

the

# SEMINARIAN

THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY



LIBRARY OF  
THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
of the Evangelical and Reformed Church  
LANCASTER, PA.

# ARTIAN

LANCASTER,  
PENNSYLVANIA

ACADEMIC YEAR 1954-55

February 7 #10

## SEMINARIANS TO HEAR ABOUT ALCOHOLISM

"Bottled trouble" will be reported on for the benefit of all members of the Seminary Family this coming Thursday, February 18th. During the regular Chapel Period Thursday morning, a representative of the Division of Alcohol Studies and Rehabilitation of the Pennsylvania State Board of Health will address the assembled seminarians. Immediately following this regular-length Chapel Period, the representative, Mr. Whitmoyer, will meet with Dr. Bartholomew's class on Urban Community Agencies in the Hafer Room. Interested non-class members who want to hear a more detailed report from Mr. Whitmoyer at that time are invited to attend the class.

## SEMINARY WOMEN TO VISIT MISSIONARY HOME

Monday night, February 14th, the regular monthly meeting of the Association of Seminary Women will be held at the Missionary House (1120 W. New St.) instead of in the lounge. This away-from-home meeting will include a tour by the ladies of the Missionary House, an introduction to its purpose by Mrs. David Dunn, and a discussion with Dr. and Mrs. Carl Kriste on their work in Tokyo, Japan. The meeting with the outstanding missionaries in their furlough-home will close with a worship service. All seminary women are urged to attend this interesting session.

March 1st (the first Tuesday evening of the Spring Term) is the date set by the A.S.W. for a party in Alumni Hall at 8:00 pm. At this time all Seminary Women, with their husbands and/or friends, will join in an evening of entertainment, fellowship, and refreshment-consumption! The price of admission to this special social event will be articles of used clothing. The clothing collected from the couples at the party will be given by the A.S.W. to needy families.

## SPRING RETREAT --- DAY OF PRAYER WITH LINCOLNIANS

The second annual Spring Retreat with the seminarians at Lincoln Theological Seminary will be held the second day of the new term (March 1st). As was the case last year at the beginning of our third term, this year's bi-seminary retreat will consist of worship periods, Bible study and prayer sessions. This year's retreat will be held at the Lincoln Seminary. Our hosts are planning the program at the moment; and there is no definite information concerning it available as yet. Bill Simpson is acting as liaison-officer for this year's interracial fellowship event. Watch the bulletin boards for specific information on such details as transportation, time-schedule, etc.

## SEMINARIAN'S LENTEN ISSUE COMING

The next issue of the SEMINARIAN will be distributed on Monday, March 7th. This issue will feature Lenten themes. The staff is hopeful that several interested and gifted seminarians will contribute appropriate articles for this issue. This seasonal edition would be an excellent time for the publication of poems, essays, etc. by members of the Seminary Family. The staff will welcome all such contributions. Please observe the deadline if you plan to contribute. Thank you.



NEVER TO BE PUBLISHED is the ill-fated issue of the SEMINARIAN scheduled for Monday, February 21. Way back September, your editor carefully outlined the publication-schedule for the academic year 1954-55. He was especially careful to note all vacations and special sessions -- that is, all but the coming vacation from February 13-26! Again and again that schedule was checked; again and again the staff failed to remember the missing vacation "break." Three days before the work started on this issue of the SEMINARIAN the light dawned! "A most mysterious revelation" -- and a happy "unveiling of the veiled" for the editor and his fellow Barthians.

WHAT A MISERABLE SITUATION -- an empty issue of the SEMINARIAN and still nothing to kick about in a witty editorial! The Salvation Army now has its needed volunteers from the Seminary Family (even a couple of wives to work with the little children during the recreation periods there). The faculty graciously conducted a second "student opinion poll" concerning the proposed yearly-schedule change -- at a well-attended meeting. Goodness! All that need happen now is for some of our boys to give up drinking coffee during Chapel Periods for Lent -- and "Editorially Yours" will go out of business!

DE-EDITORIALIZED as your editor is at the moment, he must turn cub reporter and submit the following news-item:

#### STURDY STOMACHS FEEL FLAPJACKS!

It all began innocently enough. Table #3 in the dining hall was served pancakes for lunch one day last week, as were all the other tables. However, seated at table #3 that particular noon were "eat 'em by the hundreds" BILL SIMPSON and "the hatch-a-day boy from hell" HAL HEMMING. As the pancakes soaked up the syrup and the meal wore on, the two "champions" began swapping stories about their eating-abilities and stomach-capacities. The stories grew wilder and wilder, so BILL WARNER proposed that the two belching braggards "show their stuff" in a pancake-eating contest -- right then and there! Twenty minutes and four Alka-Seltzer tablets later, the score stood 21-20, with Simpson the smiling, green-faced victor over Hemming. "Brother Bill" went out to the kitchen to tell "Mom" Greff about his success, only to be misunderstood by our chief stewardess who thought he wanted more pancakes! When "Mom" offered him what he'd have been his 22nd consecutive flapjack, Simpson managed a polite -- but firm -- "No Thank You," before running to join Hemming over another glass of Alka-Seltzer!

G.M.H.

#### A letter to the Editor

(from his Features-editor)

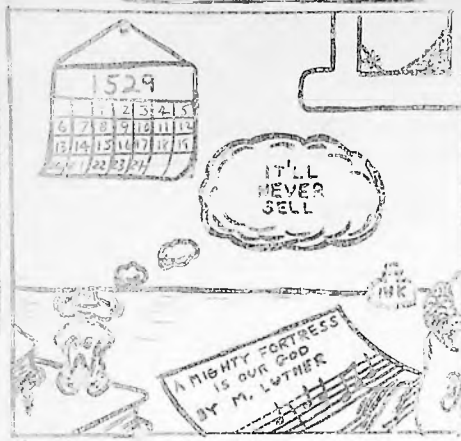
Dear Editor,

Since most reputable and efficient newspapers receive many letters addressed to the editor, and since we receive so few letters addressed to the editor, I would like to address this letter to the editor as a replacement for my column. (Please note the majesty and rhythm of the above literary construction. A raise in pay is greatly deserved and needed by this writer. Otherwise I may have to join the ORDER of MEDICANT HARNERS, and place my cup in the hall!)

Being a great enthusiast for antiquities and being something of an antique myself, I thought I'd do a little research and just try to get the facts -- yes sir, just try to get the facts about VALENTINE'S DAY. There wasn't much to get, but like I always say about an exam (WITHHELD -- for security reasons) ignore the facts and let's get on with the writing.

To begin with, nobody knows when it began. Even good old F.Schiffer let me down. Nobody knows who began it either. Of course, everyone says St. Valentine did; but that vague answer shows a decided lack of valentine-scholarship! In fact, there were three St. Valentines; all of them

(CONTINUED: page 4)



FRANK the PESSIMIST had received little or no comment from readers of the SEMINARY until the issue of January 24th. At that time the chief comment was, "I don't get it!!" If by this time anyone who didn't get it still doesn't, he or she may see the editor. He will give an explanation of the specially-prepared cartoon. It is that particular Frank who, with Frank's co-origina-tors gave him the idea when he didn't get it! For the guardians will attention to the cartoon, which stands near the little cartoon on the cartoon opposite this cartoon. Of course, an umbrella is stand-ing and open for Frank, who is always miserable!

Say, how 'bout a date? A date for what? Why for the MIDDLER BANQUET which will be held April 20th at the ... Our friends will be there, and so will mine. I'll ... the pleasure of rubbing elbows with you there. Thank you. (This is a paid advertisement!)

### CHOIR PACKS ITS BAGS FOR THE SUNNY SOUTH — Carl Kropp

As we approach another year-end, those of us who are in the Seminary Choir look expectantly for the high-light of the choir's activities -- the annual tour. It is your or your promises to be as rich and fruitful as those of past years have been.

The Seminary Choir will leave New York from February 20th to 25th, and will travel through parts of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. The itinerary includes about eight concerts to be given in churches throughout these states. Points of special interest on the tour will include a visit to Catawba College in Salisbury, N.C., a possible visit to a cotton mill, and some sight-seeing in Washington, D.C. on the return trip.

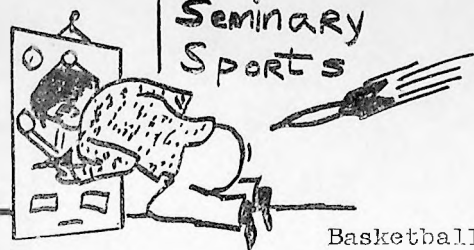
Other concerts are yet to be planned for this year, in addition to our tour of the sunny Southland. Seven or eight trips to churches in Pennsylvania are planned, plus a concert in St. Peter's Church as part of the Commencement program in May.

The fellowship and good times enjoyed by the choir members on such trips as these are greatly appreciated by each individual. However, the choir does not exist for fellowship and enjoyment of singing alone. The aims and purposes of the Seminary Choir are designed to help one make an intelligent discrimination between superior and inferior music. This is an essential part of one's training for the ministry. For, as future church leaders, all of us will have to be concerned sometime with church choirs and church music. The insights we gain now will be quite helpful in the future.

The choir represents the Seminary as we travel. The impressions we leave are reflections upon the entire Seminary Family. We hope that our concerts give the various congregations a new sense of their relationship to our school. The bond established in this way, we trust, will be a very worthwhile one.

Everyone, whether a choir member or not, should be interested in the work of the Seminary Choir, and should be willing to co-operate with and support its efforts.

## Seminary Sports



Basketball, Dartball, and Ping-Pong continue with no immediate reports available. -- Hal and Bob

DEAN  
DATA



WE WELCOME as our Assembly speaker today Dr. David E. Young of Harrisburg, District Superintendent of the East Pennsylvania Conference, Evangelical United Brethren Church. Dr. Young was for several years a neighbor and colleague of this writer in Harrisburg, and the two Davids had some good times together. Our guest speaker next

Monday will be the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, Rev. John H. Gordon.

"F IS COLUMN" would like to give an expression of deep appreciation, in which Bill Simpson and the Heidelberg boys join, to the Seminary community, faculty, staff, and students for the support given in various ways during the Lancaster visit of the Heidelberg College Chorus Choir. The attendance was good at the concert in St. Andrew's Church and all expenses were met.

DEADLINE DATE for the approval of revised outline or work plan for theses is February 14th.

### Letter to the Editor (continued from page 2)

martyrs who are somehow connected with February 14th: you know how everyone tries to cut in on a good thing! The St. Valentine who usually receives credit had it pretty tough. On February 14th he was arrested, beaten, and beheaded. Since then, not so many have tried to cut in on his racket!

As I continued my research, I was nearly overcome by shock. It seems that Feb. 14th was really an old pagan love-festival. 'Know why it was celebrated as an old pagan love-festival? Well, hold on to your Homberg -- because it was believed that birds began to mate on this day. So, the next time you buy a Valentine and someone says, "That's for the birds!" he may be an educated historian! So, don't laugh!

By and by this love-festival became associated (purely by accident) with St. Valentine's Day, simply because he (or they) was (or were) killed on Feb. 14th ('thought I'd slip up with my verbs, didn't you?) To put it quite simply -- somebody goofed! They had a pretty good thing there for awhile. On the eve of St. Valentine's Day, young people used to meet (as young people will) and draw each other's names from a box. Each man got a lady for a valentine, and vice-versa. However, there's one in every crowd, and this time it was a guy called Butler who said, "Abolish this heathen, lewd, superstitious custom!" Several zealous pastors substituted the names of saints in the box from that time on! Imagine getting Polycarp of Smyrna as a valentine! (If he wasn't a saint, he should have been with a name like that.)

The Catholic Encyclopedia comments thusly: "The custom of sending valentines has of late fallen into desuetude." (I had a little trouble with that one. It seems that desuetude has also fallen into desuetude!) I realize that we haven't gotten very far with this thing; but keep in mind the beatitude, "Blessed are those who go around in circles, for they shall become big wheels."

I wish to acknowledge the help and support of Jeanne Ingold who waited patiently while I did this extensive research.

Sincerely,

Miss Guided

LIBRARY OF  
THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
of the Evangelical and Reformed Church  
LANCASTER, PA.