

cutting through 42nd street and the many "adult" operations conducted along that strip. Moving swiftly like the three Confucian monkeys, we made our way to the school and obtained the needed interview with the President, Dr. Webber.

WE were informed that most of the theology classes at NYT were being assumed at Union Theological and hence the large Biblical Library was not needed. As it occupied two floors of the Seminary complex, the management had decided to sell 90% of it and rent those floors for more profitable use. Dr. Webber explained to us that the sale was in the interest of stewardship and that they were not just interested in money but in where the books would do the most good--and where their critical alumni could be satisfied that their years of giving had not been in vain. We all nodded at the right times and explained to the president why we were forming the new school (and why we could not just buy his entire building and operate in New York) and then we toured the Library taking several hours to study the collection. We were impressed and, as the Library had not been much used or much dusted, were also covered with dust. We all noted books of special interest, walked back to the train and returned home elated, excited, but a bit doubtful.

Our doubts were enlarged when someone "in the know" assured us that the library had been privately sold and the 40,000 books were going out west. It seemed that there was no need to pursue the matter. But a lot of prayer was offered and the officials at Biblical decided to follow things as far as they could. Through a friend of Dr. MacRae's at Gordon it was learned that Gordon-Conwell was interested in some of the books but not in the whole library...they had plenty of books but were looking for non-duplicates. Furthermore, they had funding and were willing to enter into a purchasing venture; they would put up the initial funds, buy the books and take the non-duplicates. We would have the other books and repay them on a scheduled arrangement. It was estimated we would receive about 34,000 books, theologically selected and "ready to go."