



The Seminary

Student Publication of the LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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CHOIR MAKES TV DEBUT

The Seminary Choir, stars of the hit recording "The Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ", now adds television to their list of accomplishments. Through arrangements made by Francis Williamson, the Seminary Choir was invited to appear on the WGAL-TV program, "Doorway to Life." This program is broadcast under the auspices of the Lancaster Council of Churches.

The Choir will present a Christmas concert on Sunday evening, December 25th at 6:00 pm. The broadcast will be performed previous to this time and will be re-broadcast on video-tape.

It has been estimated that through the medium of television, the Choir will appear before approximately 175,000 persons in the Lancaster area. During the twenty minutes of broadcasting, it is hoped that the Choir will be able to contribute to the spiritual meaning of Christmas for its listeners. It is also hoped that the television appearance will help make known this phase of the seminary's work to many in the area.

The Seminary Choir, with thirty-two members, is the largest that it has been in years. This year's officers are as follows: Mr. Frank McConnell, Director; Dr. Alfred Sayres, Faculty Adviser; David Knoebel, Student Manager; Robert Masenheimer, Assistant Manager; Laverne Joseph, Secretary.

The Council of Churches presents a program every Sunday evening from 6-6:20 pm. Two Sundays per month are designated for the programming of Protestant churches in the Lancaster region. The remaining Sundays are given for the use of the Roman Catholic and Jewish faiths within the area.

VITAL ISSUES FEATURES POLITICIANS

The coming election will be the topic of discussion at the meeting of the Vital Issues Commission this Tuesday, November 1, beginning at 6:15 pm. The meeting will be divided into two sessions, the first at 6:15 in the Refectory and the second in Room 2 of the ad building at 7:00.

Speaker for the first session will be Dr. John Vanderzell, professor of political science at Franklin and Marshall College and chairman of the Lancaster City Planning Commission. He will speak on "The Issues Involved in the Coming Election". A question and answer period will follow his talk.

The second session will feature two speakers, each representing his political party. Mr. Bruce Ryder, Republican, and Mr. John Pittinger, Democrat, both attorneys here in the city of Lancaster, will speak briefly on why one should support their respective political party. A question and discussion period, moderated by Dr. Vanderzell, will follow the talks. This final segment of the meeting will end at 8:00 pm.

Students and wives who do not regularly eat in the Refectory may make reservations for the dinner which will precede the first session. Students not desiring to eat in the Refectory are invited to come to the first session at 6:15.

All students wishing to participate in pre-season basketball at Chrispus Attucks are urged to sign the list posted in the first floor of Richards Hall. The pre-season games are for the purpose of warming up for the regular inter-mural basketball games which are to be played against Franklin and Marshall College teams later this term.

DEANotations

The address of the Rev. Eugene Grau at the worship assembly on Monday, October 24 was a clear and forceful presentation of the call to Christian Missions today in view of the factors in the world that make the situation all the more dangerous and demanding. The speaker is the head of our E&R mission in Ghana which works under the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in that land. He also serves as the president of the Theological Seminary at Peki.

The Junior Class has elected the following officers: President, Karl Gabler; vice-president, Jack Seville; secretary-treasurer, Anna Daugherty; representatives in the Bookstore Co-operative, Chester Byerly, John Calahan and Reginald Wagner.

Congratulations to "Father" McConnell. The faculty has become quite "re-Mark-able", yes, "three-Mark-able."

The Historical Pilgrimage of the Senior Class, with four overseas students as guests, drew ideal weather on Wednesday, October 26. The Willow Street Church School bus, driven by Bill Bleckley--for which we thank him and that congregation,

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POLICIES OF THE SEMINARIAN

1. The author of any material submitted for inclusion in THE SEMINARIAN must make his identity known to the editor. However, under special circumstances, the identity of the author will not be made public.

2. Any regular column must carry a by-line. Material appearing regularly without a by-line may be considered the work

EDITORIAL...

Something unusual occurred around here last week: a series of rather unusual signs pleading to the student body for volunteers for THE SEMINARIAN staff. Since these signs created wide interest, it is only fair that the readers should have a report as to the effect of this "self-sell" advertising.

The most immediate result of the signs was the number of human traffic jams occurring in the ad building as seminar-ians became aware of the fact that each sign was different. The second effect was the number of comments that came from both faculty and students alike attesting to the humor and originality of the small posters. The final result was the fact that six organizations asked the maker of the signs to do their posters in the future.

HOWEVER, the solitary reason for the posters was to recruit members for THE SEMINARIAN staff. The effort was rewarded by the enlargement of the staff by one person. This raises the total membership of the staff to a number adequate for a legal game of table tennis.

The attitude of the seminary students towards THE SEMINARIAN is about the same as the effect created in the minister's mind when a member of the congregation mumbles, "I enjoyed your sermon", on the way out of church.

As you undoubtedly noticed, THE SEMINARIAN came out rather late this issue. That it came out at all is a minor miracle. This is due entirely to inadequate staff membership. It takes more than one person to beg members of the various organizations for information concerning some phase of their program.

If this publication is to continue to function at all, the staff membership MUST be raised and organizations should not need be begged to submit material concerning themselves.

Enough said?

of the editor. (And he refuses to be considered responsible for any opinions other than his own.)

3. Material published or selected for publication must be of a nature considered to be of interest to the entire

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THE ALTAR

By Park Ranch

A certain layman of the church was heard to say that we, the students, come to seminary full of zeal and enthusiasm and enter into our junior field work sure of our convictions and purposes which we have set before us. However, by the time we are seniors, our message is full of "perhaps this" or "maybe that." If this criticism is true, who is to blame? Being human, we are quick to place the blame anywhere but where it belongs. Yet, after all the rationalization is over we must always look into the mirror.

It is true that a person held in esteem when seen from afar seems to be perfect, but when this person is known intimately, their failings become apparent. This is also true of a "religion", as some of us have painfully learned. Higher and lower criticism of the Holy Scriptures, this conjecture and that opinion of the "learned ones" all go hand in hand to deal a devastating blow to many an easy faith. "The Bible says" no longer carries the weight it once did for some of us, and sometimes we wonder, we doubt and we do end up with a "maybe" filled message.

What should be done? Should we turn away and give up? Should we return to the "blind" faith of an illiterate? Or should we become aware of our purpose and our task?

We say we are "called" to be leaders. Where shall we do this leading -- in a vacuum, in an Utopia, or in a realistic world inhabited by the most realistic creatures--men?

We think we are faced with contradictions, questions, and problems here in seminary, but this is child's play compared to what awaits us outside these hallowed walls if we still say, "Here am I Lord, send me."

Our faith is much more than the history of the Church; much more than the "Book"; much more than the uncountable words and opinions about it. Christianity is Christ--the risen, living Lord, active in the world, the Church and the hearts of men through the Holy Spirit. Everything else said, written, or done in Christendom

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UNDER THE STEEPLE

--The Seminary Choir has been practicing lullabies since Mr. Frank McConnell became the father of a baby boy last week.

--After wrecking his car last Sunday evening, Ken Mulholland returned to the dormitory to find a letter addressed to him. Enclosed was a card expressing the sender's wishes that "this would be his happiest day ever." Oddly enough, Ken had his accident at exactly the same place as Harold Lesh demolished his automobile last year. There is a request from the Mennonite farmer owning the property that seminarians slow down on the curves north of Manheim on Route 72.

--Word has been received that Miss Virginia Sommers and the Rev. William E. Wilson were united in marriage Friday evening, October 7. Virginia was an MRE student here last year and is now teaching at the Loudoun County High School in Leesburg, Virginia. The couple reside at 113 Loudoun Street, Leesburg. This brings to mind the statement once made by the female MRE student when asked why she chose this particular profession. "I feel called to become a minister's wife."

--Many have asked about the fate of the "Gargoyles", the joke column which appeared within these pages in past years. The answer is that Gargle and Argyle were given an honorable burial at the beginning of this term. This is the usual treatment given dead things.

--Now that the present buildings are to be replaced by a super-duper, ultra-modern campus within the next few years, the question was raised as to the identity of the architectural style of the present buildings. The best answer submitted was "Early Wmerican Mistake." The story has it that the Ad, Chapel, and Library buildings were created by an unemployed designer of Victorian railroad stations.

--Speaking of jokes, the following was given during the course of a lecture last week. Something like this should be shared: "Two tramps found a jewel-encrusted throne in the middle of the

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~~1-OBSERVATIONS ON THE REFORMATION~~

By Sam Fisher

Let's remove the Festival of the Reformation from the Church Year! It is time to call a halt to this rubbing of salt in old wounds. For far too long we have found joy in celebrating division within the Church; it has been both a hedonistic and a sadistic pleasure.

We have too often misused the observance for the purpose of pointing an accusing finger at our "separated brethren". It has too often been our un-Christian pleasure to present the evils of the medieval papacy and the Roman Church of that time, thus removing the focus from the present-day sins of the Protestant Church and of its plural papacy.

To cut the body of the Church asunder is not to make two bodies any more than the sword of Solomon could make two children out of one. Yet this is affirmed many times when we celebrate the Reformation, the Festival of Division. Yet many theologians claim the unity of the Church to be a fact. Even if this were so, that fact in itself should be sufficient reason for us to cease this screaming confession to the contrary.

The unity of the Church can be realized only in the bond of peace, just as the unity of husband and wife or the unity of a family can be realized only by forbearance and mutual love.

Shouldn't we practice what we preached in our last display of unity, the merger of CC's and E&R's to form the UCC? "Individual aims and opinions must be willingly sacrificed. The things that unite must be preferred to the things that separate."

If the unity is there, it must be felt by all Christians and we must testify to this fact by what we do not do as well as by what we do. If this festival is to be continued, it should not be to condemn our brethren and their tenets of faith. Nor should it be to glorify any one of the sainted Reformers or any one branch of the Church. It should not be for the perpetuation of scars, but should be, like all other festivals of the Church

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SWITCHOVER

(Plagiarized from THE NEW YORKER at the suggestion of Dr. Donald Englert.)

Rev. George Dunbar Kilpatrick of Oxford University, England, has arrived in Madrid to advise Director Nicholas Ray on religious details for the Lord's Last Supper in "King of Kings"...Professor of Exegesis of Holy Scripture at Oxford, Rev. Kilpatrick is author of "The Trial of Jesus" and other religious works and is considered an outstanding authority on theology.--Publicity handout from MGM.

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John,
Bless the reverend Oxford don

Hired by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
To bring a scholar's mind to bear

On the news you scribbled in bits
and pieces.
It takes a master of exegesis

To clarify what you left dark,
Careless Matthew, hasty Mark,

Unjournalistic John and Luke.
But count it not as a rebuke

If MGM turns out what was crypt-
ic into a clear-cut shooting script.

Doubtless you did the best you could
Two thousand years pre-Hollywood,

And details in need of beefing up
(What kind of bread? What shape of cup?)

How brightly did the candles glow?
Can be inserted now to show

Our Lord's Last Supper in terms the-
atric,
Thanks to Professor George Kilpatrick.

Bless him. Bless MGM. Bless me.
But let my blessing be the best one be,

For when I'm asked if I have seen
Your Gospel story on the screen,

I'll crush my questioner with a look
And answer, "No, but I've read the Book."

--Brendan Gill

DEAN (Cont. from p.2.)

was followed--more or less--by three cars, two of which got somewhat off course during the morning. Churches at Ft. Washington (Whitemarsh), Blue Bell (Boehm's), Skippach were visited before lunch at the Collegeville Inn. A tour of Ursinus College, directed by Prof. Richard Shellhase '47, followed. Then came the Muhlenberg shrine at Trappe, Falkner Swamp and First Church, Reading--and home before six. Appreciations to the Pilgrimage Committee: Scott Hengen, Mary Wenck and Dave Knoebel.

Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8. Classes as usual. Here's hoping you have or will get your absentee ballot.

ALTAR (Cont. from p.3.)

comes from, and points to Him--the living rock upon which we all must build.

Look in the mirror. Perhaps there are "maybes" in our message. Perhaps we haven't stayed close, or yielded, enough to the living Lord.

When he is "known", then all else takes its rightful place -- beneath Him, for when we "know" Him we have become "children of God, born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

STEEPLE (Cont. from p.3)

jungle. To avoid discovery, the two tramps carried the throne into a native hut. Unfortunately, the woven floor collapsed under the weight of the throne, killing both tramps. This proves that people living in grass houses shouldn't stow thrones."

LANCASTRANO (Cont. from p.4.)

Year, observed to the glory of God. Is this possible?

Penned in penitence
Feast of the Gargoyles, 1960
The Library Loft

P.S.--After reading the National Council of Churches' report on church membership increase, we don't have to worry about a problematic merger with the Romans--it looks like we've already entered a SUB-merger. Ignore convictions and merge into a UCC or ignore convictions and be submerged. Which is the lesser evil?

SPORT SCENE

By Bill Yocum

The last few Friday afternoons have found the men of the seminary meeting on the field of mortal combat. Calling this combat football and with the seminary championship at stake, the battle becomes violent.

October 21 the middlers and Jr. "A" played to a 6-6 tie. The Jr. team is known as the "white devils". They would call themselves the "blue devils" but they cannot afford to purchase blue shirts.

In this game the middlers scored on a pass play from Doyce Wise to Doug Albert. From there we had a furious battle with the juniors trying to gain possession and the middlers trying to keep possession. Finally, Prof. Englert came and took the water bucket himself. Then the Jr. "A" finally scored on a pass from John Darrer to Jack Seville. Jack now has four loose teeth.

The junior "B" team also had a furious battle to gain possession of the ball. This fracas ended in a 0-0 tie.

Last Friday, the Jr. "A" team pulled ahead in the team standings with a win over the "B" team. The middlers are in second place with 1 win and 2 tied games. The standings are:

	Won	Lost	Tie
Seniors	0	1	2
Middlers	1	0	2
Junior "A"	2	0	1
Junior "B"	0	2	1

POLICIES (Cont. from p. 2.)

seminary body.

4. All material submitted for publication must pass through the hands of the editor. The editor makes the final decision as to what material is to be printed.

5. Sources of information will not be revealed.

6. Material submitted for consideration must be in the editor's hands at least two days before publication. Exceptions will be made only with the editor's permission.

7. All final decisions as to material appearing within THE SEMINARIAN will be made by the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit (what else?) any and all material submitted.