



THE SEMINARIAN

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SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT VS. SOCIAL ACTION A MISPLACED DEBATE

There persists within the Seminary the idea that spiritual development and social action are somehow mutually exclusive. We describe ourselves as conservative and thus dismiss obligation for social involvement, or we describe ourselves as socially aware and thus dismiss obligation for spiritual development and discipline. However, where the Christian Church is growing and witnessing to the power of Christ one finds a fascinating blend of the two emphases. It is no accident that the fast-growing churches have also developed a new awareness of the social significance of the Christian lifestyle. Evangelicals have become social-action oriented in recent years in this country, and overseas the growing edge of the Church is found where both spiritual development and social action involvements go hand in hand. Dayton Roberts, a friend of the Latin American Mission, based in Costa Rica, recently reported on a visit in Columbia. There he noted in one secondary city within three years one church had expanded until there were eleven active congregations, each of which built upon Bible study and worship within and active involvement in the changing economic and social life of the city without. Love made evident to the neighbors through social action brought inquiring persons within the orbit of the spiritual development phase of the church life. With the

Christian movement doubling every ten years in most of Latin America, this cannot easily be ignored.

The need for revitalized churches and for dynamic evangelism in the United States of America does not need to be proved. That much of the citizenry of the country considers the Christian Church to be irrelevant in our time also is self-evident. That both the Old and New Testaments emphasize the inescapable link between striving in the world for justice for the poor and the widows and the orphan and knowing God is also evident to careful students of Scripture. To debate whether the spiritual or the social dimension is more truly Christian is to misunderstand both dimensions and to falsify the messianic claims of the Church. To grow spiritually, Christians must learn to see their neighbors in this world, both near and far off, both comfortable and suffering, both empowered and oppressed. Seeing our neighbors is not enough. We must love them with a love that shares both pain and pleasure. But we cannot do this if we remain aloof from the social dimension of the human struggle within this world. Our spiritual development remains stunted if we struggle not on behalf of Christ's little brothers and sisters in the realms of social action. Our best and noblest impulses in the social action realm lack power to lift us into a sense of the kingdom without spiritual strivings after commitment and discipline as followers of the Christ.

To attempt to separate spiritual
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NORT'S SPEWS

In this age of The sequel, both in the movies and on television, we have seen Airport movies like mad, the Exorcist II, Roads II, and soon will see Superman II and Jaws III. Not one to be left out in the cold, this columnist has decided to go with a winner and present.....

Nort's Notes II...

- 1) When exercising, try and stay awake, this ensures optimum benefit from your physical exertion.
- 2) Be very careful not to attain too high a speed during initial jogging sessions as that spare tire may be painful from excess jiggling.
- 3) Along the same lines, avoid cornering too quickly, as an overshifting flab zone can cause nasty spills.
- 4) Once that protruding midsection is dissipated, speeds up to 40 mph may be recorded. I personally have reached such speeds closely followed by a German Shepherd I happened upon along my route.

Bowling results..

Klas, this reporter has finally reached the pinnacle of his bowling prowess, bumping off Bruce with a rousing 507 series. The biggest surprise of the night however was Javier rolling a fat 163 and a 370 series on his first time bowling... ever!

The Scores....NORT 507, Bruce 499, Allen 407, Javier 370, Vicki 325, Tim 208*, Pat 200* (* indicates two game series)

ATTENTION TO ALL SOFTBALL ENTHUSIASTS...

.....Sign up at the mailboxes if you haven't already done so! An early morning practice session is being planned for next week. An announcement concerning the practice will be posted early next week. Our season should be a very good one!

Coach Pop Fly

Quote: Theology is formulated in Germany, corrected in Great Britain, and corrupted in the U.S. (Christian Herald)

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development from social action is to seek to split the realms Christ came to unite, and such an endeavor leads to false philosophizing, theologizing, and debating.

Francis E. Ringer

LOOKING FOR A CHALLENGING MINISTRY?

In a nearby city there is an opportunity opening by September for a couple to work in a neighborhood ministry. The salary is minimal and the fringe benefits are the basic ones of the United Church of Christ. Ability to speak Spanish is desired, but a willing student of the language will be considered also. Here is an opportunity for an "overseas missionary experience" within the U.S. scene. The timid need not apply, but if you like adventure, speak to Dr. Ringer for details. (You will need spiritual stamina and social consciousness!)

SCC SHORTS

-Congratulations to Don Mason for climaxing a long campaign for Jr. Class Rep., on Monday Don was elected, by a small sampling of Juniors, to SCC as Jr. Class Representative. Nice going Don.

-A donation of \$100.00 has been donated to the United Way

-Tim Dykstra and Pat Bennett have been asked to serve on the Nominating Committee for next year's election. Two others will be named. If you are interested in being on SCC next year give your name to either one of these two.

Jeff Dick

KSTAFF

Bruce Druckenmiller
Don Mason
Mike Vaughan
Tim Dykstra

If anyone is interested in working on the SEMINARIAN either this year or next, please express your interest to one of the staff members. We are constantly in need of interesting articles!!!

NOISE? SOMEONE MENTION NOISE?

SEMINAR ABROAD 1979

This year almost everyone who lives on campus has experienced some of the many inconveniences which have blared forth from Richards Hall. For those of you who are unfamiliar with what I am talking about, the F and M students to whom we rent out rooms have become very neglectful at times of the fact that there are other people living not only in the dorm but also within a four mile radius of their sterios. There are other problems which stem from their disregarding the fact that they are guests who have been invited to live on our campus (i.e. parking, yelling, screaming, the list could probably go on for some time) and not to take it over.

It would seem that its not asking too much for them to behave like human beings even though I realize that the terms "human beings" and "college student" are sometimes not synonymous (as can be witnessed by the recent movie "Animal House").

If this sounds a little strong, it might be because I'm just letting off a little steam which has built up over this year, or it could be because I didn't get much sleep last night, but really the main reason I'm writing this is to announce that there will be a meeting on Tuesday, March 13th, to try to come to terms as to how this situation can be handled without declaring war. The meeting will be held at 6:00 in the pool room of Richards Hall and we will talk about ideas such as set rules, dorm councilors, a dorm council, and any other brainstorm which you may have. Hopefully we will come up with a proposal to present at the next SCC meeting. If you cannot make this meeting but have a great idea, see me sometime.

Bruce Druckenmiller

CHAPEL

A special chapel communion meal will be held on Wednesday, March 21st at noon in the Refectory. There will be no regular 9:30 am chapel on that day. All students, staff and community are welcome to attend. More information next week.

QUOTE

"We always choose the longest roads for the rewards are richer when we reach the end." -Vaughan

Dr. Ringer has scheduled a brief but important meeting of all persons planning to travel with the Seminar Abroad in 1979. Persons in PTP have asked for one meeting at a time convenient to them, and so this meeting will be on Tuesday, March 13. The meeting will be held in A206 at 4:00 pm. The agenda:

1. Passport problems and procedures;
2. Car-pooling for trips to obtain shots;
3. Update on Cuban arrangements;
4. Planning for informal language and culture sessions; and
5. Other questions which participants may have.

KNOCK, KNOCK, WHO'S THERE? GOD?!

This is the feeling some students had yesterday as they sat in collegium in one of the rooms on the second floor of the Lark Academic Building and a knocking sound was heard seemingly coming from out of nowhere. After exchanging some puzzled looks of dismay, they investigated and found that the elevator apparently has an appetite and had decided to consume Austin Ritter-spach along with his cup of coffee. Fortunately, the operation to release him was brief and painless for all involved, including the elevator.

MORAL: "Watch out for hungry elevators"

or

"Beware of elevators with no phone"

Sunset

Orange schooner
cruising the horizon
setting out to sea
waves of clouds break around it.
A portrait

painted in light
wrapped in amber, violet, pink ribbon
a present for the dawn.

R. Michael Vaughan

This space is here because we do not have enough filler. So please ignore this space.

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From The Jeweler

!!
A diamond in the rough is very precious
indeed,
But not in the state presently found.
It has to go through cuttings and shapings
of sharp tools,
cutting and molding the diamond for its
best.
It takes a keen eye to spot the dazzling
potential in a
rough and scratched stone.
Each phase that it goes through alters and
changes it ever so slightly,
into a scintillating array of sparkles.
Many facets can be found within the final
diamond,
but collectively they come together to
make this diamond special.
Each different angle you look at,
displays a new view of the sparkling mass.
Till at last its polished and set,
ready for its many uses.

Isn't a young man related to that of a
diamond in the rough?
As he starts out many are quick to criti-
cize,
for they don't have the keen vision to
see the vision within.
Experiences, lessons and criticism,
are the tools that make this diamond
dazzle.
Each engraving its way, scraping off the
rough
leaving one of many facets in his life.
The polish is his practice and his own
dedication
to becoming the best he can be.
In the end appears a gem of great value,
its hard resilience reflects the hard les-
sons
he's learned along the way.
As you look closer at the gem of the man,
you see a complicated spectrum of much
experience gone by,
a man of inner strength and weakness,
for not one diamond is ever perfect.
We ~~expect~~ accept this beautiful gem as
it is;
drinking in its regale beauty.

A diamond cannot be dazzling within a
day.
It takes time for development,
patience and faith to not give up trying
or searching
for the diamond, and skill to bring out
its potential
Therefore my friend be patient and have
faith.
For there are those who see the diamond
within,
and they like what they see.

From a diamond in the rough

Dee Stinson

