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SEMIN

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ACADEMIC YEAR 1954-55

MARCH 7 #11

REpent and BELIEVE

-- Dr. Moss

(This Lenten message was prepared by Dr. Moss,
at the request of the staff, for this seasonal
issue of the SEMINARIAN.)

Lent calls us to repentance and faith. The summons to repent and believe was the climax of the earliest Christian preaching. In the environment of the early Church this call of repentance was a call to make an about-face, to change directions.

The idea of repentance had often been expressed in the Old Testament, in such words as "turn" and "return." Most often these words were used of subjects who had rebelled and were coming back to the service of their rightful King, or of the faithless wife returning to her husband, or of those who had served the idols and were returning to the worship of Jehovah.

We must beware lest we regard this summons as directed solely to those outside the Church, however. It is directed to us, even to those of us who are preparing for or serving in the ministry. You may recall the words of the Master to Peter long after the apostle had made his confession at Caesarea-Philippi: "I have prayed for you, that your faith will not fail; and when you have repented (KJ: when thou art converted), strengthen thy brethren." (Luke 22:32) Note, too, the opening words of the Assurance of Pardon in the Order of Worship for the Morning Service: "Hearken now unto the comforting assurance of the grace of God, promised in the gospel to all that repent and believe."

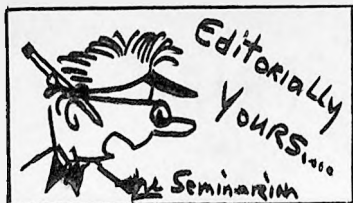
We are constantly in need of repentance -- of a return to that orientation toward God vouchsafed to us in Christ. Lent may come to some of us as a call to abandon that perspective in which major decisions are made almost wholly on monetary bases. Or it may challenge us to a re-examination of the way in which we are using our time -- in study, in work, in play, in prayer. Some of us may be called to give up pride in our own achievements -- that self-righteousness which alienates us not only from our God, but also from our brothers.

Whatever the call, it is to be understood in terms of the Cross. To take up the Cross means to surrender those idols which we serve all too willingly, though never admitting that they dominate our lives. And the summons to believe is nothing other than the summons to share fully in that perspective which affirms that God is in Christ reconciling the world to himself.

LENT, THE ANCIENTS, AND CHRIST...

-- Frank Fagerburg

The word LENT comes from a root meaning "spring." Indeed, it may be that the Church took the Lupercalia -- the day set aside for honoring Pan and Juno -- and made it St. Valentine's Day; as the Church took a Saturnalia and made of it Christmas, so the Church took an ancient celebration of the return of spring and made of it Lent. Thus Christ has always hallowed all he touched.



AS IT APPEARED last Spring in the final issue of the now-revamped "YOUTH" magazine.....

WHAT NEED HAVE I?

-- Gerald H. Hinkle

Mine is the fact-filled, probing mind.
I calculate each hour spent.
Textbook in hand, what need have I
For those abstract musings men call "Lent"?

Mine is the youthful, fun-filled heart.
I seek the Untried -- the New!
Adventure woos me; what need have I
For a practice cherished by so few?

Mine is the eager, unchallenged dream.
I want a portion of life's best --
A goal to gain; what need have I
For a pard'ning mercy, grace, or rest?

CHRIST spoke in tones, both sharp and clear,
That burst upon my 'wakened' ear.
CHRIST spoke a challenge cutting deep
Into my foolish, worldly sleep:

"What need hast thou? With probing mind
Canst thou comprehend
What Power shaped thy earthly frame?
What Destiny? What End?"

"What need hast thou? With youthful heart
Canst thou learn or know
The harvest thou wilt reap someday
From seeds which thou wouldst sow?

"What need hast thou? With eager dream
Canst thou reckon clear
The stores of Strength and Wisdom
Thou wilt need to conquer fear?"

I paused; I could not raise my eyes,
Nor think myself so sure and wise.
I paused; and in a Lenten prayer
I sought relief from my despair.

SEMINARIANS' "ARMY DUTY" LAUDED

The editor of the "Seminarian" has received a special word of thanks upon which he is happy to report. Coming from our fellow-student, "Bob" Schappel, this big "Thank you" is for the volunteer help which several Seminarrians are giving the recreational program of the local Salvation Army.

The Brigadier of the Lancaster S.A. is quite happy with the leadership which Seminarrians are providing, Schappel reports. The staff of the "Seminarian" also says "tahnk you" to this group of volunteers for its fine spirit and fine contribution to the local community life. This, indeed, is our Society's Outreach Commission personified.

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ANOTHER "PAID ADVERTISEMENT:

We as a Seminary family have been thrice blessed because of the foreign student program here. The presence of Pere, Horst, and Rudiger has made our life much fuller. Let's keep this program going!

MIDDLER BANQUET: APRIL 20: DON'T FORGET!

WEEKLY LENTEN PROGRAMS SCHEDULED

The Spiritual Life Commission of the Society of Inquiry, following the well-attended Lenten programs of last year, has again arranged for weekly devotional periods in Santee Chapel until Easter.

These special programs, especially suited to the schedule of the Seminary Family, will take place every Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock pm in our Chapel and will follow the tentative schedule printed below. Every member of the Seminary Family is invited to attend and share in these seasonal devotional programs.

- March 9, 1955: Guided meditation by Robert Raiff, president of the Middler Class
- March 16, 1955: Trumpet music by Glenn Rader, Jim Bright, and Russ Mengel, accompanied by John Stoudt
- March 23, 1955: Organ music for meditation, provided by Mr. McConnell
- March 30, 1955: Guided mediation by Raymond Craven, president of the Senior Class
- April 5, 1955: "Seven Last Words" -- a recorded presentation

THE STAFF OF THE SEMINARIAN EXTENDS ITS CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY OF INQUIRY! In case anyone missed the announced results, they are: Hal Lamm; president
Bonny Krick; vice-president
Ann Schoup; secretary-treasurer

CONGRATULATIONS, too, TO ALL WHO
"TURNED OUT AT THE POLLS" FOR A RECORD-BREAKING TOTAL OF VOTES CAST!

BOOK COOP ELECTIONS PLANNED

-- Carl Kreps

Monday evening, March 21st, has been set as the time for the annual meeting of stockholders of the Bookstore Cooperative. At that time, the year's business will be reported, along with other items of special interest to all stockholders. The main purpose of this yearly meeting is, of course, to elect a new manager for the Co-op. All applications for this position must be handed in to some member of the executive before the annual meeting.

This type of open meeting is a vital part of the yearly operation of our Book Co-op. Therefore, all stockholders are urged to plan well in advance for that important date -- Monday, March 21st.

A special reminder to all Seniors: This present term is the last term during which Seniors may take part in the book-buying plan of our Cooperative. Therefore, the Class of '55 is advised to place orders soon, and to get as many things as they want now. It was decided at last year's annual meeting that to extend Co-op buying benefits to Seminary graduates would entail too much time and expense. Seniors, "a word to the wise ...", you know!

Please check the bulletin boards for the new list of business hours, soon to be posted by our manager, Hal Schoup. Check, too, the Book Co-op advertisement which appears elsewhere in this issue of the SEMINARIAN. **HAPPY DIVIDENDS!**

"To search our souls, to meditate,
Will not suffice for Lent.
To share the Cross, to sacrifice,
These are the things God meant."



WHETHER YOU GIVE at the table in the dining hall, or by using your little Lenten Box in your home,
GIVE GENEROUSLY to this year's Benevolent Lenten Fund.

WHAT WE GIVE TO OTHERS we give even unto HIM.

WHEN JESUS SAID, "Go, and do thou likewise," He was referring to His SACRIFICE of SELF for OTHERS, as well as to His simple "interest" in all men.

-- your Society Commission on Finance

THREE MORE MEETINGS ON VITAL ISSUES

Hal Lamm, chairman of the Commission on Vital Issues, hopes to steal some time and interest from all of us during this final term of the present academic year. With this article, he offers the following three ways in which to spend your time well throughout the next few months. Circle the following dates on your calendars now; and attend these three remaining meetings of the Vital Issues Commission.

On Thursday evening, March 10th, at 7:30 in the Lounge, the Vital Issues Commission will present for all Seminarrians a meeting on the issue: "A CHRISTIAN LOOKS AT THE WORLD CRISIS." Speaking on this subject and answering questions which it raises will be CHARLES WALKER. Mr. Walker is quite a distinguished personage. We are fortunate to have him with us for this vital discussion. He is Regional Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Secretary of the Consultative Peace Council, and a member of the Advisory Council of the Student Christian Movement.

The second meeting sponsored by the Vital Issues Commission for the Spring Term will be held at Dr. Englert's home on the evening of March 15, at 7 o'clock. This Tuesday date will bring us together for an informal discussion, open to questions concerning any area of CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION. Guests at this special meeting will be the following "men with the answers": F. NELSON SCHLEGEL, associate secretary of the Commission on Christian Social Action of the E. & R. Church, and CHESTER L. MARCUS, associate secretary for Race Relations in the E. & R. Church. These guests will be with us earlier on the evening of the 15th for our evening meal in the Refectory.

Wednesday evening, April 13th, at 6:15 has been set aside for the last meeting of this year's Society, sponsored by our Vital Issues Commission. At that time, DOUGLAS HORTON will discuss the POSSIBLE MERGER of the E & R Church with the Congregational Christian Church. Mr. Horton, too, comes to us well prepared to speak on his topic. He is the Minister of the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches in America.

This line-up of vital issues will round out a fine year of planning by the Commission. Let us all attend these meetings and take part in the concerns which the Commission feels should be vital ones for us.

AVAILABLE NOW ...

at
the

BOOKSTORE COOP!

Interpreter's Bible,
Volume IV, covering
the PSALMS and the
PROVERBS

The 1955 Edition of
Young's Analytical
CONCORDANCE

Place your Order now!

AMERICA'S STRENGTH -- PHYSICAL OR SPIRITUAL?
-- as reported by Ed Shelly

(At least one Seminarian takes seriously the challenge to "write your congressman!" That Seminarian is Ed Shelly. Here, in edited form, is a report on some recent correspondence between Ed and the Honorable Paul E. Dague, representative to Congress from the Ninth District, Pennsylvania, Chester and Lancaster counties. The staff is publishing this report for the same reason that Ed sent it along to us: it presents a fairly good picture of a legislator's idea of "faith in action" on a national scale.)

WHAT ED WROTE:

In his letter to Congressman Dague, Ed said "hats off" to President Eisenhower for expressing his personal, and the nation's, abiding faith in God. Ed cited passages from the President's State of the Union message to the 84th Congress, in which Mr. Eisenhower said that the whole conception of the American government rests on a "deep faith" in the "divine endowment" of our people with "inalienable rights," that history's present crisis is concerned "with the worth of the individual," and that he had confidence that he was speaking for "a devout America, humble before God."

Ed quickly points out to the Congressman from Pennsylvania, however, that President Eisenhower continues to endorse efforts to put into effect a program of Universal Military Training -- to strengthen our nation. Gaining support from quotes in the "Manchester Guardian" Ed assails U.M.T. as "futile, worthless, and a wretched replacement for active military forces." Likewise, Ed continues, such national defense moves are inconsistent with the laws of God -- the basis for the faith which President Eisenhower had hailed. Ed concludes his "study in paradox" with the statement, "to bring more Americans to the Christian faith is the basic national defense, rather than U.M.T. Our country does not suffer from physical sickness, but from spiritual sickness. And a spiritual sickness demands a spiritual cure."

THE CONGRESSMAN'S REPLY:


The Honorable Mr. Dague expressed his personal thanks to Ed for his "forthright opinions," which he considered a privilege to receive. He expressed the hope that Ed "will continue to acquaint(him) with his thinking on these important issues."

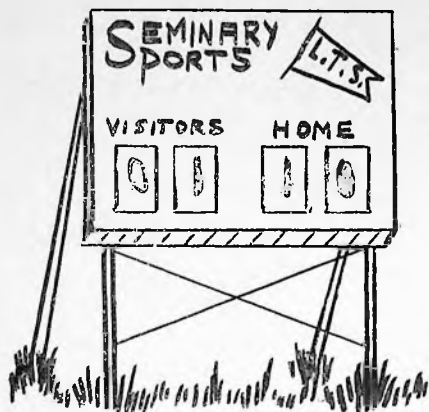
Moreover, in light of the cost of a program like U.M.T. and the present strength in volunteers for our armed forces, the Congressman agreed with Ed that U.M.T. "may well be worthless for all practical purposes."

Continuing his reply, Mr. Dague expressed his belief "that President Eisenhower is unquestionably sincere when he defines our government as resting on deep faith and Divine endowment." However, he reminds Ed that our nation has never built up or employed its armed strength, except in times of aggression by other nations.

At this point, the Congressman expresses his own ideas on the Christian faith and its position and power in the U.S. He begins, "All of us, I am sure, are committed to the idea that Christianity is the only antidote to Communism. I would, however, submit that when Jesus Christ walked this earth He was given security to carry on His missionary endeavors by reason of the law and order maintained by force of arms throughout the Roman Empire. Our situation is identical in that so long as God-less Communism is dedicated to a program of controlling the world by force, even so must we guard the remnants of freedom and make secure the right of all Christians to enlarge and promote their philosophy."

Mr. Dague concludes, "We are not going to use armed might for the promotion of Christian ideals. Rather we are going to maintain our military strength so that Christianity may enjoy the freedom necessary to its advancement."





SEMINARIAN BASKETEERS DRILL FOR PENNANT RACE!

Coach "Deacon" Westcott's First-String Five are preparing for their last -- and decisive -- game in the Franklin and Marshall Intramural Basketball League. Monday evening, March 7th (TONIGHT!) the Seminary #1 Team will meet the champion team from the college's Fraternity League, to crown their lead in the Independent League with a school-wide victory and the championship of both leagues.

The potential opponents to our Basketeers in this tourney play will be either the team from Lambda Chi or the basket-boys from Phi Psi.

Here is the official record of individual scoring by members of the Seminary #1 Team -- over a seven-game range:

JIM CRESS, top scorer with 27 points to his credit
GLENN RADER, a close second with a fine record of 90 points
OTHER FIRST-STRING RECORDS include -- Gerber 54, Hemming 45,
Baylor 45, Sponsler 42, Meyers 27, Godfrey 10, and McCall 6.

Having won 10 games and lost only 1 game, Seminary #1 turned in a total of 558 points to their opponents' total of 174. Seminary #2 had an even more perfect record -- they lost all of their games! This lack of wins, however, says nothing about the spirit and good play exhibited by the Seminary #2 Squad throughout the season. Hat's off to a fine season!

MIMO-GRAPHING "CLINIC" for all interested students...
Tuesday, March 8th, at 2:30 in Hafer Room

WE'RE SORRY, FELLOWS! IT'S OUR FAULT!

DUE TO A MISUNDERSTANDING, the "Seminarian" interpreted the lack of an effort on the part of the Choir to supply news concerning its recent trip as being an indication of no interest in publishing such news. As we go to press, that effort has been made. Therefore, look for this news March 21.



NOTICE TO ALL SENIORS (prospective Graduates of this coming May): The Board of Visitors will hold their annual examination this coming Friday, March 11, both morning and afternoon, 9:30-12:00 and 1:30-4:00. All Seniors are required to attend both sessions. The Examining Committee this year consists of Reverends Cyrus T. Glassner, Titus A. Alspach, and Charles D. Rodenberger. The questions,

pertaining to biblical, historical, theological, and practical fields, will not be given out before the examination, nor assigned to particular students in advance of their being asked.

Reverends CHESTER L. MARCUS and F. NELSON SCHLEGEL will be in Lancaster Synod from March 6 to March 20. We expect to hear them in chapel and in several class periods. (see article: page 4 on "Vital Issues") We welcome these Church leaders, as they help to guide us in applying the One Gospel to group relationships.

SPRING TERM REGISTRATION: Seniors, 36; Middlers, 21; Juniors, 32; M.R.E.'s, 5; Specials, 9. Total: 103. Students are reminded that any CHANGE IN REGISTRATION must be made before the end of this week (March 12). Students are also reminded that WINTER TERM WORK must be completed by the end of the fifth week of the Spring Term (April 2), if credit is to be received for the course involved.