
Thank You, Mr. Editor

by Frank Bateman Stanger

As early as 1945, Dr. Harold B. Kuhn and some concerned faculty colleagues believed that the time had come for a growing theological school like Asbury Theological Seminary to have its own scholarly journal. The result was the publication of the first issue of *The Asbury Seminarian* in the Spring of 1946.

This first issue bears the names of Harold B. Kuhn, editor; George A. Turner, Lena B. Nofcier, James D. Robertson and C. Elvan Olmstead, as associate editors.

The lead editorial states clearly the theological thrust of the new scholarly journal:

The currents of modern philosophical thought are largely materialistic. The currents of modern theological thought are in a large measure humanistic. Over against these trends, *The Asbury Seminarian* will stand uncompromisingly for supernaturalism.

The major article in the first issue is from the pen of Dr. Kuhn and is entitled "The Crisis in Theological Education Today." The editor contends:

Modern theological education has allied itself with a pagan culture, this alliance centering in the thorough application, inside theology as well as without, of the dogma of continuity. In so doing, theology has forfeited her throne and her crown. In seeking to render secular culture sacred by simple contrast, she has herself fallen victim to secularity. Her alliance with modern culture is an unnatural one, made

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upon terms which compromise her in all eyes. Stooping to conquer, she has fallen over forward.

In the article Dr. Kuhn finds in the words of a contemporary theologian the only hope for theological education: "Christianity teaches us to seek a Kingdom which is not of this world and to prepare ourselves for its advent by refusing to be conformed to the present aeon."

The Asbury Seminarian has been published without interruption since 1946. Dr. Kuhn served as its only editor until his resignation in May 1980, and continually he was the inspiration and guiding spirit of the journal.

Today we pay tribute to Dr. Kuhn for his distinctive editorial contributions. Always he has insisted upon theological integrity, fairness in editorial dialogue, academic excellence, and journalistic finesse. Always his editorship maintained a concern about current issues in the theological world and his editorial aim was to make clear and relevant the Wesleyan perspective in relation to such issues. A compendium of all the contents of *The Asbury Seminarian* after serving for 34 years. At this year's spring opening convocation the President of the Seminary presented Dr. Kuhn with a plaque of tribute which reads as follows:

With Appreciation To
HAROLD BARNES KUHN, Ph.D., D.D.
Editor, *The Seminarian*
1946 - 1980
Originator and Gifted Editor
of this scholarly journal since its beginning
from
The Faculty and Administration of
Asbury Theological Seminary
September 4, 1980

Thank you, Mr. Editor, for a job well done! Your concerns and dedication and workmanship are deeply appreciated. What you have done for the Seminary and for the theological world at large will be

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an abiding inspiration.

May God grant you strength and wisdom as you continue your academic ministries on our faculty as **Professor of the Philosophy of Religion** and as **Chairman of the Division of Theological Studies.**■