

the weakly remembers...

GETTING THE BIBLICAL LIBRARY

To keep things in proper perspective, one must note that when Biblical began our Library was meagre indeed. During the summer of '71 when the formation of the school was announced, several Christian friends gave us books, most of which were excellent gifts and just right for our purposes. But the total number was, as you may think, somewhat smaller than we needed. We brought them carefully to the center room over the auditorium (in the present library) and placed them on a total of 6 long pine boards held up by a dozen concrete blocks. A baby could crawl around the whole collection in 5 seconds and a good reader could have read the whole thing in a day or so. The books were good and we appreciated them but they were only a start. In addition to these were the faculty libraries but they were limited in number and very stingily watched! One of our early detractors noted that it was "small but would grow but nobody had better want to read much in the meantime." At the same time our financial resources were less than enormous and it did look as if it might be some time until a good library could be amassed. At least we had no trouble staffing this one...one person could keep it in constantly good condition and have time to help in the other offices and fix dinner as well.

Word came to us that fall (1971) that the Biblical Seminary in New York was going to sell its library or at least a lot of books. Since we had no money we did not call immediately and make a giant offer. But we did think it wise to go and see the books and talk to the responsible person. Therefore, on a given day, Messrs Taylor, Dunzweiler, and Vannoy boarded a train to New York City and went to see the books at New York Theological. We speculated on the character, etc., of the transaction on the way up and none of us, I think, dared to believe the trip would be more than a pleasant lark. Leaving the train in New York we walked to the seminary