

DR. THEODORE A. KESSEL

Dr. Theodore A. Kessel, instructor and former dean of Central Bible Institute, died Friday, January 22, 1965, in St. John's Hospital where he had been a patient since Wednesday, January 20th.

The 58 year old educator and civic worker had been a member of the faculty at Central Bible Institute since 1954. He became dean the next year after his arrival at the college and served as dean until 1964 when he stepped down to a teaching position because of ill health.

Dr. Kessel was ordained into the ministry by the Assemblies of God in 1931 and served as a pastor for twenty years in Illinois and Missouri. Other duties included being principal and superintendent of Jackson County Illinois Public Schools; being dean and instructor at the Great Lakes Bible Institute in Illinois; being dean of Southern California Bible Institute and president of Glad Tidings Bible Institute. He also served as an official in the Illinois District Council of the Assemblies of God for eight years.

Civic activities included being the chairman of the American Red Cross Instruction; an official in the Boys Scouts of America; a member of the committee for United Funds in Springfield, Missouri. He was also actively engaged in prison ministry at the Moberly Medium Security Prison here in Missouri.

The Reverend Dr. Kessel received his Bachelor of Education Degree from Southern Illinois University, his Master of Religious Education Degree from the University of Indiana and his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California. A statement in the Central Bible Institute yearbook of 1959, which was dedicated to Dr. Kessel, states in very clear language the feeling this college had toward this worthy instructor and dean, "As a valiant warrior who imparts his years of skill in battle to younger and less experienced soldiers, so you, Theodore Kessel, have imparted your knowledge, gathered through a lifetime of active warfare against the forces of evil, to us the student body of Central Bible Institute, preparing us to use our God-given-abilities to march on to great victories. For this reason we dedicate this book to you our dean whose teachings have been instrumental in training us to be true soldiers of the cross."