



# The ILIFF Reporter

DENVER, COLORADO

VOLUME 19, NUMBER 1

JULY 31, 1966

## ILIFF'S SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

The Iliff School of Theology began its celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding with the June Commencement.

Dr. William H. Bernhardt, Professor and Academic Dean Emeritus, gave the Commencement Address. Speaking on the theme, "The Iliff Heritage and Your Future", he linked the past and its contributions to the present graduate who faces the unknown path before him.

Twenty-five students were graduated during the exercises. Twenty-one received the Bachelor of Divinity degree; the Master of Religious Education Degree was awarded to one; one received the Master of Sacred Theology; and two were awarded the Doctor of Theology Degree.

Mr. Ralph B. Mayo, President of the Board of Trustees, gave a very fitting tribute to the late Miss Louise Iliff.

The Charge to the students was given by Bishop R. Marvin Stuart, presiding Bishop of the Denver Area and Trustee of the School.

The next day, the Board of Trustees held their annual meeting. Beginning with a luncheon meeting at noon for the Anniversary Committee, (Mr. R. S. Doenges, Chairman), a visit followed to the home of the late Miss Louise Iliff to inspect this gift to the School through her Will.

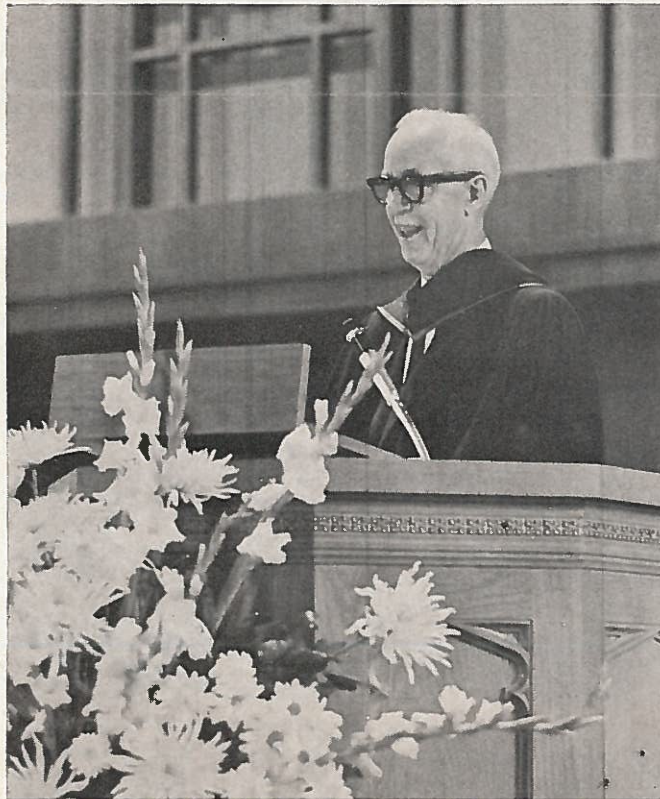
The annual meeting also contained a brief, but most fitting, Memorial Service which was presented by the trustees—The Reverend Richard E. Halbert, The Reverend Ben H. Christner, The Reverend Rufus C. Baker; Mr. S. Arthur Henry and President Mayo.

At the meeting various items of business were discussed, including the finishing of the second floor of the Ira J. Taylor Library, the completion of the renovation of Iliff Hall, and a tentative program for the anniversary year.

It was announced at the meeting that Iliff was the residuary legatee of the Will of Miss Louise Iliff. She who had been most generous through her lifetime now was remembering the School with a large bequest.

Dr. Bernhardt also addressed the dinner meeting which followed for the Trustees and their wives or husbands. He pointed out the future path which theological education must take in order to be relevant to needs of the world and of the Church.

Dr. Bernhardt before his retirement had served Iliff as one of its ablest professors for nearly one-half of its history. Several times he was called upon to be its interim president and during his last years, he served as academic dean of the School. He certainly was the one to help start the celebration of Iliff's year of observance and its dedication to the task of theological education.



Dr. Bernhardt in the pulpit of the University Park Methodist Church giving the main address at the June Commencement opening the year of anniversary.

## Miss Louise Iliff Passes Away In Her Ninety-first Year

Miss Louise Iliff, one of the four founders of The Iliff School of Theology, passed away at her home, Fitzroy Place, on Thursday, April 21, 1966. She suffered a broken hip on Easter Sunday, 1965, but had sufficiently recovered to walk with a crutch and often with a cane. However, other complications began to appear and she slowly lost her strength and was bedfast for several months before her death. Though nearly blind and very hard of hearing, she kept her other faculties almost until the hour of her passing.

Born in Denver, August 15, 1875, of John Wesley and Elizabeth Fraser Iliff, she had lived her entire life here. Graduated from the University of Denver in 1915 with the degree, A.B., she had travelled with her mother and her stepfather, Bishop Henry White Warren, around the world several times.

When The Iliff School of Theology was founded in 1892 and her stepbrother, William S. Iliff, gave the first building, she, with her mother, provided the beautiful Chapel and she herself gave the Chancel and its furnishings. It was her special interest to see that the Chapel was always refurbished and made the lovely place it has always been for worship and meditation.

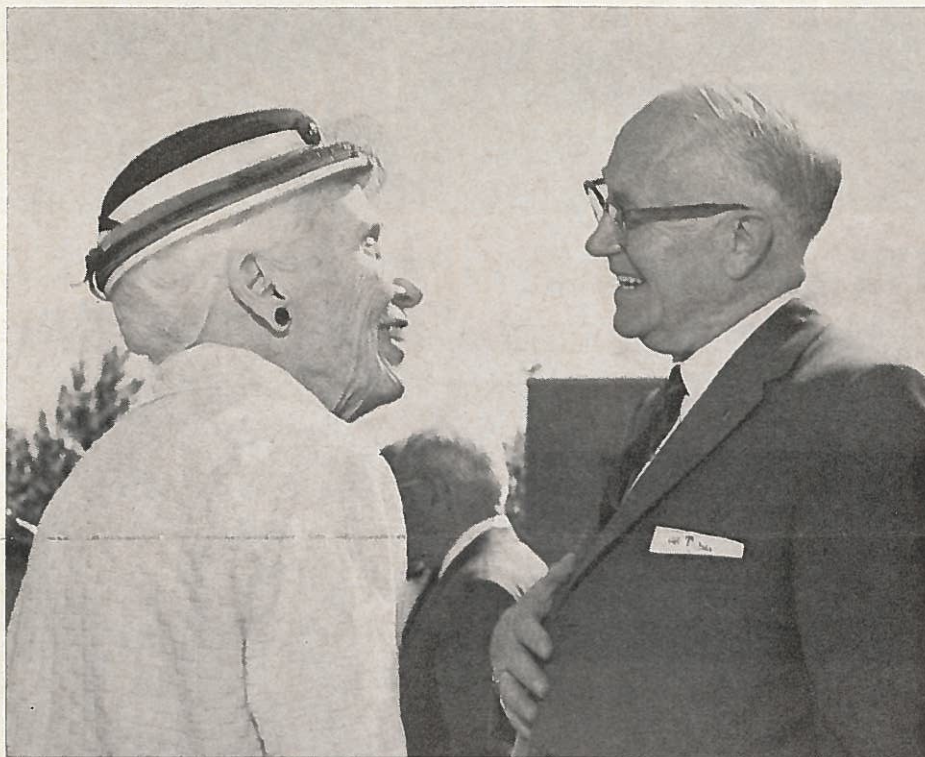
She had been a member of Trinity Methodist Church, later of Grace Methodist Church, and in 1913 when Capitol Hill Church was merged with the Warren Chapel to become Warren Memorial Methodist Church, she transferred her membership there. In addition, she was vitally interested in the University Park Methodist Church and gave generously to several building programs.

However, she always said that her first and dearest interest was in the School she helped to found. She served as trustee from 1913 to her death. She was a member of the Executive Committee and was Auditor of the School during many years. She was also a member of many of its important committees and always was ready to serve in varied capacities.

She knew the faculty over the years and often entertained them in her home. The staff, the student body,

(Continued on page 2)





One of the last pictures taken of Miss Iliff was at the ground-breaking ceremony of Schlessman Hall in August, 1962. She is shown talking to Bishop Donald H. Tippet of San Francisco Area, an Iliff alumnus, Trustee, and a long time friend of hers. Her wonderful glowing smile has been captured by the camera.

## A Tribute To LOUISE ILIFF Trustees Memorial Service

June 10, 1966

Great institutions do not just happen. We have them because someone cared. Cared enough to devote themselves to its establishment.

It has been my deep personal privilege to have worked closely and intimately with Louise Iliff in her active, intense and devoted attention to the operation of The Iliff School of Theology and, also, in her personal affairs. It has been a rich and rewarding experience. She was truly a great woman. Throughout her long life she gave generously of her time, thought, effort and leadership to Iliff School. She was a trustee for 63 years and served as an officer and as a member of every committee at some time during that long history. She helped her family to build this Iliff Hall in 1892 and gave generously during almost every year since. She helped in every special project and was an inspiration to us all in every campaign, of which there have been many.

She always stood for the highest and best as we made plans for the future. Also, she was exacting in re-assuring accurate reports on progress. It was good discipline for all of us, especially officers, faculty and staff.

Louise Iliff has made the greatest contribution in our history to the development of Iliff School to its present high standing in the field of theological education and by the provisions of her Will to its future growth and quality attainments. What she has done during her lifetime for the good of others will bless humanity for generations to come. We thank God for people who care and for Louise Iliff.

A memorial tribute to Miss Louise Iliff was presented to the Association of Methodist Theological Schools at their May meeting:

Miss Louise Iliff died on April 21, 1966, in her ninety-first year. She had been a co-founder of The Iliff School of Theology in 1892, and a member of the Board of Trustee since its incorporation as a separate institution in 1902. Her vital interest in The Iliff School was reflected in her years as Auditor and her work on every committee of the Board during these more than seventy years. She had lived for the school and knew intimately the faculty, the staff, and the student body over the years. While we are grateful for her release from great pain and suffering, yet Iliff and Methodism has lost an exemplary patroness of theological education in the giving of her time, talents, and possessions. We would give thanks to God for her spirit and her life which was fully devoted to the training of the ministry.

## Memorial Resolution for LOUISE ILIFF

June 10, 1966

Louise Iliff was the last survivor of the Iliff family group whose interest and generous financial support enabled the construction and furnishing of Iliff Hall and its opening in September of 1892.

She served continuously as a member of the Board of Trustees from its inception. Until prevented by illness in recent years, she participated in every area of the School's activities. She served as auditor of the School and, over the years, participated as a member of almost all of the important committees, including the Executive Committee.

Until her death at Denver, Colorado, on April 21, 1966, in her ninety-first year, her interest and concern for the welfare of the School, its faculty and its students never wavered.

As in her lifetime she generously supported the School in its financial needs, so in death did she remember the School she helped to found and loved so dearly; and through her generosity the School will receive by far the largest single gift in its entire history.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE TRUSTEES OF THE ILIFF SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY assembled here in our annual meeting, do hereby express unanimously our appreciation for the life and works of Louise Iliff which are so closely interwoven with the very fabric of this School.

Her simplicity, her always youthful and optimistic encouragement of the finest purposes of this School and her dedicated Christian stewardship of its welfare and advancement will never be forgotten.

Daughter of pioneers, resolute in her faith and purpose and sure in her conviction that this School would increasingly fulfill its mission of supplying enlightened leadership for the Church in a troubled world, her life and dedication to this School will stand as an enduring inspiration to us and our successors.

### MISS LOUISE ILIFF —

(Continued from page 1)

and the alumni were known to her and she was always interested in them. We marvelled at her grasp of the various affairs of the School and she never lost her keen interest in every part of the School's life. Her quiet, kindly way of helping the School to grow and develop will always be appreciated by all who worked with her. She was truly a gracious patroness of the School and of the training of young men for the Christian ministry.





JUNE, 1966, GRADUATES

Front Row: L.R.—Neil Warner Snarr, Andrew Thomas Cappas, Karen Nelson Wright, Richard Milo Davis, Alfred Carl Schaeffer Fletcher Draper Wideman, Byron Davis Myrick, Edward Theodore Cobo, Micahel George Strayer, Gordon Thomas Knuckey, Roger Lee Casteel, William Boyd Littrell Paul Ronald Peel. Second Row: L.R.—Saul Herrera, Charles Donald Gilbert, Samuel Sung Bae Son, Harold John Sutton, Jr., LeRoy Benjamin Lewis, James Dell Keith, Ronald Ray Hodges, Kent Marvin Savage. Not shown—Donald Overton Callen, William Spiller Milton, Byron Davis Myrick, Roger William Weeks.



FACULTY PRESENT AT COMMENCEMENT

L.R.—Dr. William H. Bernhardt, Professor and Academic Dean Emeritus; Dr. Dan D. Rhoades, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics; Professor H. Gordon Van Sickle, Associate Professor of Christian History and Missions; Dr. John M. Vayhinger Professor of Psychology of Religion and Pastoral Counseling; Dr. Charles S. Milligan, Professor of Philosophy of Religion; Dr. Walter G. Williams, Professor of Old Testament Literature and Religion; Dr. Martin Rist, Professor of New Testament and Christian History; Dr. Clarence H. Snelling, Associate Professor of Christian Education; President Lowell B. Swan.

## In Memoriam

**Harold Lincoln Engdahl** (ThM '40) passed away on December 15, 1965, of a heart attack. He was pastor of the Grace Methodist Church of Yuba

City, California, at the time of his death. Most of his ministry had been in Montana, but he moved to the California-Nevada Conference in 1952. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Betty, and his family.

The Trustees, Faculty, and Administration are happy to announce the reinstatement of the degree nomenclature, Master of Theology (Th.M.) in place of the Bachelor of Divinity (B.D.)

This will be effective with the August Commencement, 1966 (August 25). It is also retroactive for those who desire to change their degree from B.D. to Th.M. A new diploma can be obtained for a fee of five dollars.

It is further recognized that it will be proper for the B.D. recipients to use the Th.M. terminology if they so desire.

Inquiries should be made to the Registrar, The Iliff School of Theology.



DAN TOHLINE

This picture was taken in Baltimore at the Bi-Centennial of Methodism in America. Dan rode 1350 miles, traveling for 46 days, averaging about 40 miles per day. He preached four times each day and reported 37 first decisions for Christ and 2310 rededications along the journey.

## Future Iliffians—

**Lisa Lynn Petersen** was born to Iris and David Petersen, April 22, 1966, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Crystal Rae Wheat** came to gladden the home of Frances and George Wheat, May 22, 1966.

**Debra Renee Fairchild** was born to Deloris and Donald Fairchild, May 4, 1966, in Denver, Colorado.

**Allison Bennanzar** arrived on May 29, 1966, to Charla and Tom Bennanzar, in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

**Cecilia Katherine Anderson** was born to the Reverend and Mrs. Philip R. Anderson, June 27, 1966, in Kumasi, Ghana.

**Michael Chrysostom Davidson** was born to Colene and Richard Eugene Davidson, July 8, 1966, in Denver, Colorado.

**Clarence H. Snelling, Jr.**, Associate Professor of Christian Education, received his Doctor of Philosophy Degree from Drew University at its May 29th Commencement. Our special congratulations to him.

**Dr. Edward F. Manthei** was elected President of the Chicago Theological Seminary recently. While pastor of the First Plymouth Church, United Church of Christ, Denver, he has been a visiting professor at Iliff in the field of preaching.

As head of this 111 year old seminary of the United Church of Christ, he will be responsible for leading that distinguished school in training men for the ministry in many denominations. We extend to him our best wishes.

Dr. Manthei will give the address at the Summer Commencement at Iliff before he leaves to take up his duties at Chicago.



## ALUMNI NOTES

**Philip R. Anderson** (BD '65) is teaching at Wesley College, Kumasi, Ghana.

**Robert Gordon** (ThM '45) was appointed as a District Superintendent in the Central Kansas Conference at its June session. His address is Box 1116, Dodge City, Kansas 67801.

**Edward Bradley Lewis** (ThM '48),

pastor of the Capitol Hill Methodist Church, Washington, D. C., will be soon presiding at consecration services for a beautiful new edifice located at Fifth and Seward Square.

**Newton W. Klooze** (p '47) helped to break ground for a new church building for the Faith United Church of Christ in St. Joseph, Missouri, of which he is the pastor, April 15, 1966.

**Walter B. Lunsford** (BD '62) was

appointed pastor of the Bethany Methodist Evangelical United Brethren Church in Highland Park, Illinois. This is one of the first United Churches, anticipating the merger of the Methodist and the Evangelical United Brethren denominations.

**Dr. Joseph A. Johnson Jr.** (ThM '43, ThD '45) of Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee, was elected the thirty-fourth Bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church on May 13, 1966.

**Archie T. Roberts** (BD '62) is serving as Chaplain, 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, in Viet Nam. His APO address is APO, San Francisco, California, 96345.

**Calvin D. McConnell** (ThM '45) was awarded a Danforth Foundation Grant for the Campus Ministry and will be studying in the field of counseling and the psychology of religion at Andover Newton Theological School. His wife, Mary, will be studying for her Master's Degree in counseling and guidance at Haward Graduate School of Education.

**Richard L. Phillips** (BD '60) was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Religion and Philosophy of Baker University, Baldwin City, Kansas. He will also be teaching this summer at Chautauqua Institute in the field of Religious Education.

**J. Otis Erwin** (MRE '53) has been awarded one of five Baker Award Scholarships from the Board of Education. These are given yearly in honor of Bishop James C. Baker who organized the first Wesley Foundation at the University of Illinois.

**William S. Sparks** (ThM '55, ThD '57) has been appointed the Associate Librarian at Saint Paul School of Theology at Kansas City, Missouri. Dr. Sparks taught Hebrew at Iliff from 1954 to 1960.

**Dan Tohline** (ThM '59) has been appointed pastor of Elysian Fields Methodist Church, New Orleans, Louisiana (see photo on page 3).

**William H. Ritchey** (ThM '43) superintendent of the Walla Walla District of the Pacific Northwest Conference, has been named executive secretary on a part time basis of the re-structured Conference Council.



NOTABLES AT JUNE COMMENCEMENT

L.R.—Dr. David Carl Davidson, Pastor, University Park Church; Bishop R. Marvin Stuart, who gave the Charge to the Class; Dr. Bernhardt, Dean Emeritus; Mr. Ralph B. Mayo, President Board of Trustees, who gave tribute to Miss Iliff.



Doctor of Theology, Master of Sacred Theology and Master of Religious Education Graduates. L.R.—Paul Ronald Peel, STM; Neil Warner Snarr, Th.D.; Andrew Thomas Capps, Th.D.; and Karen Nelson Wright, M.R.E.

From

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