

Challenges faced Wylie

To read about the trials and tribulations Indiana University's first president, Andrew Wylie, endured, you would have thought he was bucking for sainthood.

TO BEGIN WITH, his wife didn't want to come to the wilds of Indiana, preferring the civilized conveniences of Pennsylvania society. Though Wylie had had a fine brick house built for her to soften the shortcomings of frontier life in Bloomington, she still felt deprived of her old friends back home.

There was also some squabbling among the seminary faculty, which resulted in some resignations. At one point the faculty dwindled to three — Wylie and two professors — and the enrollment to 64.

Wylie had his enemies among the trustees of the young state university. Foremost among them was a Dr. William Foster, birthdate and birthplace unknown — who was a practicing physician in Bloomington. His appointment to the board began in 1834, and he became Wylie's "hair shirt," so to speak.

A METHODIST BY religious persuasion, Foster and deemed by two university historians (Theophilus Wylie, a contemporary faculty member, and Burton D. Myers, a dean and professor emeritus at a later time) to be a man of good character whose enthusiasm for causes was sometimes misdirected. In short, Foster was like John Brown — the rightest wrong man who ever lived. Foster was positive that the predominantly Presbyterian faculty led by President Wylie was pushing Calvinism down

Looking back

By Rose McIlveen

the throats of impressionable students.

Foster's first clash with Wylie was over the matter of the purchase of books for the school library. In 1838 trustee Foster charged the school president with misappropriation of funds in connection with the books. Wylie, it seemed, had had the temerity to go to Philadelphia and buy \$1,500 worth of volumes, when, according to Foster, he had been authorized by the board to

spend \$6.00 for maps of Indiana and the United States.

PARTICULARLY GALLING to Foster was the fact Wylie had spent \$300 for a classical *Thesaurus*. The trustee's complaint was disallowed, and because of the mischief he was making, he was not reappointed to the board, in spite of his promise to calm down. He was heard to say, however, that should he not get reappointed, he would pursue the matter of his charges against Wylie.

Hardly had that controversy blown over when Foster took his complaint to the legislature. But the bill calling for an investigation of Wylie passed in the House and failed in the Senate.

In the spring of 1839 Foster took himself to a meeting of the trustees and demanded that they

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PSI credit rating drops

By STEVE HINNEFELD

H-T Staff Writer

Three investment rating services have lowered their ratings on most stocks and bonds issued by Public Service Indiana, and PSI officials say the result could be an increase in the cost of the company's construction projects, including the Marble Hill nuclear power plant near Madison.

Duff and Phelps, Inc., Moody's Investors Ser-

vice and Standard and Poor's all lowered their ratings recently on almost all PSI fixed income securities. Consequently, PSI media affairs coordinator Michael Goss said, the utility expects to have to pay a rate of return from 4 to 5 percent higher in order to sell such securities.

According to Duff and Phelps vice president

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