an aside, I must tell you that in this very room during orientation week, when I was Acting President, I

told the entering students we would give a copy of that book to any student who would promise to read it. I am sorry to report that no one took up the offer. The history of CTS was not a great concern of students at that stage of their Seminary career.

The story of that move to the campus of the University of Chicago is but another evidence of the genius of CTS recognizing significant trends and working with them. The idea for that move came originally from William Rainey Harper, President of the University, but the germ he transmitted was nurtured by Ozora Davis and the faculty and directors. Thus CTS pioneered in a movement in which at least six other seminaries have joined. Another major transition in our history.

#### Register acclaimed

The most widely known publication among our alumni and in the scholarly world is the CTS REGISTER under Perry LeFevre's editorship. Fred Eastman, Mervin Deems and now Perry LeFevre have brought that journal to its present level of distinction. All of this while Perry was engaging in his distinguished career as Professor of Constructive Theology. Through the years The Register has spoken to the needs of its times.

I must admit to a certain envy of Perry. He and I published one of our books about the same time with the same publisher. When it came time for the publisher to remainder the unused copies they were put on sale at Ministers' Week. My book was THE RESPONSIBLE CHRISTIAN. His was THE CHRISTIAN TEACHER. I have to tell you THE CHRISTIAN TEACHER sold for ten cents more than THE RESPONSIBLE CHRISTIAN. That's what creeping professionalism/ism is doing to our society.

There are some in this room who can remember when it was vigorously debated in the Federated Theological Faculty whether a Jew could be called to that Faculty. Today not only are there Jewish members of the Faculty in the Divinity School, but CTS has granted a Ph.D. to a rabbi member of our student body. Under Andre LaCocque's guidance there has come into being the remarkable Center for Jewish Studies, a part of the Seminary's contribution to our common culture and the healing of its divisions.

#### Research thrust recalled

When I arrived here I became a part of a little enclave whose secretary answered the telephone with "Research and Survey". It was presided over by a wonderful person, Samuel G. Kincheloe, who was also Professor of the Sociology of Religion. Some of you will understand my difficulty in self-restraint at this point. Just a few facts concerning Research and  
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Survey and CTS. One is that the Directors of Research for every major denomination in this country, and some foreign countries, were trained under Sam Kincheloe. The Department had emerged as a part of a thrust throughout Protestantism to apply the methods of research to religion. Toward that end John D. Rockefeller Jr. had given funds to the Federal Council of Churches for a study of the entire country. When the study was half completed the funds had run out, but the determination to use the instruments of research in the interest of religion continued.

With us tonight are several products of the CTS Department. Yoshio Fukuyama, just retired from our Deanship, served as Director of Research for the United Church of Christ before he commenced teaching at Penn State. In my hand I hold Visual Aid number two. It is a reprint of a research article Yoshio did for the journal *Review of Religious Research*, entitled "Social Research and the Churches". Any similarity between the facts just reported is strictly intentional, even though I did not receive the reprint until after this address was written. A detailed account of this extraordinary aspect of American Church History can be found in Yoshio's full article.

#### Exploration Press founded

Among those who participated in the whole research process at CTS was Widick Schroeder, who had extensive training in research even before he came to the



President Kenneth B. Smith welcomes Dr. Obenhaus to McGiffert House rostrum.

Seminary. Today, in addition to his own very considerable research, he represents the transition to the next logical development, in his instituting the formation of the Center for the Scientific Study of Religion. Following that he initiated the founding of

the Exploration Press, which provides the vehicle for the publication of the creative activities of our faculty and that of some of our neighbors. All of this constituted another in that remarkable series of transitions illustrating the Seminary's capacity to discern the needs of the times.

#### Commons to Academy

When Graham Taylor accepted the call to come to CTS he stipulated he should be allowed to do his teaching at the settlement house he proposed to establish, the Chicago Commons. In this setting he felt he would have a more constructive teaching opportunity. In it he would be able better to acquaint students with the problems of the city. It was a logical step from that emphasis to the Urban Academy now serving twelve seminaries and twelve denominations. CTS has been substantially instrumental in the development of that agency. Before his retirement Yoshio Fukuyama had served as a guiding force in it. Today Kenneth Smith is its President. It should be added that, in keeping with the Seminary's concern for the city and its church, Samuel Kincheloe became one of the most respected authorities in the nation on that area.

Significantly, the one called to succeed Graham Taylor was a deeply committed ruralist, Arthur E. Holt. He was also profoundly interested in the city, even though the product of a Colorado farm. But it was in the area of rural life that he made his most substantial contribution. Notable was his championing of the dairymen in their strike for decent prices. That may seem anomalous in the light of the present national farm programs, but it's not unlike many other national programs. Holt's championing of a strong rural culture was basically Jeffersonian. Merom Institute, which he founded in a then defunct college on the banks of the Wabash, he hoped would serve as a fountain source for a rural cultural revival nurtured by CTS. Merom Institute is still thriving, though having adapted itself to other needed functions.

#### Church and Society

As an aside it must be said that CTS never did develop a Rural Church Department as did so many seminaries, and for a good reason. It was realized that the problem was not in the rural church, but in the theological and cultural foundations underlying it. We were not indifferent to the plight of the country church. Far from it. But it was recognized that the problems of both the urban and rural church lie not so much in their structure or administration as in the culture and society of which they are a part. Thus in our course offerings there are included such areas as Religion and American Society; Theology and component aspects of our culture;



Marion Obenhaus listens attentively as husband Victor describes CTS' "mystique."

Economics; Justice; the Role of Women; Peace and kindred themes. These and a range of other subjects, in our case, are taught by two extraordinarily able young women.

#### Roots of CPE

In our library there is a special staircase leading to a mystery room. The librarians know it's there. It's the Boisen Room. Fifty years ago the name Boisen was known in every progressive seminary in the nation. Today it is known by those familiar with the history of CPE and the Council for Clinical Training of Theological Students. CTS was in the forefront of that movement. Anton Boisen was a member of our faculty. Today most seminaries have become a part of that movement.

In the *New York Times* a few days ago there was an extensive piece about the cults and the way business was adopting techniques and leadership methods from some of the well known systems and gurus. Before they get too far into that stuff they should come to CTS. From the Council for Clinical Training there is a direct line to the study of cults and esoteric systems in which study this seminary excels. Philip Anderson's application of psychological analysis of the cults, and Bob Moore's study of the phenomenology of religion and cultural anthropology are manifestations of frontier work leading from pioneering beginnings. In still another vein mention should be made of the Carnegie Project,

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directed by Bill Myers, looking toward the redirection of urban youth.

### CTS prophets

CTS has been an institution identified with great causes. Some of you may be wondering why I haven't given attention to our record in the cause of labor and the James Mullenbach Institute, or the rights of women, for which there are courses now available, and symbolized by Florence Fensham, America's first women seminary graduate, or Fred Eastman who occupied the first chair of religious drama in an American seminary, or Ross Snyder's work in experimental worship and communications. Well, time would fail me were I to tell of Gideon, and Fred, Barak, and Florence, Ross and Samson, James and Jephtha, and you can name others among the prophets who have served on this faculty in years gone by — and even today. They have been and are in the "lines of progression and transition".

I would be derelict and woefully inconclusive did I not mention one other in this series of progressions. CTS came into being in the period when the nation was bursting many frontiers. The theological frontier was one of them. It is no accident that the Social Gospel featured so largely in the last quarter of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth in the major Northern seminaries. The University of Chicago and its Divinity School was a fountain source of that exciting new theological emphasis. (And I'm pleased to note that Richard Chrisman, the Director of the ministry program of the Divinity School and a former student of ours is with us this evening.) In the light of its interest and heritage it is understandable that CTS was a significant contributor to that movement. That doesn't mean that all the faculty and donors shared the concerns of Graham Taylor, a very vigorous exponent of the Social Gospel movement. Cushman McGiffert, whose portrait greets you as you enter this building bearing his name, reports that Victor Lawson, owner of the Chicago Daily News, who contributed five million dollars to the Seminary, paid Taylor's salary so that potential donors wouldn't be intimidated by his espousal of the Social Gospel.

### Theological diversity

CTS has never been a one string institution. Not all the faculty concurred in the Social Gospel emphasis. Later when Niebuhr and Tillich were the dominant theological figures on the horizon, there were faculty members who did not share their positions either. Then as now there were Existentialists, Wieman Naturalists, Process theologians, Liberal theologians, and others in between and outside. But then as now there are those such



"CTS has never been a one string institution ... Throughout its life CTS has been closely involved in and related to the City whose name it bears."

as Perry, Dorothy, Susan, Widick, and Bob bringing to their theological foundations on the major issues of our times. And we can be sure that Bonganjalo Goba from South Africa will add to the Seminary's perspectives in theological awareness. All of these faculty members as well as the others will effectively bring to this generation what it needs, too.

Possibly one index of this Seminary's capacity for relating to the major issues of its times is the fact that it was the first institution in the nation to award a doctorate to Martin Luther King Jr. and to Byers Naude, dedicated foe of apartheid.

### Social concern, action

Throughout its life CTS has been closely involved in and related to the city whose name it bears. In earlier years Graham Taylor's name was probably the most widely known of the faculty for civic relationships. Ozora Davis had been active in many local, national and civic agencies. Albert Palmer became a symbol of religious concern for society. As President of the Church Federation he was the spokesman for the victims of the Memorial Day Massacre and a leader in interfaith cooperation. Cushman McGiffert was Chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union. During the years of Howard Schomer's Presidency his name became inseparably identified with the peace movement, economic justice and ecumenism at local, national and international levels. Betty Reneker has served as an officer of many community organizations, most recently as President of Child and Family Services of Illinois. Her husband before his untimely death also served as chief officer of some of the nation's and the city's foremost business and civic organizations. At the time of his death he was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of Chicago.

I believe it is accurate to say that at no time in the long and useful existence of this Seminary have we ever been more intimately related to the life of this city than

we are under the leadership of Kenneth Smith. The vast outpouring of respect and affection expressed toward him at the time of his inauguration attested to that relationship. The list of his affiliations and leadership responsibilities is known to most of you. It would be gratifying though time consuming to list them here. I would mention only a few: the Chicago School Board, the United Way, Chicago Community Trust, the Urban League, the Community Renewal Society. Suffice it to say that the responsible tradition of this Seminary as earlier symbolized by Graham Taylor is embodied today in Kenneth Smith's leadership.

### Symbolic vignettes

What I have been attempting is to present a few vignettes of the way this Seminary has dealt responsibly with and pioneered in some of the significant shifts in our society. We may still be too close to some of them to judge correctly their disposition. Obviously I have missed much and have not done justice to some very creative members of the Seminary community now active or from other days. Time limitations make encyclopedic treatment impossible. What I have mentioned is symbolic rather than inclusive.

One hundred and thirty one years is not a long time as institutions go. Even so we are the oldest institution of higher learning in this dynamic city. That of itself carries some distinction. But we will not be judged by age.

In the first chapter of Genesis are the words, "And God saw everything he had made, and behold it was very good." We hope that will include CTS. That will depend, I believe, on 1) its ability to discern accurately the signs of the times; 2) its sensitivity to the needs of those times; 3) its willingness to commit its physical and spiritual resources to those needs.

This has been the record of its life in those one hundred and thirty one years.

This is the MYSTIQUE of CHICAGO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY!

## Conference Minister In Residence At Seminary

The life of the Seminary community was enriched during the Fall term through the presence of The Reverend Donald J. Sevetsen, Conference Minister of the Central Pacific Conference, United Church of Christ.

Sevetsen served as Visiting Professor of Ministry while on a "reverse sabbatical" from his Conference post. He provided pragmatic perspectives in assisting in the teaching of the Practice of Ministry course; counseled students, collectively and individually, on matters of career preparation and development and parish life; provided suggestions to faculty and administration regarding challenges at conference and local church levels; generally served to bring the United Church of Christ and CTS closer together.

President Kenneth B. Smith commented: "Don's presence among us constituted an additional and important "living link" between Church and Seminary. His impact was affirmative and immediate—and is continuing."

Those in conference minister and other types of positions in the United Church of Christ who may be interested in exploring the possibility of serving as a Visiting Professor are encouraged to contact President Smith.



Luncheon in McGiffert House during "Critical Needs of Black Children" conference brought together (left to right) George Polk, CTS Adjunct Professor; Gloria Primm-Brown, Carnegie Corporation; Marian Wright-Edelman, The Children's Defense Fund; and CTS President Kenneth Smith. Wright-Edelman, founder and President of CDF, keynoted the conference, which was sponsored by the Seminary's Black Church Community Program and underwritten through a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

## Jewish-Christian Center Hosts Conference

CTS' Center for Jewish-Christian Studies' one-day conference on New Testament and Judaica/Judaism was held in Graham Taylor Hall, January 21.

The Conference, designed for laypersons as well as clergy and scholars, was organized and coordinated by Dr. Andre M. LaCocque, Director of the Center and CTS Professor of Old Testament.

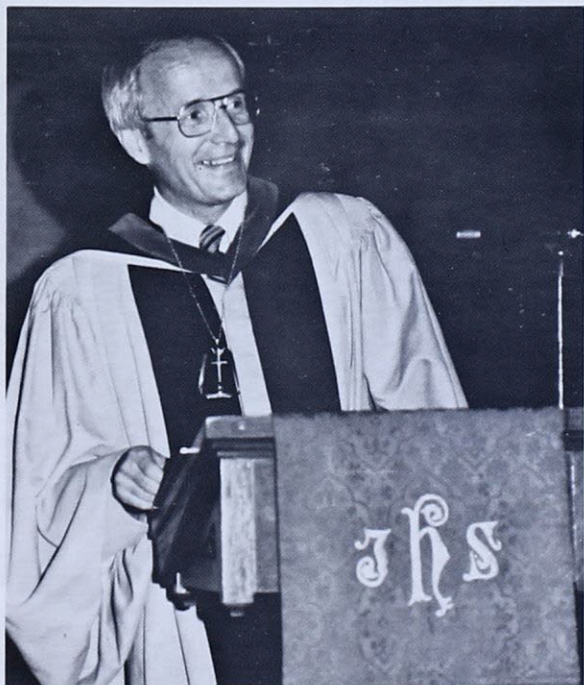
Conference highlights included a lecture by Dr. Michael J. Cook, Professor of Intertestamental and Early Christian Literatures, Hebrew Union College — Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio, on "New Testament Attitudes on Jews and Judaism: Testing Five Jewish Perspectives"; and a presentation by Dr. Daniel Patte, Professor of Religious Studies and New Testament, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, on "Anti-Semitism in the New Testament: The Polemics in Paul and Matthew".

Additional Conference participants were CTS President Dr. Kenneth B. Smith, Academic Dean Dr. Graydon F. Snyder, and Dr. Sarah Tanzer, Assistant Professor of Judaism and Christian Origins, McCormick Theological Seminary.

The Conference, one of a series sponsored by the Center, is geared toward improving understanding between Jews and Christians. Complementing its affiliation with CTS is the Center's 30-member Advisory Board composed of rabbis, ministers, scholars and laypersons.

At the Ph.D. degree level, the Center trains scholars and teachers of Jewish and Christian faiths in the Jewish/Judaic grounding of the Christian faith, in the relationship between the Old and New Testaments, in the history of the co-existence of Jews and Christians, and other related areas.

It is anticipated that Conference proceedings will be published in a forthcoming issue of the REGISTER.



Donald Sevetsen delivers Convocation address.

# Spring Convocation To Honor Anderson

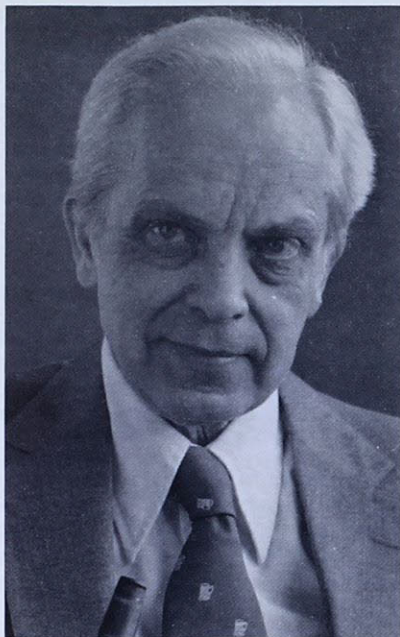
Alumnae/i and friends of the Seminary are invited to join trustees, colleagues, and students in honoring retiring CTS Professor Philip A. Anderson in a major Spring Convocation May 13-14.

Highlight events will include an address by Anderson on "Humor as Healing and Grace" in Graham Taylor Hall the afternoon of May 13; convocation exercises featuring Anderson's farewell sermon the afternoon of May 14; celebratory banquet at the University of Chicago's Ida Noyes Hall.

Additional events will include worship sessions, hymn sing, President's reception, meals at McGiffert House, and lectures by/seminars led by former CTS faculty members Elinor Berke, Arthur Foster, Robert Meyners, and Eleanor Morrison.

An optional evening at the theatre also is slated on the Convocation/Celebration schedule.

Principals in planning the program and events are the Seminary's Academic Council, Continuing Education Committee, and Alumnae/i Council.



Professor Philip A. Anderson

## Annual Phon-a-thon Again Successful

CTS' annual "phon-a-thon", conducted this year in late January-early February, was successful once again in meeting its objectives.

The personal contact program, through which students, joined by faculty and staff, telephone alumnae/i throughout the country, is coordinated by the Seminary's Development office.

Stephen J. Davidson, Vice President for Development, comment: "Almost half of CTS alumnae/i contribute to our annual fund; that is, they provide financial support of the Seminary on a yearly basis. The phon-a-thon program provides reminders regarding the need for this support, but it has other objectives as well: addresses and phone numbers are updated, other information exchanged, possible future Seminary students recommended; alumnae/i enjoy reminiscing, students gain new perspectives on what it's like 'out there'. It's a two-way communication experience that's productive and fun, as well."

The also-important financial measure of the phon-a-thon reveals that 25 students, faculty, and staff successfully contacted more than 400 alumnae/i during two evenings, generating 331 pledges totalling \$11,798, compared with 327 pledges and \$11,252 in 1986.

## President Smith Encourages Summer Institute Enrollment

*(Note: Following is a statement by CTS President Dr. Kenneth B. Smith regarding the Summer Institute; see next page.)*

The 1987 Summer Institute is carefully designed to meet the needs of our friends who have high goals and expectations, but limited resources of time and money. We know you are looking for rich educational opportunities to help you grow spiritually, professionally and intellectually; we also understand that you may have obligations which cannot be put on long-term 'hold' while you go to school.

The Institute is compact. . . Whether you take a single course with 20 hours of class time, or the maximum load of five courses involving 70 hours, you will be called to think deeply and work hard. It is through this intensity of focus and investment that the Summer Institute makes it possible for you to acquire new information, insight and skill in a short period of time.

Tuition for the Summer Institute is very reasonable and we offer meal contracts and pleasant accommodations at modest rates. Come join us!



Dr. Edward D. McCreary speaking in Graham Taylor Hall at "Faith, Family and the Black Church" conference. The event included workshops conducted by ministers of Chicago churches and an evening worship service at which Dr. McCreary preached. He is pastor, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Richmond, VA, and former professor of Systematic Theology and Ethics, Virginia Union University. CTS President Dr. Kenneth B. Smith expressed thanks for a Ford Foundation grant which underwrote conference costs.



Below is representation of full-page ad appearing in  
February "theological education" issue of *Christian Century*:

## The Chicago Theological Seminary



INVITES PARTICIPATION IN ITS  
SUMMER INSTITUTE  
for continuing education  
in Christian Ministries  
June 7-20, 1987

### HOUSE CHURCH LEADERSHIP INTENSIVE

June 7-12  
Philip Anderson and Elinor Berke  
1 Seminary credit: \$390  
3 CEUs: \$325

.. founded in 1855, the  
first institution of higher  
education in the City of  
Chicago

### MORE THAN A CLUB:

Christian Community and Ministry with Youth  
June 9-13  
William Myers  
2 CEU's: \$250

.. blending traditional and  
innovative in theological  
education

### THE SACRED AMONG US:

Opportunities to Renew Life in the Spirit  
June 9-13  
Robert Moore and David Owens  
2 CEU's: \$250

.. preparing men and  
women for leadership  
service in church and  
society

### SKILLS OF PASTORAL LEADERSHIP THROUGH CHURCH MANAGEMENT

June 9, 11, 16 and 18  
Kenneth B. Smith and guest participants  
1 CEU: \$155

### CTS Full-Time Faculty

Philip A. Anderson  
Dorothy C. Bass  
W. Dow Edgerton  
Neil W. Gerdes  
Bonganjalo C. Goba  
Andre M. LaCocque  
Perry D. LeFevre  
Bonnie Miller-McLemore  
Robert L. Moore  
William R. Myers  
W. Widick Schroeder  
Kenneth B. Smith  
Graydon F. Snyder  
Susan B. Thistlethwaite

### STRATEGIES FOR A JUST PEACE CHURCH

June 10 and 17  
Susan Thistlethwaite and Robert Lee  
1 CEU: \$155

### FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH:

Pastoral Care and Terminal Illness  
June 15-19  
Christopher Miller and Bonnie Miller-McLemore  
2 CEUs: \$250

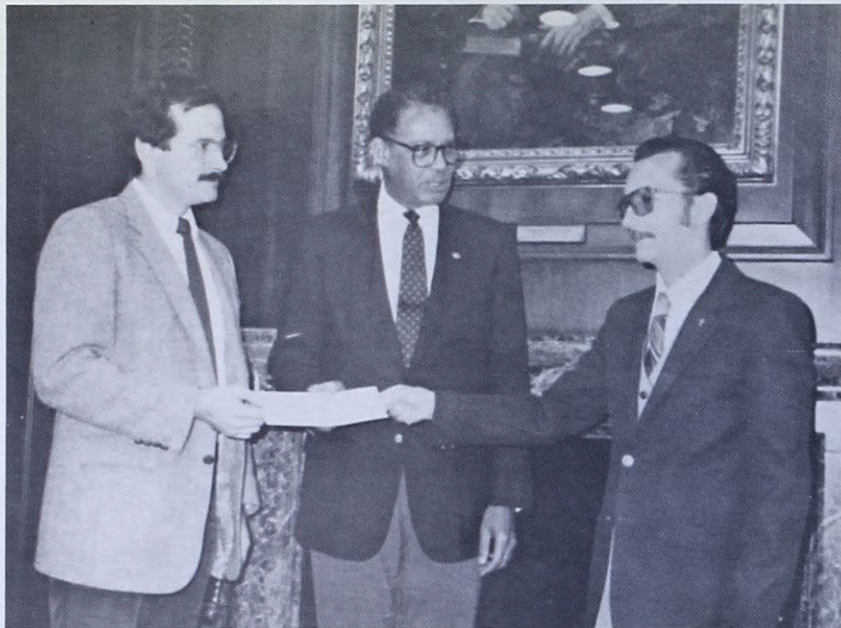
### OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATION AND PREACHING

June 15-19  
Andre LaCocque and Dow Edgerton  
2 CEUs: \$250

Participation of clergy and laypersons is  
welcome. To obtain more complete information,  
please contact:

Summer Institute  
Chicago Theological Seminary  
5757 S. University Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60637

A closely related seminary of the United Church of Christ



Kenneth G. Michaels (right), lay minister of St. Andrew-Crawford United Church of Christ, presents check to CTS President Kenneth Smith (center), and third-year M.Div. student Craig Mousin. The Chicago church, which closed last year, contributed its remaining funds to the Seminary in establishing the St. Andrew-Crawford United Church of Christ Endowed Scholarship Fund.

### In Memoriam

MARY ALICE BECK GEIER, '45  
 RUTH LOUISE GOSS, '21  
 WILLIAM ALBERT KEITH, '29  
 WALDO SUMNER RICHARDS, '30

### New Members of 'the CTS Family'

Paul Lynn FRISCHE-MOURI;  
 Dennis ('76) and Linda ('77).  
 Mark John MEYER; Debra Rosa-  
 Meyer ('82) and Kent ('82).  
 David Henry McClanahan  
 MONTGOMERY; Michael ('83).

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