

Find attached a brief description of the library copied from the Dallas Theological Seminary *Bulletin* 20:3 (July-Sept. 1944):5-6. Although brief and old, this article mentions many of the criteria by which modern libraries are evaluated, including the collection, indexing and cataloging, technology, inter-library cooperation, equipment and facilities, funding, staffing, and above all, “[t]he most important feature of the library is its intensive use by the students.” Of course there is no reference to internet resources or online education.

The article paints a rather positive picture of what would now be considered a very small and narrowly focused collection. At the time, few independent seminary libraries had collections deep enough to support original research in theology, or broad enough to cover the full range of social, historical and philosophical topics useful in seminary studies. See numerous examples in William Rockwell, "Theological Libraries in the United States," *Religion in Life* 13 (1943-44):545-55.

Seminary Library Improved

A Fully-Adequate Specialized Library. Students attending the Dallas Theological Seminary have access to over 20,000 volumes carefully selected for their important contribution to theological study. The library was begun in 1925 by the purchase of the personal library of W. H. Griffith Thomas, D.D., totaling 6,000 volumes. Through the years, books have been added at the rate of 750 per year, and the present library is fully adequate for its specialized purpose. Constant purchases are adding new and old books to the shelves.

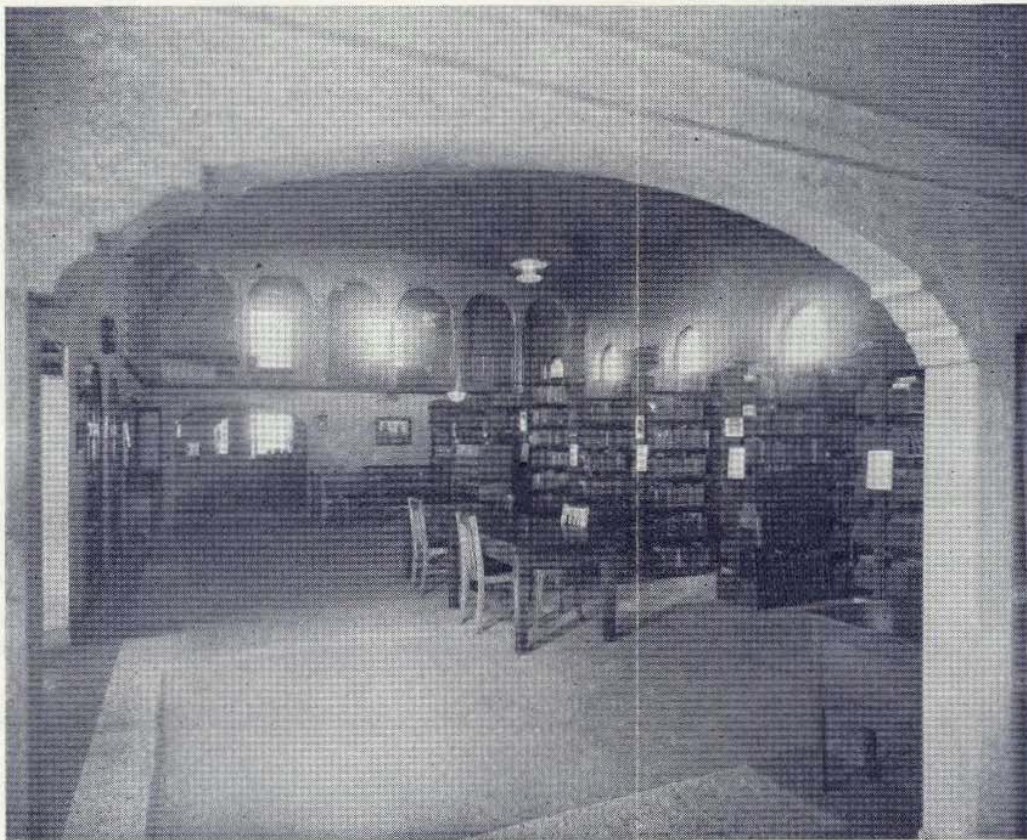
Large Selection of Books. Some idea of the comprehensive nature of the library may be obtained by a sample examination. A student seeking commentaries on the book of Revelation, for instance, will find well over one hundred volumes devoted to this book. Students in theology will find at least seventy-five sets of systematic theologies, not counting books on separate aspects of theology. While book purchases are governed somewhat by the respective needs of various departments, a careful inventory of the entire library recently by an impartial investigator reveals a fully

adequate distribution in various aspects of learning.

120 Periodicals Received. A feature of the library is its periodical section. The library now receives 120 periodicals which are available to the students, of which at least thirty-five are of permanent research value. A special periodical department now being organized includes 2,000 volumes of religious periodicals, representing about 350 titles. Such standard publications as the *Union List of Serials* and the *International Index to Periodicals* are available to students, providing a record of the holdings of periodicals in the major libraries of the United States and Canada.

Griffith Thomas Sermon Index. A unique feature of the library is the Griffith Thomas Sermon Text Index, containing 50,000 references to sermons and sermonic outlines. The sermonic material on any important text is easily located through the index.

Microfilm Equipment. The Class of '44 purchased for the library a modern microfilm reading machine by which rare books (obtained by loan) can be inexpensively



A View of the Library Stacks From the Reading Room

Containing over 20,000 bound volumes, the Seminary library includes the carefully selected personal library of the late W. H. Griffith Thomas, D.D., in addition to the thousands of other books which comprise the total. Approximately 120 religious periodicals are received regularly, including most of the substantial Biblical and theological periodicals of the world. For its size, it is one of the best theological libraries in the country.

photographed and filed for research work. The same machine can be used to record pictures, and it is used by the class in Bible geography to learn details of Palestine.

Widely Used by Students. Most important feature of the library is its intensive use by the students. The librarian reports the library is being used more this year than ever before, and various plans are followed to integrate library work with different courses of study.

The physical equipment of the library is conducive to its full use. The reading room is equipped with modern fluorescent lighting which is fully adequate for all types of reading, including fine print and foreign languages. Study desks are available for graduate students in another section of the library. The entire third and fourth floor of Davidson Hall are used by the library. Book stacks cover over 600 square feet of floor space and are capable of expansion to double present capacity. The faculty and seminary students are deservedly proud of their library and look forward to its increasing usefulness.

Gifts of Books to Library. Many friends have aided the library by gifts of old and new books, which are always gratefully received. The profits of the Seminary Book Room are used to help the library, and many have made a contribution in the form of ordering book purchases through the Book Room. An aggressive program of library improvement has been followed by the librarian, Arnold D. Ehlert, with the full cooperation of the administration. In years to come the library of the Seminary may well become the repository for the great conservative Biblical and Theological literature of the past.

The Fragrance of Christ

(Continued from page 2)

cred form, becomes a parable of His own body, broken for us in the agony of death. Only as His love is wrought in us can we hope to find how fruitful a life of sacrifice can be. "And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour."

Loveliness Unfading. He was lovely, yes; but more than that, He is lovely still. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and forever." Our Lord is a garden of spices. The wind passes over it and the pleasant spices come abroad. The Holy Spirit has wafted His fragrance to every land and to every believing heart. He spoils us for lesser charms. No one would think

of turning from a rare, alluring perfume to one which is cheap and repellent. Said a sculptor who had worked eight years to perfect a face of Christ, "I can never make a Venus after I have looked upon the face of Christ."

The Fragrance of His Loveliness. Perfume is not kept in a sealed bottle or hidden away in drawer or pocket book. It is applied, then its fragrance is carried wherever one goes. "Only the other day I was walking along Cardigan Street. Now Cardigan Street is a long street; it consists of rows and rows of small cottages; and the front gardens are quite inconsiderable. Yet I was impressed by the delicious odor of the shrubs. I commented upon it to my companion, but she confessed herself unable to detect it. Then, suddenly turning upon me, she exclaimed: 'Why, it isn't the shrubs at all; it's the daphne you have in your buttonhole!' I stood corrected; but I have admired the buttonhole all the more since. Whenever I have glanced at it, it has whispered to me that the people who carry their fragrance with them find themselves walking everlastingly through a sweet and perfumed world."—(F. W. Boreham.)

Student Activities

A busy program of Christian testimony was conducted by the students during the summer. An unusual feature of their work was a tent meeting held on the Seminary athletic field July 31 to August 12. The senior students preached each night and children's meetings were held during the week in the mornings. The meetings were an outstanding success with good response. Many other activities engaged the students, including preaching, Bible classes, young people's work, jail services, street meetings, child evangelism, Gospel music, and personal work in soldiers' centers and railroad stations.

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