

The Weakly remembers....

THE TOO-SHORT PRESIDENCY OF G. AIKEN TAYLOR

It is hard to imagine the force of impact that Dr. Taylor made on the life of Biblical Seminary in the few short months he was enabled to be with us. His passing was a great loss to the Editor as well as to the entire institution and the church at large. But he touched our lives for good and that is how we remember him and his ministry.

In the course of last summer it was reported to the Editor that Dr. Taylor was considering the Biblical presidency, or the presidency was considering him, or whatever. The Editor had never met him but had read many of his editorials through the years. He saw in them a strong touch of satire (often), a sense of humor (very often) and a great commitment (all the time). But having worked so long in a continuous situation, it was not easy to know how to feel in advance about the coming of a new president. Perhaps one would have to say the Editor was noncommittal at best, maybe indifferent at worst. He wanted to wait and see for many times hopes and aspirations as well as fears and doubts do not work out the way people think they will. He waited.

He met Dr. Taylor early one morning at the Seminary on the day the whole faculty was due to talk to the presidential candidate. The Editor quickly felt his warmth as discussion was offered on "Old Taylors" both had known and in about five minutes the Editor was fervently hoping he would get to work with this man. Eventually the faculty gathered and plied Dr. Taylor with numerous questions of concern. Many of them look rather small today but at the time they were affairs close to our thinking and we were anxious to see how a new president would regard them. He treated all matters' with proper sobriety and responded openly and wisely. His treatment of the questioners and their matters was marked with consideration and calm. The Editor does not know how Dr. Taylor felt about the occasion but