10-1-1970

The Ursinus Weekly, October 1, 1970

Alan Gold
Ursinus College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/weekly

Part of the Cultural History Commons, Higher Education Commons, Liberal Studies Commons, Social History Commons, and the United States History Commons

Recommended Citation
https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/weekly/126

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Newspapers at Digital Commons @ Ursinus College. It has been accepted for inclusion in Ursinus Weekly Newspaper by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Ursinus College. For more information, please contact aprock@ursinus.edu.
DR. WILLIAM SCHUYLER PETTIT NAMED TENTH PRESIDENT OF URSIUS COLLEGE TO REPLACE RETIRING D. L. HELFFERICH

DR. WILLIAM S. PETTIT

Dr. William Schuyler Pettit has been named the tenth president in the 101-year history of Ursinus College, it was announced by the College Board of Directors following a special meeting on September 25, 1970.

Dr. Pettit, longtime Academic Dean at Ursinus, succeeds Dr. Donald L. Helfferich, who formally retired from office after 12 years in the post at the conclusion of the college's Centennial celebration in June, 1970.

Helfferich Named Chancellor

In a related board action, Dr. Helfferich was appointed to the post of Chancellor of Ursinus College. He will be the first man in the history of the college to serve in this position.

The new Ursinus president joined the college faculty in 1933 as an instructor in Chemistry. He was named Assistant Professor of Chemistry in 1938 and was promoted to full professor in 1944. He served as assistant registrar from 1948-1952 and was Dean of Admissions from 1952-1954.

Appointed Academic Dean

In 1954, he was named Dean of the College succeeding the late Dr. Maurice W. Armstrong.

In a 1969 campus administrative re-organization, he was named Vice President for Academic Affairs in addition to his post as Academic Dean; and despite his many administrative duties over the past 20 years, Dr. Pettit has continued to teach a course in Organic Chemistry.

President’s Academic Affiliations

Dr. Pettit is a member of Alpha Chi Sigma, national Chemistry society; Society of Sigma Xi; American Chemical Society; is past president of the Norristown Chemists Club; American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers; Eastern Association of Deans and Advisers of Men.

In addition, he is a member of the Newcomen Society; a Trustee of the Montgomery County Historical Society; and is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Health and Welfare Council.

He is former vice-chairman of the Montgomery County Red Cross, former president of the Worcester School Authority, and former chairman of the Worcester-Lower Providence School Authority. Dr. Pettit is a member of St. James Protestant Episcopal Church, Evansburg, Pa. and formerly a vestryman.

Native of New Jersey

Dr. Pettit is a native of Burlington, New Jersey where he was born March 19, 1919, son of the late James and Irene Schuyler Pettit. He was graduated from Burlington High School and earned a B.S. in Chemistry and an M.S. in Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania. In November, 1969, Ursinus College awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science (S.C.D.) degree to him.

The new Ursinus President is interested in Colonial history, antiques and their restoration, bronze stencilling, tile work, and painting. In the latter, he works in water and oil, and more recently in acrylics.

Ursinus’ First Family

Dr. Pettit is married to the former Marion Burgstresser; and is the father of one daughter, Isabelle, a 1967 graduate of Wilson College. The Pettits reside at 368 E. Ninth Avenue, Collegeville, Pennsylvania; and maintain a summer home on Nantucket Island.

DR. DONALD L. HELFFERICH

Dr. Pettit is a member of Alpha Chi Sigma, national Chemistry society; Society of Sigma Xi; American Chemical Society; is past president of the Norristown Chemists Club; American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers; Eastern Association of Deans and Advisers of Men.

In addition, he is a member of the Newcomen Society; a Trustee of the Montgomery County Historical Society; and is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Health and Welfare Council.

He is former vice-chairman of the Montgomery County Red Cross, former president of the Worcester School Authority, and former chairman of the Worcester-Lower Providence School Authority. Dr. Pettit is a member of St. James Protestant Episcopal Church, Evansburg, Pa. and formerly a vestryman.

Native of New Jersey

Dr. Pettit is a native of Burlington, New Jersey where he was born March 19, 1919, son of the late James and Irene Schuyler Pettit. He was graduated from Burlington High School and earned a B.S. in Chemistry and an M.S. in Chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania. In November, 1969, Ursinus College awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science (S.C.D.) degree to him.

The new Ursinus President is interested in Colonial history, antiques and their restoration, bronze stencilling, tile work, and painting. In the latter, he works in water and oil, and more recently in acrylics.

Ursinus’ First Family

Dr. Pettit is married to the former Marion Burgstresser; and is the father of one daughter, Isabelle, a 1967 graduate of Wilson College. The Pettits reside at 368 E. Ninth Avenue, Collegeville, Pennsylvania; and maintain a summer home on Nantucket Island.
URSINUS COLLEGE'S TENTH PRESIDENT

William S. Pettit and H. Lloyd Jones revisit the past in a 1932 Model "A" Ford Phaeton, the restoration of which is a hobby of Ursinus' new president.

Dean William S. Pettit teaching Organic Chemistry, a role in which hundreds of Ursinus students have known him during the past twenty years.

Dean Pettit confers with a member of the Ursinus College Board of Directors following Commencement exercises in 1965.

Dean Pettit crowns an Ursinus beauty queen at one of the many campus social functions he attends.

URSINUS COLLEGE -- GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

THE UR SINUS WEEKLY

Published a minimum of fifteen times each academic year by the students of Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pa. 19428.

Seventieth year of publication

Editor-in-Chief
ALAN C. GOLD

Feature Editor
THOMAS E. MATTINING, III

News Editor
MARCI HAUSER

Sports Editor
JIM WILLIAMS

Assistant News Editor
Janet Stemmer

Assistant Sports Editor
Cris Crane

Exchange Editor
David Sears

Photographers
Nick Tithe, Jen Weaver, Rich Stiles, Harry Zeppl

Typist
Ellen Francis

Staff
Robert Breyer, Lisa Spanak, Judy Earle, Linda Tumag, Ed McCandless, Clliffors Laps, Rodney Teln, Candy Silver, Carol Barchdill, and Anne Siegel

Publisher
ALAN C. GOLD

Business Manager
THOMAS E. MATTINING, III

THE EDITORIAL CONTENT DOES NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF UR SINUS COLLEGE


Mailing Address: Campus Post Office, Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pa. 19428
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1970


"I Am A Member Of This Class ..."

Dr. Donald L. Helfferich, President of Ursinus College, made formal announcement of his decision to retire in his address to the graduating Class of 1970.

"In a very real sense I am a member of this class," Dr. Helfferich told the gathering on June 6, "I came which represented the class of 1938, but they cease to be students of Ursinus. Here among the annals of history, we are together in the common effort to discover the reason for our life.

"Against the palpable intimidation to which all nations are committed, we are students at Ursinus. We are small college such as Ursinus seems to be, but I have great confidence that the search for sanity on this campus will go on.

"Like most of the nation's graduating college seniors, Ursinus students choose a visual protest against the war and Dr. Helfferich made the following comments: "... you have noticed that some of the seniors—and some of their instructors—are wearing symbols on their arms. They are doing so with my approval. In this year of national doubt and turmoil, Ursinus students have expressed their opinions and feelings in moderate and reasonable forms. I therefore feel it is appropriate that some of the members of the academic community of Ursinus College be permitted to speak to the gathering in their symbolic language—a shorthand of respectable concern for the welfare of our society.

"Those wearing arm bands are saying to you that they protest America's involvement in Vietnam and Cambodia, which they consider unwarranted and unnecessary. They oppose the violence by students and armed troops which led to the death of fellow students at Kent State, Ohio, and at Jackson State. They ask that resources be spent instead to solve pressing domestic problems. They hope that their testimony will contribute to the continued action of all people to obtain national and international peace and understanding.

"Members of the graduating class without armbands have their private views on these grave matters. I know some agree and others disagree with all or part of the position I have stated. Some may not agree with my decision to make the armbands an approved part of this ceremony.

"However, I stand convinced that all men of reason can agree that the search for sanity in the world's affairs must go on." Dr. Helfferich then asked the audience, while remaining seated, to join in a moment of silence in which to contemplate the tragedies we have seen and the pressing need for the healing powers of human understanding and divine guidance.

As he neared the end of his speech, Dr. Helfferich added, "I have one more minute to offer some special advice to my classmates. Never underestimate yourself. You are good! You are important! You are more important to the world than compact cars or credit cards. In fact you are essential to the order of all new things and essential to making them obsolete. You are equipped to become successful in the world of affairs. You are equipped to move with confidence and skill in many areas. But please spend some time in artistic creation and mystical contemplation.

"There is absolutely nothing wrong in becoming wealthy. But don't think of achievement only as measured by acres, stocks and bonds or bank balances for real worth is not properly equated with a triple A credit rating or the size of a private swimming pool.

"Remember, freedom and equality are not and never will be synonymous and they do not necessarily go together. You are far from equipoise in capacity for energy and intellect, but you can strive for superiority. There will always be superior individuals and a true democracy depends upon this form of aristocracy.

"Ursinus College can never escape from the reputation of its graduates and if your college desires respect, goodness and importance, your degree has correspondingly less lustre.

"Although all of us differ greatly, all of us have one thing in common. We carry the same label, Ursinus graduates, and we will carry this for life. We are listed as belonging to Ursinus College. There is no divorce from this relationship.

"The College considers this with pride. So should each of you.

"As we are about to leave this campus, I charge you and me to be loyal to Ursinus and to all that is best in its tradition; I charge you to work courageously, unselfishly.

"I charge you to work with men of good will in every land;" I charge you to be good citizens of our country.

"And now, with the assurance of our pride and confidence in you, did you farewell and wish you God's blessings. I declare the 100th academic year closed."

Dr. and Mrs. Donald L. Helfferich

Former President Helfferich surveys the progress of the construction of the new Myers Library during the final days of his administration.

The Presidential Portrait of Dr. Donald L. Helfferich

Former First Family

Former President Helfferich surveys the progress of the construction of the new Myers Library during the final days of his administration.
... A MAN NOT SOON FORGOTTEN