Chapter 4

THE INTERIM (1890–93)

When the College opened in 1870 President Bomberger was fifty-three years old. In the twenty years of his administration he was indisputably the leader as well as inspirer of the College and all its activities that it would have been hard for anyone to think of “Dr. Bomberger’s College” without Dr. Bomberger. Though successive photographs show the toll that time and the unremitting demands of his office took on him, there appears to have been no thought of his administration ending or of a successor being chosen until his death on August 19, 1890, after an illness of two weeks, made change inescapable.

In a special meeting of the Executive Committee held on the afternoon of his funeral on August 23, the Committee, after recording in a minute its personal tribute to Dr. Bomberger’s character and service, resolved that Vice-president Super be requested and empowered to discharge the duties and perform the functions of the presidency until a successor should be chosen. This action covered only administrative duties, for Dr. Bomberger’s college teaching was assigned to Professor Moses Peters, his theological teaching to Professor James I. Good, and his lecturing on education to Professor Alcide Reichenbach. The Committee also decided at this meeting that the building soon to be erected should be called Bomberger Memorial Hall.

The choice as acting president of Dr. Super, who was now sixty-six years old, was obvious and natural. Vice-president from the opening of the College, he had been Dr. Bomberger’s closest associate, ably seconding him and acting as president during his trip abroad and his work as a roving financial agent for Ursinus in 1883–4. Though Dr. Super was not a member of the Board of Directors, he was as intimately acquainted with the condition and problems of the College as anyone outside the Board could be and probably far better informed than many of the directors. A little later, to strengthen the administration particularly on the financial side, with which Dr. Super had apparently had little to do, at least in soliciting for gifts, the Executive Committee requested Rev. Henry T. Spangler ’73 to give up the pastorate of St. Luke’s Church in Trappe and become full-time financial agent for Ursinus. Dr. Spangler accepted, and in November rented and occupied
Dr. Henry William Super, Vice-president from the opening of the College, was named its acting President in 1890 and second President in 1891.

Dr. John H. A. Bomberger was 53 when the College opened in 1870. He served as President until his death in 1890.

Zwinglihof, which the College bought from the former president’s widow. He was also elected professor of psychology in 1891.

So Dr. Super was acting president during the academic year of 1890–91. A possible hint that the situation for him as the heir-apparent was not entirely cloudless, or that there were those who wished some one else to be at the helm, is found in the request made by the Executive Committee in May, 1891 that the Faculty be asked to express their “wishes and preference as to who should be the next president.” After two weeks the Faculty replied that they were not obligated by the laws of the College to thus commit themselves, and refused to do so. At the annual meeting of the Board on June 23 it was voted to defer electing a president until the next annual meeting, that is, June of 1892, “unless found practicable to fill the position earlier.”

Dr. Super apparently interpreted this action as being by implication a criticism of his administration and resigned all his posts in the College. The Board immediately appointed a committee to reason with him, but he refused to withdraw his resignation, and at a special meeting on July 9, at which he made a statement of the reasons for his decision (the statement is not quoted or summarized in the Board minutes), a motion was passed that he be requested to withdraw his resignation, be relieved of his college teaching, and be elected professor of Homiletics and Church
History in the Theological Department. This motion was communicated to him during the meeting (though acting president he had not been elected to the Board), but he did not reply.

According to his biography, Dr. Super had resigned “presumably for reasons of ill health.” Yet Heidelberg University in Tiffin elected him to the chair of New Testament Exegesis in the Seminary there. When he refused this offer, but not apparently because of his health, whatever wheels were turning revolved a little more, and at the next meeting of the Board (July 21) Dr. Super’s resignation was accepted and Dr. George W. Williard was elected acting president. At the same time the office of Dean of the Theological Department was created, although there was as yet no dean for the College, and Dr. James I. Good was named to the post.

Considering how small the total faculty in the three parts of the institution was and that several of the teachers had duties in two of the three, the need for a dean for one part or another would not seem to have been pressing, unless this was a means of dividing the multiple responsibilities which President Bomberger had so capably filled but which another man who did not command the same obedience or have the same energy might find too onerous.

Dr. Williard had joined the faculty in the fall of 1890 as professor of Apologetics in the Theological Department. A warm and staunch supporter for many years of the low church party, he had recently retired from the presidency of Heidelberg University, an office he held for twenty-four years. He was a long time contributor to the Christian World and was the author of an English translation of The Commentary of Dr. Zacharias Ursinus on the Heidelberg Catechism, which by 1888 was in its fourth American edition. After coming to Ursinus, he accepted also, in 1891, the task of supervising the “ladies boarding hall” established in the house later to be called Olevian Hall, the first dormitory for women.

Obviously a veteran administrator but equally obviously a stop-gap choice (at the time of his election he was seventy-three), Dr. Williard accepted the office of acting president at a salary of $1,500 a year, of which he returned one-third to the College as a gift. But equilibrium had not been established. Uneasiness and a certain degree of discontent were reflected by the resignation of three faculty members, two of whom shortly withdrew their resignations. And a feeling that Dr. Super was necessary to the continuing progress of the College, or that he had been treated less than fairly, showed in an overture made to him on March 29 to resume his connection with the College.

Dr. Super’s reply on May 31 to the Board deserves quotation. After recounting his long and faithful collaboration with Dr. Bomberger, he writes:

I resigned my position because I could no longer agree with many measures passed by the Executive Committee. At your annual meeting last June my name was brought forward without my solicitation in connection with the presidency. Charges were then made against me highly derogatory to my character as the presiding officer of the College. The refusal of the Board to elect a president was the result of these charges and virtually supported them.
Under the circumstances nothing was left to me except to resign. I resigned not because I loved the College less, but because my usefulness was at an end.

And he added “I have no ambition for further work; no regrets for the past; no requests from the Board.” In answer to this statement by Dr. Super, the Executive Committee simply recorded “the fact that at the Annual Meeting of the Board last June, the question of electing a President for the College was simply deferred, and that no charges were there made against him, as the statement asserts.”

The Board records are discreet, and as all those concerned are long since dead, conjecture as to what was happening under the surface can only be conjecture. The tension, for clearly there was tension, may simply have been the result of strong minds refusing to compromise on administrative decisions. Perhaps Dr. Super, still the loyal lieutenant, felt himself not in sympathy with the steps toward modernization and liberalization of the academic and extra-curricular life of the College which had begun at the end of the last administration and were now becoming a reality. Other possible factors might be adumbrated. In any event, the Board at its annual meeting on June 21 offered Dr. Super the presidency, which he accepted the next day.

At the same session the Board resolved “that the election of Deans to the several Faculties be deferred until the Fall meeting and that the Secretary be instructed to notify each Faculty that it nominate one person from among its members for the office of Dean.” No establishment of any deanship except of the Theological Department was authorized in earlier meetings of the Board, so that this action, creating in a sense unnecessary administrative officers in a very small faculty (nineteen in 1892-3, including part-time instructors in music and penmanship in the Academy), seems to imply that no one, certainly not Dr. Super, could do all that Dr. Bomberger had done, or that a considerable expansion of the College was being planned for, or that maneuvering for power was going on.

On June 28 J. Shelly Weinberger was elected Dean of the College, on the recommendation of the faculty. He was its senior member, having taught classical languages in Freeland Seminary for ten years before Ursinus began collegiate work, and was also important as a member of the building committee for Bomberger Hall. He served as dean until 1903, when, the oldest member of the faculty, he retired as professor and dean, and was succeeded by one of its youngest members, George Leslie Omwake ‘98.

At the winter meeting of the Board on January 17, 1893, Professor Spangler resigned as financial agent because of “a construction put upon such relations, which construction holds me responsible for the entire financial situation of the College.” His decision is hard to interpret, for by his own report presented at this meeting the College had received during the last seven years $87,171, far more than in all the earlier years of its existence. Apparently, despite the generosity of Robert Patterson, expansion of the College’s program and faculty and the always underes-
timated costs of building were producing financial strain. At this same meeting
President Super recommended

That in view of the strong competition in tuition from Franklin and Marshall and other
Colleges Four-year Scholarships be sold for one hundred dollars, and that efforts be made
to reduce the teaching force in all departments of the Institution.

The second recommendation was obvious, one of the first ways to tighten the belt. The first was a recourse to a losing venture that, as was said earlier, many colleges in
the nineteenth century tried to their sorrow. What it meant was an exchange of
$192 in tuition fees over a four year period for $100 in ready cash for the College
treasury. What is more, if a student did not attend for four years he could transfer
his scholarship credit balance to someone else. In 1895-6 the cost of these scholar­
ships was increased to $150, but tuition also increased, to $60 a year. A year later,
and none too soon, the system was abolished.

On April 19, 1893 Robert Patterson died. Generous in his lifetime he was even
time generous in death, for by his will Ursinus was bequeathed $10,000 to clear
part of its indebtedness and an endowment fund of $150,000 in trust. The total of
his gifts while living, for the general benefit of the College and for the building of
Bomberger Hall, was $51,400. This munificence ensured the survival of the Col­
lege, but it did not eliminate current money problems. What was most needed was
a young, vigorous administrator who could find other benefactors.

Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia, was
the College’s first generous benefactor. His gifts while living, for the general
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$51,400. On his death an endowment
of $150,000 ensured the survival of the
College.
The interim administration was soon to end. A committee of the Board appointed to improve economical operation recommended

That under the Presidency of the College, be combined the office of teacher of such studies as usually pertain to such position; the direction of the affairs of the Institution; the keeping in touch with the outside world and with prospective students; the visiting of the Churches and keeping the needs of the Institution, as well as its advantages, prominently before the Church and patrons, and also the collection of funds with which to carry on the work.

For this budget of duties the president was to be paid $1,200 a year plus traveling expenses and 10% of the funds collected by him, this commission not to exceed $600 in any year. President Super, never a robust man and now sixty-nine, was "unwilling and unable to bear the double burden of presidency and financial agency" and resigned at this meeting, ending a career of forty-two years in the ministry and education. His decision was undoubtedly correct, for he died little over four years later, on November 26, 1897. That whatever differences he may have had with his associates on the faculty and on the Board had no effect on his love for Ursinus is shown by his bequeathing to the College, pending the death of his wife, his home, Superhouse. And she in turn bequeathed an endowment fund of $20,500 to support a professorship of Church History. That he gave long and valuable service to his students, the College, and the Church is implicit in the history thus far recounted. He was the second of the grand old men of Ursinus.

At the same meeting of the Board at which President Super resigned, Professor Spangler resigned his professorship, and his resignation was accepted. A letter from seven members of the faculty was read "expressing the hope that the Board will not under any circumstances allow Professor H. T. Spangler to sever his connection with the institution." The Board then passed a resolution of thanks to Dr. Super without any reference to his presidency and immediately proceeded to elect Dr. Spangler, by a unanimous vote, the third president of Ursinus. Thus the interim ended and the second major administration began.

The remarkable aspect of these interim years is the degree to which liberalization and modernization took place even before the beginning of President Spangler's administration. Some of these changes can best be recorded in the next chapter. The single outstanding event of 1890–93 was the erection of Bomberger Memorial Hall. As has been pointed out, enrollment rose in the late 1880's, making uncomfortably clear how over-taxed and inadequate the college buildings were. Although many of the academy students and some of the college students lived in the village or nearby and thus did not occupy dormitory space or crowd the dining room, those who were residents filled every corner. In March of 1890 a petition was presented to the faculty, asking for a gymnasium, to which no answer could be given because there were no funds available. The eating clubs were a mitigation of the dining room problem. In 1887 by a change in college rules students were allowed to board with families in the town subject to faculty approval. The chapel in
the East Wing had long been too small for the annual meetings of the literary societies or commencement festivities.

In March of 1890 President Bomberger and one of the directors decided to approach Robert Patterson, Ursinus' "best friend", as the first step to getting a building which they estimated might cost $50,000. They suggested that he give the total cost. After mulling the idea over for some weeks Mr. Patterson proposed to the President and the Board that he would give half the estimated cost if $25,000 could be raised from other gifts. The Board constituted itself a committee of the whole to meet this condition of Mr. Patterson's offer, appointing Frank M. Hobson, the treasurer, Professor J. Shelly Weinberger, and Rev. Henry T. Spangler as the organizers. They were also appointed a resident subcommittee of the Building Committee, which included Mr. Patterson, Dr. Bomberger, Henry W. Kratz, the president of the Board, and Albert Bromer. Mr. Hobson was named local superintendent, or clerk of the works.

On the afternoon of Commencement Day, June 26, 1890, the committee discussed the site, dimensions, and style of the proposed building, and later that day the sub-committee worked out the general plan of it on the basis of suggestions by H. T. Spangler. Less than two months later Dr. Bomberger's death prompted the naming of the building in his memory.

The architect, Frank R. Watson, of Philadelphia, was chosen on January 20, 1891. Together with members of the committee he visited most of the nearby campuses, including Princeton, Pennsylvania, Lehigh, Lafayette, and the suburban colleges of Philadelphia. The plans were approved on March 31, bids were advertised, and on April 22 the contract for the "naked building" was given to Burd P. Evans of Germantown at his bid of $44,500, either the lowest or the most acceptable of the fifteen bids received. The ground-breaking ceremony was held that same day, the ceremonial shovelful of earth being lifted appropriately by Robert Patterson, who in his remarks, typically brief and pithy, told how when a young man he had worked as a plasterer on the present college buildings and said that he would "engage in this new work for the same cause with peculiar satisfaction." To do it he took off his coat as an example to those who were to work in the new enterprise, whether as manual laborers or otherwise.

The cornerstone was laid on Commencement Day, June 25, and construction proceeded with great rapidity. By mid-November almost all the masonry, of Pennsylvania blue marble from quarries near King of Prussia, was complete except the tower. Within thirteen months all was completed except the installation of the stained glass windows, the "opera chairs" for the chapel, and the gas fixtures. Meanwhile construction was begun for the boilerhouse which was to supply the new building and the old ones with heat and water, and for the standpipe, the vertical water tank which was a campus landmark until 1937, when it was demolished. The boilerhouse, housing also for years the campus postoffice and store, was razed in May, 1966.

Fourteen months and a day after ground breaking Bomberger Memorial Hall
Bomberger Memorial Hall, as envisioned by an artist, was built to ease the crowding of college buildings and provide modern facilities. Opened in 1892, it cost $62,000.

was dedicated, on Commencement afternoon, June 23, 1892. Senator Wayne McVeagh, who was to have been the principal attraction, was prevented from attending. Characteristically brief and direct were Mr. Patterson's remarks. He said he was glad to do what he had done and that he would be happy when the building was all paid for:

I can only say that it will be a great source of satisfaction to me if when this building is completed we can comply with all the contracts and can say that it is all paid for and stands as a monument to all those who have contributed, and to the generations to come that will be benefited through its educational influences. I am not a public speaker and have never had any practice in that direction. If you will excuse me with these few remarks I will hand to Dr. Williard the keys of the building, and hope it will be a momento that may stand here for your children and grandchildren, of which I have none.

Mr. and Mrs. Patterson had had six children, all of whom died in infancy.

His remarks about the cost were to the point. With its ornamentation and adjunct structures and landscaping Bomberger Hall cost $62,000. This included such items as $81 for carving and ornamental plaster, $90 for pulpit furniture, $1,575 for a gas machine, and $117.75 for lightning rods. But it was well worth it, for the new building not only gave quarters for instruction which seemed to the college community in 1892 handsomely spacious, but it opened the way for a badly needed
renovation of the old buildings, including the installation of steam heat and toilet rooms.

The Romanesque exterior of Bomberger Hall and the somewhat utilitarian interior are familiar to every alumnus. What may be of interest are the arrangements and use of it in 1892. The basement was left unfinished except for the washrooms. The chapel was entirely enclosed on both first and second floors by stained glass screens and doors. The arch over the platform was empty until the Charles Heber Clark memorial organ was installed in 1916. The large room in the east corner (Room 7, now 107) housed the library. After 1896 Room 6 (106) was used for the library collection also, connecting to the larger room by a door eliminated in 1923. What is now the academic dean’s office was the president’s office. The large rooms (not then subdivided) on the north and east corners of the second floor were the chemistry and physics laboratories respectively, and the latter remained a laboratory until Pfahler Hall was built in 1932. There was no provision in 1892 for a biology laboratory, but it was placed in the north corner of the first floor (Rooms 3 and 4, or 103 and 104) in 1895. The two large third floor rooms were the halls of the literary societies, Zwing in the west and Schaff in the east. The back room on the third
floor was variously called a museum room or art room. Some other rooms were assigned to the YMCA and to the coeds for a study hall, but these uses did not remain exclusive for long.

The only change from the original planning of the structure was in the tower, which was to have been 108 feet high but to lower costs was reduced to 97 feet. It was to have housed a clock and chimes. These also were sacrificed in the interests of economy. Early drawings of the building show these anticipated but unrealized features.

The only other major physical change in the campus during these years was the acquisition in 1891 of the Mahlon Fulton property directly west of the campus. It comprised a Victorian frame house built in 1860 by the Rev. Henry A. Hunsicker, a barn and outbuildings and twenty acres of land. The College purchased the property at a cost of $9,000 (less a donation of $500 by Mr. Fulton). More than the land, though this was a welcome addition to the campus, the Board wanted the house, to be used as the "Ladies Boarding Hall." Professor Williard and his wife were the first "principals" of this, the first women's dormitory. The catalog for

Olevian Hall, purchased in 1891 as the "Ladies Boarding Hall," was the first women's dormitory. It was razed in 1931 to build Pfahler Hall of Science.
1890–1 describes it as having sixteen rooms, but this was an error. The house could accommodate that many students. In 1896 it was given the name Olevian Hall and as such it flourished until it was razed in 1931 to clear the site for Pfahler Hall. The coeds housed in the Ladies Boarding Hall were very strictly supervised, and by students of both sexes it was soon called the “nunnery.”

In creature comforts the girls of Olevian were probably better off than the boys in the old dormitories, for whom, before the renovations of 1893, the accommodations were basic. This is shown by the statements in catalogs of the time. The College furnished a double bed, a mattress and two pillows, a wardrobe, a wash stand, a table, two chairs, a stove and necessary pipe. The occupants of each room were required to provide “their own carpet, wash-basin and pitcher, waste water bucket, coal scuttle, shovel and poker, broom and lamp.” But there were compensations in these spartan quarters. George Welsh, writing after steam heat had been installed, says “We are sure, unless the boys use oil stoves, that no professor could sit beside a stewing chicken all evening, as did the late Professor Ruby in a room in the ‘Dog House,’ and wonder where all the odor came from.” And the supply of water in each room, although it had to be carried up in a bucket, was a temptation to inundate passers-by beneath one’s window that was difficult to resist.

Other physical changes were slight. The wooden fence in front of the campus was removed in the spring of 1891, to leave the ground “open to the Turnpike.” Upon the completion of Bomberger Hall the basement of the East Wing (Derr Hall) was remodelled to serve as a gymnasium. And the first faint intrusion of modern mechanical equipment appears in the purchase of a “Typewriting instrument” for $40 (list price $100) in November of 1890. Our forefathers, happily or unhappily, never dreamed of automation and computers.

Curricular change is usually less spectacular than additions in stone and mortar, but without it a college stagnates. The innovations during the three years being examined continued the adjustment to changing needs and to larger faculty resources begun in Dr. Bomberger’s last years and prepared the way for the introduction of the Group System in 1894 under President Spangler. Sometimes the changes seemed tentative and uncertain. For example, in 1891 a course in literary criticism was introduced with the comment that a thorough knowledge of the processes of composition and the distinctive nature of the types of literature must precede “a possible criticism of any considerable portion of English Literature.” Yet this course was made an elective in the Classical Course and was not included, either as prescribed or elective, in the Literary Course. In the next year the Literary Course was extended to four years, but literary criticism was not required. The real addition in this enlargement was the introduction in the senior year of Pedagogy (no longer simple teaching), the several terms being devoted to “Its Sphere, its Principles, and its Methods,” “Child-training at Home and at School,” and “The Higher Education of Women.” Here in effect was the beginning of collegiate preparation for teaching which has been so important a part of the academic program at Ursinus to the present day.
The creation in turn of the Scientific Course, the Literary Course, and the Normal Course (in the Academic Department) was in part an effort to attract and cater to more students and thus increase the income of the struggling college. But it was more than that. It was a recognition of the fact that the fixed curriculum of the '70s was no longer suited to an age in which a college was called upon to educate its students for varied professions and occupations requiring specialized preparation. For example, in the early '80s an Ursinus graduate with one term each of zoology, physiology, and botany behind him was hardly equipped with a sufficient preparation in biology for medical school. The idea that the liberally educated bachelor of arts could be an intellectual Leonardo da Vinci and do anything, if it had ever been true, did not seem true now. Varying interests and the emerging demand for specialization required a change in academic patterns.

Response to this demand began to appear in 1892–3 when, in addition to the three four-year courses leading to the appropriate bachelor's degrees, two-year curricula were set up for students intending to enter the ministry, law, and medicine without completing college. At this time and for years after, it was possible to enter post-graduate study upon the completion of two or three years of college. Since these curricula embraced only the first two years, all courses in each of them were prescribed, as was true for all freshmen and sophomores. Incidentally, in that same year the individual courses were for the first time described, rostered, and grouped in departments: Language and Literature; Biblical Study; Philosophy, History, and National Economy; Mathematics and Natural Science.

The contending pressures of expansion of offerings and of necessary economy in operation were reflected in an action of the Board of Directors instructing the faculty to redesign the curriculum so as to reduce time required for teaching "either by grouping the subjects or by providing a flexible course leading to but one degree from which students may select studies according to their individual preferences."

The faculty later reported that it had reduced teaching time by twenty-three and a quarter hours in the Collegiate Department. In part this was done by distributing the courses taught by Professor Williard, who was aged and willing to retire, among the other professors. There were after his resignation twenty-one teachers (full and part-time) for a student body of 154, including eleven students of music only—a fine ratio in modern terms, but it must be remembered that this faculty was teaching a range of courses covering ten years, from the second year of high school to the last of theological seminary. And indeed there were resignations and threats of resignations from faculty members overworked in class contact hours. The actual implementation of the Board's directive to redesign the curriculum came a year later, as will be shown, and formed the pattern that continued for the next fifty years.

Enrollment during these years was a little lower than in the late '80s, 156 in 1890–1, 174 in 1891–2, 144 in 1893–4. These figures are the total enrollment; the numbers of college students for these same years were 67, 64, and 62. The academic department was no longer the largest part of the student body.
Campus life maintained its even tenor, with some signs of increasing extra-curricular activities. In 1890 Professor Nathan Balliet organized first a glee club (there had been one briefly under the aegis of Professor Hyde) and then an ocarina club. The college orchestra was revived under the leadership of I. C. Williams '89. A growing desire to do what other colleges were doing was responsible for the creation of “a very neat button with the college colors and the name ‘Ursinus’ upon it,” of the “latest pattern” and like those of Lafayette and Wesleyan.

The chief extra-curricular interest was athletics. Football came to Ursinus in a tentative guise in the fall of 1890. It was called “a recent bidder for popularity . . . . . , and the time accorded it has been given almost entirely to practical study of the rules and points of the game and training.” But no game was played with another college until 1893. Meanwhile, baseball flourished, and games were played in the spring of 1891 with Lehigh, Muhlenburg, P.M.C., Rutgers, West Chester, Dickinson, Swarthmore, and the University of Pennsylvania. Interest in the sport was serious enough to warrant the setting up of training rules for the squad, including “Abstinence from the use of tobacco in any form,” a reminder of the popularity of chewing tobacco with ball players in bygone years. It was not a winning season, but conditions were at least better than a year earlier when the players were each given a demerit for “going away on Saturday to play ball.”

Student enthusiasm for sports still outran that of the administration, but a softening of attitude can be found in the Executive Committee’s grant of $25 to the Athletic Association “to be used in leasing and repairing their baseball field.” Where this field was is not clear. The students felt it was a good one but “too far distant from the campus” and argued that better provision should be made because “many young men are influenced in their choice of their Alma Mater by the character of her provision for athletic sports.” The cogency of one or both of these opinions was felt, for in the next year (1892) the college authorities rented from Dr. James Hamer a plot of ground four hundred and fifty feet square “immediately adjoining the college campus” on which a baseball diamond and, it was hoped, tennis courts would be laid out. New uniforms were ordered and a schedule of fifteen games, most of them not with other colleges, was arranged. Not all of these were played, several being cancelled, and apparently one collegiate opponent chickened out.

Baseball, thus, was firmly established, but this did not satisfy the desires of some students, for in November of 1892 appeared this evidence of discontent: “The lack of interest manifested in athletic sports by the students of Ursinus is deplorable. Tennis and baseball are played to some extent, but football, pre-eminently the American college game, is entirely without an enthusiast.” Apparently a few enthusiasts were found, for in the next fall a football team was organized and went down to crushing defeat, 62 to 0, at the hands of P.M.C. It was hardly a prosperous beginning, but at last there was football. Better days were ahead. In President Spangler’s administration the faculty took a favorable stance toward sports, and Ursinus became a college to be reckoned with on the gridiron.