Chapter Five - 1954 to 1969

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The Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools accredited George Fox College on December 2, 1959. Without this credential, the school had little prospect of celebrating a 100th birthday—or perhaps even a 75th.

Two years earlier, accreditation seemed inconceivable. An indebtedness that approached $150,000 headed a long list of liabilities. Yet from 1957 to 1959 a remarkable debt liquidation campaign breathed new life into the institution and impressed the accrediting association with the school's long-term viability.

Debt elimination required a dedicated, united, confident constituency. That Oregon Yearly Meeting regained that confidence is perhaps the most significant story in the College's first century. From this renewed constituent support came the strength to develop academic quality worthy of accreditation.

Symbolically and actually, the recovery process relates closely to two personnel decisions: the hiring of Arthur O. Roberts and Milo C. Ross.

In October of 1952, Oregon Yearly Meeting Superintendent Dean Gregory journeyed to New Hampshire to confer with Roberts, a Friends pastor completing his Ph.D. in history of Christianity at Boston University. A graduate of Greenleaf Friends Academy, Pacific College, and Nazarene Theological Seminary, Roberts agreed to teach religion and philosophy for $3,000 a year.

With Fern and their three children, Roberts moved in 1953 at age 30 from the academic intensity of Boston and Harvard universities to a North River Street "vet house" apartment and a Wood-Mar Hall classroom. A brilliant scholar who became an internationally hailed Quaker thinker, Roberts provided stability and a deep Friends conscience. He served for 35 years as a teacher and administrator before becoming "Professor-at-Large" in 1988.

In March of 1954, after spending two years considering at least 15 prospective presidents, the George Fox College board unanimously appointed Milo C. Ross at a salary of $3,800 with a $720 housing allowance. (Like Roberts, the new president first lived in a "vet house.") The trustees hired Ross with Oregon Yearly Meeting's full approval, evidenced by positive letters from representative leaders such as former Greenleaf Academy principal Arthur H. Winters, Newberg Friends Church pastor Charles Beals, and Idaho businessman J. Allen Dunbar, a GFC board member.

With the hiring of Roberts and Ross, the Yearly Meeting and other constituents felt a united confidence in the College's leadership. The dominant theme was faith in a work that Ross, Roberts and the other faculty, the board, and the Yearly Meeting firmly believed to be God's will. The common goal of a high-quality, Christ-centered liberal arts college unified the academic community that would serve Northwest Quakerism and evangelicalism generally.

Ross and Roberts led the school's climb to heights previously unparalleled. The confidence they inspired led to Oregon Yearly Meeting's renewed support, the successful debt liquidation campaign and, consequently, full accreditation by the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools.

The two symbolized the College's dual emphasis of that era: increasing evangelical Friends support and developing academic strength. Oregon Yearly Meeting respected both men, and the larger Quaker community recognized them as bridgebuilders and eloquent evangelical spokespersons. Roberts' intellect commanded respect; Ross's fortitude and social nerve inspired confidence. Intellectuals and spiritual leaders listened, and the College advanced.

Milo Ross's upbringing contributed to his understanding of Quaker issues. Reared in a Friends home in Salem, Oregon, he grew up fully conscious of the intellectual/
theological battles that prompted Oregon Yearly Meeting's withdrawal from Five Years Meeting of Friends Church.

Profoundly influenced by the ensuing surge of evangelical enthusiasm that spawned the Christian Workers' League, Oregon Yearly Meeting's mission thrust into Bolivia, and the movement for a more evangelically oriented college, young Ross sought a deep, profoundly Christian experience. In the summer of 1929, he answered God's call to Christian service at Twin Rocks youth conference on the Oregon coast. For a time he considered a missionary career.

Along with many other young Friends who looked toward full-time Christian service, Ross bypassed Pacific College in favor of Portland Bible Institute (later renamed Cascade College), where he earned a Bible diploma. He eventually received a bachelor's degree in Spanish and the secondary teaching credential from Willamette University. In 1934, while still a university student serving as part-time pastor, Ross married Helen Ritter. Even before the ceremony, they appeared before the mission board to announce their willingness to serve in Bolivia if God so directed.

God did not lead the Rosses to Bolivia. Instead, Ross became a Quaker preacher, serving churches in Rosedale, Oregon (1933-1936); Greenleaf, Idaho (1936-42); Medford, Oregon (1942-1949); and Seattle, Washington (1949-1953). He also moonlighted for the postal service, a fruit cannery, and in construction as a union carpenter. For several years he was the unpaid radio voice of the Quaker Hour, which broadcast to hundreds of thousands in seven states.

Milo Ross faced a career change. "Almost in a weak moment, I let Ivan Adams [chairman of the trustees] know of my interest in coming to work at the College," Ross noted later. Within a few weeks he accepted a part-time job assisting in student recruitment.

Meanwhile, the board searched for a president. The administrative team, headed by Dean Donald McNichols, had performed admirably under severely distressing circumstances. However, by 1954 enrollment dipped to 98. To many onlookers, the College's life seemed limited. The stormy 1940s had taken their toll. The board simply could find no qualified individual willing to face creditors and uneasy constituents in what some thought a hopeless cause.

Yet the College's original mission continued to inspire constituents. Recognizing that a reasonably high-quality educational program still existed, many in Oregon Yearly Meeting maintained a supportive, hopeful attitude. Perhaps given strong, competent, confidence-inspiring leadership, the College had a future. Many expressed surprise when the board chose Milo Ross as president early in 1954. Yet putting his very considerable energy and creativity into the work, he set out to make the College succeed.

ALTHOUGH MILO ROSS had been a successful pastor and church planter, few thought him qualified to head the
College. Most agreed with Ross himself that a 43-year-old pastor with only a bachelor’s degree and no training in college administration had scant presidential qualifications. How could a pastor with no doctorate inspire respect from a faculty full of academics? he wondered.

Years later someone asked Milo Ross whether his experience as a Friends pastor had provided adequate training for the college presidency. He responded negatively, noting that Friends churches traditionally had no pastors, and those that eventually adopted the system carefully avoided pastoral control:

“How different this was from the administrative function of a college president! On my first day behind the desk, I was besieged with a volley of questions from faculty and students, all of whom demanded immediate answers. Decision making had never been considered or discussed in any ministers’ conference I had ever attended!

“...In over twenty years of pastoral experience, I had never had a church office, let alone a secretary. Now over forty years of age, I had never dictated a letter! ...I was given to snap judgment, often biased by a lack of full or balanced information. I must have been more afraid of myself than others were of me, but going to my office as early as possible...I had my devotional quiet time, asking God for wisdom, and especially that we should all be protected from error; mistakes in the college in particular. And time after time, as difficult decisions had to be made, they were often wiser and more equitable than my human wisdom alone could have dictated.”

Ross immediately asked the board to appoint Donald McNichols, Arthur Roberts, and himself as an administrative committee. Effective leadership required consultative decisions involving scholars with wisdom shaped by the academic and administrative cauldrons, he believed. He read rapidly and retained data and interpretation. He felt comfortable with scholars and at home with the arts.

Although a part of Oregon Yearly Meeting’s evangelical impulse, Ross had no defensive anti-intellectualism and feared neither secular academics nor “liberal” Quakers. He immediately set out to improve his abilities and to establish relationships with potentially helpful people. He took a reading class with Arthur Roberts in Friends history and doctrine. He developed warm, beneficial friendships with the presidents of Reed, Lewis and Clark, Linfield, Willamette, and other neighboring institutions, and with Quaker colleges such as Guilford, Whittier, Malone, William Penn, Earlham, and Swarthmore. “Perhaps, almost by osmosis, a person picks up ‘know-how’ from those who know more than he and who have had experiences which they are willing to share.”

Previous administrations quite naturally had exercised extreme austerity in attempting to balance each annual budget and avoid increasing the burgeoning debt. This impeded creativity. Ross took another approach: Be creative and build attractive programs, he reasoned, and morale will improve, students will come, donors will give and the bills will be paid. Long-term progress requires short-term improvements. The College’s image and its reality must be of growth and increasing programmatic strength.

In other words, Ross believed that constituent acceptance required immediate improvements. A flurry of activity brought several innovations; some had a price tag. As a result, during Ross’s first three years, the administration and board added more than $40,000 to the debt. They increased underwritten scholarships from one to seven, raised salaries, initiated a faculty rank and tenure plan, and added majors in art (in cooperation with the Museum Art School in Portland), music education, and psychology.

They also boosted tuition from $300 to $350 annually, enlarged the Board of Trustees from 15 to 30 members, inaugurated a special financial drive called the “George Fox College Advance” (which netted over $20,000 the first year), and enrolled 86 members in the “Century Club,” a
Students enjoying the newly completed Student Union, 1958. Included are Jerry Pierce, Meredith (Richey) Morse, Paul Morse, and Jack Hoskins. The dining hall is in the background.

group that pledged $100 annual donations. In addition, they explored official relationships with other Friends yearly meetings.

The creative flurry even included hiring an architect, Donald Edmundson, to analyze the potential for campus construction. With amazing prescience, the trustees projected a library, music hall, chapel, dormitories, married student housing, a house for the president, and parking. Although they did not pursue these ideas immediately, the school clearly had renounced negativism for a vision of greatness.

In 1956 the board planned a modern dormitory to be financed with federal funds; it was not completed, however, until 1962. In 1958, a gift from the family of recent graduate Dick Mott and an increase in student body fees provided a student union building. According to Ross, George Fox was the smallest college in the United States with a full-fledged student union. The SUB, he soon reported, “has done more than any one thing to raise morale, elicit community support, and produce a situation of satisfaction.”

BEGINNING IN 1954, the “chemistry” was right for this sudden upsurge in George Fox College’s fortunes. For the first time in a great while, the Yearly Meeting constituents accepted the College as totally parallel with their own mission and themselves as active participants. Without this
rejuvenated support, the College could not have moved forward. Buoyed partly by increased scholarships and a deferred tuition payment plan, enrollment increased by 36 percent during Ross's first two years (from 98 to 133).

Longtime rival Cascade College also played a positive role. In 1957 it awarded President Ross the Doctor of Divinity degree. Three years later Cascade's dean, Phillip S. Clapp, served as half-time visiting dean, helping GFC develop its curriculum.

HAD THE NEW administration opted for fiscal austerity and debt reduction in 1954, it probably would have failed. Continued inadequate programs could not have caught the imagination of the faculty and students; few potential donors would have committed themselves to a debt reduction drive seen only as anointment for burial.

In 1955, appreciative Oregon Yearly Meeting executive committee members recommended strong OYM support of the College's budget. One year later, they set a $20,000 annual goal and almost succeeded: The Yearly Meeting's 5,000 members contributed $15,776, $19,892 and $16,528 the next three years. After three one-year terms as president, a unanimous board enthusiastically extended Ross a five-year call.

Donald McNichols left the College for further graduate work in 1955. By 1959 the administrative team included Kenneth Williams, dean of the faculty; Denver Headrick, director of development; James Bishop, public relations officer; Arthur Winters, business manager; and Harvey Campbell, registrar. George Moore replaced Williams as dean of the faculty in 1961.

Each man contributed significantly to the school's progress. Williams, who initially served as dean of students, enforced stringent rules that brought several expulsions due to smoking; however, the amiable Dean provided a positive, optimistic atmosphere in the student body. Headrick effectively contacted hundreds within and outside the Yearly Meeting. Campbell served as an effective part of a progress-oriented team. Winters proved adept at relating positively to students and faculty while making decidedly limited resources stretch to cover the school's necessities.

DONALD McNICHOLS had laid an excellent foundation for advancement toward accreditation, but the Northwest Association seriously doubted whether 5,000 Quakers could support a college. The overwhelming indebtedness made accreditation seem out of the question.

When Ross first became president, he made a thorough study of accreditation history at George Fox and neighboring colleges. The Northwest Association would not accept the school, he concluded, without improved salaries, programs, constituent support, and significant
debt reduction. Although Ross himself contributed to the indebtedness by deficit spending calculated to restore optimism, he realized that the college obligations had to be faced before they got completely out of hand.

In January of 1957, Oregon Yearly Meeting Superintendent Dean Gregory reported to the board that significant Yearly Meeting sentiment favored an effort to liquidate the entire $144,000 indebtedness. He recommended a campaign to complete the task by 1960. In the discussion, John Brougher, a Vancouver physician and staunch College and Yearly Meeting supporter, started the program by pledging $10,000. An anonymous donor pledged another $10,000.

During the next two years, repeated contacts to Friends churches, alumni, Newberg residents, and other constituents brought remarkable success. The solicitors completed the campaign February 2, 1959, eliminating the entire debt a year before the target date. Afterward, the George Fox College Bulletin described the campaign:

"On the afternoon of February 2, at 3:30 President Ross received a long-distance call which confirmed the last pledge of $2,000 putting the Debt Liquidation Campaign 'over the top.' Born in a prayer meeting held in the home of one of the board members in the winter of 1956-57, the drive has progressed over the intervening months to embrace every segment of the college constituency: board members themselves, faculty and staff, pastors of supporting churches, alumni in many parts of the world, Friends, townspeople and Newberg business houses, Oregon corporations, and foundations.

"The organization was full-orbed, too. The board authorized the creation of sponsors and regional committees, the alumni association organized itself by chapters and graduating classes, Denver B. Headrick gave a major portion of his time and energy to the cause, and during the last year the City of Newberg itself rose to the occasion through the Chamber of Commerce, a speakers' bureau and door-to-door solicitation. Thousands of pages of literature went out from the college offices, hundreds of inches of newspaper space were freely granted, and we enjoyed the cooperation and enthusiastic support of friends, both old and new."

The American Association of Colleges awarded President Ross a "citation of merit" for "having the best debt liquidation drive of its kind in the United States." Newberg citizens, who contributed $25,000, named Milo Ross their "Man of the Year"—an honor that would have been out of the question for any George Fox College president a decade earlier.

During the final campaign year, Oregon Yearly Meeting led the nation in constituent support for colleges. The Council for Financial Aid to Education reported that OYM's $8.76 per member contribution more than doubled any other denomination's aid to its college.

Debt liquidation may be the hardest money to raise. Yet the campaign inspired Oregon Yearly Meeting. The church accepted the objective, however distasteful, as a means to an end: accreditation. This reawakened constituency gave new life to the College, like a stricken patient rising from the deathbed.

The ACCREDITATION PROCESS began with a 170-page self-evaluation report in 1957-58, written by Arthur Roberts and Kenneth Williams. The report detailed the College's history and mission, its strengthening academic programs, and its optimistic anticipation of the future. It showed that despite low salaries and a substandard library, the College effectively educated its students; for example, GFC graduates earned advanced degrees proportionate to those from accredited schools. In April of 1959, the examining committee visited the College. Afterward, it re-
ported some deficiencies to be met, notably in library, faculty salaries, and institutional control of majors and teacher loads.

President Ross appeared before the Higher Commission in Spokane December 1, 1959. He reported significant progress toward meeting the deficiencies cited eight months earlier. The improvements pleased the commission. The next day—December 2, 1959—it granted George Fox College a two-year accreditation. Thus, the school attained its most significant milestone since 1925, when it had gained recognition by the then-extant U.S. Bureau of Educational Standards.

The report carried some stipulations, however, notably an immediate and sustained increase in faculty salaries. The committee also advised elimination of some small enrollment courses, criticized the College for overloading its administrative staff, and again encouraged library improvement.

According to its recorded minutes, the college board reacted to accreditation in this manner:

"This report was received with a deep sense of gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His answer to the many prayers which have been offered by friends and constituency through the years, and to President Ross, the college administrative committee, and the faculty for their unswerving devotion to the cause of accreditation. This spirit of rejoicing and thanksgiving was accompanied by a recognition that difficult tasks still lie ahead and that dedication and deep devotion on the part of the trustees are essential if the college is to continue to progress and fulfill the divine purpose for which it was instituted. The members of the board entered into this business session in a spirit of humility and utter dependence upon God, and our Savior, Jesus Christ, for Divine wisdom and guidance."

Following this, trustee Eugene Coffin offered a motion, unanimously adopted by a spontaneous standing vote, commending the president for his "excellent public relations" and "fine representation of the college" before its various publics. Three years later the board again expressed its thanks to God and its esteem for Ross, pointing to the College's "growth and spiritual progress" and the president's leadership among the wider bodies of Friends and the educational community across the United States.

Milo Ross accepted the accolades graciously. Yet the president knew those around him deserved significant credit. Even before accreditation, Ross had told the board of his appreciation for the faculty, noting that "the loyalty, concern, consecration, and service of our entire faculty and staff are amazing. Many could work in institutions where the salaries are greater, and many have. We presently have people on our payroll who left positions in larger institutions, and where the salary was anywhere from $500 to $3,000 more than George Fox pays. It is a source of humbling joy to work with such people."

In faculty recruitment, Ross and the board followed two fundamental principles borrowed from the president of Harvard University and the founder of Oberlin College: (1) Agree on the best person in the world for the particular position, then go after him or her; and (2) pray specifically about that person, anticipating that the college and candidate would together ascertain God's will.

Milo Ross's account of hiring Cecilia Martin in 1954 reveals much about this era. He later told of unsuccessfully trying until late that summer, his first in office, to secure a Spanish teacher. Then one day a visitor asked if the College had any open positions, revealing:

"'My field is languages. I like English literature, but I can handle others as well.'

'What others?'

'French, German, Spanish, Italian, Greek, Latin, and Hebrew.'

"This was already too good to be true. But I had a sneaking suspicion that that kind came high. Our salaries were rock-bottom... I made some more sounds about Spanish and that it was an orphan with us, half-time, and all that, but her answer still left me with a little hope when she claimed that she and her husband had but recently..."
moved to Newberg, that he did not want her to work full time, but she hated to allow all her education and experience to be wasted. So I asked what her training consisted of. A bachelor's and a master's degree, together with a full doctorate from the University of Washington. Later I was to learn it was a Phi Beta Kappa!"

Cecilia Martin's presence doubled the faculty Ph.D's. First half time, and later full time, she gave excellent service for 19 years. As a devout Episcopalian, Dr. Martin reinforced the school's Christian impact on world culture. "I have marveled ever since," Ross confided. "I had no other applicants for any subject, let alone Spanish. My prayers had been answered exactly."
David Cammack and Professor Hector Munn in the chemistry lab, 1961.


Paul Mills teaching a Bible class. Students are Darryl Nordyke, Seung Kyu Kim, Dick Lakin, Jan (Burnett) Schmeltzer, Edgar Madrid, Charles Mylander, Daniel Cammack, and Ron Stansell.

The College progressed remarkably in the attempt to upgrade its academic standing. The board tried to attract faculty members with doctorates and encouraged young faculty to continue their educations. Between 1954 and 1969, faculty doctorates increased from one to nine, with several others in process. The College attempted to balance young scholars with mature teachers such as home economist Helen (Willcuts) Street, who served a total of 16 years; Paul Mills, who retired in 1974 after 27 years; and Laurence Skene, who served 21 years.

George Moore, one of the new doctorates, headed the faculty as dean. After suffering severe disappointments while a Pacific College teacher/administrator in the difficult 1940s, Moore earned a Ph.D. in education from the University of Iowa. In 1961, Milo Ross invited him back to the place of shattered dreams, made him a partner in the school's sparkling achievements, and pronounced him "one of the ablest leaders in the field of Christian higher education." Moore complemented Ross's personality, contributing greatly to the optimistic planning and staffing of an improving College. He served as dean and professor of education and psychology until 1968. After retirement from administration, he continued to teach until 1976.

Years later, the personable dean remained fondly in students' memories; many recalled his "Thisa-and-thata" chapels, in which he would deal with assorted academic and spiritual concerns. Upon his retirement, the students dedicated the L'Ami to his honor. Long after his death in 1984, the faculty remembered him for his genuine collegiality and famous pancake breakfasts.

Hector Munn taught science at George Fox from 1958 to 1962, and again beginning in 1967. He completed the Ph.D. at Oregon State University in 1969 and served the school creditably through the remainder of its first century, as registrar after 1977.

Myron Goldsmith, an outstanding religion and Greek professor, came to GFC from a career as a Friends pastor in North Carolina. Arriving in 1961, Goldsmith added much strength to the increasingly significant Bible and religion emphasis. He wrote his Ph.D. dissertation at Boston University on Oregon Quaker pioneer William Hobson.

Goldsmith contributed significantly to Oregon Yearly Meeting by giving leadership to pastors' short courses,
Dennis Hagen, a gifted music teacher, arrived in 1964 and also remained through the conclusion of the first century. His instrumental groups brought credit to the College. During the 1980s the versatile Hagen spearheaded the Champpeog Historical Pageant and became known as Oregon's leading authority in pageantry, assisting in historical pageants throughout the state. In 1988 he completed a public school administrator's credential and became an important part of the College's teacher education program.

Bob Gilmore also joined the faculty in 1964 and served past the end of the College's first century. His versatility allowed him to teach Spanish and direct the school's Instructional Media Center. With his wife, Maurine, Gilmore provided remarkably efficient audiovisual services in spite of numerous adversities.

Mackey Hill, with an A.B. from the University of California, Los Angeles, and an M.A. in history from the University of the Pacific, served from 1949 to 1974, usually as the entire history, political science, and economics departments.

As needed, he also taught reading and conference classes in sociology and geography. Meanwhile, he took graduate classes when possible and for several years pastored concurrently at the Carlton Free Methodist Church, about 12 miles from Newberg. He and his wife, Bertha, reared six children, all GFC attenders. His former students hail Professor Hill as a Christian gentleman who served cheerfully and faithfully under intensely adverse circumstances.

The College awarded the third honorary degree in its 70-year history to Mary Sutton at the completion of her 52 years of service. During her long career, she taught German and biology while serving as the college registrar and faculty secretary. Former students uniformly praise her for her keen mind and demanding classes. The Mary Sutton Residence Hall, constructed in 1977, memorializes her enormous ministry at George Fox College.

Other GFC faculty merit mention, among them longtime art teacher Pete Snow, scientists Elver Voth, Dale Orkney, and John Brewster, each who came to the College during the 1960s; the latter three earned doctorates while at GFC. Marjorie (Larrance) Weesner coached in 1953-54, then returned a decade later to begin a career that extended through the College's first century. Known affectionately as "Doc," she completed the Ph.D. in 1971 while coaching and teaching physical education.

Psychologist Sheldon Louthan came in 1963, after five years at Los Angeles Pacific College. Louthan, George Moore, and David Myton materially strengthened the teacher education program.

Considering the size of the school, George Fox succeeded in attracting an exceptional teaching corps. Without it the College could not have maintained its accreditation and improving reputation.

Yet the faculty and staff were woefully underpaid—a problem that worried the board and college personnel. In 1954, five years before accreditation, the faculty salary committee of Arthur Roberts, Helen (Willcuts) Street, and Paul Mills proposed a schedule allowing $3,000 for beginning instructors and $6,500 for full professors with extensive experience. While admitting that resultant salaries would be somewhat higher than for most small colleges (which averaged $2,743 for instructors and $4,800 for professors), the committee members defended the plan. The scale could be reached in four stages, they argued, each remitted by a 15-student enrollment gain and a 75-member $25 Club increase.

The board ruled against tying salary increases to $25 Club memberships, however. It also decided the plan could not begin without a balanced budget, which required 140 students. So the faculty struggled through the 1950s at salaries ranging from $2,100 to $3,000, with six members occupying "vet houses"—the army surplus housing units that had occupied the campus since World War II. Some faculty expressed discontent, noting that the average GFC faculty member received $2,000 less than the Linfield counterpart, $1,250 below the average at Lewis and Clark, $1,000 below Seattle Pacific, and $500 below Northwest Nazarene College.
In February 1956, the board adopted a salary minimum of $2,400 for a beginning bachelor's degree and a $4,900 maximum for a Ph.D. with extensive experience—all contingent on the school's ability to pay. The College paid the salaries, however, by borrowing $4,000 that summer and $2,500 the next.

Always responsive to opportunity, President Ross chose the first board meeting after accreditation to recommend immediate compliance with the Higher Commission's stipulations.

He suggested three blanket $500 annual salary increases. However, caution overcame the euphoria. The board approved only the plan's first year.

Nevertheless, significant progress followed. Between 1954 and 1969 minimum faculty salaries increased from $2,100 to $6,200, with maximum salaries up from $3,000 to $10,000.

Although partly financed by enrollment gains and tuition increases, the faculty also benefited from foundation support. For example, in 1962 the Calder Foundation gave $25,000 for faculty assistance, including a well-deserved $2,000 Holy Land and European study tour for Bible professor Paul Mills.

H RREE M ONTHS AFT ER AC CREDITATION, Dr. Thomas E. Jones, former president of Earlham College who had become Administrative Consultant for the Association of American Colleges, thoroughly analyzed the College. President Ross later asserted that his close friend and adviser's evaluation represented "the best $150 we ever allowed!"

After recommending broader general fund support, Jones stated that "the remarkable success of George Fox in lifting an indebtedness that had been hanging like a pall for some years, and the universal spirit of good will of alumni, students, Newberg businessmen, churches and colleges in the Portland-Willamette area have made possible a new era. Too great a proportion of the current support of the college comes from student tuition and fees.... [It] is scarcely fair from the standpoint of a church which expects the college to carry its heritage and spread its point of view in a growing industrial and cultural section of the country.... "George Fox College has taken on new life. It is well located, has an increasing clientele, the backing of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools, and the good wishes of its educational neighbors. It must increase the plant, the quality and compensation of faculty, design a more exciting program, and work with the church and community to develop a high grade Quaker college."

The following year Professor Jones wrote that "a great Quaker institution is aborning in the Northwest." The Higher Commission renewed accreditation in 1961. Its chairman commented: "Now you have a college of some eminence."

A CCREDITATION OPENED some long-closed doors. George Fox College immediately joined the Oregon Colleges' Foundation and the Oregon Independent Colleges' Association. The next year alumni support increased by $5,000, to a total of $40,500; board members donated $10,800. Long-time plant services employee Isaac Smith and his wife, Esther, gave their $25,000 house. The Calder Foundation of New York City, parent of Publisher's Paper Company in Newberg, supplied another $25,000.

Earlier, the federal government contributed through the post-World War II G.I. Bill. In 1959 the government initiated National Defense Education loans; one decade later it contributed well over $100,000 annually. Other federal programs in the 1960s provided $118,000 for

"The remarkable success of George Fox in lifting an indebtedness that had been hanging like a pall for some years, and the universal spirit of good will of alumni, students, Newberg businessmen, churches and colleges in the Portland-Willamette area have made possible a new era."

—Dr. Tom Jones, Administrative Consultant for the Association of American Colleges, 1961

Calder Center, $3,300 for audiovisual aids, construction loans for Pennington Hall, Edwards Hall, Weesner Village, and Heacock Commons, and money for student employment. The College benefited mightily from the infusion of federal aid.

GFC soon launched the Diamond Jubilee, its primary fundraising vehicle during the 1960s. The brainchild of Denver Headrick, this successful drive set as priorities money for faculty salaries, scholarships, buildings, and endowment.

Headrick later reported personal visits with 250 corporations; 80 percent had never heard of George Fox College. He cited three essential words for success: "Work, work, and work."

Milo Ross also put it directly: "I have made a rule never to let a day go by without asking for money."
GILBERT AND OLIVE SHAMBAUGH provided the College’s most significant gift to that time. In 1960 they donated $275,000 for library construction. Gilbert Shambaugh graduated from Earlham College and taught briefly at Pacific before 1920; Olive Johnson Shambaugh graduated from Pacific College. New Mexico land holdings made them wealthy late in life.

The Shambaughs became interested in supporting the College through her niece, the president’s efficient secretary, Gwen Winters. In a letter, Shambaugh asked many detailed, technical questions about the school’s philosophy, structure, legal status, and financial position. To respond, Ross had to secure legal information, interview trust officers of two banks, and solicit written opinions from the Internal Revenue Service. In a few days Gilbert Shambaugh responded, in part:

"Dear Dr. Ross:

"I knew all the answers. I wanted to know if you did . . ."

Over the months the parties exchanged several letters, requiring extensive research by the board and president. Finally, Ross interviewed the Shambaughs in Albuquerque. Before he left, members of Newberg Friends Church held an all-night prayer meeting.

Milo Ross tells more:

"All was arranged, when a letter came only five days before our departure, reading in part: ‘We suggest you do not come. We do not have the available money to go ahead with the library project. Your coming will only be a mutual embarrassment. Sorry:"

"Letters, of which this is a sample, are the reasons why college presidents go to early graves! But I couldn’t stop. I had too much momentum. We simply had to proceed, but in some reasonable manner and without offense. I immediately answered it, trying not to show too great disappointment, but telling of our firm program to come as far as southern Colorado on another matter, where and when on a certain afternoon, I planned to call long distance. Of course, I told no one of the problem, except my secretary.

"That phone call from Alamosa was one of the most difficult I ever made. It took courage for me even to lift the receiver. But, wonder of wonders, from the other end I heard Mr. Shambaugh’s pleasant voice and the words, ‘Come right on down. We have an apartment ready. We can hardly wait!’

"... I was never grilled so long and so astutely by anyone before or since about George Fox College. For several hours into the night and again the next morning, we ranged in animated discussion from questions of the connection with the church to the academic plans for the future, to the caliber of the Board of Trustees, to student life, to the support by the city of Newberg. His questions were piercing and almost devastating . . . ."

"Admitting . . . that George Fox may not have been strong, an infusion of ready funds could make a dramatic change for the better. And while money in itself cannot guarantee excellence and future greatness, given a strong board and administration, and a keen faculty with ability, imagination, and willingness to innovate, adequate funds could make their dreams come true . . . ."

"My clincher came in an effort to have him face up to the opportunity he had to become the ‘angel’ for George Fox. As others had helped one college after another, why should he not come forward for George Fox? He saw the light! Rather, he saw it all the time. He was probing to see if the other party in the conversation had a glimmer or two.”

One month later the Shambaughs visited the campus to discuss technical details and finalize arrangements for their gift. According to Milo Ross, GFC students challenged
Students about to pounce on the holder of Bruin, Jr.

Foreign students, 1962. Front row: Seung Kyu Kim, Korea; Andrew Waweru Muune, Kenya; Hideo Osakabe, Japan; Sayed Habibollah Kazerunian, Iran. Back row: Ki Hong Ryu, Korea; Sang Jeung Kim, Korea; Julius Wafula, Kenya; Edgar Amilcan Madrid, Guatemala; Bowers Chasia Ukiru, Kenya; Myung Tok Pae, Korea; Won Geum Gym, Korea; Sang Tok Pae, Korea. (Not pictured: David Liu, Taiwan).

Shambaugh's skepticism about college young people. While in Newberg, the couple attended the Christian Endeavor (youth meeting) at Newberg Friends Church. Ross reported that Shambaugh “was happy to see in excess of a hundred college students enthusiastically singing rousing choruses, engaging in earnest impromptu prayers, and a number giving thrilling accounts of answers to prayer and evidence of divine intervention in providing for their return or coming to college . . . . I recalled his having been especially critical of youth when we had conferred in his home less than a month before, but the George Fox collegians, innocent of the biases of the crippled gentleman who sat in the rear of the church, atypical of the average American youth, to be sure, had accomplished for their college what no amount of formal statements or protestation in brochure would ever do.”

As a result, Gilbert and Olive Shambaugh gave George Fox College almost enough holdings to completely finance the Shambaugh library, an absolute necessity for the College's developing prosperity.

In 1964 Headrick and Ross approached the Louis Calder Foundation regarding a much-needed classroom and laboratory building. The Newberg-connected foundation had already given smaller gifts, but invited Ross to New York City in 1964 to present plans for a science building. Once again, Newberg Friends Church members supported the trip with an all-night prayer meeting.

Ross arrived in New York, checked into an inexpensive hotel with no available room containing a bath, “and thereon hangs a tale,” the president later revealed. Then he faced the foundation executives:

“I was pretty nervous . . . . I knew I had their tacit approval from the looks on their faces. They were very pleased, indeed, with the sketches. They all liked them immediately . . . . We talked on for an hour or more before Mr. Dreher asked the fateful question. I had to answer, ‘At least $300,000,’ which was the figure given me by [architect] Don Lindgren. I saw the men look at each other. Then Mr. Dreher spoke for the three: ‘We will give you $300,000 . . . .’

“We had won! What I did not know until much later was that the Calder board had put the ceiling on their possible gift at $200,000 prior to my coming. But, seeing the very clever plans, they had upped it by common consent another $100,000. The argument over whether or not a good architect pays for himself has its answer as far as our experience is concerned . . . .

“We parted, as may be imagined, on the best of terms, with my walking across mid-Manhattan to my hotel. I began to feel ill and as I went along, a nausea and stomach distress hit me. I was barely able to get to my room. And there I was without a bath! I was so ill that I could hardly lift my head off the bed. During the night I made fourteen trips to the public bath, down the length of the long corridor where my room was, across the entire front of the hotel, and back along a far side—I couldn't have been farther away! . . . Such are the occupational hazards of a college president.”

Milo Ross revealed another personally embarrassing incident. On one trip from the East Coast he stopped in Dearborn, Michigan, with but $5.00 remaining—only to discover that the airport was in Ypsilanti, 30 miles from his
destination. Discovering that one-way bus transportation cost more than $5.00, the unflappable president paid $3.95 for a ticket that got him part way, then “walked the last three or four miles into the American Road Offices, arriving hot and hurried without much time to spare.” After the interview the host gave Ross a Dearborn Museum tour. Ross thoroughly enjoyed it, albeit nervously wondering how he would get to the airport. With less than two hours before flight time, the host asked the same question.

“That was a hard one! It might not be to the best interests of higher education and George Fox College in particular if he were to know that I was down to $1.05. So I thought up a fast one. In a wink I responded, ‘Oh, I came in on the Greyhound: I don’t think he caught on, but I shall never know. At least, he didn’t show it. He carried on instead by saying, ‘That’s a long, tiring trip, what with the evening traffic and all; let me call my chauffeur. He can get you there in half the time.’ With that he summoned a liveried driver, and I was whisked away to the airport in a black Thunderbird! You can add your own moral. If you want more, it is simply the saying among college presidents, ‘No one will give money if he knows your college needs it.’”

George Fox College did need it. Ross and Headrick kept asking. Sometimes they succeeded. For example, in 1965 the College constructed a dining hall with funds given by Everett and Bertha Heacock and other donors.

The College’s newly won status also made low-interest federal construction loans available. As a result, in 1962 the College constructed Pennington Hall (a dormitory named in honor of Levi and Rebecca) with a $594,000 government loan. The same year, the school built Weesner Village (honoring Oliver Weesner, who taught at the College for 50 years) with $130,000 of Housing and Home Financing Agency funding. The 32-apartment complex served married students at first; later, as enrollment mounted, the College used it as overflow singles housing.

George Fox College constructed Edwards Hall, another dormitory, in 1964. M. Lowell Edwards, a Pacific College graduate who invented the heart valve (son of Clarence Edwards, Pacific’s first graduate, and grandson of Jesse Edwards), provided $18,000 for furnishings. Noting that 89-year-old President Emeritus Levi Pennington interested Edwards in giving to the College, the board sent the long-time president this resolution:

“The Board of Trustees meeting in an all day session has considered the recent significant developments in connection with the interest of M. Lowell Edwards; and it has been brought to our attention by President Milo C. Ross and others that much of this interest can be traceable to your contact with Mr. Edwards. We are … pleased with this … donation for the furnishings of Edwards Hall. We wish to thank you and pray for God’s richest blessing upon you.”

Lowell Edwards later gave the College its first computer, $160,000 in stock for the endowment fund, and an amateur radio station which was placed with its antenna extending 81 feet above Brougher Hall (called by students “Brougher Tower”). Developed by ham operators Evan Rempel and Dan Hill, the radio station contacted missionaries in South America and reported on the GFC-OIT basketball game.

The College’s resurgence could be called a miracle. The Edwards’ gifts symbolize the most miraculous aspect of it all—the miracle of healing. The bitterness from the 1920-1950 divisions was abating. That the old Quaker names such as Edwards and Pennington adorned newly constructed buildings symbolized the miraculous healing of memories. The issues of “Modernism” and “Fundamentalism”—once replete with name calling—no longer created so much disunion.

Oregon Yearly Meeting and its College had found a way to bridge chasms and speak a clear evangelical Christian message without the fear, anti-intellectualism, and intolerance that had characterized earlier years. Not all the deep wounds had been healed, but the Great Physician was being allowed to work.
Right: Bill Hopper scores 42 points in one 1956 game, breaks school record of 40 set by Delbert Replogle 40 years earlier.

Cutting the ribbon at the opening of Hobson Hall. Milo Ross, Jack Willcuts, Dorlan Bales, Homecoming Queen Merilyn Pang, and Robert Lauinger are pictured.

Heacock Commons is completed in 1965.

The GFC students honored Levi Pennington in 1967, dedicating The Crescent's "Diamond Jubilee" issue to the longtime president. His name "so far outshadows the rest that it is almost synonymous with the old name of Pacific College," the citation announced.

Pennington died eight years later, at age 99. Then president David LeShana expressed the College's esteem, characterizing Pennington as friend, leader, humble man, and humanitarian. LeShana concluded: "How does one describe such a man, such a giant among men? The words of the Old Testament prophet, Nehemiah, are appropriate: 'He was a faithful man and he feared God: He was faithful to his God, to his family, to his calling, and like Enoch of old, he walked with God.'"

Further evidence of the rapprochement occurred when the College invited Gulley to speak at "Nostalgia Night" in 1977. Gulley could not attend, but sent prepared remarks, including: "We rejoice at the good reports that we get from George Fox College... and I am glad to have been able to make a wee contribution when it was needed."

Dramatic progress in many areas notwithstanding, the administration still had difficulty meeting annual budgets. In January 1962, the president sought advice from the board: Should he pay salaries or federal taxes? The board decided to continue its long record of meeting the payroll and let the government wait temporarily.

The College never missed a payroll, but economic problems continued. In order to correct a "dilemma of great magnitude" the board in 1965 studied possible "drastic" cost-cutting reductions in the school's programs. Board members selected from a list of items that might be eliminated or greatly reduced. However, they made few cuts.

Frank Cole, an experienced businessman, became business manager the next year and warned the board to reduce expenditures or risk great danger. The College therefore eliminated intercollegiate wrestling and the home economics major, and increased annual tuition from $580 to $660.

Total assets in 1969 were $4,765,797, compared to $615,000 fifteen years earlier. By 1969 the endowment stood at $1,215,000, up from $274,000 in 1954. The College's operating budget in 1954 totaled $119,000; by 1969 the figure had grown to just over $1,000,000. Although with the school's improvement and the postwar baby boom, enrollment increased from 98 to 392 and tuition from $300 to $990, the additional income failed to cover mounting expenses. (Tuition in 1954 paid 50 percent of each student's educational costs; in 1969 it paid 55 percent.) When Ross left office in 1969, the college indebt-
edness, paid off a decade earlier, had rebounded to $360,000. (The deficit rose to $468,000 in 1970-71 before declining and finally being eliminated in 1975-76.)

The College attempted to alleviate financial concerns and improve academic offerings with a bold initiative called “The Associated Christian Colleges of Oregon.” Supported by the Louis W. and Maud Hill Foundation and several federal grants totaling nearly $500,000, the program brought George Fox into a cooperative relationship with Cascade and Warner Pacific Colleges of Portland.

The brainchild of Lee Nash, dean of Cascade College, ACCO became a consortium for library services, student and faculty exchanges, instructional television, and faculty development. Incorporated in 1964, the program held several combined classes in Tigard for students from the three colleges. Dr. Lansing Bulgin served as chancellor, directed by a board comprising the president and three trustees from each member school. From it, a “cluster college” concept developed in the early 1970s, but was never implemented.

While college administrators struggled with finances and philosophy, student activities continued. The era saw some major progress in men’s athletics, although football fortunes lagged somewhat following Coach George Bales’ departure.

Coach Gerald Lemmons’ 1954-55 basketball team won 16 games and lost eight. Ralph Beebe coached quintets that went 18-6 and 19-6 the next two years. Forward Bill Hopper, guard Rolly Hartley, center Charles Tuning, and guard Jack Newell led the way. Each made at least one all-conference team. Hartley established a career scoring record with 1,026 points over three seasons ending in 1956. Hopper shattered this record with 1,731 points in a four-year career ending two years later. His 42-point scoring spree in one 1956 game broke Delbert Replogle’s 40-year-old, 40-point record.

Coach Carl Carpenter fielded commendable teams from 1957 to 1963 and initiated the Willamette Christian Conference and the George Fox College invitational basketball tournament. The host school won several times. Carpenter’s leadership brought a renewed emphasis on men’s athletics, culminating with the hiring of Coach Earl Craven in 1963. At that time the board made this statement about the football program:
The 1964-65 Quaker women go undefeated in volleyball and basketball, win conference championship in four sports.

GF Girls Take League, End Season Undefeated

Coach Marge Weesner predicted at the beginning of the volleyball season that "with more practice and more game experience we should have a good volleyball team." The prediction turned out to be an accurate one. Last week the girls defeated Linfield to become champions of the league.

With only one game left the team has had a straight win season. Last Tuesday they defeated Linfield by 15-5 and 15-6 scores. Tomorrow night the girls will play OCE at 7:00 in Hester gymnasium. GFC has already won a non-league game from this team.

The first string team consists of Janet Johnson, Linda Moore, Joan Briel, Nancy Crockett, and Cyotha Choong. Janet Johnson and Nancy Crockett have shared the position of team captain.

Reserves Nancy Newlin, Sue Boyce, Tonya Edwards, Sara Hill, Cherry Franklin, and Jan NewMyer have seen action in several games. Against Linfield they played as a second team and beat LC's second team in four straight games.

The individual season scoring of the first team is as fol.

"It is the feeling of the board of trustees of George Fox College that we give this sport our wholehearted support and cooperation. We would encourage the various segments of the school community, the coaching staff, the administration, faculty and student body, to lend their united efforts as we look forward to future football seasons."

The trustees raised the athletic budget for 1963-64 by $4,000 to an all-time high of $7,200, divided as follows: football, $4,500; basketball, $1,500; baseball, $600; track, $400; with $200 as miscellaneous. They also agreed to build a modern football field and a track with a 220 "straightaway," and initiated several athletic scholarships. They graded and sloped the football field, installed underground drainage pipes, and provided portable bleachers to seat 1,500 fans. GFC put in the new track in 1966, but decided against the 220 straightaway.

Coach Frank Furtado produced some outstanding track teams. The Quaker thinclad won the Willamette Christian College Conference championship in 1965, after two second-place finishes in the nine-school league. In 1964, Allan Fowler long jumped 22 feet to break Roy Heater's 1898 mark and Jon Newkirk ran a 2:01.4 half-mile to erase Leon Kenworthy's 1900 record. Fowler made 25% of GFC's 77 points in one meet.

George Fox joined the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) in 1964-65. The following year it became a member of the Oregon Collegiate Conference, ending the first season winless in football, but taking third in basketball with a 10-5 record under Coach Terry Haskell. When Craven resigned in 1967, the College named Haskell director of athletics and Jerry Louthan head football coach.

Outstanding athletes included all-Oregon Collegiate Conference tackle Bob Hadlock, who also took third place in the 1968 NAIA national shot put championships, and Cal Ferguson, who won the 1968 conference triple jump championship with a leap of 47 feet, 11 ¼ inches and finished third in the nationals. The next year Hadlock took third in the NAIA national shot put at 55 feet and Dave McDonald pole vaulted 15 feet, 8 inches to finish third nationally. The NAIA named Hadlock All-American both years and gave the same honor to Ferguson in 1968 and McDonald in 1969.

The following year, George Fox's last in football, Coach Jerry Louthan's team went winless. However, Bob Hadlock, Larry Craven, Herald Fodge, and Byron Debban all made the all-conference team—the third straight year for Hadlock and the second for Craven and Fodge.

The College initiated a men's cross country program in 1966 with Dale Orkney as coach. Steve Butt and John Thomas starred. Berton Lamb coached when Orkney took a leave to complete his doctorate.

THE SCHOOL'S SPORTS programs emphasized student involvement. The trustees approved this basic philosophy.
which, although written in the male gender, extended to women also:

“We seek to offer to each athlete the opportunity to participate in his favorite type of activity, while letting him explore and enjoy others that might be new to him. In doing this we offer to him the opportunity to develop self-realization, emotional growth and maturity, a winning attitude, physical development, and an atmosphere that challenges him to his fullest potential.”

Through the 1960s, women participated in volleyball, basketball, and softball. The school reinstated women's tennis in 1965 and added field hockey the next year. Although not highly organized, the lady Quakers fielded small track teams. In 1964 Janet (Johnson) McClurg won the 100 and 220 at the U. S. Track and Field Federation meet. The GFC team took third behind the University of Oregon and Oregon State in the Women's Collegiate Recreation Association, composed of all Oregon colleges and universities. Janet (Johnson) McClurg placed first in the 100-yard dash and the standing broad jump.

In a banner year, both the 1965 volleyball and basketball teams went undefeated, and the softball squad lost only one game. The Quakers took the Women’s Conference of Independent Colleges championship in volleyball, basketball, softball, and track. Marjorie (Larrance) Weesner coached the volleyball, basketball, and softball teams; Randy Winston coached track.

The championship volleyball team included Ilene (Haskins) Beeson, Cynthia (Chong) Petersen, Nancy (Crockett) Findley, Jan Gaithright, and co-captains Linda Moore and Janet (Johnson) McClurg. According to Coach Marge
Weesner, Janet Johnson was "probably by far the best athlete GFC has had. She had amazing natural ability."

The basketball dynasty extended to include championships in 1966, 1967, and 1968. The Lady Quakers also took the conference softball title in 1968 and 1969.

From field hockey's inception in 1966 until its demise over a decade later, GFC's teams proved successful. League all-stars included Barbara (Jones) Ireland, Marjorie Brood, and Nancy (Perry) Hodson in 1966; Barbara (Jones) Ireland and Mafi (Faletau) Downs in 1967; Kathy (Jensen) Magee in 1968; Sharon Smith and Betty Phillips in 1969; and Betty Burbank and Nancy (Phillips) Frey in 1970. Three years later, Betty Phillips took second in the conference 100-meter dash and set a record in the 400 long jump.

Sports columnist Peter McHugh, in his "Petes Patter" for May 5, 1967, commented enthusiastically about coach and director of athletics Earl Craven, departing after four years at GFC:

"...Who would have dreamed in 1963 that the little Quaker college in Newberg would soon participate in seven different varsity sports? ...Or that our athletic teams would be traveling up and down the coast, meeting competitors from Los Angeles to Anchorage, Alaska?

"But Earl Craven had the vision of developing a good collegiate athletic program with facilities to match. It takes more than just a vision to build something from nothing. It takes planning, organization, and an ability to transmit and sell ideas, topped with plenty of hard work. Students and faculty who are familiar with the activities around the gymnasia can testify to his industrious nature and drive to get the job done."

Coach Craven's resignation, prompted by disappointment that the school failed to make a major commitment to football, impaired the athletic program.

Two years later, the College withdrew from the Oregon Collegiate Conference and dropped a football program that, except for five years in the late 1920s and the World War II period, had existed three quarters of a century. However, the Quakers remained in the NAIA and became a regional basketball and track powerhouse in subsequent decades.

The College also had a women’s quartet, trumpet trio, trumpet duet, at least two ladies' trios, and at least one men's quartet. Several campus organizations cooperated in these activities, among them the Student Christian Union, Music Club, Student Ministerial Association, and Singing Men. Carl Reed's a cappella choir that year toured Northwest churches.

Ross Stover, William Koenig, Harriet Storaker, and Ernest Lichti each served a year or more as choir director following Reed. Tours often included either southern Idaho or southern California.

The vocal format emphasized soloists, trios, and quartets. Instrumental groups included a sax quartet, a small band, at least one jazz combo, and an organization promoting music appreciation, called Opus II. The Singing Men continued to sponsor the annual Quartet Festival for several years.

Dennis Hagen's concert bands and Jerry Friesen's a cappella choirs received plaudits during Pacific Coast tours in the late 1960s. In 1965 Hagen formed a brass choir, consisting of 12 to 15 performers. Friesen established the oratorio program, which combined college and community singers and the college orchestra in annual performances.

The College typically performed at least one major and one or two minor dramas each year. For example, Bob Byrd starred in 1955 as Teddy Brewster in Arsenic and Old Lace; Kara (Newell) Wilkin and Lois (Burnett) Miller played his sisters, with Margaret (Shattuck) Lemmons directing. That year, Lois (Burnett) Miller and Larry Ross received the Actator Club's best actress and actor awards.

Two years later the student body performed Tomorrow the World at GFC and The Other Wiseman in area churches. Dilla (Tucker) Winslow directed Shakespeare's The Merchant of Venice in 1959, with Bob Church, Floyd Chamberlain, Howard Morse, and Lyla (Bury) Hadley in leading roles. The following year the school performed The Big Fisherman, with Francis Whitaker as Simon Peter and Edward Peacock directing. Clara Axie Dyer directed The Little Minister, Our Town, and Antigone. In 1965 the drama society, Delta Psi Omega, gave Nancy (Forsythe) Thomas and Clark V. Adams best actress and actor awards, with Adams and Phil Roberts chosen best codirectors.

Jo (Kennison) Lewis directed an outstanding dramatic achievement, Skin of Our Teeth, in 1968. One spectator, Austin J. Simpson, wrote that he had performed in the same play on Broadway, directed it in a three-year professional tour, and seen it given by 100 different college groups over the years. Nevertheless, Simpson applauded the George Fox performance, saying: "I have never seen an amateur group do a better job than yours. The secret was,
I believe, that your young people believed the message of the play: that the mercy of God is the hope of the world..."

Simpson was right. George Fox College students did tend to be different. They were not all angels, however—at least not all the time. Three normal human college students make the point: Ralph Cammack, Chuck Tuning, and Dave Wing installed a speaker in Wood-Mar Auditorium's electric organ, wired to a microphone in the basement furnace room. During a recital, the three delivered messages to the organist. The incident sparked a minor campus revival. Some students encountered "spiritual beings"; one met the "devil" and defied him.

In chapel the next morning, Dean Kenneth Williams suggested that anyone who knew about the wired-in speaker should contact the dean. The miscreants soon came to Williams's office, bowed, and greeted: "Good morning, Father Confessor." According to Cammack, Williams "laughed so hard his bald head turned red." However, the dean, while applauding the ingenuity, scolded the young men, assuring them that embarrassing their fellow students was not appropriate behavior. The offenders good-naturedly agreed to apply their energies in more positive ways.

FROM HIS FIRST YEARS at George Fox, Arthur Roberts sought to develop special incentives for advanced learners. He initiated in 1958 the "intensified studies" program, which still continued at the end of the College's first century. A faculty committee selected outstanding students to participate in a special seminar and to do research over a two- or three-year period.

In the early years, this program was funded by a grant. Sometimes the group took study tours, including New York City, Washington, D.C., Victoria, B.C., and San Francisco. Participants reported their research in chapel. The program stressed academic quality without elitism.

John Johnson did the first senior Intensified Studies project, entitled "Leplace Transforms." Over 60 others presented papers in the following 30 years. Among the first were Howard Morse, "Estrogen in Pigeons"; Nancy J. (Forsythe) Thomas, "Dios Y Los Ninos"; Anne (Barager) Stenberg, "The Nature of the Masque and its Use by

The honor roll of presidents, 1967, including Levi Pennington, Emmett Gulley, Milo Ross, and David LeShana.

Shakespeare as a Dramatic Device”; and Stephen Gilroy, “Effect of In Vitro Tissue Culture upon Antibody Formation of Transferred Rat Spleen Cells.”

The Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools originally accredited George Fox for two years and renewed it in 1961. Three years later the committee reported a pleasant return visit: “The physical progress is nothing short of amazing” and “the new library is a joy.” The accrediting body continued to strike familiar negative themes, however, noting serious salary and library resource deficiencies.

The College gained a modified approval for an elementary education program through a 1954 joint degree arrangement with Oregon College of Education. Secondary credentialing lagged, however. Although after a ten-year lapse the Newberg school district in 1959 reinstated the College for secondary practice teaching, the State Department of Education still refused to accredit George Fox. For another decade, secondary education students therefore either transferred or completed requirements after graduation.

The College began a major effort to obtain secondary certification in 1966. It hired David Myton, who held a Ph.D. from Ohio State University, as associate professor of education and director of the teacher education committee. In cooperation with Dean George Moore and education teachers Sheldon Louthan and Paul Cammack, Myton in 1966-67 developed an intensive self-study, followed by professional education courses for juniors. That spring an advisory team visited and made recommendations.

The next year the College offered senior-level professional courses. Myton wrote a 161-page self-study based upon Oregon’s standards for accreditation of secondary teacher education programs. A professional team soon evaluated the College and, in 1969, approved teacher education in health and physical education, biology, and mathematics. The next year it added music and followed with language arts, physical science, and social studies endorsements in 1971.

Shortly after Ross’s arrival, the Board of Trustees attempted to reach other yearly meetings by increasing its own size from 15 to 30 members. Then, in 1964, it increased to 42. The bylaws stated specifically that all nominees “shall be in harmony with the Constitution and Discipline of Oregon Yearly Meeting of Friends Church.”

With the increase to 30, the bylaws required 24 to be Friends; of the 42, at least 30 had to be Quakers. All others were Christians with a particular interest in George Fox College and higher education. Northwest Yearly Meeting approved all members.

During this period, the largest vocational category on the board—11 of the 28 members listed in the 1959 accreditation report—was “Friends minister.” Five executives, two businessmen, three professionals, two ranchers, one farmer, one teacher, and three workers also served. At that time, the board included only white males, although several women served in earlier and later periods, including Olive Shambaugh, who was named in 1964.

The college continued to attract many Quakers. During the 1959-60 accreditation year, 107 of 144 students were Friends (74 percent). Nine years later, the percentage had dropped to 48.2, although the total Quaker enrollment had increased to 189 (of 392 regular students).
About 56 percent of Oregon Yearly Meeting’s 1956 undergraduate students attended George Fox College. This dropped to 44 percent by 1969. However, Milo Ross still reported that more Quaker students attended George Fox than any other college except Earlham in Indiana. He noted further that more Friends instructors worked at George Fox than at any other college in the world.

According to a 1965 study, 20 percent of all North American Quaker young people preparing for Christian ministry attended George Fox College. Ross contended in 1967 that GFC was more closely identified with its church than any other Friends college.

The president demonstrated tangible loyalty by, some years, preaching or lecturing in over 100 Friends churches. While at GFC, Ross preached at least once in each of the Yearly Meeting’s nearly 50 local churches; he also spoke to most of those in California and Rocky Mountain yearly meetings. Several faculty members also served the church directly; for example, Myron Goldsmith, Paul Mills, and Arthur Roberts pioneered a “school for elders,” providing training for local church leaders.

Nevertheless, some board members believed even stronger ties should be established. Also, some in the Yearly Meeting expressed concern that rapid progress might lead the school away from its evangelical doctrine. For example, one board member feared accreditation’s influence on faculty and student spiritual life. In its 1963 sessions, Oregon Yearly Meeting constituents officially expressed a similar concern; for example, the official visiting committee regretted that some students studied on Sunday.

Milo Ross foresaw another danger. He feared that burgeoning enrollment and need for money might compromise the College’s emphasis on pacifism and social justice. Growth in enrollment and financial support might come disproportionately from Christians hostile to emphases that Ross saw not merely as Quaker distinctives but central Christian doctrines that the larger church had generally neglected.

Ross felt, however, that given proper emphasis, the College could grow to 700 students with nearly 50 percent Quakers. He also believed the school could find donors who shared its spiritual position. For example, the president reported one couple’s delight on learning that GFC promoted biblical pacifism:

“When they made their first trip to the college, it was our happy privilege to prove to them our active position. Professor Paul Mills met with them, pointing out from the New Testament the basis of our stand. We prepared figures to show the proportion and number of our students who were conscientious objectors, beginning with World War I. We claimed to be the only college anywhere which offered an academic class in sociology entitled “Peace and War.” After having shown them the complementary situation between our stated aims and our active program with a bias toward Christian pacifism, they proceeded to name George Fox as the principal beneficiary in their estates.”

As George Fox College moved into the late 20th century, inadequate finances continued as its foremost problem. During Ross’s 15-year tenure, tuition and enrollment gains matched faculty salary increases, but funds remained inadequate.

The school had strengthened measurably. No longer did anyone doubt its continued existence. Yet much remained to be accomplished. In the next decade, George Fox College made remarkable strides toward fulfilling its potential.
Aerial view of part of the campus in the late 1960s.