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38 VOICES TO PRESENT 12 NUMBERS

The Lancaster Seminary's best known extra - curricular activity will carry a brand new program to a number of the parishes in the Evangelical and Reformed Church very soon. The largest Seminary Choir that any of us can remember plans to present what seems to be the most difficult program in recent years.

The Seminary Choir is one of the very oldest extra-curricular activities on campus. For many years the men at the Seminary have volunteered their services to this group, receiving no remuneration for the large amount of time that they spend in rehearsals and concerts and receiving only in the very recent years an academic credit for participation. In spite of these drawbacks the choir has always contained a large part of the student body. There is a custom at St. James Church, Lancaster, to hold an annual reunion for choir alumni. This year on Epiphany Sunday, one minister returned. If our Seminary were to hold such a reunion on a given Sunday, almost one-half of the pulpits supplied by Lancaster men would be vacant that day.

The choir has always rendered fine service in the past. First, it renders one very definite service in the congregations by keeping them advised concerning the situation at the Seminary, the nature of the students here, and the general tenor of parish-Seminary relationships. Second, it offers a valuable aid to the *Seminarian* in acquainting him with many of the parishes in the denomination and with the people that compose the various synods. Third, it has done a great deal to impress upon the parishoners the important role that music can play in their worship. Music is a powerfully moving factor in the worship of God, but people can hardly be expected to learn this lesson from a priori knowledge. Related to this last point is a fourth: Concerts by the Seminary Choir make a definite contribution to the prestige and state of music in the various parishes. These programs, all of a very fine calibre, go far toward educating the people and their pastors in the

appreciation of good church music. We know that there is church music and there is good church music. In many places there is little or no distinction between the two in the minds of the people. One definite role of the choir is to point out the difference between the two. Then, the broad repertoire of the choir over the years has served to give some sort of an idea to the parishes visited the wide range of possibilities to be considered when planning a congregation's musical program. A church need not use all one kind of music; it only needs to bear in mind that it all should be good. A final contribution made to improving the calibre of the musical programs in the parishes is the education in planning of programs afforded by the selections made each year. The excellent programs sung by choir can serve as examples of the sort of internal consistency necessary to any good musical program. Even fine music must fit well the mood of the other numbers with which it appears on a program.

Recently the choir has been a growing organization. Each year both the personnel and the number of public appearances seem to be growing in size. The programs are increasing in scope and in musical difficulty. In considering the Seminary Choir we are concerning ourselves with an expanding organization, taken from any point of view.

The present choir is the largest in the history of the organization. There are in all thirty-eight members, working together under the very excellent direction of Prof. McConnell. These men come from five states and 36 cities. Despite this wide divergence in background, they sing well together. The group seems to be well-balanced, bass voices in about a 3:2 ratio with tenor voices. In addition to the regular chorus there is a quartet, consisting of Haney, Leather, Eckert, and Wentz. Solo numbers are placed in the capable hands of our trained tenor, Jack Busler. Choir business is handled by the officers of the organization: Felton, Haney, Shepherd, and Dr. Frantz.

(Cont'd on p. 4)

War with Russia? Maybe. Bankruptcy? Absolutely!

One of the biggest questions in everyone's mind every day as he picks up the morning paper: "Did somebody fire the first shot of the war against Russia?" Thus far the answer has been, "Nobody." Good. May we pray God that it will continue to be so. But, on the other hand, I wonder whether the man who breathes a sigh of relief every morning, ever weighs in his mind just what the chances of war with the Russian nation really are. Amidst the hustle and bustle of preparing for the war, we fail to consider in our customary, "lets-get-down-to-business" objective, American way, the possibility of whether or not we'll have to fight. Let's see how things shape up.

Now, giving our state department all the credit possible for knowing which way the wind is blowing, if we were among the residents of the Kremlin, how would we be viewing things right now? First of all, unless the Russians need a big war for some other reason than a pure conquest for ideological conversion, then the Russians must realize that such a war with the United States would be as much of a waste for her, as most Americans feel it would be if we tried to conquer China. She would accomplish little on the net gain side of the ledger. It's true that Communism is admittedly a philosophy committed to world conquest and conversion; but, there is no stipulation as to how that conquest is to be made. Certainly it must not waste good men and material (especially the latter) if there is another way to go about it. Figuring that they have all the time that eternity affords, is another way open for the Russian Bear to crawl into our nation?

Yes, there is. Bankruptcy and economic chaos. And how is this seemingly unbelievable thing to come about? Curiously enough, by the very means with which we intend to protect ourselves. But how can this be? Somewhere in the years past there was the wise fool who said, what's the good of an army without a war to fight? Very true. An over-sized army without anything but police duty to perform is capable of wrecking an economy. Any business man with half a mind knows that an inventory out of proportion to his volume will ruin his business, because it is a dead drain on his current expenses to maintain, just like a leaky auto battery. So then with the massive war machine we are intending to build. If we find no work for it, its maintenance might easily wreck our economy. In recent weeks, some commentators,

with a flair for history have compared our present situation to the last days of the Roman Empire, when the great mistress of the Mediterranean had such a military machine that its support kept the people in a state of poverty (in comparison to their former prosperity) so that they were not interested any longer in assimilating the new ideas and elements into their society, but were willing to succumb finally to them as a possible source of revival.

Could this happen here? It's possible. In fact, given the right circumstances it might happen in a hurry. In these days of modern warfare, units cost more; likewise, the thing that is good today is obsolete tomorrow. Our present theory of economics seems to be one of keeping the money going in circles. The only trouble is that the circles get smaller. Like our leaky battery, our system has a short circuit. That's the dormant military machine that has to be replaced and refurbished constantly. That isn't like consumer goods. The government buys, then scraps and the money that would be spent by consumers is paid to the government to buy more armament that is, practically, not producing any returns. And, like a battery, such a short circuit will eventually run it dead. It could happen.

Giving the Russians credit for a bit of logic, we must admit that they would feel that if they give us rope and time enough we'll eventually hang ourselves. In other words, a society dispirited and bankrupt is one that is easy to sell a new idea. Is it possible that Russia intends to let us spend ourselves on petty wars and huge armament to the point of bankruptcy? This would quiet our fears about war with Russia perhaps, but it doesn't make us feel much better.

This is not bare criticism of our government. They are caught between two fires. They must build a defense machine or be annihilated; but by doing this, if they have no aggressor to actively defend against, they face the possibility of eventual bankruptcy and, God forbid, outright rebellion. They are doing the best thing that is possible. That they would make a war to fit the situation is unthinkable, both on moral and practical grounds, since the best we could hope for would be pretty much of a stalemate.

What's the answer? We wish we knew. When I find out I'll be glad to write the second installment. Apparently the style will be tight belts this year. Our highest hope is that the good on both sides will manifest itself soon, in the interest of a peaceful settlement on middle ground.

Dick Glatfelter

Lem Remlap, who as you know lives in the bell tower, was reclining on his couch Monday evening when I visited him. While I was catching my breath I stood looking at this remarkable old gentleman. He was dressed in grey, Confederate grey, that is, from head to foot. He lay sipping a mint julip from a Dixie Cup and when I spoke I must have startled him because it took me ten minutes to coax him down from the bells. When at last he saw who I was he came down and I noticed he had spilled some of his drink on his grey sweat shirt and remarked about the faint C that was on the front.

"No, that doesn't stand for Confederate, it stands for Catawba. I won this shirt playing basketball."

"Hmmm," I said. That could mean anything but I wanted him to call the shots.

"Oh yes, I was quite a player. Whereas you became famous in Catawba by going down in history, I played basketball."

"Hmmm," I said.

"I got this shirt for winning the Conference Championship one night. Everything hinged on this game we were playing. It was the last of the season and the wind was blowing like mad. Of course that wouldn't make any difference now, but in those days we had to play out of doors. Understand also that the lighting wasn't nearly as good as it is now. The wind kept blowing the lanterns out. Well I had just tied the game at 60 all with a free throw. It was like this: I started to shoot and just as I did a mosquito bit me on the hand and I slapped it. The ref, not being able to see very well even at high noon, called a foul on the other fellow. He gave me the ball, and the players lined up along the foul circle. He told me to shoot and I looked around and saw no one standing in the 3 second lane, so I dribbled in and laid it up and for one point to tie the game. Thirty seconds to go. I came dribbling down the plowed field when thirteen feet from the goal, the wind blew the ball out of my hand..... ten seconds to go.....I looked down and saw someone's felt hat.....I picked it up, jumped high in the air, made a one hand push shot and through the bucket it went.....62-60. Yes sir, I was quite the ball player in my day."

"Hmmm," I said, which again could mean anything.....and it did.

Mel Palmer

WOMAN'S PAGE

The redecorating of the Seminary lounge has given the Seminary Women a chance to meet in the homes of some of the women of Lancaster. Mrs. William Bollman entertained "the girls" on Monday evening in her lovely home on

East Orange Street.

The meeting opened with a worship service conducted by Miriam Kneller, Gertrude Pirazzini, and Ruth Strassbaugh. Mrs. Bollman played the piano for the group singing.

After a short business meeting conducted by the president, Melba Trout, Reverend Nugent was introduced as the speaker for the evening. Rev. Nugent talked to us informally about his work among the Japanese Americans in San Francisco and in relocation camps during the last war. He made some of the persons seem very real to us, and we all appreciated "Dr. Nugent's" talk.

During the business meeting it was decided to send money, through the Church World Service, to Japan. This money will be raised by the showing of the film, "South of the Cloud," in the very near future. It will be shown at the Seminary and the entire Seminary Family is invited.

Refreshments were next, plus some chatter. What gathering would be complete without them? There were two kinds of cake, whipped cream, nuts and coffee for all. Just ask Ivan Morrin if it wasn't worth the trip in to Lancaster.

Thus ended another evening with "the girls".

Carolyn Kratz



(Con't. from page 1)

The program this year, entirely unlike last year's concentration on music appropriate to the changing seasons of the church year, contains representative music from all ages, ranging from a number from 5th century Russian liturgy to the twentieth century setting of "Rise up, O men of God", by T. Tertius Noble. The program includes nine numbers by the chorus, two by the soloist, and one by the quartet. As has been the custom in the past, the program contains the official greetings from the Seminary by Dr. Frantz.

By mutual consent (both the parish-es and the choir members) the annual spring tour will again be aimed at the heart of the Potomac and Southern Synods. In all, eight concerts are to be presented during the Spring Vacation. These are to be announced at a later date. Vicinity concerts are to be presented at Hellam, Boyertown, Columbia, Reading, Allentown, Orwigsburg, Chambersburg, Coopersburg, Glen Rock, and Santee Chapel. Specific information will be released at a later date. The Seminarian will carry all this information as it becomes current news.

Dave Mark

LAYMAN TO ADDRESS SOCIETY

David A. Miller, leading layman of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, will address the Society of Inquiry and all interested persons at 7 p. m. Tuesday, Feb. 20. Miller is a member of the General Council of the Church and is a publisher of the Call-Chronicle Newspapers of Allentown, Pa. His subject will be "The Newspaper in Relation to the Ministry and the Progress of the Church."

SPORTSCOPE

The sports scene has been buzzing with activity since the Christmas Vacation. The ping-pong tournament has been completed and the final account shows that the netmen finished in the following order: Trout, Morrin, Titus, Palmer, and Sink. These six men with Haldeman as manager, will represent the Seminary in the Inter-Fraternity fray, which is scheduled to open in February.

The Seminary Angels have returned to the courts and have recorded a league win over Phi Sigma Kappa, 45-38. But the Angels had their wings clipped by the boys of Crispus Attucks by a score of 60-45. There has been considerable improvement by the courtmen in the last few encounters, so watch the win column grow.

The dart baseball season is under way, and the current standings show Team # 1 leading Team # 2 in a heated battle. Two veterans, Dr. Englert and Tom Harting are again making a bid for the batting crown with respective (and respectable) averages of .604 and .500.

The pins are flying thick and fast in the bowling competition. As the teams squared off this week we found 1st Floor in first, 2nd Floor in second slot, 3rd deck in third, and the Faculty in the cellar. Glatfelter, Schultz, and Shreiner are rolling for top individual honors. But watch out! Some others are just hitting their stride and the results can change rapidly.

Dick Masters

CLEANED FROM R. E. # 65 . . .

"How in the h---heaven... can I ever get it across?"