

COVENANTER MINISTERS

1930-1963

of the

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF NORTH AMERICA

This volume is a successor to Thompson's *Sketches of the Ministers*, published in 1930. It contains supplemental sketches of ministers who were living in 1930 and of those who were called into service later. Some of these have entered into rest, while others have either retired or continue their ministry. The appendix includes a short list of those who left the communion of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. The latter pages are composed of accounts of institutions and projects of the church and include lists of missionaries who served in the period from 1930-1963. Pictures of moderators and of our institutions are given. For historical reference there are contained herein lists of Presbyteries and of Congregations, with dates of organization and disorganization during this same period.

By

THE REV. ALVIN W. SMITH, D. D.
Pastor of Union Congregation
Mars, Pa.

He was installed pastor in Wilkinsburg, Pa., congregation on February 6, 1931, and labored there for 26 years until his release in October, 1957. He was elected Moderator of Synod in 1949 and was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Geneva College in 1950.

Dr. McKnight has continued an active ministry. In addition to his serving as Assistant Clerk of Synod, as a member of various boards of the church, he was Chairman of the Committee to revise the Book of Discipline and to publish our standards in one volume under the title: **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA**. This book was published in 1949 (Copyright by the Trustees of Synod).

Dr. McKnight has also rendered invaluable service to the cause of Christ as President of the Christian Amendment Movement. During winter vacation in Orlando, Florida, he presented the cause of the Christian Amendment before the Ministerial Association and secured endorsement of the Christian Amendment from various outstanding Christian leaders.

Dr. and Mrs. McKnight reside in Wilkinsburg, from which he has been doing much supply preaching in the pulpits of our own and outside churches. Despite some periods of ill health, he vigorously pursues this course as he is able.

WILLIAM JOHN MCKNIGHT, D. D.

W. J. McKnight, whose biographical sketch appears in Thompson's **Sketches of the Ministers** up to the year 1930, when that volume was published, was at that time the pastor of the First Reformed Presbyterian congregation of Boston, Massachusetts. He was released from this pastorate on April 17, 1938, and on May 12 of that year was installed pastor



THE REV. WILLIAM J. McKNIGHT, D. D.

Moderator of Synod at Winona Lake
Winona Lake, Indiana in 1930

of the Syracuse, New York congregation. Mrs. McKnight passed away at Syracuse in 1945. On November 3, 1946, he was released from the pastorate of the Syracuse congregation. After his retirement from the active ministry he made his home in Boston. There he continued to study and write, and in 1951 published **What is Bound to Happen**, which was Volume II of his exposition of the Book of Revelation. The first volume, **John to the Seven Churches**, was published in 1927. As one finding of his study, he tells us that "the essential contention of the whole Apocalypse is that a Christian should be a Christian and not a mere figurehead, while here in the flesh; that he should stand like a pillar against worldliness and wrongdoing, every day of his earthly life." Dr. McKnight's life was a noble exemplification of this. He was called to his Heavenly home on October 3, 1951, at the age of eighty-six.

JOHN MILTON McMILLAN

John Milton McMillan, son of Matthew Steele and Margaret Bell Gault McMillan, was born at Clarinda, Iowa, on August 18, 1922. He attended grade school at Clarinda, Iowa and New Concord, Ohio. His high school course also was in New Concord. In his youth, either 1934 or 1935, he united with the R. P. Church at New Concord. He was graduated from Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio in 1944 with a B. A. degree. His seminary work followed and he was graduated from our theological seminary in Pittsburgh in 1946.

Ohio Presbytery, on August 19, 1945, licensed him to preach the gospel. He was ordained and installed pastor of Old Bethel congregation, near Sparta, Illinois on May 27, 1947. He was released from this pastorate on September 8, 1958. (While pastor of Old Bethel he also served as Stated