

TRINITATIS SEMINARIUM  
1886-1911



# TRINITATIS SEMINARIUM

DEN FØRSTE DANSKE PRÆSTESKOLE I AMERIKA

FEM OG TYVE AAR

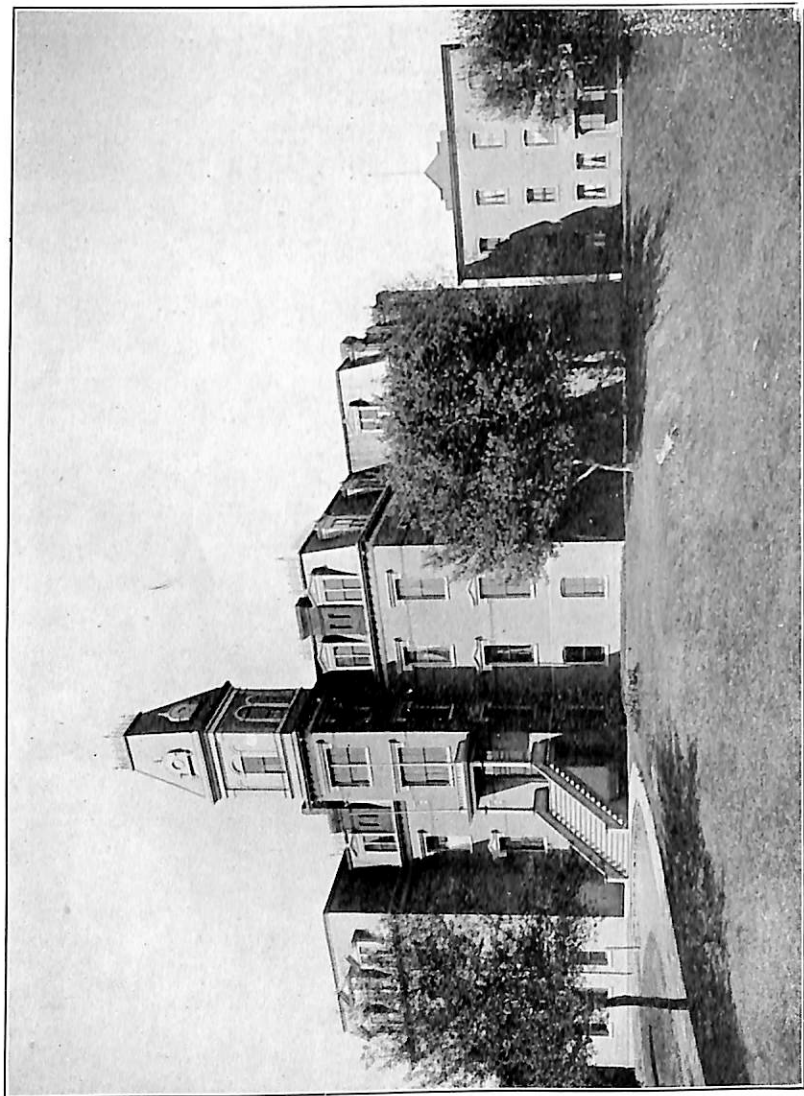
ET BIDRÅG TIL DEN LUTHERSKE KIRKES OG DET DANSKE  
FOLKS HISTORIE I AMERIKA.

AF

**P. S. VIG,**  
FORSTANDER FOR TRINITATIS SEMINARIUM

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BLAIR, NEBRASKA  
DANISH LUTHERAN PUBLISHING HOUSE  
1911



SKOLEN, SOM DEN NU ER.

## TRINITATIS SEMINARIUM — 25 AAR.

### Et Blik tilbage.

„Trinitatis Seminarium” — den hellige Trefoldigheds Planteskole, — hvilket passende Navn paa en Lærestalt for vordende Ordets Tjenere, som skal udsaa den Sæd, der ene kan bære Frugt til et evigt Liv i Dødens og Forkrænkeli gheds Verden! Fem og tyve Aar er ikke blot Fjerdedelen af et Aarhundrede, den bedste Tredjepart af et langt Menneskeliv, men ifølge gammel kirkelig Regel og Regning, det Aaremaal, som en Mand maatte have naaet, før han kan blive ordineret til Præst, tjene i Helligdommen, ligesom det 25. Aar i det borgerlige Liv er en af Betingelserne for at kunne blive valgt til et højere Embede. —

Fem og tyve Aar er en lang Tid, ikke mindst nu om Dage og i det Land, hvor vi lever. Tidens Rastløshed har gjort mangen Mand og Kvinde gammel, naar de er fem og tyve Aar, om de overhovedet er i de levendes Tal. Meget kan udrettes — og meget forsømmes i fem og tyve Aar, og det, der er udrettet, saavel som hvad der er forsømt i de første fem og tyve Aar af et Menneskes Liv, vil føles og mærkes indtil Enden.

Men vi skulde nu fæste vor Opmærksomhed paa den Skole, som i Aar fejrer sin 25. Aarsdag og særlig paa den Periode, som ligger mellem den 21. Oktober 1886 og den 21. Oktober 1911.

Men for den rette Forstaaelse af dette Tidsrum er det nødvendigt at fæste Opmærksomheden paa adskillige Ting, som i Tiden ligger forud for den 21. Oktober 1886. Disse Ting kan vi bedst betegne under eet som



FAKULTETET 1910—1911.

## I. FORHISTORIEN,

og denne kunde saa atter deles i flere Perioder. Men da Pladsen her ikke tillader dette, skal vi nøjes med at nævne nogle Hovedpunkter. Og blandt disse maa først og fremmest nævnes

### Augsburg Seminarium

i Minneapolis, Minnesota. Denne Skole, som begyndte i Marshall, Wisconsin i 1869, og i 1872 fik sit Hjem i Minneapolis, maa særlig nævnes her, fordi de Præster, som grundede Trinitatis Seminarium, alle havde faaet deres Uddannelse paa Augsburg, og denne Skoles Lærere og Ledere, Professorerne, Weenaas, Sverdrup, Oftedal og for en Tid Gunnarsen har med Kærlighed omfattet Missionen blandt Danske i Amerika. De fleste af Lærerne ved Trinitatis Seminarium til 1896 var Elever fra Augsburg Seminarium, og denne Skole har i det hele været Forbilledet for Skolen i Blair. Der var Danske blandt Studenterne ved den norske Præsteskole baade i Marshall og Minneapolis, særlig saadanne, som var paavirket af „Indre Mission” i Danmark. Den Mand, om hvem, saa at sige, „Konferensen” blev dannet, Pastor Claus Lauridsen Clausen, var dansk og fra sin Ungdom kendt med den Vækkelse, af hvilken „Indre Mission” fremgik.

### De danske Præster i Konferensen.

De unge danske Mænd, som havde faaet deres Uddannelse ved Augsburg, blev gerne ansatte som Præster i danske Menigheder eller som Missionærer i store danske Settlementer, særlig i Wisconsin, Minnesota og Nebraska. Ikke sjælden maatte de afbryde deres Uddannelse ved Skolen, før de ønskede det, fordi Missionen blandt deres Landsmænd trængte til dem. Som Pionerer blandt disse Præster maa særlig nævnes H. Hansen fra Sjælland og A. M. Andersen fra de stærke Jydere Egn mellem Vejle og Horsens, — særlig skyldes det disse, at de Danske i Konferensen ikke blev norske. Det, der mer end noget andet har bidraget dertil er

### „Dansk Luthersk Kirkeblad”,

„udgivet af de danske Præster i Konferensen for den norsk-danske, evangelisk-lutherske Kirke i Amerika. Redigeret af Pastor A. M. Andersen, Racine, Wis.”



Det første Nummer af dette Blad udkom i August 1877 og lige fra først af bragte det lille 16-sidige Maanedblad flittigt Bud fra Danmark ved Uddrag af „Indre Missions-Tidende“, „Almindelig Kirketidende“ samt Korrespondancer fra Danske i Amerika. Men det, der særlig interesserer os her, er, at „Dansk luthersk Kirkeblad“, særlig fra Begyndelsen af 1882 slog til Lyd for

#### Højskolesagen.

Allerede i 1881 ser man, at denne Sag er bleven drøftet ved Møder, som de danske Præster afholdt i deres Kredse, men særlig i 1882 tog baade Lægmand og Præster Ordet for denne Sag baade ved Møder og i det lille Kirkeblads Spalter. Og man mærker gennem de fremkomne Indlæg, at det er en Sag, som omfattes med levende Interesse. Saa meget mærkeligere er det, at man gennem Aaret 1883 ikke hører noget til, at denne Sag kommer paa Tale. Derimod var i hint Aar Tale om at ansætte en dansk Professor ved Augsburg Seminarium, uden at denne Tanke dog kom til Udførelse. Dog er det vistnok gaaet saaledes, at Tanken om Højskolen til en Tid traadte i Baggrunden, fordi Sindene iblandt de Danske i Konferensen var optagne af en større Tanke, nemlig,

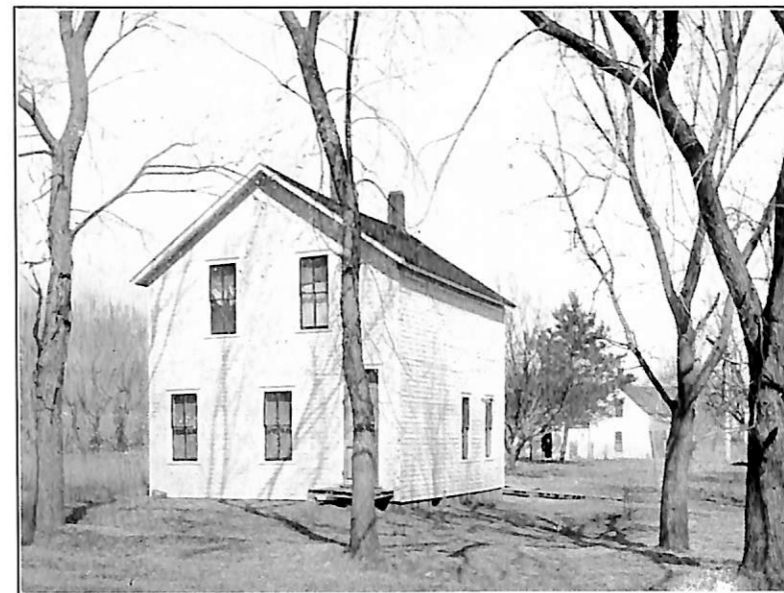
de Danskes Udskillelse af Konferensen.

Og denne Tanke blev til Virkelighed i Begyndelsen af 1884, efter at den allerede var bleven drøftet ved Møder i de to foregaaende Aar. Ved et Kredsmøde i Omaha fra 28. Febr. til 2. Marts 1884, som i alt talte 28 Deltagere, deraf 5 Præster, enedes man enstemmigt om at udtræde af Konferensen. Dernæst enedes man om at sende en Mand til Danmark for at forhandle med „Indre Mission“, nedsætte et Udvalg til at overveje, om man skulde søge Sammenslutning med den danske Kirke i Amerika, eller danne et eget Samfund, og i sidste Tilfælde fremlægge Forslag til Konstitution ved Efteraarsmødet, som skulde holdes ved Argo, Burt County, Nebraska, Pastor A. M. Andersens Kald.

#### Det danske evangelisk-lutherske Kirkesamfund,

blev saa dannet ved Mødet i St. Johannes Menighed i Argo fra 11. til 14. September 1884, hvor en Konstitution vedtoges, og Embedsmænd for Samfundet valgtes. Den for os i denne Sammenhæng vigtigste Bestemmelse, som det nydannede lille

Samfund fattede ved nævnte Møde, var denne, at Samfundet snarest muligt skulde bygge en Præsteskole. Mødet valgte en Komite paa fem Medlemmer (Præsterne A. M. Andersen, Formand, H. P. Bertelsen, G. B. Christiansen, og Lægmandene G. A. Bøje og P. T. Jacobsen) til at forberede Sagen og paalagde Styrelsen at sende Kaldsbrev til Pastor H. Steffensen i Smidstrup, Danmark, som Professor ved Præsteskolen.



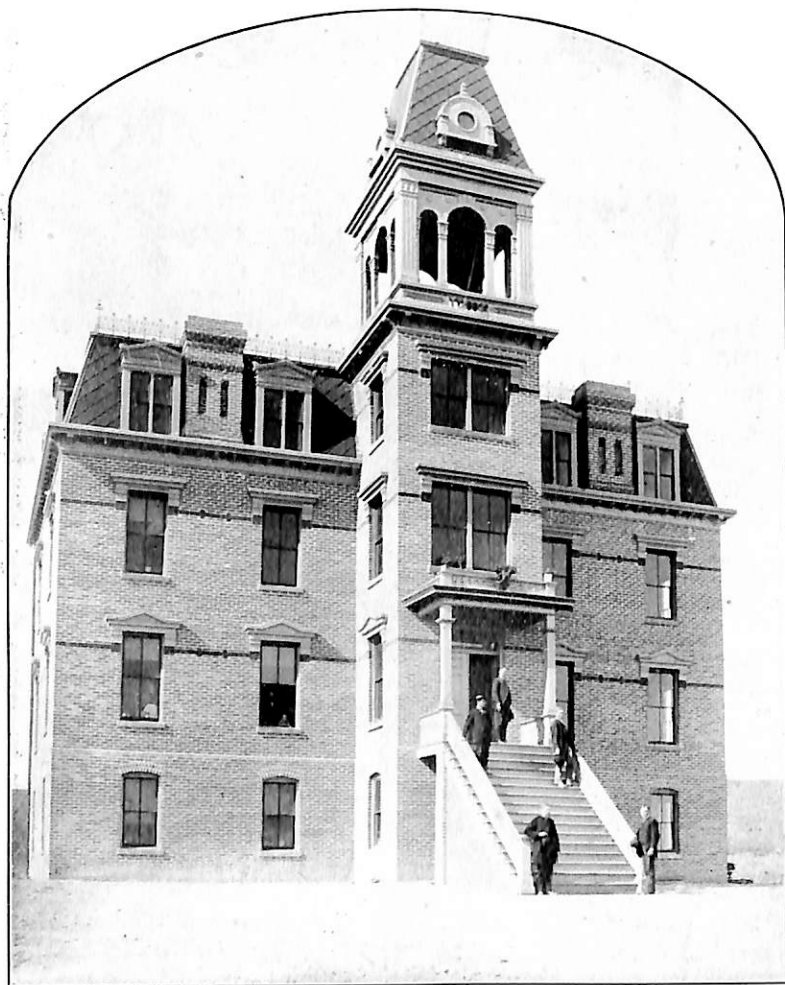
HUSET, HVOR SKOLEN BEGYNDTES.

#### Skolen i Blair.

Men baade den nye Skole og den nye Professor var langt borte. Der var noget andet, der laa lige for Haanden: det store Missionsarbejde og de faa Arbejdere. Af de 10 unge Mænd, som var uddannet til Præster i Marshall og Minneapolis, var kun 6 med til Dannelsen af det nye Samfund. To blev ordineret og een optaget ved Mødet i Argo. Altsaa var der 9 Arbejdere. Men man tog straks fat paa Arbejdet med at uddanne flere. Den af det ny Samfund valgte Skolekomite opfordrede i Overensstemmelse med Stiftelsesmødets Beslutning Pastor A. M. Andersen, der i 1883 var flyttet til Blair med sin Familie og havde der bygget sit eget Hus, —

til at begynde en Skole for vordende Præster, og skønt han i Forvejen var overlæst med Arbejde som Sekretær for Samfundet og Præst for 5—6 Menigheder, tog han fat paa Arbejdet som Professor med. Den første danske Præsteskole i Blair bestod af 1 Professor og 4 Elever og maatte dele Hus med en stor Familie.

Men en ærlig Villie trækker et stort Læs. Det er med Rette, at Billedet af hint Hus, som saaledes rummede den første danske Præsteskole i Blair, er taget med i vort Jubilæumsskrift.



DEN FØRSTE SKOLE.

## II. TRINITATIS SEMINARIUM.

Det unge Samfunds ledende Mænd baade blandt Præster og Lægfolk var paa det rene med, at Samfundet burde have, ikke blot en Skole, men en Præsteskole, og at denne burde have sit Hjem i eget Hus. Naar en af Præsterne udtalte: „En Lærestalt maa vi have, ellers er vort Samfunds Dage snart talte”, saa udsiger disse Ord den almindelige Mening om Sagen. Men, hvor skulde Skolen ligge? Hvad skulde den være; en blot og bar Skole for Præster eller skulde den give Plads ogsaa for andre? Og — hvor skulde Midlerne til at bygge den for komme fra? Svinene døde af Kolera i 1884—85, og det sved ikke blot til Farmerne, men ogsaa til Skolen, baade den, der alt var i Gang i Blair, og den, der skulde bygges. Men Tanken om Skolen døde ikke. Man mærker Begejstringen for den Sag i, hvad der blev skrevet og talt om den i 1885.

### Mødet i Hastings, Nebr. — Tilbudet fra Blair.

I Tiden falder det sidste før det første, Tilbudet før Mødet. Skoledirektionens Formand, Pastor A. M. Andersen, som tillige var Præst og Professor i Blair, havde faaet udregnet, at en Bygning med Plads til 40 Elever, Plads til en Familie og de nødvendige Skole- og Spiselokaler vilde koste \$6000.00, at Byen Blair, om Skolen blev der, muligvis vilde give \$3000.00 til en saadan Anstalt, imod at Samfundet sikrede en lignende Sum. To Mænd paa Blair Egnen havde lovet at give hver en Hests Værdi til Skolen, og nu mente Andersen, at dersom der i Samfundet kunde skaffes 30 Hestes Værdi, saa kunde Skolen bygges. Saaledes var der Mulighed for, at Skolen fremdeles kunde blive i Blair. Andre ønskede den hellere et andet Sted. Imidlertid havde Skolekomiteen bestemt at holde Møde i Hastings, Nebr. den 19. og 20. Maj, 1885 for at tage Bestemmelse om, hvor Skolen skulde bygges.

Paa et hængende Haar saa det ved Begyndelsen af Mødet ud til, at Skolen skulde bygges i Hamilton County, Nebr. hvor Samfundets største Menighed fandtes. Komiteens Formand, Pastor Andersen kom noget sent til Mødet. Men saa havde han til Gengæld et bestemt Tilbud fra Blair; man vilde med Glæde give \$3000.00 og Byggegrunden til Skolen, mod at Samfundet gav en lignende Sum og byggede Skolen i Blair.

Man enedes i Hastings om at tage mod Tilbudet fra Blair, og saa skride til Arbejde med at faa de \$3000.00 subskriberet i Samfundet. Man var paa det rene med, at nu skulde man „ofre, saa det svier“, som det hedder i Beretningen om Mødet i Hastings. Paa dette Møde bestemtes, at Skolens Navn skulde være „**Trinitatis Seminarium.**“

Et Par Maaneder før Mødet i Hastings var der endelig kommen Brev fra Pastor Steffensen i Danmark, at han paa Grund af daarligt Helbred saa sig nødt til at afslaa Kaldet. Det vilde have været en stor Vinding for den dansk-lutherske Kirke i Amerika, om Pastor Herman Richard Steffensen (f. 1853) kunde have set sig i Stand til at tage imod det fra det unge Samfund til ham udstedte Kald. For øvrigt var han ikke den eneste danske Theolog, som Samfundet udstedte Kald til med det Udfald, at dets egne Mænd maatte gøre Arbejdet, da andre ikke vilde eller kunde.

#### **Arbejdet i Blair — Aarsmødet i Council Bluffs, Ia.**

Efter Mødet i Hastings tog man for Alvor fat paa Arbejdet for Skolen. Den 1. Juli 1885 samledes paa Indbydelse af det danske evangelisk-lutherske Kirkesamfunds Skolekomite „et Antal af kristelige Mænd“ i den danske Kirke i Blair, bestaaende af 5 Præster, 2 Studenter, og 9 Lægmand. Man enedes om at organisere sig som „Trinitatis Skoleforening for den danske evangelisk-lutherske Kirkesamfund i Amerika“, vedtog Inkorporationsartikler, som underskrevs af samtlige Medlemmer, samt valgte Trustees, Pastor A. M. Andersen (Formand) L. Nyboe, Blair (Sekretær), M. Beck, Blair (Kasserer), N. J. Petersen, Kennard, Nebr., Andrew Larsen, Argo, Nebr., Pastor G. B. Christiansen, Council Bluffs, Ia. og Pastor J. Risdall, Fremont, Nebr.

Trustees blev bemyndiget til at bygge en Skole til \$6000. Det paalagdes Formanden at underrette Borgerne i Blair om, „at der vil blive saa megen engelsk Undervisning ved Skolen, at der ogsaa bliver Anledning for engelsktalende Elever“.

Trustees for Trin. Skoleforening samledes til Møde i Blair den 15. Juli 1885. Fra Byen Blair fik man gennem Mr. F. W. Kenny den Underretning, at \$2300.00 af de lovede \$3000.00 var subskriberet. Paa Forslag af A. M. Andersen besluttede Mødet, at antage den af D'Hrr. H. B. Dexter og

W. Cline tilbødte Byggegrund. Dernæst valgte man en Byggekomite, bestaaende af Pastor A. M. Andersen, Marcus Beck, og L. Nyboe og vedtog, at Skolebygningen „opføres ved Akkord“, at Kælder-Etagen skulde mures af „Brick“, 2den og 3die Etage „Brick Veneer“ og 4. Etage saakaldet „French-Attic“, dette paa Forslag af M. Beck. Mødet overlod Byggekomiteen at arbejde videre med Sagen, kun at Bygningen ikke maatte koste over \$6000.00

Byggekomiteen gjorde Akkord om Opførelse af Skolebygningen, og 1. September meddeler „Dansk luthersk Kirkeblad“ Læserne, „at Arbejdet paa Skolen efter al Sandsynlighed vil blive begyndt omtrent til samme Tid, som dette Nummer af Bladet udgaar.“ Inden vi horer nærmere herom, vil vi gøre en Tur til Council Bluffs, Ia., hvor Samfundet holdt sit 2. Aarsmøde fra 26. til 30. August, og hvor bl. a. Pastor P. C. Trandberg var til Stede og prædikede.

Angaaende Skolesagen oplyser Beretningen om Mødet, at der til Lærerløn var indkommen \$119.80. Formanden i Skolekomiteen aflagde sin Beretning om Arbejdet med Skolen og kunde da meddele, at den nødvendige Subskription var opnaaet, alle Forberedelser gjorde. Planen til Bygningen færdig, saa der kunde skrides til Arbejde.

Samfundet godkendte Komiteens Arbejde og vedtog, at Bygningskomiteen ikke absolut skulde være bunden til \$6000, kun at Bygningen skulde opføres uden Gæld. Det overlodes „Board of Trustees“ at sørge for det nødvendige Inventarium til Bygningen — samt for Pengene til det. Altsaa er det først nu, at der gøres Kontrakt om Opførelsen, som ovenfor nævnt.

Den 22. September holdt Byggekomiteen Møde i Blair og vedtog at sørge for, at Bygningen blev færdig, med Undtagelse af øverste Etage, da de \$6000.00 ikke vilde kunne naa længere. Man enedes om at vælge F. W. Kenny som Medlem af Bygningskomiteen, hvilket Valg han modtog. I November kan „Kirkebladet“ meddele: „Det trak langt ud, før der blev begyndt paa vor Skolebygning her; men siden der blev begyndt, har det gaaet rask fremad. Om Gud fremdeles som hidtil vil lade Vejret føje os, ventes Murarbejdet at være omtrent færdigt, naar Læserne modtager dette Nummer. Der er endnu Haab om, at ialt Fald en Del af Bygningen vil kunne blive færdig til Beboelse i Vinter“. Af de

subskriberede Penge var der indkommen \$1700.00. Saaledes i November.

Men den 4. December saa det ud til, at hele Stadsen skulde blæse ned. Den Dag gik der nemlig en vældig Storm over Egnen, saa flere Bygninger, der var under Opførelse, blæste ned. „Men uagtet Stormen staar vor Skolebygning stolt paa Bakken, Gud ske Lov.”

Den korte Beretning slutter saaledes: „1. December begyndtes Skolegerningen med 5 Elever. Flere ventes.”

Præsteskolen naaede altsaa ikke ind i den ny Bygning i 1885 men vel et langt Stykke paa Vejen dertil.

#### 1886 — Skolebygningens Fuldendelse og Indvielse.

Med Begyndelsen af det Aar, som vi ved 25 Aars Jubilæet særlig ser tilbage til, nemlig 1886, gør vi Bekendtskab med en Kasse, som ikke før har været nævnt i Samfundet, nemlig „Til trængende Studenter.” De første Bidragsydere til denne Kasse fortjener formentlig at nævnes: L. Eskildsen, Hampton, Nebr. \$5.00; P. Andreasen, Luck, Wis. \$1.00.

Under 15. Febr. kan „Kirkebladet” meddele, „at Arbejdet paa Skolebygningen atter er i fuld Gang.” Men Bygningskomiteen trænger til Penge. Og i samme Stykke stilles det Spørgsmaal til Samfundsvener, som slet ikke har ladet høre fra sig i denne Sag: „Er det eders Mening, at I ville staa og se til, medens vi andre gør Arbejdet? Eller hvad?”

Af Direktionsprotokollen, Mødet 13. Marts, ses, at en Arkitekt Driscoll fra Omaha har sendt Byggekomiteen en Regning for „Plans and Specifications” for Skolen, medens Komiteens Forstaaelse var, at Mr. Dexter havde lovet at betale Arkitekten. Det vedtoges at faa den ny Skole fotograferet, og at Indtægten ved Salget af Billederne skulde gaa til Skolens Kasse. 15. Juli holdt Trustees atter Møde. De \$6000.00 var gaaet med, og der manglede endnu \$1,000.00 for at faa Bygningen i brugbar Stand. Man enedes om at optage et Laan paa \$1,000.00 mod Sikkerhed i Ejendommen, ligeledes at lade Bygningen assurere for \$4000.00. I April besøgte Pastor H. Hansen, Samfundets Formand, den lille Skole i Blair og besaa den nye Skolebygning, der var færdig til „Plastering”. Han udtalte sig i „Kirkebladet” med stor Anerkendelse om begge.



PASTOR A. M. ANDERSEN.

I Beretningen om Samfundets 3. Aarsmøde, som holdtes i Hampton, Hamilton County, Nebr. den 26.—29. August 1886, ses, at Skolen i den forløbne Vinter havde været besøgt af 9 Elever, som var delte i 2 Klasser, og at der i alt var givet 35 Timers Undervisning om Ugen. Kassereren berettede, at der var indkommen til Lærerløn i alt \$364.78. Men Samfundet optog straks en Subskription ved Mødet, der beløb sig til \$328.00, og denne Sum tog det kun en halv Time at naa.

Mødet paalagde Skoledirektionen at sætte sig i Forbindelse med Stud. A. J. Dahm og overveje, om han kunde ansættes som Lærer ved Skolen. Desuden skulde Direktionen „drage Omsorg for Begyndelsen af en Pigeskole i den kommende Sommer, forudsat den kan bære sine egne Udgif-



ter", komme med Forslag til næste Aarsmøde om et akademisk Kursus i Engelsk ved Skolen.

I „Kirkebladet" for 1. Oktober 1886 bekendtgøres, at Indvielsen af Skolen efter manges Ønske er udsat til Torsdag den 21. Oktober. Oprindeligt var det Mening, at den skulde have funden Sted ved Skolens Begyndelse, den 1. Oktober.

Den 21. Oktober 1886 oprandt med smukt Vejr, en stor Skare af Mennesker samledes til Fæst paa den nye Skole i Blair. Af Samfundets Præster var H. Hansen, M. C. Hansen Rohe, A. Rasmussen, G. B. Christiansen, A. M. Andersen og H. P. Berthelsen til Stede. To engelsk-lutherske Præster af Generalsynoden, nemlig Rev. J. S. Detweiler af Omaha og J. N. Lenker af Grand Island, Nebr., var til Stede og deltog i Fæsten. Pastor Rohe begyndte med at minde om de danske Studenter paa Augsburg Seminarium, der gerne havde deres Samlingsplads paa Varelset Nr. 8. Men nu i Dag var vi samlet paa vor egen Præsteskole. Pastor A. Rasmussen mindede om Esajas Ord: „Herre, send mig!" som den rette Bevæggrund for Studenter, der søgte til denne Skole. Pastor Christiansen mindede om Guds Godhed, der havde skænket os ogsaa denne Skole. Om Eftermiddagen mødte Folk fra Blair paa Skolen efter særlig Indbydelse. Rev. Detweiler fra Omaha talte over Emnet: „Den evangelisk-lutherske Kirke". Samfundets Formand, Past. H. Hansen holdt Indvielsestalen ud fra Luk. 9, 28—35. Dernæst talte Rev. Lenker over Gal. 6, 10, hvorefter Pastor Andersen oplæste Listen over Bidrag til Skolen fra Byen og takkede Giverne paa Samfundets Vegne. Efter en kort Tale af Pastor Christiansen lyste Pastor Andersen Herrens Velsignelse over Forsamlingen, og dermed var Indvielsesfæsten til Ende.

Trinitatis Seminarium var forøvrigt ikke den eneste danske Skole, der blev indviet i Nebraska i Aaret 1886.

I „Kirkebladet" Nr. 24, 1886, læses: „Dannebrog College, Pastor Hansens Skole i Dannebrog, Nebr., blev Søndag den 5. ds. indviet. Enkelthederne herved er os ubekendte."

### III. AF SKOLENS SENERE HISTORIE.

At fortælle Skolens Historie fra 1886 til 1911 vilde blive baade for vidtløftigt og trættende, saa derpaa skal vi ikke indlade os. Derimod vil det være i sin Orden, at vi fremdrager enkelte Hovedpunkter. Og som det første af disse nævner vi

#### 1. Skolen paatænkte Lærere, Pastor P. C. Trandberg og flere.

For en Ordens Skyld er det maaske bedst først blandt Skolens Lærere at nævne dem, som blev kaldet af Samfundet, men ikke saa sig i Stand til at kunne modtage Kaldet. Vi har allerede nævnt Pastor H. Steffensen, som Samfundet udstedte Kald til ved sit første Aarsmøde. Den næste i Rækken blev Pastor P. C. Trandberg. Denne mærkelige Mand var kommen til Amerika i 1882 uden noget bestemt udvortes Kald. Som allerede nævnt, var han til Stede ved Samfundets 2. Aarsmøde i 1885 i Council Bluffs. Ved Aarsmødet i Hampton i 1886 var han ikke til Stede, men sendte Brev med venlig Hilsen. Ved det 4. Aarsmøde, i Albert Lea, Minn., fra 7. til 13. Sept. 1887 var Trandberg, der siden 1885 var Professor ved Congregationalisternes theologiske Seminarium i Chicago, — til Stede og talte flere Gange. Paa Forslag af Indberetningskomiteen enedes Aarsmødet om enstemmigt at kalde Trandberg til theologisk Professor ved Skolen i Blair med en aarlig Løn af \$600.00 og fri Bolig. Da Trandberg ikke kunde følge Kaldet før om et Aar, var der Tale om at stanse Skolen i Blair saalænge, lade de theologiske Studenter gaa til Chicago og de andre til Pastor Hansens Skole i Dannebrog. Som bekendt fulgte Pastor Trandberg alligevel ikke det Kald, der saaledes var udstedt til ham, eller den Vej ud fra Forbindelsen med Congregationalisterne, som saaledes var vist ham. Derimod havde hans Kaldelse lammende Indflydelse paa Skolen i Blair, idet kun den forberedende Afdeling skulde være i Virksomhed i 1887—88 og der var vist de theologiske Studenter Vej til Seminariet i Chicago, en Vej, som enkelte af dem fulgte.

Den Følelse, som var raadende i Samfundet ved Kaldelsen af Pastor Trandberg i Albert Lea i 1887 — og denne Kaldelse gentoges ved Aarsmødet i Fremont i 1888, er vist-

nok udtrykt helt korrekt i Beretningen om et Møde i Council Bluffs, Iowa, 21—28. August 1887, ved hvilket Trandberg var til Stede. Det hedder i nævnte Beretning: Vi trænger, menneskelig talt, til en Fader iblandt os, en ældre og erfaren Mand, der kan tale et løsende Ord, naar Vanskeligheder truer fra inden og udenfra. Og Herren under vist Trandberg nu efter flere bitre Skuffelser at se den Sag, han saa mange Aar har stridt og lidt for, at fremmes i et ordnet Kirkesamfund paa frikirkelig Jordbund.

Med det samme skal vi nævne de andre Mænd, som Samfundet henvendte sig til enten med Kald eller Forespørgsel, om de vilde være villige til at modtage Kald til en theologisk Lærerpost ved Trinitatis Seminarium.

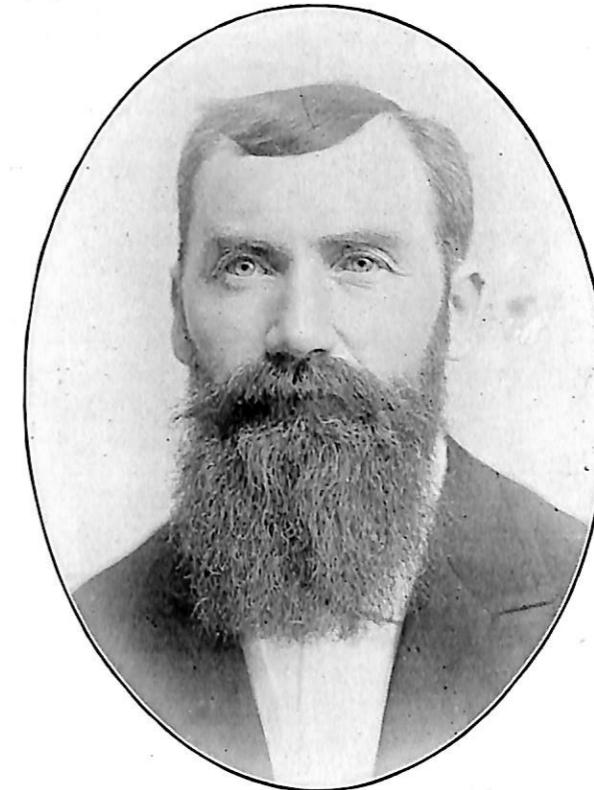
Den 1. Febr. 1893: „Besluttet, at Board of Trustees skriver til Pastor Chr. Holt og Pastor O. Olesen med Forespørgsel, om en af dem vilde komme og overtage en Lærerpost i Theologi ved vor Skole.” Hertil svarede Holt nej.

Den 2. Maj 1893: „Besluttet at anbefale Pastor P. S. Vig til Samfundets Aarsmøde som theologisk Lærer ved Trinitatis Seminarium.” Vig svarede nej til Kaldet, da han havde lovet „Missionsforeningen” at gaa til Skolen i Elk Horn.

Ved Fællesmøde af Board of Trustees og Samfundets Styrelse i Blair den 5. og 6. Dec. 1894: „Besluttet, at Komiteen paalægger Pastor I. M. Hansen at tale med Pastor H. Steffensen om, hvorledes han vilde stille sig over for et Kald som theologisk Lærer ved Skolen.”

Samme Møde vedtog: „at man skulde sende en Skrivelse ved Past. I. M. Hansen til Past. Vilh. Beck, Prof. Westergaard og Past. Hansen, Nørre Nissum, om at være ham behjælpelig med at finde en Mand, som kunde være skikket til theologisk Lærer ved Skolen.” Lønnen sattes til 6 a 800 Dollars om Aaret.

Blandt Beslutningerne ved Aarsmødet i Hutchinson, Minn., 1895 findes følgende: „at Samfundet ved dette Aarsmøde paa Pastor H. Matthiesens og Missionær Kjærs Anbefaling udsteder Kald til Pastor Hindhede, Bording, som theologisk Lærer ved Trin. Sem. fra Skoleaarets Begyndelse 1896 at regne med en Løn af \$800. Samfundet bevilger \$200 til Overrejsen. Aarsmødet anmoder Past. Matthiesen og Missionær Kjær om at overbringe Pastor Hindhede Kaldet.” Past. N. B. Hindhede svarede ogsaa nej.



PASTOR G. B. CHRISTIANSEN.

## 2. Skolens Bestyrere fra 1886 til 1911.

Først blandt disse maa nævnes den utrættelige Pastor A. M. Andersen, om hvis Arbejde for Skolens og Skolebygningens Tilblivelse vi i det foregaaende allerede har hørt saa meget. I et Omrids, han i sin Tid selv gav af sit Levnedsløb, siger han om dette Arbejde: „Det var en besværlig og vanskelig Opgave at betjene flere Menigheder og saa grundlægge en Skole paa samme Tid. Det var over Evne.” Imidlertid holdt han ud paa sin Post til 1889. I 1895 blev han igen kaldet til Lærer i Theologi ved Skolen, men resignerede atter i 1897. Siden har han, saa vel som tidligere, haft Sæde i Skoleraadet flere Gange. Pastor Andersen har indskrevet sit

Navn som en af den lutherske Kirkes utrættelige Arbejdere i Amerika, der i onde Dage holdt uvægerlig fast ved Guds Ord og den lutherske Bekendelse og ikke tabte Modet, om det saa nok saa fortvivlet ud. Pastor Andersen, der er født 8. Marts 1847, kom til Amerika i 1872 og blev ordineret til Præst den 11. Oktober 1874.

Pastor G. B. Christiansen blev Andersens Afløser i 1889 og holdt ud paa sin vanskelige Post som Bestyrer til 1896, da han endelig fik Lov til at resignere. I hans Tid blev baade Elevantallet forøget, og kom bl. a. ogsaa til at omfatte unge Kvinder, for hvilke der i nogle Aar holdtes Skole et Par Maaneder om Sommeren. Ligeledes blev Skolebygningen betydelig udvidet, hvorom senere.

Ved Sammenslutningen af de to Samfund „Det danske evangelisk-lutherske Kirkesamfund” og „Den danske evangel. luth. Kirke i Nord Amerika”, i Efteraaret 1896 i Minneapolis, Minn., blev Pastor P. S. Vig kaldet til theologisk Lærer og Bestyrer for Trinitatis Seminarium, med Tilladelse til at lade Skolen fortsætte i Elk Horn, Iowa, til Efteraaret 1897. Pastor Vig resignerede fra sin Post i 1899, da han paa Grund af sin Hustrus Helbred ansaa det for bedst at flytte bort fra Skolen, og blev Præst for Menigheden i Elk Horn samt Forstander for Højskolen der.

Ved Aarsmødet i Hutchinson i 1899 blev College-Afdelingen ved Elk Horn Skole flyttet til Blair, og Pastor Kr. Anker valgt til Forstander for Blair College. Han var Forstander der til 1905, da han indgav sin Resignation.

I 1902 blev Pastor P. S. Vig kaldet tilbage til Blair som Forstander for Trinitatis Seminarium, men resignerede fra denne sin Post i Sommeren 1905 og tog mod Præstekald i Luck, Wis.

I Pastor Ankers Forstandertid blev Skolen betydelig udvidet, baade hvad Elevantal, Fag og Bygninger angaar. Baade „Ladies Hall” og den søndre Sidebygning opførtes i Ankers Tid. Skolen blev fra 1899 af „Co-educational” og fik baade „Business” og „Normal Courses” saa det oprindelige Seminarium næsten blev borte som en Afdeling mellem de mange andre ditto. Skolen blev forsynet med „Steam-Heating Apparatus” osv., osv.

Dernæst er Pastor Ankers Forstandertid mærkelig der-

ved, at Skolen gik fra det mærkelige 19. til det 20. kristelige Aarhundrede med dets mange Spørgsmaal og Problemer.

Fra 1905 til sin Død den 8. April 1908 var Pastor J. P. Jensen, theologisk Kandidat fra Trinitatis Seminarium 1900, Forstander for Dana College og Trinitatis Seminarium. Han var sikkerlig en Mand, der arbejdede sig til Døde i Skolens Tjeneste.

I 1908 valgtes Prof. C. X. Hansen til Forstander for Dana College og Prof. S. C. Eriksen som Forstander for den theologiske Afdeling (Trinitatis Seminarium).

I 1909 resignerede Prof. S. C. Eriksen som Forstander og theologisk Lærer, og Pastor P. S. Vig blev tredje Gang valgt til denne Post.

Med Prof. C. X. Hansen, som var blandt det første Hold af Elever paa Trinitatis Seminarium i 1886 — 87 og siden graduerede fra Midland College, Atchison, Kansas, og allerede i mange Aar har været Lærer ved den forberedende Afdeling ved Trinitatis Seminarium og Professor ved Dana College, er Skolen traadt ind i et nyt Stadium, idet den styres af en født Dansk-Amerikaner, hvilket maa siges at være i sin gode Orden, naar Hensyn tages til Skolens Formaal samt den Tid, hvori, og de Omstændigheder, hvorunder den arbejder. Prof. Hansen har Æren af at være den første Amerika-fødte blandt Skolens Elever, Lærere og Forstandere. Ligeledes er han siden 1908, den første Beboer af den af Bondo-Familien til Samfundet skænkede smukke Forstanderbolig. I hans Forstandertid har Skolens „Normal” Afdeling opnaaet Statsanerkendelse og ligeledes dens akademiske Afdeling.

### 3. Skolens Lærere fra 1886 til 1911.

Da det vil have liden Interesse for Folk i Almindelighed at vide, i hvilke Fag den enkelte Lærer har undervist, særlig hvad Theologien angaar, skal vi ikke anføre dette for de theologiske Læreres Vedkommende, og for de andre Læreres Vedkommende anføres kun Hovedfagene.

Dernæst maa bemærkes, at de theologiske Lærere stadig har maattet undervise i de andre Afdelinger i Skolen, ligesom, særlig før 1896, enkelte af Lærerne i den forberedende Afdeling har undervist i enkelte theologiske Fag, hvilket i Fortegnelsen er betegnet ved („Hjælpe lærer.”)

#### A. De theologiske Lærere.

Pastor A. M. Andersen (1884—1889; 1895—1897).  
Pastor G. B. Christiansen (1889—1896).  
Pastor A. S. Nielsen (1894—1895).  
Cand. phil. Svend Juel (Hjælpe­lærer 1893—1894).  
Cand. theol. A. J. Dahm (Hjælpe­lærer 1890—1893).  
Pastor P. S. Vig (1896—1899; 1902—1905; 1909).  
Cand. theol. V. C. Mengers (1897—1899).  
Pastor H. O. Frimodt-Møller (1898—1902).  
Dr. theol. J. N. Lenker (1899—1903).  
Pastor Harald Jensen (1899—1902).  
Pastor Kr. Anker (1899—1905).  
Pastor J. P. Jensen (1903—1908).  
Pastor S. C. Eriksen (1905—1909).  
Pastor V. W. Johansen (1908—1909).  
Pastor N. P. Lang (1909— ).  
Pastor A. Th. Schultz (Hjælpe­lærer 1906—1907).  
Pastor C. Kloth Hjælpe­lærer 1905—1906).

Det bemærkes, at Nr. 8, 10, 13 og 14 er Kandidater i Theologien fra Københavns Universitet. Nr. 7 fra Lake View Lutheran Seminary, Chicago, Ills. og Nr. 9 fra Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio.

#### B. De øvrige Lærere ved Skolen.

Ved Fortegnelsen over disse er det værd at mærke sig, at Skolen indtil 1899 væsentlig var theologisk Seminarium.

Ikke faa af de theologiske Studenter har været Lærere i enkelte Fag i Proseminariet. Det er Tilfældet med de fleste af dem, der i Fortegnelsen er betegnet "Stud. theol." Ligeledes maa erindres, at, som tidligere nævnt, de theologiske Lærere alle har undervist i Proseminariet.

Stud. theol. N. S. Nielsen (1884—1887).  
Stud. theol. og Pastor A. S. Nielsen (1884—1895).  
Cand. theol. A. J. Dahm (1889—1893; 1896—1899).  
Stud. theol. C. H. Schmidt (1890—1891).  
Stud. theol. P. Rasmussen (1892—1893).  
Stud. theol. L. Pedersen (1892—1894).  
Stud. theol. A. W. Lund (1892—1896).  
C. X. Hansen, B. A. (1894—1896; 1897— ).  
Harold W. Foght, B. A. B. Sc (1899—1902).

Miss Mathilda Berg (1899—1903).  
Sigurd Anker, B. A. (1902—1905).  
Miss Hilda Herfordt (1903—1905).  
N. Th. Lund, B. A. (1905— ).  
Miss Caroline Johnson, B. A. (1906— ).  
A. Peitersen (1909—1910).  
Andrew Sinnamark (1910— ).  
Miss Petra Jensen (1909— ).

#### Lærere i Forretningsafdelingen.

Edward Stephensen (1899—1900).  
Miss Fanny Gates (1900—1901).  
Miss Myrtle Fuller (1901—1902).  
Miss Myrtle Fuller (1901—1902).  
Miss Louise Langstaff (1902—1904).  
Chas. E. Gaydou (1904—1905).  
H. L. Johns (1906—1907).  
N. H. Debel (1907—1910).  
Chas. E. Gaydou (1910— ).

#### Lærere i Musik og Sang.

Mrs. Alice M. Foght (1899—1901).  
Miss Emma C. Larsen (1900—1901).  
Miss Anna Nielsen (1902—1903).  
Miss Gertrude Mead (1904—1905).  
Miss Amanda Hansen (1905— ).  
Ray French, Violin, (1904—1905).  
J. H. Swihart, Violin (1908— ).

Foruden de nævnte har Miss Anna Jørgensen, Miss Ingeborg Anker, Miss Anna I. Hansen, Mr. George Cramer, Mr. E. S. Rosenberg, Mr. George Sørensen m. fl. været Lærere i enkelte Fag ved Skolen. Men altsaa, dersom vor Regning er rigtig, har der i alt siden 1884 været 49 Lærere ved Skolen.





PASTOR P. S. VIG.

#### 4. Skolens Elever fra 1884 til 1911.

Det er os ikke muligt at sige, vor mange Personer, der har været Elever ved Skolen siden dens Begyndelse i 1884. Derimod er det lykkedes os at finde Elevantallet for hvert enkelt Aar siden 1884. Men naar man husker, at de samme Personer har været Elever i en Række af Aar, kan enhver indse, at der er betydelig Forskel paa de indskrevne Elever, og det Antal af Personer, som har studeret ved Skolen. At udrede det virkelige Forhold mellem disse to er ikke nu muligt, skal derfor heller ikke forsøges. Det vilde kun været muligt, om man havde Navnene paa alle Elever, — hvad man ikke har, og da kun med betydeligt Arbejde.

Men selv den ufuldkomne Form, hvori Skolens Elevantal kan angives, vil, mener vi, kunne sige ikke saa lidt om Skolens Betydning for den lutherske Kirke og det danske Folk i Amerika.

Særlig Interesse har det haft at udfinde Navnene paa Eleverne fra 1884, 85 og 86, altsaa de 4, 9, og 12 første paa Listen. Det er kun lykkedes saa nogenlunde.

De første 4 fra 1884 var Præsterne N. S. Nielsen, A. S. Nielsen, P. M. Petersen og Joh. P. Naarup, tre Jyder og een Fynbo. De næste 9 var de alt nævnte samt Præsterne I. M. Hansen, N. Hansen og videre: R. Petersen, P. Gylling og -- -- -- Jessen.

Blandt de 12 var foruden de alt nævnte, nuværende Prof. C. X. Hansen, R. P. A. Rasmussen og Hans Aagaard.

Navnene paa de 184 Elever fra Skoleaaret 1910—1911 vil kunne findes i næste Skoleaars Katalog.

Og dermed gaar vi saa til Listen fra de 27 Skoleaar fra 1884 til 1911.

I Skoleaaret	1884—85	var der ved Skolen i Blair	4 Elever.
" "	1885—86	var der ved Skolen i Blair	9 Elever.
" "	1886—87	var der paa Trin. Sem.	12 Elever.
" "	1887—88	var der paa Trin. Sem.	14 Elever.
" "	1888—89	var der paa Trin. Sem.	15 Elever.
" "	1889—90	var der paa Trin. Sem.	21 Elever.
" "	1890—91	var der paa Trin. Sem.	32 Elever.
" "	1891—92	var der paa Trin. Sem.	39 Elever.
" "	1892—93	var der paa Trin. Sem.	50*) Elever.
" "	1893—94	var der paa Trin. Sem.	72*) Elever.
" "	1894—95	var der paa Trin. Sem.	55 Elever.
" "	1895—96	var der paa Trin. Sem.	48**) Elever.
" "	1896—97	paa Skolen i Elk Horn, Ia. og Trinitatis Seminarium, Blair	142***) Elever.
" "	1897—98	paa Trinitatis Eeminarium	25 Elever.
" "	1898—99	paa Trinitatis Seminarium	15 Elever.
" "	1899—1900	paa Trin. Sem.	98****) Elever.

\*) Deraf 17 Kvinder.

\*\*) Deraf 7 Kvinder.

\*\*\*) Hvoraf en Del var Kvinder.

\*\*\*\*) Siden 1899—1900 er Skolen co-educational.

I Skoleaaret	1900—01	paa Trinitatis Seminarium	107 Elever.
”	”	1901—02 paa Trinitatis Seminarium	96 Elever.
”	”	1902—03 paa Colleget og Seminariet	129 Elever.
”	”	1903—04 paa Colleget og Seminariet	130 Elever.
”	”	1904—05 paa Colleget og Seminariet	135 Elever.
”	”	1905—06 paa Colleget og Seminariet	113 Elever.
”	”	1906—07 paa Colleget og Seminariet	108 Elever.
”	”	1907—08 paa Colleget og Seminariet	99 Elever.
”	”	1908—09 paa Colleget og Seminariet	144 Elever.
”	”	1909—10 paa Colleget og Seminarit	158 Elever.
”	”	1911—11 paa Colleget og Seminarie	182 Elever.

Altsaa har der i alt i de 27 Skoleaar været 2051 Elever.

At vokse i 27 Aar fra 4 til 184 er ikke saa ilde. Nu maa man erindre, at blandt Eleverne siden 1900 har der været en Del unge Amerikanere, baade Mænd og Kvinder. Men det langt overvejende Flertal af Skolens Elever har været dansk Ungdom, hvoraf en Del er kommen til Skolen umiddelbart fra Danmark. Men i de senere Aar har de fleste af Eleverne været Børn af danske Forældre, men fødte her i Landet. Som Følge af Udviklingen er Undervisningssproget i de fleste af Skolens Klasser Engelsk, og maa naturligt være det.

##### 5. Theologiske Studenter fra Trinitatis Seminarium, som er ordinerede til Præster siden 1887.

En Navnefortegnelse over de theologiske Studenter ved Skolen fra Begyndelsen til Nutiden kan vi ikke give, da en saadan ikke er for Haanden. Kun saa meget kan siges, at Forskellen mellem Antallet af theologiske Studenter og de ordinerede er ikke ret stor. Nogle enkelte opgav det theologiske Studium efter en kort Tid, dels paa Grund af daarligt Helbred, daarlig Begavelse eller af andre Grunde. Jeg kunde saaledes fra min Lærertid i Elk Horn og Blair nævne nogle enkelte, ialt 2 — 4 Personer, som af de nævnte Grunde opgav det theologiske Studium efter eet eller to Skoleaars Forløb. Og Forskellen i Antal mellem de theologiske Kandidater og de ordinerede er endnu mindre. Jeg erindrer fra min Lærertid kun et Par Tilfælde af den Art. Mig bekendt, er der ingen theologisk Student eller Kandidat fra Trinitatis Seminarium, der er gaaet over til noget andet Samfund, enten

luthersk eller reformert, ligesom jeg ikke kender noget Eksempel paa, at nogen af dem er falden fra den kristne Tro.

I Listen over ordinerede, som her anføres, har jeg medtaget alle, som i kortere eller længere Tid har studeret Theologi ved Skolen i Blair, enten de saa har faaet deres forberedende, eller fuldendt ders thologiske Studium, her eller andet Steds. Jeg har maaske medtaget nogle, der skulde have været udeladt, og udeladt nogle nogle, som skulde have været medtaget, ligesom det er muligt, at jeg kan have glemt nogle, skønt jeg har bestræbt mig for at faa Listen saa fuldstændig som muligt.

Det maa være mig tilladt at gøre opmærksom paa, at den første blandt de ordinerede var tillige af de første Studenter og den første Medlærer ved den lille Skole i Blair, i 1884.

Niels S. Nielsen, ordineret 1887 i Hampton, Nebr.  
 Anders S. Nielsen, ordineret 1888 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Niels Hansen, ordineret i 1888 i Watsonville, Cal.  
 Joh. Petersen Naarup, ordineret 1889 i Watsonville, Cal.  
 Louis Johnson, ordineret 1889 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Ivar Marius Hansen, ordineret 1889 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Peter Petersen, ordineret 1891 i Waupaca, Wis.  
 Johannes Simonsen, ordineret i 1891 i Waupaca, Wis.  
 Johannes Markussen, ordineret 1891 i Waupaca, Wis.  
 Iver Gertsen, ordineret 1892 i Council Bluffs, Ia.  
 Anders Chr. Weismann, ordineret 1892 i Co. Bluffs, Ia.  
 Jens Chr. Pedersen, ordineret 1892 i Council Bluffs, Ia.  
 Frits Andersen, ordineret 1894 i Omaha, Nebr.  
 Gudmund E. S. Grill, ordineret 1894 i Omaha, Nebr.  
 Niels L. Nielsen, ordineret 1894 i Omaha, Nebr.  
 Laurits Pedersen, ordineret i 1894 i Omaha, Nebr.  
 Peter Rasmussen, ordineret 1894 i Omaha, Nebr.  
 Jens J. Dalbo, ordineret 1895 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Niels Damskov, ordineret 1895 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Andreas M. Nielsen, ordineret 1895 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Lars H. Kjær, ordineret 1896 i Albert Lea, Minn.  
 Jørgen Th. Lund, ordineret 1896 i Albert Lea, Minn.  
 Niels Bentsen, ordineret 1896 i Racine, Wis.  
 Marinus N. Rahbeck, ordineret 1896 i Cedar Falls, Ia.  
 (død)

Jens Kr. Jensen, ordineret 1897 i Blair, Nebr.  
 Niels P. N. Lang, ordineret 1897 i Blair, Nebr.  
 Hans Nielsen, ordineret 1897 i Blair, Nebr.  
 Christian W. Nielsen, ordineret 1897 i Blair, Nebr.  
 Rudolph P. Bennesen, ordineret 1898 i Greenville, Mich.  
 (død)  
 Christoffer H.M.Krogh, ordineret 1898 i Greenville, Mich.  
 August Wilh. Lund, ordineret 1898 i Greenville, Mich.  
 Carl M. Olsen, ordineret 1898 i Greenville, Mich.  
 Jens M. Th. Winther, ordineret 1898 i Greenville, Mich.  
 Erik Hansen, ordineret 1899 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Martin Th. Jensen, ordineret 1899 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Laurits H. Kjølner, ordineret 1899 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Jens Møller, (død) ordineret 1899 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Christian Hansen, (død) ordineret 1900 i Blair, Nebr.  
 Jens P. Jensen, ordineret 1900 i Blair, Nebr.  
 Lars Jensen, ordineret 1901 i Albert Lea, Minn.  
 Olaf R. Olsen, ordineret 1901 i Albert Lea, Minn.  
 Niels P. Sørensen, ordineret 1902 i Racine, Wis.  
 Jens S. H. Scott, ordineret 1902 i Racine, Wis.  
 Theodor P. Beck, ordineret 1903 i Elk Horn, Ia.  
 Henry W. Bondo, ordineret 1903 i Elk Horn, Ia.  
 Julius A. Larsen, ordineret 1903 i Elk Horn, Ia.  
 Jens Madsen, ordineret 1903 i Potter, Nebr.  
 Frederik Petersen, ordineret 1904 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Niels P. J. Nielsen, ordineret 1904 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Niels Chr. Petersen, ordineret 1904 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Christen Christensen, ordineret 1904 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Edward M. Nielsen, ordineret 1904 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Hans M. Hansen, ordineret 1904 i Hutchinson, Minn.  
 Jørgen P. Nielsen, ordineret 1905 i Cedar Falls, Ia.  
 Julius G. V. Magnussen, ordineret 1905 i Cedar Falls, Ia.  
 Jens P. Christiansen, ordineret 1906 i Kenmare, N. Dak.  
 Edward Andersen, ordineret 1906 i Kenmare, N. Dak.  
 Viggo W. Bondo, ordineret 1908 i Waupaca, Wis.  
 Arthur Hofgaard, ordineret 1908 i Waupaca, Wis.  
 Jens Chr. Christensen, ordineret 1908 i Waupaca, Wis.  
 Herman L. Jensen, ordineret 1909 i Elk Horn, Ia.  
 Niels C. Carlsen, ordineret 1910 i Racine, Wis.  
 Karl M. Hansen, ordineret 1909 i Plainview, Nebr.

Hans P. K. Hansen, Ordineret 1910 i Racine, Wis.  
 Jens Knudsen, ordineret 1910 i Racine, Wis.  
 Jens P. Jensen, ordineret 1910 i Racine, Wis.  
 Axel Christiansen, ordineret 1910 i Racine, Wis.

Som man vil se, er det en ganske betydelig Række af Præster, der har faaet deres Uddannelse ved Skolen i Blair. Den forenede danske Kirke begyndte med 63 Præster. Det er at haabe, at de tilligemed dem, som senere er udgaet fra Blair, altid maa staa som en forenet Kirke, indtil de alle naar derhen hvor de 4 af dem allerede er naaet.

Af de 67 er 60 fødte i Danmark, 1 i Norge og 6 i Amerika 5 af danske og 1 af norske Forældre.

Med Hensyn til Stederne, hvor de er ordinerede, gaar Hutchinson, Minn. i Spidsen med 15, derefter kommer Racine med 7, Waupaca 6, Omaha, Blair og Greenville hver med 5, Elk Horn og Albert Lea hver med 4 og Cedar Falls og Council Bluffs med 3 hver.

Af de 58, der er født i Danmark, er Flertallet Jyder, nemlig 30; 12 er Fynboer, 10 Sjællandere, 3 Løllændere, 2 Møenboer og 1 Bornholmer. Det fortjener at bemærkes, at der blandt de 67 ikke findes nogen Præstesøn, enten fra Danmark eller Amerika. Endnu bør tilføjes, at der i Aar findes to, som graduerer fra Seminariet, og af disse er den ene Præstesøn her fra Amerika og født her i Landet. Af de 65 er 3 Brødrepar.

#### 6. Om Skolens Bygninger.

Efter at vi har gjort Bekendtskab med Skolens Lærere og Elever siden 1884, vil det være i sin gode Orden, at vi hører noget om Skolens Bygninger. Angaaende Skolens Beliggenhed behøver vi ikke at sige ret meget, da de fleste, som har været i Blair, har lagt Mærke til den. Den ligger nemlig ikke i en Vraa, men som Staden paa Bjerget, der ikke kan skjules. Jeg er tilbøjelig til at mene, at Skolen, hvad Beliggenhed og Udsigt angaar, kan maale sig med hvilken som helst Skole i denne Del af Vesten. De, som har besøgt Skolen, er maaske bleven noget trætte i Benene, inden de naaede op paa Bakken, hvor den ligger, men den smukke og vide Udsigt, der da viste sig for dem — over Blair By og den brede, smukke Missouri-Dal med Floden som et Sølvbaand i Midten og de

høje Bakkekamme paa den fjerne Iowa-Side af Dalen — vel mere end betalte dem for deres Anstrengelser med at naa herop. Skolen har ikke blot en smuk, men tillige en sund Belliggenhed. Den, som paa en lummer Sommerdag kommer herop fra Blair, der ligger nede i Missouri-Dalen, vil snart mærke, at vi har højere, renere Luft end nede i Byen. Men den, der nu hviler sig under de skyggefulde Træer i Skolens Have og ser Skolen som Centrum i en hel lille By, der rummer 16—17 danske Familier, vil næppe kunne forestille sig, at det er kun 25 Aar siden, at Skolen laa ganske ene herude paa en nøgen Bakke. Og dog er det saaledes.



PASTOR KR. ANKER.

Imidlertid maa vi ikke glemme, at Skolen ikke havde sit første Hjem paa Bakken, men derimod nede i den Del af Byen Blair, som nu er kendt under Navnet „Dexterville“, i Pastor A. M. Andersens Hus. Dette Hus, af hvilket et Billede findes her i Bogen, var det første som nogen Sinde blev bygget i den Del af Byen, og har altsaa set hele den Bydel gro op omkring sig, som nu forbinder Skolen med det gamle Blair. „Dexterville“ har sit Navn efter Mr. H. B. Dexter, en af de Mænd, som særlig arbejdede for, at Danskerne skulde bygge deres Skole i Blair. Nævnte Hus i Dexterville har Interesse for os i mer end een Henseende, idet det ikke blot var Bolig for den første danske Præst i Blair, den første danske Præsteskole i Amerika, men ligeledes for Kirkebladets Trykkeri og Ekspedition. Da saa Skolen i Efteraaret 1886 flyttede op paa Bakken, flyttede Præstefamilien og Kirkebladet med. Og nu er det paa høje Tid, at vi ser os om i den Bygning, som da var bleven opført.

At gøre dette nu er dog ikke saa let en Sag, da den ved at forenes med to Sidefløje er undergaaet ikke saa faa Forandringer. Overhovedet har det ikke været til Gavn for Skolen, at dens Bygninger har maattet opføres Stykke for Stykke, eftersom det blev nødvendigt at skaffe mere Plads, og som der kunde skaffes Penge til Veje. Det siger sig selv, at paa den Maade gaar der baade Plads, Bekvemmelighed og Symmetri til Spilde, især naar der ikke fra først af kan gøres Ud-kast til, hvad Fremtiden vil kræve, og saaledes var det til-dels her. Vi skal nu gøre Bekendtskab med Bygningerne i samme Orden, som de er opført.

#### Hovedbygningen.

Om denne har vi allerede hørt en Del i det foregaaende. Derfor endnu kun disse Oplysninger.

Den har en Facade paa 60 Fod, er 30 Fod vid og 60 Fod høj, afdelt i 4 Etager. Dens Facade vender mod Øst, og dens Midte udgøres af et Taarnparti, der gaar gennem alle Etager. Selve Taarnet er 75—80 Fod højt. Stue-Etagen er solid Grundmur af røde Mursten. De øvrige Etager er, hvad man kalder „Brick-Veneer“. Oprindeligt var der i Bygningen Plads til Forstanderen med Familie, Klasse-, Spise- og Soveværelser til 40 Elever, samt Køkken og Pige-kammer.

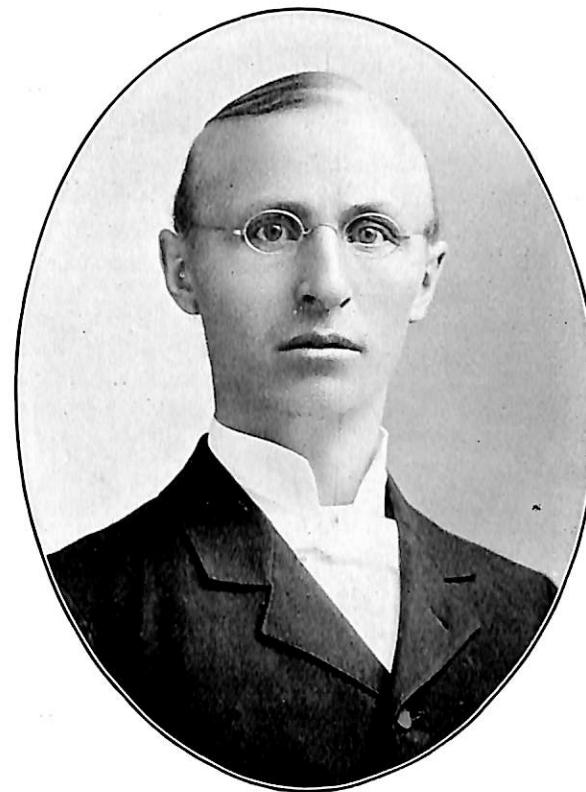


Bygningen kostede ca. \$7000.00 at opføre. Som allerede nævnt, gav Borgere og Forretningsmænd i Blair \$3000.00 til Skolen. Altsaa maatte en \$4000.00 indsamles i Samfundet. For os ser det jo ikke saa underligt ud. Men naar vi husker paa, at i 1884 bestod Samfundet af kun 9 Præster og ca. 1800 Personer, af hvilke kun henved 900 var konfirmerede, og af disse 900 var der ikke mange rige og mægtige, saa kommer Sagen til at se ikke saa lidt anderledes ud. Efter min Mening var det et stort Foretagende for et Samfund paa 800—900 Mennesker at fuldføre et fælles Byggeforetagende af denne Størrelse og et smukt Vidnesbyrd om, at et Samfunds Styrke er ikke absolut afhængig af dets numeriske Størrelse. Ser man efter paa Listerne over Bidragsyderne, saa finder man ikke mange store Bidrag — det største, jeg har funden, er paa \$200.00 og skænket af nu afdøde N. J. Pedersen ved Kennard, senere i Blair, nogle paa \$100.00, men derimod mange mindre, og det er, som bekendt, disse sidste, der tæller. En af dem, der fra først til sidst var med i dette store Arbejde, har senere udtalt sig saaledes om det: „Det var gaaet saa forunderligt let og over Forventning, at vi maatte sige: „det er sket af Herren og er underligt for vore Øjne“; thi det var jo ham, der havde opladt Hjerterne for Sagen.”

#### Den nordre Fløjbygning.

Inden ret mange Aar var gaaet, viste det sig, at Skolen ikke havde Plads nok, og der maatte derfor tænkes paa at bygge til. Og denne Tanke blev til Virkelighed i 1893, da en Tilbygning i Vest fra den nordre Ende af Hovedbygningen, 50 Fod lang 32 Fod vid og 60 Fod høj — opførtes. Denne Bygning, med Spisesal i Stue-Etagen, Foredragssal paa første Sal og Soveværelser for 40 Elever paa anden og tredje Sal, kostede henved \$6000.00, der indsamledes i Samfundet med Undtagelse af \$500.00, som skænkedes af Borgere og Forretningsmænd i Byen Blair.

Saaledes havde Skolen fra Efteraaret 1893 Plads til 80 Elever. Til Sammenligning bemærkes, at i 1893 havde Samfundet 29 Præster og 5,663 Medlemmer.



PASTOR J. P. JENSEN.

#### Kvindernes Bygning.

Da det bestemtes i 1899, at Skolen skulde staa aaben for kvindelige saavel som mandlige Elever, blev det nødvendigt at opføre en særskilt Bygning for de kvindelige Elever. En saadan opførtes da ogsaa i Efteraaret 1899. Den er 3 Etager høj. I første Etage er der Familie-Lejlighed til Skolens Bestyrer, og i anden og tredje Etage Værelser til kvindelige Elever og Lærerinder.

Denne Bygning der er bygget Nord og Vest for Skolens nordre Fløjbygning, har kostet ca. \$3000.00. I Kælderen under denne Bygning findes Skolens Varmeapparat.

### Gymnastiksalen

er den fjerde i Rækken af Skolens Bygninger.

Det er en „Frame” Bygning, 64 Fod lang og 30 Fod bred. Den har kostet ca. \$1200.00. Den har været Skuepladsen for ikke faa Kampe i „Basketball”, og Studenterne fra Dana College er gaaet af med Sejren i de fleste af dem. Det er at haabe, at en eller anden Rigmand i Samfundet finder sig tilskyndet til at bekoste et nyt og større Gymnastiklokale for Skolen.

### Den søndre Fløjbygning.

ved Skolen opførtes i Sommeren 1905. Den er 72 Fod lang, 32 Fod vid og 4 Etager høj. I denne smukke Bygning, der har kostet en \$9000.00 findes Skolens Kapel, Musikværelse, Bibliotek og Modtagelsesværelse o.s.v., samt Værelser for ca. 50 Studenter. I første Etage findes Badeværelse og „Toilet Rooms” for de mandlige Elever.

### Den nye Forstanderbolig,

som ligger Nord og Øst for Skolen, er skænket til Samfundet af Bondo-Familien i Pottawattamie County, Iowa, ifølge testamentarisk Bestemmelse af afdøde L. C. Bondo.

Bygningen opførtes i 1908 og har kostet ca. \$4000.00 med Byggegrund. Den beboes nu af Forstanderen for Dana College, Prof. C. X. Hansen, og Familie.

Angivet i runde Tal har saaledes Skolens samtlige Bygninger kostet \$30,200.00, en ikke ubetydelig Sum. Og da det er en bekendt Sag, at Skolebygninger koster meget at holde ved lige, vil Summen til Bygningerne stige betydeligt, naar deres Vedligeholdelse regnes med.

Hertil kommer de betydelige Summer, som Skolens Varmeapparat og Inventarium har kostet. Vi regner paa ingen Maade for højt, naar vi siger, at vor Afdeling af det dansk-lutherske Kirkefolk i Amerika i Løbet af 25 Aar har anvendt en Sum af \$40,000.00 paa Skolen i Blair, foruden hvad der er anvendt til Lærerløn og Skolens øvrige Drift.

Men dette Kapitel af det dansk-lutherske Kirkefolks Historie i Amerika behøver ingen af Deltagerne at skamme sig ved. Og dog har den Del af vore udvandrede Landsmænd, som ikke hører til Kirkefolket, ganske sikkert haft anderledes store Udgifter; thi det er nu engang dyrt, ogsaa rent finansielt talt, ikke at høre til Kirkefolket.

### Om Lærerlønskassen, dens Indtægter og Udgifter.

Dersom nogen bygger en Skole med det Formaal at have direkte, financel Udbytte af den, vil han som Regel finde, at han har taget fejl. Og dersom nogen mener, at en Præsteskole maa kunne betale sine egne Udgifter, saa tager han endnu mere fejl. Som Regel er det hverken rige Mænd eller rige Mænds Sønner, der studerer til Præster. Det kan, menar de, ikke betale sig. Og det er ikke i store Skarer, at vore udvandrede Landsmænds Børn har meldt sig som Elever ved Præsteskolen. Men en Lærers Løn kan ikke rette sig efter Antallet af de Elever, han underviser, da han skal leve, enten han underviser faa eller mange. Som Følge deraf maa en Præsteskole bestandig have Tilskud fra det Samfund, i hvis Tjeneste den arbejder. Og den væsentligste Del af dette Tilskud er vel kendt i de forskellige Kirkesamfund under Navn af Bidrag til Lærerlønskassen. Jeg har, saa godt jeg kunnet, søgt at udfinde, hvor stor Bidraget til denne Kasse har været for Trinitatis Seminariums Vedkommende siden 1884, uden at det dog fuldtud har villet lykkes for mig, da denne Kasses Regnskab ikke altid er bleven ført bestemt adskilt fra andre Udgifter til Skolens Drift. Jeg kan derfor ikke opføre Bidragene til Lærerlønskassen for hvert enkelt Aar aldeles nøjagtigt, hvilket heller ikke vilde være behagelig Læsning for ret mange. Men jeg kan oplyse, at i Skoleaaret 1884—85 indkom der til Lærerløn i alt \$119.80, og i Samfundsåret 1909—10 var Bidragene til denne Kasse \$3,116.46, — som man ser en meget betydelig Forskel.

Dernæst kan jeg oplyse, at fra 1884 til 1896, da den forenede danske evangelisk-lutherske Kirke i Amerika blev til, har „Blair-Samfundet” bidraget henved \$17,000.00 til Lærerlønskassen. Og fra 1896 til 1910 har Den forenede Kirke givet henved \$37,000.00 til Lærerlønskassen. Og det vil med

andre Ord sige, at de 27 Aar, Præsteskolen har været i Blair, har den kostet Samfundet henved \$54,000.00 eller \$2000.00 om Aaret.

Som sagt, dette mit Regnskab er ikke nøjagtigt til Dollar og Cent, men langt fra den virkelige Sum er det ikke, og maaske snarere under end over den.

Og naar jeg nævner dette, saa har jeg en bestemt Hensigt dermed. Et Kirkesamfund blandt udvandrede Danske i Amerika bestaar hovedsagelig af saadanne, som maa kaldes fattige eller ubemidlede, hvis de skulde maales med Rigdommens Alen. Og vist er det, at de fleste Bidragsydere i et Kirkesamfund, ogsaa til dets Præsteskole, er saadanne Folk. Men saaledes bliver den nævnte Sum, som er bidraget til Lærrelønskassen, et Æreminde for danske Kristne i Amerika. Og dette Æreminde vilde jeg gerne rejse dem med denne Oversigt. \$54,000.00 kunde man købe en Herregaard for i Danmark. Og for nogle Aar siden kunde man lønne de forenede Staters Præsident med nævnte Sum for et Aar, og de større Loger betaler aarligen en lignende Sum til et Par af deres mest betroede Embedsmænd. Men lad det være nok med Sammenligninger.

Det er de mange, stadige, omend tildels smaa Bidragsydere, der, menneskeligt talt, opholder baade Kirken og Skolen i Amerika. Og hvis nogen af Læserne skulde mene, at saadant har gjort dem endnu mere fattige, saa vil jeg raade ham til at forhøre sig angaaende denne Sag hos vedkommende selv.

Det er at haabe, at Rigmænd blandt Danske, som endnu har nogen Interesse for den lutherske Kirke, vil finde Anledning til at lade den tilflyde lidt af deres Overflod, mens de endnu selv har Raadighed over denne. Et Fond paa \$100,000 vilde være et smukt og varigt Mindesmærke, som vilde kunne bevare deres Navn længere, end om de blev indhugne i Sten med forgyldte Bogstaver paa en eller anden Kirkegaard, hvor kun faa lægger Mærke til dem, naar nogle Aar er gaaet. Naar Smaafolk har bygget og opholdt vor Skole i henved en Menneskealder, er det dog vist paa Tiden, at de rige fik Anledning til at tage en Haand i med, jeg mener de rige, som ejer deres Rigdom, og ikke ejes af denne.



PASTOR S. C. ERIKSEN.

#### 7. Om Skolens Bibliotek.

Blandt de første, der skænkede Bøger til et Bibliotek ved Skolen, var nu afdøde Pastor M. C. Hansen Rohe, der helt igennem var en varm Ven af Skolen. Og jeg husker at have set et Sted, at en af de Bøger, han skænkede til dette Formaal, var den bekendte „Præste-Pine”, eller, som den ogsaa kaldes, „Gudelig Spørgsmaals-Bog” af M. Saxe. Det har aabenbart moret Pastor Rohe — med sin Sans for det komiske, at skænke „Præste-Pinen” til Præsteskolens Bibliotek. For øvrigt er „Præste-Pinen” en af de første Bøger, der nogen Sinde blev trykt i Norge, og en af de Bøger, som bl. a. „Stærke Jyder” satte stor Pris paa, og en nok saa mærkelig, for ikke at sige løjerlig Bog, fuld af kuriøse Spørgsmaal angaaende Ting og Personer, som omtales i den hellige Skrift.

Baade Præster og Lægmand i Amerika og i Danmark, har fulgt Pastor Rohes Eksempel og skænket Bøger til Biblioteket ved Skolen. Ikke faa af de amerikanske og skandinaviske Kirkesamfund's Forlagshuse har skænket os Bøger. Men nogen stor og god Bogsamling har vi ikke endnu. En saadan koster Penge. Og vi mangler ligeledes brandfri Bygning til Bibliotek, Arkiv og øvrige Samlinger.

Vi misunder ikke det af vore Søstersamfund her i Landet, som i Aar kan tage en skænket Biblioteksbygning til en Pris af noget over ½ Million Dollars i Brug. Men vi haaber, at der ogsaa blandt vore Landsmænd maa findes Rigmænd, som har Penge at undvære baade til Bøger og en Bygning til at gemme og bevare dem i.

At Skolen ejes af et Kirkesamfund hindrer den i at kunne faa Hjælp i antydede Retning af amerikanske Rigmænd. For danske Rigmænd burde dette Forhold anses for en Fordel og Garanti for, at deres Gaver vil blive ret anvendt.

Af sjældne Bøger ejer Skolens Bibliotek vel ikke mange, men dog nogle. Af disse skal her nævnes en Udgave fra 1578 af Morten Chemnitz's berømte „Examen Concitii Tridentini” i et stort Oktavbind.

Men den Bog, vi særlig sætter stor Pris paa, er dansk og bærer Titelen: „Biblia; det er den ganske hellige Skrift paa Dansk, igen oversat og prentet efter vor allernaadigste Herre og Konges, Kong Christian IV's Befaling. Med Register, alle Dr. Luthers Fortaler, hans Udlægning i Bredden og Viti Theodori Summarier. Cum gratia et privilegio. København 1633”. Med andre Ord: vi ejer Christian den Fjerdes Kirkebibel, i meget stort Folioformat, med Billeder og Christian den Fjerdes Portræt. Bogen er saa stor som en almindelig Haandkuffert, indbunden i Læder og forsynet med meget solidt Messingbeslag og Spænder. Et for sin Tid i enhver Henseende udmærket Arbejde. Den blev i 1899 skænket til Skolen af den gamle Pastor H. J. Dahlstrøm og Hustru, nu i Racine, Wis. Det er mig ikke bekendt, at der findes mere end to af disse Bibler i Amerika, nemlig den i Blair, og saa en, som for en Del Aar siden udbødtes til Salg af en Antikvarhandler i Denver, Colorado og blev, om jeg ikke husker meget fejl, solgt til en gammel dansk Eneboer et Sted ude i Vesten.

Det var at ønske, at Skolens Bibliotek kunde blive indsat til Arving af flere af den Slags gamle og mærkelige Bøger, der findes gemte trindt i Landet blandt danske Indvandrere.

### 8. Om Skolens Foreninger.

Foreninger hører med til Skolelivet i Nutiden og spiller ofte en meget betydelig Rolle deri. Skolen i Blair danner ingen Undtagelse fra denne Regel. Som den ældste af Skolens Foreninger maa nævnes

#### Trinitatis Seminariums „Boarding Club”.

Skolens Elever og ugifte Lærere dannede en Kostforening, der valgte en Formand, som da besørgede alle Indkøb, hyrede Kokkepige o.s.v. o.s.v. Udgifterne fordeltes lige mellem Foreningens Medlemmer. Denne Kostforening bestod, med enkelte Afbrydelser, til 1899—1900, hvilket med andre Ord vil sige, saa længe Skolen var mindre.

Fra Aar 1900 forsyner Skolen Eleverne med Kost. Mange af Skolens ældste Elever vil endnu med Glæde mindes „Boarding-Clubbens” Dage med deres Forhandlinger og øvrige Tilbehør.

#### Den kristelige Studenterforening

har bestaaet fra ca. 1890 og fortsætter endnu sin Virksomhed med ugentlige Møder, hvor de af Foreningens Bestyrelse udnævnte Talere behandler Emner, som en Komite har indgivet til Foreningens Formand. De fleste af Eleverne ved Skolen er gerne Medlemmer af denne Forening. Fra først af brugtes udelukkende Dansk ved Foreningens Møder, men i nyere Tid bruges det engelske Sprog en Gang om Maaneden.

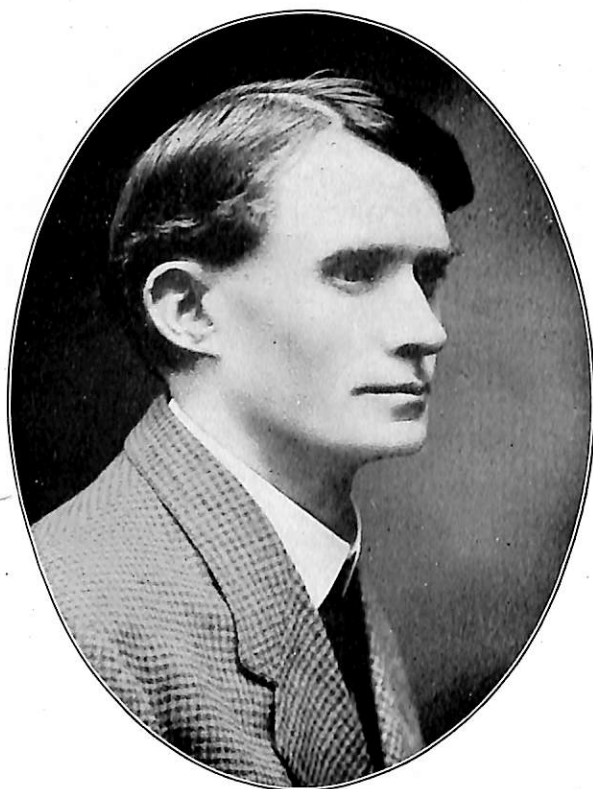
Der er ingen Tvivl om, at denne Forening har været til Velsignelse for mange unge Mennesker, ligesom dens Møder har været en betydningsfuld Skole for unge Talere.

#### „Dannebrog”

er en dansk litterær Forening ved Skolen siden 1899—1900. Den giver sine Medlemmer Anledning til at høre og holde Foredrag og føre Diskussion over saadanne Emner, som Foreningens Medlemmer har valgt.

### „The Hesperian”

er en engelsk Forening af samme Alder og Art som „Dannebrog”. Ikke sjælden er de nævnte Foreningers Møder talrigt besøgte af Folk fra Byen og Omegnen. Og ikke mindst er det Tilfældet, naar Foreningerne har en eller anden bekendt indbudt Taler paa sit Program.



PROF. C. X. HANSEN.

#### Trinitatis Seminariums Hedningemissionsforening

er ligeledes en Forening af nyere Datum, hvis Formaal er at støtte Samfundets Hedningemission. Det aarlige Medlemsbidrag er \$1.00. Foredragene ved Foreningens maanedlige Møder aftrykkes i „Danskeren”. Af og til indbyder Foreningen udenbys Talere. Foreningen har set sig i Stand til at kunne yde Missionen en ikke ubetydelig aarlig Støtte.

En nyere Missionsforening „Lyskasteren” dannedes paa Skolen i Fjor, nærmest en Virkning af den store Nutidsbevægelse, der er kendt under Navnet „Laymen's Missionary Movement”. Denne nye Forening, hvis Medlemmer yder et betydeligt større Aarsbidrag, tænker alvorligt paa Sammenlutning med den ældre Forening ved Skolen, og det er at haabe, at denne Sammenslutning maa lykkes til Gavn baade for Foreningerne og deres fælles Formaal.

#### Andre Foreninger,

saasom Gymnastik-Foreningen, „Basketball Club”, „Tennis Club”, de unge Pigers Forening o.s.v. skal kun lige nævnes i denne Forbindelse som Vidnesbyrd om, at Skolen er saa langt fra at udelukke Foreninger af sit Program.

Ligeledes kan det nævnes, at der holdes offentlige Foredrag paa Skolen, gerne den første og tredie Mandag Aften i hver Maaned, skiftevis paa Dansk og Engelsk, dels af Skolens Lærere, dels af bekendte Mænd i den nærmere eller fjernere Omegn, baade Præster og andre.

Det vil ses, at der saaledes er sørget for rig Afveksling med det ensformige og strenge Klassearbejde, som Skolen kræver og maa kræve af sine Studenter.

Hertil kommer, at Sang- og Musik-Foreninger blandt Studenterne indtager en fremragende Plads ved de forskellige Møder paa Skolen.

#### 9. Nogle af Skolens Velgørere — til Ihukommelse.

I det vi ser tilbage over de svundne 25 Aar, savner vi flere af de trofaste Arbejdere, som var med fra først af, men som nu er kaldte bort fra Arbejdet i denne Verden. Det vil være i sin gode og kristelige Orden, at vi nævner nogle af de mere fremtrædende blandt disse i et Skrift som dette, der jo særlig har med de svundne Dage at gøre. Da jeg ikke selv var med fra først af, er det muligt, at jeg har glemt nogle, som fortjente at nævnes, det sker da uden mit Vidende og mod min Villie. Jeg forbigaar Præsterne, da deres Arbejde er mere almindelig kendt, og holder mig til Lægmandene blandt Skolens trofaste Støtter, og skal nævne disse i den Orden, hvori de kaldtes bort fra deres Arbejde.



#### **Peder C. T. Munk,**

var født i Bryrup ved Horsens den 4. Juni 1842. Han har fortalt mig, at hans Bedstefader var meget omhyggelig for, at Navnet Munk ikke gik fra Familien og lagde derfor stærk Vægt paa, at hans Børnebørn blev døbt med det, som det hedder. Munk kom til Amerika i 1869 og har bl. a. levet en Tid i Omaha, Nebr., hvor en norsk Synodepræst, vistnok Erdahl, havde stærk Indflydelse paa ham. Fra Omaha kom han i 1871 til Burt County, Nebr., hvor han var Medlem af Menigheden ved Argo, hvor „Blair Samfundet” stiftedes i 1884. Lige fra først af var Munk med til at arbejde for Skolesagen. Han var saledes med til Mødet i Blair i Juli 1885, hvor „Trinitatis Skoleforening for det danske evangelisk-lutherske Kirkesamfund i Amerika” blev stiftet, og Medlem af denne Forening.

I 1890 flyttede Munk med sin Familie til Blair, og 1. Juli 1891 blev han valgt til Formand for „Board of Trustees” for „Trinitatis Seminarium”, hvilken Post han beholdt til 1894. Baade før og efter den Tid møder man stadig Munks Navn i Forbindelse med Komiteen. Han var saaledes Medlem af Bygningskomiteen for den nordre Fløjbygning til Skolen. Og da den forenede danske evangelisk-lutherske Kirke stiftedes i 1896 var Munk Kasserer for „Board of Trustees”.

Munk vil mindes af alle, der kendte ham, som en dygtig og varmhjertet Mand med levende Interesse for Guds Rige. I 1900 overlod han sin Farm til en af sine Sønner og flyttede til Byen Blair. Efter at have levet her en kort Tid, døde han den 1. April, 1900.

#### **Niels Jørgen Petersen,**

er født i Smidstrup Sogn ved Frederits den 18. Maj 1839. Efter at være kommen til Amerika, levede han en Tid i Omaha og kom derfra til Washington County, Nebr. hvor han „farmede”. I sine sidste Aar levede han i Byen Blair, stadig lidende af daarligt Helbred. Han døde meget pludselig den 7. Maj 1908.

Petersen var levende interesseret i Skolesagen lige fra først af og derfor en af de første og største Bidragsydere til den nye Skolebygning i 1886. Han var i nogle Aar Medlem af „Board of Trustees” for Skolen. Petersen vil af alle, der kendte ham, mindes som en ikke lidt tungsindig, meget opofrende, uegennyttig og hjælpsom Mand. Og som saadan vil han være kendt af de fleste af Skolens Lærere.

#### **Marcus Beck,**

er født i Skarbak Sogn i Sønderjylland i 1847. Han blev tidlig faderløs og maatte ud at tjene hos fremmede. Som ungt Menneske kom han til at tjene hos Gaardejer Niels Bæk i Hjemsted, Skarbak Sogn, og derfra kom han 19 Aar gammel i 1866 til Amerika. Hos P. A. Mosbøll i New York, der ogsaa var født i Skarbak Sogn og kendt med Niels Bæk i Hjemsted, fandt han Hjem og Vejledning i den første Tid. Mosbøll, der havde været i New York siden 1836, tog sig faderlig af sin unge Landsmand, skaffede ham Arbejde og opmuntrede ham ved sit Violinspil, naar Hjemlængselen blev ham for stærk. Fra New York kom Marcus Beck til Wisconsin og tjente bl. a. en Tid hos den bekendte Pastor J. A. Ottesen i Koshkonong, Dane County.

Fra Wisconsin kom Beck til Iowa, hvor han arbejdede ved Anlægget af North-Western Jærnbanen sammen med sin Broder. Derfra kom han — bestjaalet for alt, han ejede — en smuk 4. Juli til Omaha, Nebr., og fik der Arbejde. Men det vilde føre os alt for langt, om vi skulde følge Beck paa alle hans Vandringer. Derfor nøjes vi med at sige, at han i Begyndelsen af Halvfjerdserne kom til Washington County, hvor han havde købt Land. I ikke faa Aar var han Farmer, men flyttede sidst i Firserne til Blair, hvor han levede til sin Død den 24de Marts 1911.

Marcus Beck har været en saare virksom Mand i Kirkesamfundets Tjeneste, hvis Kasserer han var i mange Aar til sin Død.

Men ikke mindst fortjener han at nævnes i Forbindelse med Skolen.

Marcus Beck var Medlem af den første Byggekomite i 1885—86, og det har han været af alle senere Byggekomiteer ved Skolen, og han var altid et virksomt Medlem. Med sin klare Forstand, sunde Dømmekraft, stærke Virkelyst og Trang til at hjælpe, hvor han kunde, med Raad og Daad, vil Marcus Beck blive mindet af alle, som kom i Berøring med ham, ikke mindst af Skolen og dens Lærere, fra de første til de sidste.



THE BONDO MEMORIAL.

#### 10. Om Skolens Fremtid.

Kun een kan tale klart og bestemt om det uvordne; vi Mennesker maa nøjes med, ud fra hvad vi kender, at drage Slutninger angaaende det ubekendte. Vi kender Guds Villie: han vil, at der skal holdes Skole i kristelig Aand; derfor har han nedlagt Sandhedstrangen, Kunskastrangen i det menneskelige Bryst og ladet den være ikke mindst stærk nu, da Slægten formeres som ingen Sinde tidligere, og Kampen for Tilværelsen nu og herefter derfor bliver strengere for den, der vil sejre. Og vi kender det danske Kirkefolks Villie, den Del af det, som har slaaet Kreds om Skolen i Blair. Ogsaa det har vist, at det vil have Skole. Det har af den Grund indskudt en stor Kapital, af hvilken den Del, der kan tælles, beløber sig til stærkt op imod Hundrede Tusinde Dollars. Og der kan ikke være Tvivl om, at Kirkefolket vil sørge for, at denne Kapital kommer til at give baade Renter og Renters Rente — til Berigelse af dem og deres Børn og Børnebørn.

Og vi kender den dansk-amerikanske Ungdoms Villie; den vil gaa i Skole og har fra Aar til Aar samlet sig i større og større Skarer paa denne Skole. Ikke faa af vore Elever nu er Børn af tidligere Elever ved Skolen.

En af Eleverne fra 1884 har saaledes i sidste Vinter haft ikke mindre end tre Sønner paa Skolen. Og ikke faa af de ældre Elever har haft deres yngre Søskende paa Skolen — ogsaa i dette Skoleaar.

Men alle disse Ting varsler godt for Skolens Fremtid. Og under disse Varsler gaar vi den i Møde med Haab om, at den næste Fjerdedel af Hundrede Aar, som begynder med næste 21. Oktober, maa blive rigt paa gode Frugter, Gud til Ære, den dansk-amerikanske Ungdom til Gavn og Guds Rige i det hele til Fremme.

Men Skolen maa have mere Plads for at kunne øve sin Gerning, og den maa have mere Kraft, baade Lærerkraft og Midler til at virke med. Men det vil det Kirkesamfund, som i Aar for tredje Gang holder sit Aarsmøde ved Skolen i Blair, baade indse og hjælpe Skolen til med den Guds Bistand, uden hvilken al menneskelig Virksomhed er forgæves.

Ham være Lov og Pris og Ære for hans Naade og Hjælp i de 25 Aar, der svandt, og han velsigne Skolen, dens Lærere, Elever og Venner i de Aar, der kommer!

GUD ALENE ÆREN!

English translation of Trinitatis Seminarium  
1886-1911 by P.S. Vig

From: Edward A. Hansen <edwardhansen@worldnet.att.net>  
Date: Sat Jun 18, 2005 11:52:33 AM US/Central  
To: "James Iversen" <iversenjl@qwest.net>  
Subject: Re: P.S. Vig's Trinity History

Dear Jim,

Thanks for the copy of Vig's book on Trinity Seminary after 25 years. I am excited about your fine translation. A few writers of the UELC have gleaned some facts from Vig's original book in the past -- John M. Jensen, Paul Nyholm, etc. But there is nothing quite comparable to being able to read the entire original book in English, to get the sense of Vig's original writing.

Before you get around to a final editing, I would like to discuss how one best translates the word "Skolen" in Vig's book.

You and I know the hill in Blair, of course, as DANA COLLEGE. In the years we were there, Trinity Seminary was only a small part of the campus. In 1935 I came to Blair to enroll at DANA COLLEGE. Certainly 'college' is one appropriate translation of 'Skole' -- but at a later period.

At the beginning, however, THE SCHOOL was spoken of as "our training school for pastors". Those who had taken studies in Minneapolis were at Augsburg Seminary. Seminary is a good word -- "seed plot". But in American parlance, that word was often taken over by schools other than theological training. So, for example, some budding teachers received an education at "\_\_\_\_\_ Seminary for Young Women."

My contention is that Vig used the word "Skolen" in the earlier parts of this book to refer to what the young church saw as its greatest need. A Training School for Pastors. --Not really only a School of Theology, although theological studies were conducted. Really, what they started to build was A TRAINING SCHOOL FOR PASTORS. Some theology, along with some practical knowledge of how to serve as ministers for the new immigrants from Denmark.

It seems to me that Vig is saying that A. M. Andersen was responding to the mandate of the church convention when he initiated Trinitatis Seminarium. It was a training school for pastors. Later it assumed the fuller name Trinity Theological Seminary. Still later, a need was seen for some curricular courses of higher education, and Dana College was added. The latter grew with the years, and then the title for the buildings on the hill in Blair was DANA COLLEGE AND TRINITY SEMINARY.

If I were producing this MSS in book form, I think I would try to make this clear for readers who know only English. Maybe a translator's footnote would help.

Thanks again for all your efforts to make this book available in English. I know what a time-consuming job it is!

Ed

On Saturday, June 18, 2005, at 08:05 AM, James Iversen wrote:

Hi Ed

Here it is

**Trinity Seminary**  
The First Danish School of Theology in America

**Twenty Five Years**

A contribution to the History of the Lutheran Church and the Danish People in America  
By

P.S. Vig  
President of Trinity Seminary

Blair, Nebraska  
Danish Lutheran Publishing House  
1911

Trinity Seminary - 25 Years  
A look back

"Trinity Seminary" -- the holy Trinity nursery, -- a suitable name of a school for those intending to serve the Word, who shall sow the seeds in order to bear fruit to an eternal life in the World of the dead and corrupted! Twenty Five years is not only one fourth of a century, the best third part of a person's long life, but according to old church rules and accounting it is the age which a man should have reached before he can be ordained to be a pastor, serve in a sanctuary, just as 25 years in civil life is one of the conditions

to be selected for a higher position.

Twenty Five years is a long time, not least of the days in this young country, where we live. The restlessness has made many men and women old, when they are 25 years, if they still are counted among the living. Much can be accomplished -- and very much can be neglected or forgotten in the first 25 years of a person's life, which can later be felt and noticed until the end.

But now we should fix our attention on the school, which this year celebrates its 25th anniversary and especially on that period which lies between the 21st of October, 1886 and the 21st of October, 1911.

But to correctly understand this period of time it is necessary to fix attention on a good many things which happened before the 21st of October, 1886. These things we can best picture under the title of ---

#### I. PREHISTORY,

and this prehistory can be divided into several periods. But since we do not have that much space here, we will be satisfied just to name some main points. And among these one of the first and foremost is

##### Augsburg Seminary

In Minneapolis, Minnesota. This school, which began in Marshall, Wisconsin in 1869, and in 1872 found its home in Minneapolis, must especially be named here, because the pastors who founded Trinity Seminary all received their theological training at Augsburg, and this school's teachers and leaders, the Professors Weenaas, Sverdrup, Oftedal and for a time Gunnerson had with love comprised the mission among the Danes in America. Most of the faculty at Trinity Seminary until 1896 had been students at Augsburg Seminary, and this school has in the whole provided the pattern for the school in Blair. There were Danes among the students at the Norwegian seminary at both Marshall and Minneapolis, and they were especially among those who were influenced by "Inner Mission" in Denmark. The man by which the "Conference" was formed, Pastor Claus Lauridsen Clausen, was Danish and from his youth knew the revival era from which "Inner Mission" appeared.

##### The Danish Pastors in the Conference.

The young Danish men who had received their education at Augsburg, wished to become employed as pastors in Danish congregations or as missionaries in large Danish settlements, especially in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Nebraska. Often they had to interrupt their education at the school, before they wished, because the mission among their countrymen called to them. As pioneers among these pastors one can especially name H. Hansen from Sjælland and A.M. Andersen from the "Strong Jutlander" (*Stærk Jyder*) country between Vejle and Horsens. -- it was especially because of these two that the Danes in the Conference did not become "Norwegian". The literary vehicle which contributed more than anything else to this was

##### "Dansk Luthersk Kirkeblad" (Danish Lutheran Church Paper)

published by the Danish pastors in the Conference for the Norwegian-Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Edited by A.M. Andersen, Racine, Wisconsin.

The first issue of this periodical came out in August 1877 and from the first the 16-page monthly paper diligently brought the message from Denmark obtained from "*Indre Missions-Tidende*" (Inner Mission Times), "*Almindelig Kirketidende*" (The Normal Church Times), and from correspondents among the Danes in America. Especially from the beginning of 1882 this paper began to publicize the

##### College Issue

Already in 1881 it can be read that this matter had been discussed at meetings, which the Danish pastors held in their associations, but especially in 1882 both laymen and pastors talked about this issue of starting a college both at meetings and in the little church paper's columns. And one notices through these contributions that the matter was discussed with lively interest. So it is thus quite remarkable, that through the year 1883, nothing was written about this matter. The reason for that is that it was in that year discussion arose about employing a Danish professor at Augsburg Seminary, without however, that coming to fruition. However, it is also probably true, that the thought about a college for a time was left in the background, because the thought among the Danes in the Conference was taken up by a greater thought, namely,

##### The Danish Separation from the Conference.

And this thought became reality in the beginning of 1884, after it had already been debated at meetings in the two preceding years. At an area meeting in Omaha from 28 February to 2 March in 1884, which in all involved 28 participants, 5 of whom were pastors, it was agreed unanimously to withdraw from the Conference. Next it was agreed to send a man to Denmark to do business with the Inner Mission, to create a committee to consider seeking a merger with the Danish Church in America, or to found their own organization, and in the last instance to publish a proposed constitution for a meeting to take place in the fall, which would be held at Argo, Burt County, Nebraska, Pastor A.M. Andersen's congregation.

##### The Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Association in America

Was founded at the meeting in St. Johannes Congregation in Argo from 11 to 14 September, 1884, where a constitution was accepted, and the directors of the Synod were elected. For us in this connection the most important decision that the newly founded little Synod agreed upon was that the Synod should, as soon as possible, build a theological seminary. At the meeting a committee of five members was elected (Pastors A.M. Andersen, Chairman, H.P. Bertelsen, G.B. Christiansen, and laymen G.A. Boje and P.T. Jacobsen) to take up the seminary matter and ordered the committee to send a letter of call to Pastor H. Steffensen in Smidstrup, Denmark, as Professor at the seminary.

Photograph - THE HOUSE WHERE THE SCHOOL STARTED

##### The School in Blair

But both the new school and the new professor were far away. There were other matters to consider which were more immediately at hand, the large mission work and the few workers. Of the 10 young men who were educated to be pastors at Marshall and Minneapolis, there were only 6 along at the formation of the new synod. Two others were ordained and one other joined at the meeting in Argo. Thus there were 9 pastors. But they quickly got to work to educate more. The new Synod's elected committee requested

(in agreement with the decision made at the founding meeting) Pastor A.M. Andersen to begin a new school for those intending to become pastors, and despite the fact that he was already overloaded with work as Secretary for the Synod and Pastor of 5 or 6 congregations, he quickly started the work as Professor. He had moved to Blair in 1883 with his family and there had built his own house. The first Danish Seminary in Blair consisted of 1 professor and 4 students who shared the house with a big family. But an honest effort can pull a large load. It is justifiable that a photograph of this house, which thus contained the first Danish seminary in Blair, is presented in our Jubilee history.

Photograph - THE FIRST SCHOOL.

## II. TRINITY SEMINARY

The young synod's leading men both among pastors and lay people, were agreed that the Church Association should have not just a school, but a theological seminary, and that it should have its own home in its own building. As one of the pastors stated, "We must have a college, or our Association's days will soon be numbered." Those words stated the normal thought on the issue. But, where should the school be built? What should it be, only a theological school or should there also be room for others? And -- where should the funds for building it come from? The hogs were dying of cholera in 1884-5, and that was not just a pain for the farmers, but also for the school, both the one which was already in session in Blair, and also that which should be built. One can feel the enthusiasm for the issue in what was written and spoken about it in 1885.

### The Meeting in Hastings, Nebraska -- The offer from Blair

"The first shall be last and the last shall be first." That can pertain to the offer which came before before the meeting. The school committee's chairman, Pastor A.M. Andersen who in addition was Pastor and Professor in Blair, had received the quotation that a building with space for 40 students, for one family and the necessary space for school and dining would cost \$6,000, and that the town of Blair, where the school would be, would possibly contribute \$3,000 to such a facility, if the Synod would secure a like sum. Two men in the Blair area had promised to each give the value of one horse to the school, and now Andersen thought that there should be enough resources in the Synod so that the value of 30 horses could be obtained, and thus the school could be built. Those were the possibilities for which the school could be in Blair. Others wished it to be built somewhere else. In the meantime the school committee decided to hold a meeting in Hastings, Nebraska, on the 19th and 20th of May, 1885, to make the decision as to where the school should be built.

By a hanging hair at the beginning of the meeting, it was decided that the school should be built in Hamilton County, Nebraska, where the Synod's largest congregation was located (at Hampton). The committee's chairman came to the meeting a bit late. But he had with him the certain offer from Blair, that they would be happy to give \$3,000 and the grounds to the school, if only the Synod gave a like sum and built the school in Blair. They then changed their decision and agreed to accept the offer from Blair, and so then they began to work to secure the subscription of \$3,000 from the Synod. Now it was clear, that there should be "sacrifice and pain", as it is written in the minutes from the meeting in Hastings. Also at this meeting, it was decided that the name of the school should be "Trinity Seminary".

A couple of months before the meeting in Hastings a letter had finally come from Pastor Steffensen in Denmark, that because of poor health he would not be able to accept the call. That would have been a great advantage for the Danish Lutheran Church in America, if Pastor Herman Richard Steffensen (born 1853) could have been able to accept the young synod's call. On the other hand, he was not the only Danish Theologian to which the Synod issued a call with the result, that suitable men must do the work, when others could not or would not.

### The Work in Blair - The Annual Meeting in Council Bluffs, Iowa

After the meeting in Hastings the work toward the school began in earnest. On the first of July 1885 the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Association's School Committee called for an assembly of "a number of Christian men" in the Danish Church in Blair, consisting of 5 pastors, 2 students, and 9 laymen. They agreed to organize as the "Trinity School Society for the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Association in America", adopted articles of incorporation, which were undersigned by the assembled persons, as well as Trustees, Pastor A.M. Andersen (President), L. Nyboe, Blair (Secretary), M. Beck, Blair (Treasurer), N.J. Petersen, Kennard, Nebraska, Andrew Larsen, Argo, Nebraska, Pastor G.B. Christiansen, Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Pastor J. Risdall, Fremont, Nebraska.

The trustees were authorized to build a school to cost \$6,000. The president was ordered to inform the citizens of Blair that "there will be much instruction in the English language so there will be opportunity for English speaking students."

Trustees for the Trinity School Society assembled in Blair the 15th of July, 1885. From the city of Blair they received the information through Mr. F.W. Kenny that \$2,300 of the promised \$3,000 had been subscribed. At the suggestion of A.M. Andersen, it was decided to accept from Mr. H.B. Dexter and W. Cline the offered land for the building. Then they decide on a building committee, consisting of Pastor A.M. Andersen, Marcus Beck, and L. Nyboe and agreed that the School Building should be "built under contract", that the ground floor should have walls of brick, the second and third floors would have a "brick veneer", and the fourth floor should be a so-called "French Attic", that was after the suggestion of M. Beck. The meeting concluded by handing over to the building committee the responsibility to work further with the matter, only that the building should not cost more than \$6,000.

The building committee entered into a contract to construct the school building, and on the first of September "*Dansk Luthersk Kirkeblad*" informs the members that the work on the school in all probability would begin about the same time as they received that issue of the paper. Before we hear more about that however, let's take a little trip to Council Bluffs, Iowa, where the Synod held its second annual meeting from the 26th to the 30th of August, and where among others, Pastor P.C. Traudberg was in attendance and preached.

Considering the matter of the school, the minutes of the meeting show that there was \$119.80 income towards the salary of the teachers. The chair of the school committee presented his report on the work at the school and could then relate that the necessary subscription had been reached, all preparations concluded, the plan for the building was ready, and so work could begin.

The Synod recognized the committee's work and agreed that the building committee should not be held to the \$6,000, provided that the building could be completed without debt. That enabled the Board of Trustees to search for the necessary inventory materials for the building -- as well as the money for them. Consequently, it was just at that moment that the contract for construction could be completed, as mentioned above.

On the 22nd of September the building committee held a meeting in Blair and agreed that the building would be completed, except for the top floor, because the \$6,000 would not be enough for the entire building. They agreed to ask F.W. Kenny to become a member of the building committee, which he accepted. In November "*Kirkebladet*" could reveal that "It took a long time to get started, but once construction began, it has gone quickly. If God is willing and as so far lets the weather be kind to us, it is expected that the bricklaying will be just about finished by the time the readers receive this issue. There is still hope that, in any case, part of the building will be ready for occupancy this winter." Of the subscription money there was \$1,700 collected in November.



But on the 4th of December, it seemed as though the whole place would blow down. That day there was a powerful storm over the area, so several buildings which were under construction, blew down. "But in spite of the storm our school building stood proudly on the hill, God be praised."

This short report closes thusly: "In December the school term begins with 5 students. More are expected."

The School of Theology thus consequently didn't get into the new building in 1885 but it was well on its way.

### 1886 - The School Building's Completion and Dedication

With the beginning of that year, which we now at the 25 years Jubilee look back to especially, namely 1886, we acquaint ourselves with a fund, which had not previously been mentioned in the Synod, namely, "for needy students". The first contributors to this fund presumably deserve recognition. L. Eskildsen, Hampton, Nebraska, \$5.00; P. Andreasen, Luck, Wisconsin, \$1.00.

The 15th of February issue of "*Kirkebladet*" informs us that the work on the school building was again in full swing. But the building committee needed money. And in the same article the question was asked of Synodical friends, who had not been heard from in this matter, "Is it your desire, that we should stand and watch, while others do the work? Or what?"

In the directors' minutes of the meeting on the 13th of March, it is stated that an architect Driscoll from Omaha has sent the building committee a statement of account for "Plans and Specifications" for the school, while the committee's understanding had been that Mr. Dexter had promised to pay the architect. It was decided to take a photograph of the new school, and that income from the sale of the photograph should go into the school account. The trustees held another meeting on the 15th of July. The \$6,000 had been spent, and they needed yet an additional \$1,000 to get the building into usable condition. It was agreed to borrow \$1,000 with the property as security, and also to insure the building for \$4,000. In April Pastor H. Hansen, Synodical President, visited the little school in Blair and saw the new school building, which was ready for "plastering". He expressed great appreciation of both in "*Kirkebladet*".

Below the Photograph - PASTOR A.M. ANDERSEN

In the minutes from the Synod's third annual meeting, which was held in Hampton, Hamilton County, Nebraska, the 26th to the 29th of August, 1886, we see that the school in the preceding winter had been attended by 9 students, who were separated into two classes, and that there were in all 35 hours of instruction given per week. The treasury showed that the income for the instructor's salary was \$364.78. But the Synod quickly took a collection at the meeting, which amounted to \$328, a sum which took only a half hour to collect.

The results of the meeting were that the school committee was ordered to contact student A.J. Dahm and consider whether he could be employed as a teacher for the school. In addition the trustees should "consider the introduction of a girls school in the coming summer, assuming that such a session would pay for itself", along with the suggestion that an academic course in English at the school should be presented at the next annual meeting.

In "*Kirkebladet*" for the first of October, 1886, it is announced that the dedication of the school after the wishes of many should take place on Thursday, the 21st of October. Originally, it had been the thought that it would have taken place at the beginning of the school term, the first of October.

The 21st of October arrived with beautiful weather, and a large group of people assembled for the festival at the new school in Blair. Of the Synod's pastors, present were H. Hansen, M.C. Hansen Rohe, A. Rasmussen, G.B. Christiansen, A.M. Andersen and H.P. Bertelsen. Two English-Lutheran pastors of the general synod attended, namely Rev. J.S. Detweiler of Omaha and J.N. Lenker of Grand Island, Nebraska, and they also participated in the festivities. Pastor Rohe began the ceremony by remembering the Danish students at Augsburg Seminary, who used to have their meeting place in Room Number 8. But now today they were all assembled at our very own Theological Seminary. Pastor Rasmussen reminded them of Isaiah's words, "Lord, send me!", as the correct motivation for students, who sought entrance to this school. Pastor Christiansen mentioned God's goodness, which had granted them this school. In the afternoon the people from Blair gathered at the school by special invitation. Rev. Detweiler from Omaha talked about the subject: The Evangelical Lutheran Church. The synodical president, Pastor H. Hansen held the dedicatory service using Luke 9:28-35. Next, Rev. Lenker spoke from Gal. 6:10, whereafter Pastor Andersen read the list of contributors to the school from the town and thanked the donors on behalf of the Synod. After a short talk by Pastor Christiansen, Pastor Andersen pronounced the benediction over the assembly, and the dedication came to an close.

Trinity Seminary, however, was not the only Danish school which was dedicated in Nebraska in the year 1886.

In "*Kirkebladet*", Nr. 24, 1886, can be read: "Dannebrog College, Pastor Hansens school in Dannebrog, Nebraska, was dedicated on Sunday, the fifth. The particulars about this are unknown."

### III. OF THE SCHOOL'S LATER HISTORY

To relate the history of the school from 1886 to 1911 would be both too detailed and tiresome, so we shall not do that. Instead, it will behoove us to call attention to certain high points. And as the first of these we shall name

#### I. The School's contemplated teachers, Pastor P.C. Trandberg and others.

For completeness perhaps it is best to first name those who were called by the Synod to be the school's teachers but for some reason did not respond to the call. We have already mentioned Pastor H. Steffensen, who the Synod called at its first annual meeting. The next in this row became Pastor P.C. Trandberg. This remarkable man came to America in 1882 without any certain external call. As stated earlier, he attended the Association's second annual meeting in Council Bluffs. At the annual meeting in Hampton in 1886, he did not attend, but sent a letter of greeting. At the fourth annual meeting, in Albert Lea, Minnesota, from the 7th to the 13th of September, 1887, Trandberg was there and spoke several times. He had been professor at the Congregationalists' Theological Seminary in Chicago since 1885. At the suggestion of the Report Committee, the delegates voted unanimously to call Trandberg to be Professor of Theology at the school in Blair with a special salary of \$600 and free housing. Trandberg, however, could not accept for at least a year, so there was discussion on closing the school in Blair during that time, and letting the theology students go to Chicago to study with Trandberg and the others to Pastor Hansen's school in Dannebrog. As is known now, Pastor Trandberg eventually turned down the call which was issued to him (a way out of his connection with the Congregationalists was shown to him). On the other hand, the invitation to him had a paralyzing influence on the school in Blair, because only the preparatory student department could function in 1887-88 -- and the theology students were offered the chance to study at the Seminary in Chicago, a chance which only one of them followed.

The feeling which was rampant in the Synod concerning the calling of Pastor Trandberg in Albert Lea in 1887 - and this call was again made at the annual meeting in Fremont

in 1888 - is stated quite correctly in the minutes of the meeting in Council Bluffs, Iowa, 21-28 August 1887, when Trandberg was in attendance. It is so stated in the minutes of that meeting: "We are forced, personally speaking, to a Father among us, an older and experienced man, who can speak the enlightened word, when difficulties threaten from within and without. And the Lord now shows Trandberg, after several bitter disappointments about this matter, which he has so many years striven for, to serve in an orderly church association with a free church materialism.

But we will as well name the other men, which the Synod either called or inquired to, whether they would be willing to receive the call to the post of instructor of theology at Trinity Seminary.

The first of February, 1893: "Decided, that the Board of Trustees write to Pastor Chr. Holt and Pastor O. Olesen with the enquiry, if one of them would come and take over the post of Professor of Theology at our school." Holt answered no.

The second of May, 1893: "Decided to recommend Pastor P.S. Vig to the Synod's annual meeting as Professor of Theology at Trinity Seminary." Vig answered no to the call, because he had then promised the "Mission Society" to be at the school in Elk Horn.

At a combined meeting of the Board of Trustees and the Synodical Board in Blair the 5th and 6th of December, 1894: "Decided, that the committee order Pastor I.M. Hansen to speak with Pastor H. Steffensen, whether he would accept a call to be Professor of Theology at the school."

At the same meeting it was agreed: "that a letter should be sent with Pastor I.M. Hansen to Pastor Vilhelm Beck, Prof. Westergaard and Pastor Hansen of Nørre Nisum, to ask for assistance to find a man, who would be qualified to be Professor of Theology at the school." The salary was set at from 600 to 800 dollars per year.

Among the decisions taken at the annual meeting in Hutchinson, Minnesota in 1895 is found the following: "that the Synod at this year's annual meeting on Pastor H. Mathiesen's and Missionary Kjør's recommendation place a call to Pastor Hindhede of Bording, as Professor of Theology at Trinity Seminary from the beginning of the school year 1896 at a salary of \$800. The Synod offers \$200 travel overseas. The annual meeting requests Pastor Mathiesen and Missionary Kjør to bring over the call to Pastor Hindhede." Pastor N.B. Hindhede also answered with a no.

Under photograph - PASTOR G.B. CHRISTIANSEN

## 2. The School's Presidents from 1886 to 1911.

First among these we must name the indefatigable Pastor A.M. Andersen, about whose work for the school and the school building construction we have already heard so much in the foregoing. In an outline, he himself wrote of his career, he says "It has been a difficult and tiring task to serve several congregations and also found a school at the same time. It was over my ability." In the mean time he held his post until 1889. In 1895 he was again called as a teacher of theology at the school, but resigned again in 1897. Since then he has, as well as earlier, had a seat on the School board of directors several times. Pastor Andersen has entered his name as one of the Lutheran Church's untiring workers in America, who in painful days held unwaveringly fast in God's Word and the Lutheran doctrine and did not lose courage, when everything seemed so doubtful. Pastor Andersen, who was born 8 March, 1847, came to America in 1872 and was ordained as a pastor on 11 October, 1874.

Pastor G.B. Christiansen became Andersen's successor in 1889 and held this difficult position as president until 1896, when he finally received permission to resign. In his time the school's enrolment increased, which came also to include young women, for which there was held school for a couple of months in the summer. Likewise, the school facilities were enlarged, but more on that later.

With the unification of the two synods "The Danish Evangelical Lutheran church Association in America" and "The Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America", in the fall of the year 1896 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Pastor P.S. Vig came to be called to be Professor of Theology and President of Trinity Seminary, with permission to let the school continue in Elk Horn, Iowa, to the fall of 1897. Pastor Vig resigned from his Post in 1899, when, because of his wife's ill health, he decided it was best to move away from the school, and became pastor of the congregation in Elk Horn as well as Director of the College there.

At the annual meeting in Hutchinson in 1899 the College Department at Elk Horn moved to Blair, and Pastor Kr. Anker was elected as President of Blair College. He was President until 1905, when he handed in his resignation.

In 1902 Pastor Vig was called back to Blair as President of Trinity Seminary, but resigned from his post in the summer of 1905 and accepted a call as pastor in Luck, Wisconsin.

In Pastor Anker's time as President the school meaningfully developed meaningfully, both in numbers of students and course options, as well as in buildings. Both the "Ladies Hall" and the south side building were constructed in Anker's time. The school was "coeducational" from 1899 and both "business" and "normal" courses were offered so the original seminary nearly disappeared as a department among the many others. The school was supplied with "steam heat" etc., etc.

Pastor Anker's tenure as President was marked by the fact that the school progressed from the remarkable 19th to the 20th century with its many questions and problems.

From 1905 until his death on the 8th of April, 1909, Pastor J.P. Jensen, who graduated from Trinity Seminary in 1900, served as President of Dana College and Trinity Seminary. He was certainly a man who worked in the service of the school until his death.

In 1908 Prof. C.X. Hansen was elected President of Dana College and Prof. C.S. Eriksen as Director of the Theology Department (Trinity Seminary).

In 1909 Professor S.C. Eriksen resigned as Director and Theology Professor, and Pastor P.S. Vig was named to this post for the third time.

Prof. C.X. Hansen, was among the first team of students at Trinity Seminary in 1886-87, and had since graduated from Midland College, Atchison, Kansas. Already for many years he has been professor with the preparation department at Trinity Seminary and Professor at Dana College. The school has obtained a new stadium, and is led by a Danish American born in this country, which is a good sign, when consideration is taken to the school's purpose as well as to the time, place and conditions under which it works. Prof. Hansen has the honor to be one of the first American born among the school's students, professors, and directors. Likewise he has, since 1908, been the first resident of the President's home. This beautiful home was provided by the Bondo family. In his time as President the school's "Normal" department as well as the Academic department has obtained recognition by the state.

## 3. The School's Professors From 1886 to 1911

Although it would have some interest for people in general to know in which subjects the individual professors had taught, especially regarding the theological courses, we will

not present these concerning the Theological Professors, and concerning the other teachers we will state only their primary expertise.

Next it should be remarked that the Theological Professors continue to have to teach in the other departments in the school, just as, especially before 1896, some of the Professors in the Preparatory Department have taught in some of the theological areas, who are designated as assistant teachers (*hjælpearer*).

#### A. The Professors of Theology

Pastor A.M. Andersen (1884-1889; 1895-1897)  
Pastor G.B. Christensen (1889-1896)  
Pastor A.S. Nielsen (1894-1895)  
Cand. Phil. Svend Juel (Assistant Teacher 1893-1894)  
Cand. Theol. A.J. Dahm (Assistant Teacher 1890-1893)  
Pastor P.S. Vig (1896-1899; 1902-1905; 1909)  
Cand. Theol. V.C. Mengers (1897-1899)  
Pastor H.O. Frimodt-Møller (1898-1902)  
Dr. Theol. J.N. Lenker (1899-1903)  
Pastor Harald Jensen (1899-1902)  
Pastor Kr. Anker (1899-1905)  
Pastor J.P. Jensen (1903-1908)  
Pastor S.C. Eriksen (1905-1909)  
Pastor V.W. Johansen (1908-1909)  
Pastor N.P. Lang (1909- )  
Pastor A.Th. Schultz (Assistant Teacher 1906-1907)  
Pastor C. Kloth (Assistant Teacher 1905-1906)

It should be noted that Frimodt-Møller, H. Jensen, Eriksen, and Johansen have the degree Cand. Theol. from the University of Copenhagen, Mengers from Lake View Lutheran Seminary, Chicago, Illinois, and Lenker from Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio.

#### B. The other teachers at the school.

With the enumeration of these it is worth stating that the school until 1899 was essentially a theological seminary.

Not a few of the students of theology have been instructors in several courses in the "Proseminary". That is the situation with most of them, which in the list are named as "Stud. Theol.". Likewise, it should be remembered that, as stated earlier, the theology professors have all taught in the Proseminary.

Stud. Theol. N.S. Nielsen (1884-1887)  
Stud. Theol. and Pastor A.S. Nielsen (1884-1895)  
Cand. Theol. A.J. Dahm (1889-1893; 1896-1899)  
Stud. Theol. C.H. Schmidt (1890-1891)  
Stud. Theol. P. Rasmussen (1892-1893)  
Stud. Theol. L. Pedersen (1892-1894)  
Stud. Theol. A.W. Lund (1892-1896)  
C.X. Hansen, B.A. (1894-1896; 1897- )  
Harold W. Foght, B.A.B.Sc. (1899-1902)  
Miss Mathilda Berg (1899-1903)  
Sigurd Anker, B.A. (1902-1905)  
Miss Hilda Herfordt (1903-1905)  
N.Th. Lund, B.A. (1905- )  
Miss Caroline Johnson, B.A. (1906- )  
A. Petersen (1909-1910)  
Andrew Simmamark (1910- )  
Miss Petra Jensen (1909- )

#### Teachers in the Business Department

Edward Stephensen (1899-1900)  
Miss Fanny Gates (1900-1901)  
Miss Myrtle Fuller (1901-1902)  
Miss Louis Langstaff (1902-1904)  
Chas. E. Gaydou (1904-1905, 1910- )  
H.L. Johns (1906-1907)  
N.H. Debel (1907-1910)

#### Teachers in Music and Singing

Mrs. Alice M. Foght (1899-1901)  
Miss Emma C. Larsen (1900-1901)  
Miss Anna Nielsen (1902-1903)  
Miss Gertrude Mead (1904-1905)  
Miss Amanda Hansen (1905- )  
Ray French, Violin (1904-1905)  
J.H. Swihart, Violin (1908- )

In addition to those named the following have been instructors in individual courses at the school: Miss Anna Jørgensen, Miss Ingeborg Anker, Miss Anna I. Hansen, Mr. George Cramer, Mr. E.S. Rosenberg. Consequently, if our accounting is correct, there have since 1884 been 49 teachers at the school.

Under Photograph - PASTOR P.S. VIG

#### 4. The School's Students from 1884 to 1911.

It has not been possible for us to say how many people have been students at the school since its beginning in 1884. On the other hand, we have had the good fortune to find the number of students for each individual year since 1884. But when one remembers that the same people have been students for perhaps several years, it is easy to see that there is a significant difference between the annual enrolment and the total number of people who have been students at the school. To determine the actual difference between these two is not now possible, so therefore we shall not try. It would have been possible, if we had the names of all the students, - which we do not have, and only then it would have taken considerable effort.

But even though we can only give the number of students enrolled, we believe that a lot can be said about the significance of the school for the Lutheran Church and the Danish people in America.

Of special interest, it has been possible to find the names of the students for the years 1884, 1885, and 1886, consequently the 4, 9, and 12 first on the list. They are the only ones that could be found.

The first 4 from 1884 were Pastors, N.S. Nielsen, A.S. Nielsen, P.M. Petersen and Joh. P. Naarup, three from Jutland and one from Funen. The next 9 were those plus Pastors I.M. Hansen and N. Hansen plus R. Petersen, P. Gylling and ---- Jessen.

Among the next 12 were all of the above plus current Professor C.X. Hansen, and R.P.A. Rasmussen and Hans Aagnard.

The names of the 184 students from the school year 1910-1911 can be found in the next years catalog.

And so we go to the list from the 27 school years from 1884 to 1911.

In the School Year 1884-85 there were at the School in Blair 4 students.

In the School Year 1885-86 there were at the School in Blair 9 students.

In the School Year 1886-87 there were at Trinity Seminary 12 students.

In the School Year 1887-88 there were at Trinity Seminary 14 students.

In the School Year 1888-89 there were at Trinity Seminary 15 students.

In the School Year 1889-90 there were at Trinity Seminary 21 students.

In the School Year 1890-91 there were at Trinity Seminary 32 students.

In the School Year 1891-92 there were at Trinity Seminary 39 students.

In the School Year 1892-93 there were at Trinity Seminary 50\*) students.

In the School Year 1893-94 there were at Trinity Seminary 72\*\*) students.

In the School Year 1894-95 there were at Trinity Seminary 55 students.

In the School Year 1895-96 there were at Trinity Seminary 48\*\*\*) students.

In the School Year 1896-97 there were at the School in Elk Horn and Trinity Seminary, Blair, 142\*\*\*\*) students.

In the School Year 1897-98 there were at Trinity Seminary 25 students.

In the School Year 1898-99 there were at Trinity Seminary 15 students.

In the School Year 1899-1900 there were at Trinity Seminary 98\*\*\*\*) students.

In the School Year 1900-01 there were at Trinity Seminary 107 students.

In the School Year 1901-02 there were at Trinity Seminary 96 students.

In the School Year 1902-03 there were at the College and Seminary 129 students.

In the School Year 1903-04 there were at the College and Seminary 130 students.

In the School Year 1904-05 there were at the College and Seminary 135 students.

In the School Year 1905-06 there were at the College and Seminary 113 students.

In the School Year 1906-07 there were at the College and Seminary 108 students.

In the School Year 1907-08 there were at the College and Seminary 99 students.

In the School Year 1908-09 there were at the College and Seminary 144 students.

In the School Year 1909-10 there were at the College and Seminary 158 students.

In the School Year 1910-11 there were at the College and Seminary 182 students.

\*) Of these 17 were women

\*\*\*) Of these 7 were women

\*\*\*\*) Of these some were women

\*\*\*\*\*) Since 1899-1900 the School is co-educational.

Consequently there have been a total of 2051 students in the 27 School years.

To grow from 4 to 184 in 27 years is not so bad. Now one must remember, that among the students since 1900 there have been a number of young Americans, both men and women. But by far the greatest portion of the School's students have been Danish youth, of whom some have come directly from Denmark. But in the latest years most of the students have been children of Danish parents, and born in this country. As a result of this development the language of instruction in most of the School's classes has been in English, and that is quite natural.

#### 5. Theological Students from Trinity Seminary, Who Have been Ordained as Pastors Since 1887.

A list of names of the theological students who have been at the school since the beginning until now we cannot produce, since such is not available. We can only say that the

difference between the number of theological students and those who have been ordained is not large. There are some who gave up their studies of theology after a short time, partly because of poor health, poor ability, or for other reasons. I can say that from my time as a teacher in Elk Horn and Blair I can name only a few, from 2 to 4 persons, who because of the reasons named gave up their studies in theology after one or two years. And the difference between the theological candidates and those who were ordained is even smaller. I remember from my time as an instructor only a couple of those. As far as I know, there have been no theological students or candidates from Trinity Seminary, who have gone over to another synod, either Lutheran or Reformed, and also I know of no examples of any who have fallen from the Christian faith.

In the list of those ordained, which is presented here, I have included all who have for a shorter or longer period studied theology at the school in Blair, those who received there preparatory education here, or completed their theological studies, here or at another place. I have perhaps included some who should not have been, and excluded some who should have been included, and likewise it is possible, that I have forgotten some, even though I have tried to get the list as complete as possible.

And let me remark here that among the first who were ordained are those who were among the first students and the first teachers at the little school in Blair, in 1884.

#### Ordinations:

1887 in Hampton, Nebraska. Niels S. Nielsen  
 1888 in Hutchinson, Minnesota. Anders S. Nielsen  
 1888 in Watsonville, California. Niels Hansen  
 1889 in Watsonville, California. Joh. Petersen Naarup  
 1889 in Hutchinson, Minnesota. Louis Johnson, Ivar Marius Hansen  
 1891 in Waupaca, Wisconsin. Peter Petersen, Johannes Simonsen, Johannes Markussen  
 1892 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Iver Gertsen, Anders Chr. Weismann, Jens Chr. Petersen  
 1894 in Omaha, Nebraska. Frits Andersen, Gudmund E.S. Grill, Niels L. Nielsen, Laurits Pedersen, Peter Rasmussen  
 1895 in Hutchinson, Minnesota. Jens J. Dalbo, Niels Damaskov, Andreas M. Nielsen  
 1896 in Albert Lea, Minnesota. Lars H. Kjaer, Jørgen H. Lund  
 1896 in Racine, Wisconsin. Niels Beantsen  
 1896 in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Marinus N. Rahbeck, (deceased)  
 1897 in Blair, Nebraska. Jens Kr. Jensen, Niels P.N. Lang, Hans Nielsen, Christian W. Nielsen  
 1898 in Greenville, Michigan. Rudolph P. Bennesen (deceased), Christoffer H.M. Krogh, August Wilh. Lund, Carl M. Olsen, Jens M. Th. Winther,  
 1899 in Hutchinson, Minnesota. Erik Hansen, Martin Th. Jensen, Laurits H. Kjoller, Jens Møller (deceased).  
 1900 in Blair, Nebraska. Christian Hansen (deceased), Jens P. Jensen,  
 1901 in Albert Lea, Minnesota. Lars Jensen, Olaf R. Olafsen  
 1902 in Racine, Wisconsin. Niels P. Sørensen, Jens S. H. Scott  
 1903 in Elk Horn, Iowa. Theodor P. Beck, Henry W. Bondo, Julius A. Larsen  
 1903 in Potter, Nebraska. Jens Madsen  
 1904 in Hutchinson, Minnesota. Frøderik Petersen, Niels P.J. Nielsen, Niels Chr. Petersen, Christen Christensen, Edward M. Nielsen, Hans M. Hansen  
 1905 in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Jørgen P. Nielsen, Julius G. V. Magnussen  
 1906 in Kenmare, North Dakota. Jens P. Christiansen, Edward Andersen  
 1908 in Waupaca, Wisconsin. Viggo W. Bondo, Arthur Hofgaard, Jens Chr. Christensen  
 1909 in Elk Horn, Iowa. Herman L. Jensen  
 1909 in Plainview, Nebraska. Karl M. Hansen  
 1910 in Racine, Wisconsin. Niels C. Carlsen, Hans P.K. Hansen, Jens Knudsen, Jens P. Jensen, Axel Christiansen

As can be seen, there is certainly a significant number of Pastors who have received their education at the school in Blair

The United Danish Church started with 63 pastors. It is the hope, that the additional ones who later came from Blair, may always stay with the United Church, until they all reach the place where four of them have already gone.

Of the 67, 60 were born in Denmark, one in Norway, and 6 in America, 5 of Danish parents and one of Norwegian

With respect to the places where they were ordained, the lead is taken by Hutchinson, Minnesota, with 15, Racine follows with 7, Waupaca 6, Omaha, Blair and Greenville each with 5, Elk Horn and Albert Lea each with 4 and Cedar Falls and Council Bluffs with 3 each.

Of the 58 who were born in Denmark, the majority are Jutlanders, namely 30, 12 are from Funen, 10 from Sjælland, 3 from Lolland, 2 from Møn, and 1 from Bornholm. It is interesting to note that among the 67 there are none who are sons of pastors, either from Denmark or America. However, there are two who will graduate this year from the seminary who are pastors' sons, and of these one is a pastor's son here in America and born here. Of the 65, there are three pairs of brothers.

#### 6. About the School's Buildings

Now that we have become acquainted with the School's teachers and students since 1884, it is in good order, that we hear something about the School's Buildings. Considering the buildings we don't need to say an awful lot, since most who have been in Blair, have certainly noticed them. They do not lay hidden, but are in place "on the mountain", which cannot be hidden. I am inclined to believe that the school as far as its placement and appearance are concerned, can compete with any other school in this part of the West. Those who have visited the college, have been perhaps a little tired in the legs, before they managed to get up the hill where it sits, but the beautiful and broad vista, to which they are treated -- over the town of Blair and the broad, beautiful Missouri River Valley with the river like a silver ribbon in the middle and the high-crested hills on the far Iowa side of the valley -- well more than pays them for the exertion to reach the top. The school has not only a beautiful, but in addition a worthwhile location. Those who on a humid summer day come up here from Blair, which lays down in the valley of the Missouri, will soon notice that we have higher, cleaner air than down in the town. But now those who rest themselves under the shady trees on the School's campus and see the school as the Center of a little town, which frames 16-17 Danish families, will hardly be able to recognize that it was just 25 years ago, when the school lay quite alone out here on the naked hills. And so it is.

Under Photograph - PASTOR KR. ANKER



In the meantime, we must not forget, that the school did not have its first home on the hill, but instead down in that part of the town of Blair, which is now known as "Dexterville", in Pastor A.M. Andersen's house. This house, of which a picture is found in this book, was the first of those which since have been built in that part of town, and consequently the house has seen that entire part of town grow around it, which now connects the school to the older part of Blair. "Dexterville" got its name after Mr. H.B. Dexter, one of the men who especially worked to get the Danes to build their school in Blair. The aforementioned house in Dexterville has interest for us more than just its appearance, for it was not only the residence for the first Danish pastor in Blair, and the first Danish theological seminary in America, but also the publishing house for "*Kirkebladet*" and the church office. When the school moved up the hill in the fall of 1886, the pastor's family and *Kirkebladet* went along. And it is now at this time of celebration, that we find ourselves in this building, as it was constructed.

It is now, however, not such an easy matter to recognize what was here (25 years past) because with the addition of the two side buildings quite a change has taken place. In the main, it has not been a good thing for the school, that the building had to be built piece by piece, each time it has been necessary to create more space, and for which money had to be raised. It is self-evident, that because the additions are not planned at the beginning there is some waste of space, convenience and symmetry, especially when it is not so easy to sketch what the future will bring, and so that is the way it occurred. We shall now become acquainted with the buildings in the order in which they were erected.

#### The Main Building

We have already had some description about the main building in the foregoing. Therefore we present just the following information.

The building has a facade of 60 feet, and is 30 feet wide and 60 feet high, consisting of 4 floors. This facade faces the east, and in the middle is a tower, which goes through all floors. The tower itself is 75-80 feet high. The ground floor is solidly built of red brick. The upper floors have what is called "brick-veneer". Originally there was enough space in the building for the director and family, classes, dining room, and sleeping quarters for 40 students, as well as a kitchen and maid's chambers.

The building cost \$7,000 to construct. As stated already, the townspeople and businessmen in Blair contributed \$3,000 to the school. Consequently \$4,000 had to be collected from the Association. For us that perhaps doesn't seem so much. But if we remember that in 1884 the Association consisted of only 9 pastors and ca. 1800 members, of whom only about 900 were confirmed, and of these 900 there were not many rich and powerful, so from those facts the matter looks a little different. According to my thinking it was a tremendous undertaking for an association of only 800 to 900 people to complete the common goal of erecting a building of that size and it really is a beautiful testimonial to the fact that the Association's power is not completely dependent on the number of people. If we look at the list of contributors, we find not many large contributions, -- the largest I have found is only \$200 from the now deceased N.J. Pedersen of Kennard, later Blair, and several of \$100, but instead there were many smaller, and those are as is usually recognized, the last to be counted. One of those who was from the first to the last along in this great effort, has later expressed it thus: "It had gone so strangely and wonderfully easily over our expectation, that we must say 'it is the work of the Lord and is strange to our eyes', for it was Him who opened our hearts to the matter."

#### The Northern Building Wing

Before many years had gone by, it was evident that the school was not large enough, and so the idea came of adding on. This idea became reality in 1893, when an addition to the west from the northern side of the main building, 50 feet by 32 feet and 60 feet high-- was built. This building, with a dining room on the first floor, assembly hall on the second floor, and sleeping rooms for 40 students on the second and third floors, cost about \$6,000, which was collected within the Association with the exception of \$500 collected from citizens and businesses of Blair.

So the school had room for about 80 students from the fall of 1893. For comparison it is noted that in 1893 the Association had 29 pastors and 5,663 members.

Under the Photograph - PASTOR J.P. JENSEN

#### The Women's Building.

When it was decided in 1899, that the school should accept women as well as male students, it became necessary to build a special building for the women students. That was then also built in 1899. It is 3 stories tall. On the second floor there is a family apartment for the School President, and on the second and third floors rooms for the women students and women faculty.

This building was built to the north and west of the School's northern wing, and cost ca. \$3,000. The School's heating apparatus was moved to the basement of this building.

#### The Gymnasium

is the fourth in a row of the School's buildings.

It is a "frame" building, 64 feet long and 30 feet wide. It cost ca. \$1,200. It has been the scene for not just a few games of basketball and the students from Dana College have come away with victory in most of them. It is the hope that one or another wealthy man in the Association will feel impelled to underwrite a new and larger physical education building.

#### The South Building Wing

at the school was built in the summer of 1905. It is 72 feet long, 32 feet wide and 4 stories tall. In this beautiful building, which has cost ca. \$9,000 can be found the school's chapel, music room, library and reception room, as well as rooms for ca. 50 students. On the second floor are bath and rest rooms for the men.

#### The New President's Home

which lies north and east of the school, was given to the Association by the Bondo family of Pottawatomie County, Iowa, according to the will of the deceased L.C. Bondo.

The house was built in 1908 and together with the lot cost \$30,200, a not unmeaningful sum. And as it is known that the School buildings cost a lot to maintain, the total sum to the buildings increases greatly, when the maintenance costs are added.

In addition to the construction and maintenance costs, were the expenses for the school's heating and inventory. We are not exaggerating when we say that our department of

the Danish Lutheran Church people in America have contributed a sum of \$40,000 in the course of 25 years to the school, in addition to the costs of teachers salaries and the School's other expenses.

But for this chapter of the Danish Lutheran Church peoples' history in America, none of the participants need to be ashamed. Although those of our immigrant countrymen who do not belong to our church certainly have other large expenses, they also get by more cheaply, financially speaking, because they are not members of our church.

#### About the Teachers Salary Account, Income and Expenses

Those who might build a school in order to make money, will, as a rule, find that they have made an error. And those who think that a school of theology might be able to pay its own expenses, also are mistaken. As a rule, it is neither rich men, nor rich men's sons who study to be pastors. That, wouldn't be a way to make money. And it is not in large numbers, that our immigrant countrymen's children have come to be students at the Seminary. But a teacher's salary cannot compare to the numbers of students he teaches, if he should live, whether he teaches a few or many. Because of this, a school of theology must have support from the church group for which it works. And the substantial portion of this support is well known in the different church associations under the name of the account for the teachers' salaries. I have, as far as possible, tried to determine how large these accounts were for Trinity Seminary since 1884, but it has not been entirely possible, since the financial reports did not always separate out salaries from other financial obligations of the school. I can not therefore present the teachers salaries portion precisely for each and every year, which would not be very pleasant reading for most anyway. But I can relay the information that in the school year 1884-85 there was designated as teacher's pay \$119.80, whereas in the Association's year 1909-10 the amount for this designation was \$3,116.46, which as one can see is a significant difference.

Next I can inform that from 1884 to 1896, before the start of the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the "Blair Association" contributed \$17,000 to teachers' salaries. And from 1896 to 1910 the United Church has given \$37,000 to this part of the treasury. In other words, for the 27 years that the Theological Seminary has been in Blair, it has cost the association about \$54,000 or on the average \$2,000 per year.

As stated, my accounting is not precisely to the dollar and cent, but it is not far from the actual cost, and perhaps more likely under than over.

And when I mention this, I have a certain goal in mind. A church association among immigrant Danes in America consists primarily of those who could be considered lower or middle class, if they are measured according to financial measure. And it can be shown, that most of the contributors to a church association, also to its theological seminary, are such people. But so it is that the aforementioned sum of money given to the educational account, is a point of honor for Danish Christians in America. And this point of honor I would like to mix with this thought. For a sum of \$54,000 one could buy a very large farm in Denmark. And for some years since one could pay the President of the United States the stated sum for one year, and the large lodges pay each year a similar sum to a couple of their most capable employees. But that is enough for the comparison.

It is the many, steady, even though generally small contributors, who, in terms of the people, support both the Church and the School in America. And if any of the instructors should think that such has made them still poorer, I would advise him to pay attention to this matter himself.

It is the hope, that some of the wealthier Danes who still have interest for the Lutheran Church will find a way to share some of their profit, while they themselves still have control of their means. A fund of \$100,000 would be a beautiful and permanent memorial, which could preserve their name longer, than if it is engraved in stone with gilded letters in one or another cemetery, where only few will notice it, after some years have gone by. When the ordinary people have built and supported our school through a lifetime, it is about time that the rich take the occasion to lend a hand, I refer to the wealthier who own their property, and are not owned by it.

Under the Photograph - PASTOR S.C. ERIKSEN

#### 7. About the School Library

Among the first who provided books to the library at the school, was the now deceased Pastor M.C. Hansen Rohe, who was always a warm friend of the school. And I remember having seen a place, that one of the books, he provided for this purpose, was the known "Pastoral Pain", or, as it is also called, "Godly Questions Book", by M. Saxe. It has obviously amused Pastor Rohe -- with his sense of the comical -- to provide this "Pastoral Pain" to the Theological Seminary Library. In addition, "Pastoral Pain" is one of the first books to be published in Norway, and also one of the books, which among others, the "Strong Jutlanders" set a high value on, it is full of curious questions concerning things and persons, which are written about in the Holy Scriptures.

Both pastors and laymen in America and in Denmark, have followed Pastor Rohe's example and provided books to the school library. Not a few American and Scandinavian publishing houses have provided us with books. But a good large collection we do not yet have. Such costs money. And we also lack a fireproof building for a library, archive and other collections.

We do not envy our sister associations here in this country, which this year can receive a gift of a library building for use for a price of over one-half million dollars. But we hope, that among our countrymen we can find a wealthy man, who has sufficient funds to provide both the books and a building to house and preserve them.

That the school is owned by a church association hinders finding assistance in the suggested direction of wealthy Americans. For wealthy Danes, however, this situation should seem to be an advantage and a guarantee that their gifts would be well used.

Of unusual or special books, there are not many in the school's collection, but there are some. Included among these is a publication from 1578 of Morten Chemnitz' well known "*Examen Concilii Tridentinum*" in a large "octave" binding.

But the book which we prize most highly is Danish and bears the title "Biblia (The Bible), the Very Holy Scripture in Danish, Again Translated and Printed after our Most Gracious Lord and King, King Christian IV's Order. With a Concordance, all of Dr. Luther's Writings, his Construction in Breadth and "*Viti Theodori*" Summaries. *Cum gratia og privilegio*. København 1633." In other words, we own Christian the Fourth's Church Bible, in very large folio format, with illustrations and Christian IV's portrait. The book is as large as a normal briefcase, bound in leather and decorated with much solid brass furnishings and clasps. For its time it is a remarkable work. It was given to the school in 1899 by old Pastor and Mrs. H.J. Dahlström, now in Racine, Wisconsin. As far as I know, there are only two of these bibles in America, namely this one in Blair, and another which some years ago was for sale in an antique store in Denver, Colorado and which was, if I remember correctly, sold to an old Danish recluse some place out west.

It is the wish, that the school library could inherit more of these kinds of old and remarkable books, which are found hidden all around the country among the Danish immigrants.

## 8. About the School's Organizations

Organizations are a part of present day school life and often play a quite meaningful role. The school in Blair takes no exception to this rule. The oldest of these school organizations is

### Trinity Seminary's "Boarding Club"

Students of the school and unmarried faculty members created a boarding club, which elected a president, who then supervised the shopping, hired the "cooking girls", etc. The costs are divided among the organization's members. This Boarding Club existed, with one exception, until 1899-1900, or, in other words, while the school was still quite small.

From the year 1900 on the school has provided the food for the students. Many of the school's older alumni will yet fondly remember the "Boarding Club" days and their purchases and in other connections.

### The Christian Student Society

has existed from about 1880 and continues yet its work with weekly meetings, where the society's leaders specify speakers and subjects, which a committee has presented to the Society's president. Most of the students at the school have become members of this society. At the start, all of the meetings were in Danish, but recently the English language is used once per month.

There is no doubt that this organization has been a blessing for many young people, and likewise their meetings have been a valuable learning experience for young speakers

### "Dannebrog"

is a Danish literature society in existence at the school since 1899-1900. It gives its members occasion to hear and hold discussions over such subjects which the society has determined.

### "The Hesperian"

is an English society of the same age and type as Dannebrog. Not seldom are these two societies' meetings attended by many people from the town and region, not least at the times when the society has invited one or another known speaker to lead the program.

Under the Photograph - PROF. C.X. HANSEN

### Trinity Seminary's Heathen Mission Society

is likewise a newer organization, which purpose is to support the Synod's Foreign Mission. The annual membership fee is \$1.00. The lectures at the society's monthly meetings are published in "*Danskere*". One of the Society's goals is to support the Foreign Mission with a not unmeaningful annual donation.

A newer mission society "*Lyskasteren*" (The Shining Light) was begun at the school last year, almost an effect of the large current movement which is known as "The Laymen's Missionary Movement." This new organization, whose members urge a meaningfully large annual donation, is thinking seriously about uniting with the other society at the school, and it is the hope, that this union will be a benefit for the societies and their common objective.

### Other Organizations

like the Gymnastics Society, "Basketball Club", Tennis Club", the Young Womens Society etc. should be mentioned in this connection that the school does not object to organizations besides its program.

Likewise, it can be stated, that there are official seminars at the school, generally the first and third Monday evenings of each month, alternating in Danish and English, sometimes given by faculty members, sometimes by known men from near and far, both pastors and others.

It can be seen, that there is a search for rich development along with the uniformly strong class work, which the school desires and provides for its students.

In addition, it must be said that the singing and music societies among the students comprise a very important constituent of the different meetings at the school.

## 9. Some of the Schools Benefactors - In Remembrance

In this as we look back over the 25 years which have now disappeared, we miss several of the steadfast workers, who were along at the start, but now have been called away from the work of this world. It is in good and Christian order, that we name some of the more frontrunning among these in an article like this, which especially has something to do with the days gone past. Since I have not myself been here from the beginning, it is possible that I have forgotten some who should be named. That happens without my knowledge and against my will. I pass over the pastors, since their work is more widely known, and restrict myself to the laymen among the school's steadfast supporters, and will name them in the order in which they were called away from their work.

### Peder C.T. Munk

was born in Bryrup near Horsens on the 4th of June, 1842. He has told me that his grandfather was very careful that the name Munk did not disappear from the family and therefore laid great importance to ensuring his grandchildren were baptized with that name. Munk came to America in 1869 and has among other places lived in Omaha, Nebraska, where a Norwegian Synod Pastor, most likely Erdahl, had great influence on him. From Omaha he moved to Burt County, Nebraska, where he was a member of the congregation at Argo, where the "Blair Synod" began in 1884. Right from the start Munk was hard at work on behalf of the school issue. He was therefore present at the meeting in Blair in July 1885, when "The Trinity School Society for the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church Association in America" was formed, and he was a member of that Society.

In 1890 Munk and his family moved to Blair, and the first of July, 1891 he was elected President of the Board of Trustees of Trinity Seminary, a post he held until 1894. Both before and after that time his name is appears frequently in writings connected with the Board. He was as well a member of the Building Committee for the northern wing of the school building. And when the United Church was organized in 1896 Munk became treasurer of that Board of Trustees.

Munk is remembered by all who know him as a capable and warmhearted man with living interest for God's Kingdom. In 1900 he turned over his farm to one of his sons and moved into the town of Blair. After living here a short time, he died on the first of April, 1900.

#### Niels Jørgen Petersen

was born in Smidstrup Parish near Fredericia the 18th of May, 1839. After coming to America, he lived for a time in Omaha and came from there to Washington County, Nebraska where he farmed. In his last years he lived in the town in Blair, steadily plagued by ill health. He died very suddenly on the 7th of May, 1908.

Petersen had a living interest in the school issue from the very beginning and was therefore one of the first and largest financial supporters of the new school building in 1886. He was for some years a member of the School's Board of Trustees. Petersen will, by all who knew him, be remembered as not a little melancholy, but a very self-sacrificing and helpful man. And so he was known by most of the school's teachers.

#### Marcus Beck

was born in Skærbæk Parish in Southern Jutland in 1847. He was very early fatherless and had to work outside the home. As a young man he came to work for a prosperous farmer Niels Bæk in Hjemsted Parish, and from there came to America in 1866 as a 19-year-old. P. A. Mosbøll in New York, who also was born in Skærbæk Parish and was known to Niels Bæk in Hjemsted, found for him a place to stay and directions at first. Mosbøll, who had been in New York since 1836, got him a job and encouraged him with his violin playing, when homesickness became a bit strong for him. From New York Marcus Beck traveled to Wisconsin and worked for a time with the well known Pastor J. A. Ottesen in Koshkonong, Dane County.

From Wisconsin Beck moved to Iowa, where he worked with the construction of the Northwestern Railroad together with his brother. From there he came -- having lost all his possessions to a thief -- one beautiful 4th of July to Omaha, Nebraska, and got work there. But that would take us all too much time, if we should follow Beck in all his wanderings. We will therefore be content to say that in the beginning of the seventies he came to Washington County, where he had bought land. For not a few years he was a farmer, but then he moved at the beginning of the eighties to Blair, where he lived until his death on the 24th of March, 1911.

Marcus Beck has been a great and extremely industrious man in the service of the Church Association, whose treasurer he was in many years until his death.

But not least can he be named as serving in connection with the school.

Marcus Beck was a member of the first Building Committee in 1885-86, and he also was a member of all later building committees at the school, and he was always an effective member. With his clear understanding, sound judgment, strong willingness to work and to help where he could, in word and deed, Marcus Beck will be remembered by all who came in contact with him, not least among those of the school and the faculty, from the first to the last.

#### Under the Photograph - THE BONDO MEMORIAL.

#### 10. About the School's Future

Only One can speak clearly and certainly about the unknown; we people must be satisfied with what we know, to draw conclusions about the unknown. We know God's will. His will is that we hold this school in a Christian spirit; therefore has He laid down the attraction of truth, the knowledge of truth in the human breast and let it not be the weakest now, when the family forms like none before, and the fight for existence now and hereafter therefore remain stronger for them who desire victory. And we know the Danish Church peoples' will, that part of it which has formed the community around the school in Blair. Also it has been shown that this community will maintain a school. It has because of that basis already contributed a large sum, of which that part which can be counted amounts to about a hundred thousand dollars. And there can be no doubt that the church people will seek to ensure that this capital comes to give interest and the interest on interest -- to the enrichment of them and their children and their grandchildren.

And we know the will of the Danish American youth: they will attend the school and from year to year assemble in greater and greater numbers at this school. Not a few of our students are children of earlier students at the school.

One of the students from 1884 had the last winter no less than three sons attending the school. And not a few of the alumni have had their younger siblings at the school -- also in this school year.

But all of these things bode well for the future of the school. And under these positive signs we meet together in hope that the next quarter-century which begins with the next 21st October, may be rich with good fruit. To God the honor, to the Danish American youth the grace and in the whole to forward God's Kingdom.

But the school must have more space to do its work, and it must have more power, more faculty and funds with which to do its work. But it is the Church Association which this year for the third time holds its annual meeting at the school in Blair, both to inspect and to help the school with God's assistance, without whom all human endeavor is for naught.

To Him be praise and honor for his grace and assistance in the 25 years which have now gone by, and we ask Him to bless this school, its faculty, students and friends in the years to come!

TO GOD THE HONOR!