

The Princeton Seminary Bulletin

Published Quarterly by the Trustees of the Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church.

*Entered as second class matter, May 1, 1907, at the post office at Princeton, N.J.,
under the Act of Congress of July 16, 1894.*

OL. XXXII

PRINCETON, N.J., JUNE, 1938

No. 1

THE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH COMMENCEMENT

FOLLOWING the precedent set in 1937 in connection with the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Seminary, Commencement Exercises began on Monday, May 16, with an address in Miller Chapel by the Rev. Harris E. Kirk of Baltimore, who spoke on the subject, "The Alumni, the Seminary, and the Church." This particular service was resumed at the special request of a large body of alumni. There followed the traditional reception at Springdale, when a company of some six hundred, made up of alumni, professors, members of the graduating class and their friends attended a reception given by President and Mrs. Mackay on the lawn at Springdale. In the evening over four hundred sat down to the annual Alumni Banquet in the University Gymnasium, under the chairmanship of the president of the Alumni Association, Dr. Roy E. Vale. The Westminster Choir, under the direction of Dr. John Finley Williamson, supplied musical numbers, and inspiring addresses were given by Dr. Robert B. Beattie, Dr. Jesse Herrmann, Dr. George H. Talbott, and the president.

The graduation exercises took place the following day in the University Chapel, in the presence of some two thousand people. Dr. Robert E. Speer, chairman of the Board of Trustees, presided. The Commencement Address was given by the Very Rev. Daniel Lamont, D.D., professor in New College, Edinburgh, and a former moderator of the Church of Scotland; and degrees were conferred on the new Masters and Bachelors of Theology by the president of the Seminary. The music was under the direction of Dr. Williamson, who was present with the entire membership of the Westminster Choir School.

Alumni of the Seminary will be interested to know that an effort is being made to arrange the various parts of the Commencement program in such a way as to enrich the proceedings and to conciliate every time-honored interest. Starting from the principle, which all enthusiastically accept, that the interests of the Alma Mater as a whole must always take precedence over those of any special group, negotia-

WILLIAM L. McEWAN

THE Rev. William L. McEwan, D.D., was born in Frankfort, Ky., October 17, 1859. He graduated from Center College in 1882, and from Princeton Theological Seminary in the Class of 1885. Immediately after graduation from the Seminary he became pastor of the Rodney Street Presbyterian Church of Wilmington, Del. Six years later he went to the pastorate of the church at Webster Groves, Mo.; and in 1894 he accepted a call to the Third Church of Pittsburgh. He continued in this pastorate until 1931, covering a period of thirty-seven years, when he was made pastor emeritus, in which office he continued until his death, November 4, 1937.

Dr. McEwan became a member of the Board of Directors of the Seminary in 1902, serving until the consolidation of the Boards in 1929. He was then made a member of the newly constituted Board of Trustees. At the first meeting he was elected president of this board, and was reelected each succeeding year until the spring of 1937, when he requested that he be not renominated, owing to increasing physical infirmities.

Dr. McEwan was a man of genial, winsome personality and tolerant spirit. He embodied in an eminent degree the grace, courtesy, and chivalry for which the people of his state have long been noted.

He was a loyal friend of this Seminary, always in attendance at the meetings of the Board, which meetings he presided over with great tact and considerateness. He frequently addressed the students and alumni of the Seminary, and spoke on many public occasions, notably at the exercises held in connection with the Centennial Celebration, and the service held in memory of Dr. Patton.

Dr. McEwan was clear in his thinking and positive in his convictions. He was a faithful minister of the Word, a noble-souled Christian gentleman. He had hosts of friends because he was so friendly.

Our Seminary is the richer for having had his many years of devoted, intelligent service. We thank God for Dr. McEwan, and now his work here on earth having been done, well done, we are comforted with the hope that he has gone to be with the Saviour whom he loved so dearly and served so faithfully.

JOHN McDOWELL

THE Board of Trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary records with deep sorrow the death of the Rev. John McDowell, D.D., LL.D., for many years a member of this Board.

He was born at Dalry, Scotland, September 24, 1870, and was brought to America by his parents at the age of two. At eight he became a "breaker boy" in a coal mine, and at fourteen was run over by a mule car and so severely injured that his left arm had to be amputated at the shoulder.

The romance of his struggle for an education, despite the handicap of his crippled body and empty purse, is known throughout the Church. He worked his way through the Mt. Hermon School under the benign influence of Mr. D. L. Moody, and then through Princeton College and this Seminary, and in 1896 was ordained a Presbyterian minister.

Then followed pastorates at Steelton, Pa., and Detroit, Mich., where his sympathetic understanding of the lives and needs of working men enabled him to