

moore

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

NEWS BULLETIN



No. 19 April 1976

Carillon Avenue, Newtown 2042

Christian Education for the Layman



For many years, in addition to training men for the Ministry, Moore College has provided courses for lay people. This aspect of the College's work has developed both in depth and extent in recent years.

CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGY COURSE

This correspondence course provides a programme of basic Christian Education. It gives a guide to the teaching of the entire Bible; an outline of the complete range of Church History; an introduction to the whole field of Christian Doctrine; and training in practical skills for Christian Service.

The Course consists of three terms a year, each of ten weeks. Second Term this year commences on 17th May, and enrolments close on 4th May, the subject being Christian Doctrine.

A.F.E.S. COURSE

This correspondence course has been prepared through the joint

sponsorship of Moore College, and the Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Students.

It is designed to meet the needs of tertiary students and graduates who want to tackle systematic study of the Biblical data at a level comparable to their tertiary studies. It is written by younger theological teachers who have all been involved in student work in recent years. The Course aims to show the relevance of theological studies to faith, thought and action.

The Second Semester commences this year on 28th July and enrolments close on 15th July. The subjects for study are Old Testament and Christian Evidences.

NEW EVENING COURSES

This year, the College commenced a series of evening courses which are at a level equivalent to the daytime lectures.

The course will require at least two years part-time study, and involves lectures, reading and examinations. The year consists of two semesters and from one to four subjects may be taken each semester.

The idea of the course is to give people the opportunity to study in a systematic and thorough way the Bible and related subjects. It does not replace the Correspondence Courses, but supplements them by offering the stimulus of live participation and direct contact with the College staff. All the lectures will be given by the staff or leading people in the relevant field.

One of the interesting features is that consultation has been held with other Diocesan bodies to design a course that would be useful to them and involve their expertise where appropriate. A large number of electives has been planned so that selections can be made according to an individual's particular interests, as for example missionary interest or Sunday School work. There is a basic set core of subjects based on Biblical Studies, Theology and Church History.

Lectures are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The Second Semester commences on 20th June, and the subjects available for study are Old Testament (Ezekiel), New Testament (Mark), Ethics, and Church History.

COURSE FOR CHRISTIAN TEACHERS

A pilot course for Christian teachers was held last year, and attended by 30 teachers.

An expanded course is being held this year conducted by the Rev. I. R. Mears, B.Sc., M.Ed., B.D.

TEACHING CASSETTES

Members of the College Staff have produced Teaching Cassettes on a wide variety of subjects.

INFORMATION ON ALL THE ABOVE COURSES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM: THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL STUDIES, MOORE COLLEGE, 7 KING STREET, NEWTOWN, N.S.W. 2042, TELEPHONE 519 6460 (9 am-5 pm) OR BY FILLING IN THE FORM ON PAGE 4.

Robert Hockley writes about

POST GRADUATE STUDIES AT PRINCETON

The Reverend Robert Hockley, B.E., B.D., Th.Schol., Th.M. was trained at Moore College and served four years in the Diocese of Sydney. He spent the last three years in the U.S.A. where he was Master-in-Residence and a post-graduate student at Princeton Theological Seminary, and then a Chaplain at the Medical College of Virginia. He is now a Chaplain at Kenmore Psychiatric Hospital, Goulburn, N.S.W.

The Director of Student Relations proudly announced, "... it is our joy to have as members of the Princeton Seminary community, the largest representation of overseas students in any theological seminary in the U.S.A." There were more than fifty of us in a student body of some six hundred. Those for whom English was a foreign language had more difficulties settling in. One student from India could not bring himself to eat a hot dog until, three months later, he found the name had no canine reference.

Thousands of hours spent viewing American films and television programmes made my adjustment to life in America relatively easy. In the best tradition of American hospitality, we were lavished with welcomes by individuals, groups in the Seminary and local churches. Australians seemed to be of special interest to Americans who saw our land as the last frontier and almost invariably commented, "I've always wanted to go there." I think I felt myself a foreigner most when I tried, in Chapel, to join in the response: "Oh Lorrd, hearr ourr prrayerr."

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Princeton is on the V.I.P. speaking circuit for politicians, scholars, theologians, etc. Films, plays, lectures and seminars were sponsored by the University, the Seminary, theatres and special interest groups in the town. I could easily have spent a full and fascinating year on these events alone. And always, there were the museums awaiting the idle moment.

The facilities for study left little to be desired. The Speer Library at the Seminary having over 300,000 volumes of theology and related disciplines and being in receipt of 600 periodicals, was adequate for most post-graduate work. What was lacking there would usually be found at the multi-million volume Firestone Library in the University next door.

About 400 of the students were taking the three years basic theology degree, Master of Divinity. Most of them were preparing themselves for ordination to Ministry in Presbyterian churches. They had all graduated with four years College

degrees which often included studies in religion, philosophy and Greek. This meant that for seminars, a solid academic foundation could be assumed.

Well represented minority groups of women and blacks provided much stimulation at times. I did not see much evidence of the activism for social justice that characterized the sixties. Even the women's movement, quite sophisticated and forceful in its expression at Princeton, seemed to be slowing in momentum. Questions of self-understanding and identity were much more the issue for students than international affairs or racial equality. Parallel changes could be seen in students now seeking less self-determination than previously, preferring to hear what the professor had to say. And inklings of a new confidence in the established church were evident.

COURSES IN PASTORAL THEOLOGY

My own studies were in the Master's degree in Pastoral Theology, one of four post-graduate theology degrees offered in a large variety of specialities. No less than 23 full semester courses were offered by this one department comprising four full-time faculty and five chaplain-supervisors in nearby hospitals.

A strong emphasis on clinical training helped students to keep in touch realistically with the human predicament, and to integrate their theory and practice of pastoral care. My one day a week at Trenton State (Psychiatric) Hospital under clinical supervision were among the most profitable experiences I had, because I was able to examine my own style of ministry and see specific strengths and weaknesses for myself.

The more academic courses focussed on the relationship between theology and psychology, psychotherapy and psychiatry. Love, guilt, dependence, conscience, hope and freedom are examples of specific areas of human experience that we examined from theological and psychological perspectives. Human sexuality was offered as a course in which special attention was paid to

the issues of pastoral care and Christian ethics.

In advanced courses, methodological issues were of central importance. We investigated problems of relating psychological understandings of man to a theological frame of reference. Although there was a wide range of theological positions represented in these seminars, we all found our theological understanding enhanced by critically and constructively considering the methods of modern personality studies and healing arts.

This emphasis on pastoral studies reflects the widespread psychological interest and awareness in American society, if the paperback bookstalls are any guide. Some presbyteries have taken a measure which has aroused the consternation of not a few students. Recognising that some men and women unconsciously attempt to use the ministry as a means of satisfying unfulfilled emotional needs of a basic kind, they have required all ordination candidates to undergo psychological evaluation.

IMPRESSIONS OF A 3 YEAR EXPERIENCE

The most striking impression of my American experience is the attitude of openness with which such ideas and personal expressions of oneself were received. To be sure, there are areas of prejudice and closed-mindedness in American society, but my experience was largely free of that. In the Seminary, especially, I found a freedom to express my thoughts and feelings with little fear of being labelled or jumped upon. Creative ideas could be expressed without being knocked or stifled, so that there was a real opportunity to explore them. There were moments when I felt people were uncritical, even gullible. But I valued the tolerance of ideas because of the insights ultimately gained from at least some of them after sensitive appraisal.

I discovered that my training in biblical studies at Moore College left me at no disadvantage to other students. Although I was expecting to encounter novel ideas and ways of thinking, I was surprised at the extent to which existentialism was a personal philosophy. And I did enjoy graduating without sitting for single exam!

THE TREASURER REPORTS . . .

I welcome this opportunity to share with you, our friends and supporters, the record of our stewardship and at the same time to place before you the needs of the College for this coming year.

1975 FINANCES

The Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December, 1975 reminds us of our debt of gratitude to the many Parishes and individual friends who, responding to God's prompting, have given generously as their practical expression of prayerful concern for the work of the College in training men for the Ministry of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

You will recall that last year, we drew attention to the effects of inflation on the College finances and the difficulties we faced in meeting our General Fund commitments.

The expected deficiency on the General Fund of \$46,957 was in fact contained and indeed substantially reduced to a deficiency of \$13,706.

This has been a formidable achievement and all praise, unqualified praise to Almighty God for a large increase in income and reduced expenditure.

Our thanks, truly grateful thanks, are expressed to every donor and Parish who contributed so much that our donations for the year increased by 28.3% and reached an all time high of \$37,100.

NEEDS FOR 1976

Our Budget calls again for increased support. Expenses, for example fixed charges, will inevitably rise with the continued inflationary pressures. We have therefore set as a target, an increase of 15% in donations for 1976. This is necessary to meet the Capital debt repayments on the Library, Dining Hall and Staff Houses and to make a substantial contribution towards balancing the General Fund.

We invite you to share in the work of training men for the ministry, for God is surely to be praised, and we must be encouraged to continue to pray for all that is needed to fulfill this task committed to us.

In all things, we "give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever."

*Neville Malone
Hon. Treasurer.*

COLLEGE NEWS

FOR THE THINKING READER

The Reformed Theological Review is a periodical issued three times a year from Melbourne. Members of the staff of Moore College have been regular contributors ever since it was founded thirty years ago.

Recently, more specific arrangements have been made with the staff of Moore College. Generally speaking, a member will contribute an article each issue, as well as supplying reviews of recently published literature.

Continued reading and research is an important commitment for the College staff. They and the students benefit from the time spent in this way. The new arrangement will permit the staff to share the fruits of their research with friends beyond the immediate College scene.

Clergy and thinking laymen would benefit greatly from reading the Review. The annual subscription is \$3.60, and interested readers are asked to fill in the form on page 4, and enclose their first annual subscription.

STAFF CHANGES

The Rev. Dr. Robert Withycombe has left the staff to take up an appointment as Warden of St. Mark's Theological Institute, Canberra.

The Rev. David Peterson has been given leave of absence to continue his studies overseas.

The Rev. W. J. Lawton, B.D., Th.Schol. returns to the staff after 11 years of parochial service with the Bush Church Aid Society and in the Diocese of Sydney.

The Rev. M. Hill, Th.L., B.D., Litt. B., and the Rev. J. Woodhouse, B.Sc., B.D., Th.L. have been appointed Junior Lecturers.

AUDIO-VISUAL

Copies of the Audio-Visual produced by Clifford Warne of the Church of England Television Society are now available for screening.

A copy for the Diocese of Armidale may be obtained from June from the Rev. Ray Smith of West Tamworth.

A copy for parishes in other Dioceses will be available from June.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Rev. Ron Palmer, 9 Rushall St., Pymble, N.S.W. 2073 or telephone 44 3688.

LIBRARY

At the request of the N.S.W. Council of Churches, the Library has established a section dealing with Christian Social Witness.

1976 STUDENTS

Twenty-nine students commenced their courses this year. Of these, 13 are candidates for the Diocese of Sydney; 9 are Independent Students; and 7 are enrolled in the Diocesan Youth Leaders Course.

The total number of students in College this year is 81, of which 49 are candidates for Sydney Diocese.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary plans to establish prayer groups for the College. Two are already in existence:

Newtown, at the home of the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Dumbrell, 44 Carillon Avenue, Newtown, at 8.00 pm on the first Wednesday of the month.

Caringbah, in the Parish Room, St. Philip's Church at 2 pm on the 1st Monday of the month.

Further information may be obtained from the Prayer Co-Ordinator, Mrs. Norma Dumbrell. 519 5506.

The Moore College Women's
Auxiliary
invites you and your Friends
to
MORNING TEA
at the home of
**Bishop and Mrs. D. W. B.
Robinson**
5 Keith Place, Baulkham Hills
TUESDAY, 4th MAY at 10.30 am

Members of the Women's Auxiliary would welcome the opportunity to speak at women's groups, and screen their Audio-Visual.

Arrangements may be made with Mrs. Barbara Collins, 524 3801 or Mrs. S. Rowlands, 524 7114.

MOORE COLLEGE APPEAL

In 1975, the General Fund was assisted by donations totalling \$16,000 from individuals and Parishes.

IN 1976 WE APPEAL FOR \$20,000

Please place your donation in the enclosed envelope and forward it to the College.

Donations to the Maintenance and Repairs Account are allowable deductions for taxation purposes.

THEORY AND PRACTICE

This year, the Australian College of Theology has offered a new Certificate Course — The Diploma in Ministry. The Course will be incorporated in the curriculum of Moore College.

The new diploma requirements commit a student to a full-time course of study to be completed in a minimum time of three years. The substantial difference between the new Diploma and the older A.C.T. Certificates (Th.L., Th.Dip. & B.Th.) is that a more extensive practical emphasis appears and the Bible subjects and doctrine are reduced in content to compensate.

Candidates must offer themselves for ten 'core' subjects which include: Old Testament and New Testament Introduction, Theology, Church History, Parish and Pastoral work under supervision, Preaching (Principles and Practice) and Religious Education. Optional subjects include further Old Testament, New Testament and Theology, Introduction to Pastoral Care, Evangelism (Principles and Practice), Counselling and Apologetics.

Moore College has decided to combine the new diploma with the existing courses now offered by the College. Students will continue to do the full B.Th. or Th.L. course which will exempt them all of the Diploma of Ministry except the practical subjects. Much of the practical and pastoralia requirements are already being treated by the College in its own course. It will simply be necessary to subject certain areas of student pastoral expression (e.g. preaching and catechist work) to outside supervision.

Some features of the diploma will not be able to be completed within the normal College four-year course. It is hoped that these can be done in the Post-Ordination College Training Course.

What the new course will do for the College is to draw its Pastoralia programme together with definite goals in mind. The College has always striven for a healthy blend of academic and practical features within its course. The new diploma will give formal recognition of this.

We welcome the addition of this new certificate and are sure it will help us to co-ordinate our existing practical work.

Why

???? I.M.P.A.C.T. BOOKS ????

We came into existence primarily to supply books at a low cost to Moore College Theological students, the general public, church bookstalls, houseparties, and a mail order service.

As well as theological text books, we stock general Christian publications such as IVF, Banner of Truth, Paternoster Press, Hodder & Stoughton, Fontana, etc.

We invite you to take advantage of our low prices, and in so doing you will not only benefit yourselves, but you will be supporting the students through the continuation of the book shop.

I.M.P.A.C.T. BOOKS

7 King Street, Newtown

Phone 51 2225

Look for the shop front near City Road

To: Rev. R. H. Palmer,
Moore College,
7 King Street,
NEWTOWN, N.S.W. 2042

Please

- find enclosed my donation to the College
- add my name to the News Bulletin mailing list
- delete my name from the mailing list
- note my correct address
- find enclosed my annual subscription of \$3.60 for the Reformed Theological Review.

Send me information about:

- the General Correspondence Courses
- the A.F.E.S. Course for tertiary graduates and students.
- the Course for Christian Teachers
- the Evening Courses
- the Teaching Cassettes

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address:

Parish:

PAUSE A MOMENT . . .

to pray for

- ★ *the Principal and all members of the teaching staff as they expound the Word of God and related subjects, and exercise a pastoral ministry over the students.*
- ★ *the College Committee as they direct the affairs of the College.*
- ★ *the Treasurer, Accountant and Honorary Organising Secretary as they deal with the financial aspects of the College; the office staff; the Matron and the Domestic staff.*
- ★ *the work of the Department of External Studies as it seeks to build laymen up in the Christian faith.*
- ★ *the students, that their knowledge might be increased, their faith deepened, and their spiritual lives strengthened; and in particular the new students, that God will continue to reveal His way for them.*
- ★ *for former students serving in other Dioceses and overseas.*
- ★ *and give thanks for the increase in interest and support for the College in 1975; praying that this year's financial needs may be met.*
- ★ *for more men for the Ministry that many will respond to the call of God.*