

THE SEMINARIAN

VOLUME XXV

January 10, 1974

Number 11

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The staff of THE SEMINARIAN would like to wish everyone a very joyous and happy New Year. We hope and pray that this will be a year of great happiness and success. Many things have happened in the past year(s) which have been good, others which have not been so good. Hopefully those things which have been good will continue, and those which have not been so good will change as the new year unfolds.

In this year, may we all work together in love and harmony, striving towards those goals which our loving Father desires for each of us. Let us all remember the real reason we are here at LTS -- the training and preparation to further the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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REBIRTH

Faith is meeting.
It is God and man crossing
the threshold of each other,
passing from politeness to
embrace. To encounter an-
other person is to be changed
by that person. To meet
God is to be changed by
Him.

James W. Angell

Have you noticed some "new" people around campus lately? Do they look like they are somewhere off in dreamland? Well just may be where they are, especially because one of the visiting lecturer for the month of January is an expert on dreams.

Harmon Hartzell Bro is a specialist in religion and personality who has "combined religious scholarship with the practice of psychotherapy." He is a Christian Church (Disciples of Church) minister who holds graduate degrees from Harvard Divinity School and the University of Chicago Divinity School. Dr. Bro is a consultant on psychotherapy methods and psychiatric staff training for the Veterans Administration. Currently a Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University, where he is doing research on dreams in Asian religious traditions, he has held a chair in the department of religion at Syracuse University, and has been a seminary dean at Drake University. Some of the books which he has written on dreams and altered states of consciousness include Dreams in the Life of Prayer and High Play.

Dr. Bro is teaching a course this January--"Theology and Parapsychology."

AN AMAZING DISCOVERY

While rummaging around in the dusty recesses of the Library, Mr. Bricker came upon an astonishing find - a brick from ancient Nineveh bearing an inscription in cuneiform with Nebuchadnezzar's name. It seems that an alumnus of LTS, having spent forty years in Iraq as a missionary, upon his retirement was presented with this brick as a farewell gift from the King of Iraq.

What has been hitherto unknown, however, is that another tablet in cuneiform had been placed in the box and, so far as is known, has not been published. Mr. Bricker, knowing of my interest in things archaeological, asked me to decipher the inscription, if I could. It has been some years since I had to deal with this kind of material, but this is what I read on the tablet, as well as I could make out:

"In the fourth year of King Nebuchadnezzar's reign, late at night five varlets were caught in a complex of buildings near the King's palace in Nineveh. Their excuse was that they feared for the King's safety and were seeking out dissidents in the realm who might do dastardly deeds.

Upon their being brought before the Royal Tribunal, they did confess such overzealous efforts on the King's behalf but the King did rise up in righteous indignation and aver that they were indeed no part of His Royal Staff and that he knew nothing of their efforts.

Here indeed was an impasse - who was telling the truth, the culprits or the All Holy King? Then, suddenly, it seemed an answer could be known - the King revealed that for two years all Royal Dialogues had been faithfully transcribed by the Royal Scribe, unknown to his visitors, because the Scribe did hide behind a large screen near a window. Furthermore, the King did reveal that there were in all seven such tablets bearing Royal Dialogue.

However, when the High Tribunal did ask for these seven tablets, the King was loath to give them up, for he said to give them up would jeopardize his diplomatic dealings with the Amurru and the Hittites, ancient enemies of the realm.

After many weeks of pleading, the King reluctantly declared that he would

hand over all seven, only to learn that two were gone! Coincidentally, these two contained important dialogues with underlings. At long last, one tablet was turned over to the High Tribunal.

Lo and behold, in the middle of a long and important dialogue with an underling, eighteen lines of the tablet were blank!

Then was the Royal Scribe hailed into court to explain this gap. He said that as he was busy at the window, behind the screen, faithfully recording all that the King and his visitor were saying, someone out in the street called to him and engaged him in idle chit-chat - about five lines long! The Tribunal pondered how eighteen lines would be lost while five lines of chit-chat out the window took place."

Here is where the tablet ends, so we'll never know what happened away back there in Nebuchadnezzar's time.

Donald M. C. Englert

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BOWLING (1974)

Happy New Year, sports fans!

This first week of bowling for 1974 proved that "new balls" do make a difference. Paul Thompson (former financial advisor to B.B. Rebozo) led the semi-narians this week with Dandy Don Wetzel not far behind. Brad Lutz made his premier appearance on the lanes this week and exhibited the style that gave him first place in the Pickens, South Carolina Bowling Tournament. Dr. Englert announced that all past bowling scores of last semester would be dropped and 1974 would begin anew. Wetzel was asked to comment on his high game of the week, and he said, "Gee!" New faces will undoubtedly be making the top positions with the absence of Jack Seville, who moved to Harrisburg over the Christmas vacation.

Lee Jessup

Personal to Paul Thompson: May a diseased yak leave a surprise in your new bowling bag.

January 10, 1974

MEMORANDUM

TO: FACULTY, ADMINISTRATION, SEMINARIANS, AND OTHERS

FROM: JAMES D. GLASSE, PRESIDENT

This is the second of my more or less monthly memos reporting general developments in the Seminary. Copies of this memorandum go also to members of the Board of Trustees and the Alumni Council. It is my hope that this monthly summary of information will increase communication between all of us in the system. If there are items which are inadequate, incorrect, or in error, please let me know immediately so that appropriate amplification, additions and corrections can be made.

1. The Executive Cabinet appreciates the cooperation of all who made it possible for us to turn down the heat over the holidays to conserve fuel. We do not know what further efforts will be necessary in light of the energy crisis, and we invite suggestions from any and all as to concrete steps we can take to conserve energy in our Seminary operations.

2. Several matters relating to Seminary personnel should be stated officially.

a. Professor Irion will be on leave beginning January 1, 1974. He will be doing research and writing, and the Irions will be in Europe for several months. During his absence the functions of the office Dean of Students will be handled as follows: Professor Ringer, as Chairman of Campus Affairs, will assume responsibility for oversight of student activities; and Mr. Brown, Director of Vocational Planning, will assume responsibility for Professor Irion's counseling.

b. Three members of the faculty are anticipating sabbatical leaves for the 1974-75 academic year. Present plans call for Professor Payne to be absent during the fall term and for Professors Walsh and Hartley to be absent for the second term. I am consulting with Dean Bricker, Professor Vieth and Professor Gable about ways in which we can deploy our faculty to insure adequate attention to all three of our educational programs (M.Div., D.Min., Continuing Education). We are also anticipating the addition of adjunct faculty to increase our educational resources in all our programs.

c. Professor Gable has announced his intention to retire at the end of the 1974-75 academic year. Appropriate recognition of his many years of effective service will be part of our 150th Commencement in 1975, and plans will begin this spring to consider ways in which the important contributions he has made to the Seminary can be continued after his retirement.

3. We are experimenting with a January Session for the first time this year. Dr. Harmon Bro is a visiting lecturer for the session. In addition to courses on campus, students are enrolled at St. Mary's Seminary, in clinical programs at Delaware State Hospital, etc. We will be evaluating this program as we make our plans for the coming year.

4. I call your attention to the new section in the weekly Announcement Sheet entitled "The Register". This section of the weekly publication will contain current information about decisions in process and policies adopted. Three major policy decisions have been adopted in recent months: the plan for a "conditional decision-making" process; a revised policy covering campus residence; and a revision of policies covering parking on campus. For details concerning other matters consult "The Register" each week.

5. Excellent plans have been made for the Convocation on January 28-29. We are expecting a lively group to join us for this consideration of "SHALOM". Please assist Professor Gable as he calls on you in his capacity as Convocation Chairman to make this a significant event in the life of the Seminary.

6. I am pleased to announce that the Reverend Sidney Lovett, formerly pastor of the United Church of Hinsdale, Illinois, and now Conference Minister of the Central Atlantic Conference of the United Church of Christ will deliver the address at the Academic Convocation on February 10 beginning the Spring Semester. Mr. Lovett has been an effective parish minister, has a long standing concern for theological education, and comes to share those concerns with us.

7. Mrs. Payne is hoping to have the copy of next year's catalog in hand by February 4. Everyone who has contributions to make to this process, should be in conversation with her immediately.

8. Copies of this memo going to Faculty, Trustees, Alumni Council and S.C.C. members carry a copy of the actions of the Ninth General Synod of the United Church of Christ which relate to theological education. There have been some developments since St. Louis that I want to share with you--some good news and some bad news.

First the bad news. The Committee on Theological Education asked for \$315,000 (see para. 7). The General Synod voted \$290,000. The Executive Council approved only \$240,000 for all seminaries in 1974. This means our income from General Synod will drop again.

But now some good news.

a. Five of the six conferences which comprise the Middle Atlantic Regional Mission Priorities Council voted to adopt a Regional Support Plan for Lancaster Seminary. We now have a plan for a shared approach to stewardship development in the conferences. We hope the New York, Southern and Ohio Conferences may join with the Central Atlantic and the four Pennsylvania Conferences in developing this program. Thanks to Horace Sills and David Gockley who did the lion's share of the work in preparing the proposal.

b. We received \$10,560. from the division of some E & R reserves that have now been released.

c. Gifts to the Friends Fund continue to come in ahead of projections, and Lyman Farrar is assisting me in the development of approaches to some foundations who have expressed an interest in our new programs.

9. The General Committee on the Sesquicentennial met on November 13th and got underway with plans for our 150th Anniversary emphasis. Special committees are meeting on January 16th to move the planning ahead. Many persons are volunteering to share in this effort. I look forward to 1974-75 as a "Year of Celebration" and 1975-76 as a "Year of Commitment". The February Bulletin will contain more details.

10. On February 8-9 over half of the Trustees will join with 15 Seminarians and a dozen Faculty in a 2-day Retreat. Dr. Reuben Sheares, Director of the new Office of Church Life and Leadership, will join with us in a search for common concerns and commitments as we plan for the future. This open and extended exchange of views should bring us closer together in our efforts to put together in this place an enterprise equal to the opportunities to which God is calling us.

Happy New Year!

JDG

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - 149:15

January 10, 1974

- * Open to Seminary Community
 - ** Open to General Public
- Numbers in parentheses refer to announcements which follow.

CALENDAR

Monday, January 14

- * 9:10 A.M. - Morning Prayers
- 7:00 P.M. - Night Ministry
- * 9:00 P.M. - Bowling

Tuesday, January 15

- * 9:10 A.M. - Morning Prayers
- 9:30 A.M. - Budget Council L 204
- * 9:00 P.M. - Bowling

Wednesday, January 16

- 8:00 A.M. - Executive Cabinet
- * 9:10 A.M. - Morning Prayers
- 1:30 P.M. - Sub Committee - 150th Anniversary L 204
- 1:00 - 3:00 P.M. - Ecumenical Panel on Polity - L 200 (1)
- ** 7:30 P.M. - Bro Lecture #3
Professor Duke, Presiding

Thursday, January 17

- * 9:10 A.M. - Morning Prayers
- ** 7:30 P.M. - Bro Lecture #4
Mr. Farrar, Presiding

Friday, January 18

- * 9:10 A.M. - Morning Prayers
- ** 7:30 P.M. - Workshop - An Introduction to Transactional Analysis -- Hafer Center.

Saturday, January 19

- ** 1:00 P.M. - Bowling
- ** 9:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. - Workshop: An Introduction to Transactional Analysis. Guest Leader: Palmer Hartl
Hafer Center

CONVOCATION: JANUARY 28-29

REMINDER -- Conserve energy

(over)

THE REGISTER

Executive Cabinet

No Meeting

No Report

Next Meeting - January 16

Academic Affairs

No Report

Campus Affairs

No Report

Student Community Council

Topics Discussed: See the minutes of the S.C.C. meeting, posted in the HUB.

Information Requested: Anyone who would be interested in representing LTS at a National Conference of Christians and Jews forum should submit their name for consideration to the Executive Committee of the S.C.C. John Fureman, Larry Canfield or Mike Romig.

Information Reported: Appointments have been made for three important committees: Planning Committee for the Board Retreat, student representatives for Board Committees and a representative for the UCBWM Seminarian Committee. See details in S.C.C. minutes.

Decisions Reported: A proposal was accepted to initiate the Bela Vassady Award in recognition of Professor-emeritus Bela Vassady. This award will be a \$50.00 cash award from the S.C.C. to a student for work in the field of ecumenism. Details in S.C.C. minutes.

Doctoral Studies

No Report

Collegium Development

No Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) All students and faculty are invited to attend a session of the Polity course on Wednesday, January 16, 1:00 - 3:00 P.M. in the Hafer Center. The session will feature an Ecumenical Panel discussing "Inter-Denominational Relations Today and Tomorrow". Members of the panel are:

Dr. Dan Shearer, Program Director, Central Penna. Conference,
United Methodist Church

Dr. John Shetler, President, Pennsylvania Southeast Conference
United Church of Christ

The Rev. William Brown, General Presbyter, Donegal
Presbytery, United Presbyterian Church

Dr. Arthur Yeagy, Secretary, Central Pennsylvania Synod,
Lutheran Church.

James D. Glasse, President

TH 216, Theology and Parapsychology, will move to Room 103 in the
Academic Building beginning Tuesday, January 15th.

Harmon Hartzell Bro,
Visiting Lecturer

Forum of Christians and Jews:

The National Council of Christians and Jews is sponsoring a regional forum for dialogue between members of the Christian and Jewish faiths. The S.C.C. has been asked by the N.C.C.J. to select several interested seminarians to attend this regional meeting to be held sometime in January. If anyone is interested in entering into this type of dialogue, contact John Fureman, Larry Canfield, or Mike Romig for further information.

Mike Romig

Used Clothing.

The S.C.C. has been asked to cooperate with the Lancaster County Council of Churches in the collection of clothing for Church World Service. If anyone has any used clothing they wish to donate, clothing can be placed in the Conference Room in the Hub, and the S.C.C. will see to it that this clothing is taken to one of the local collection centers.

Mike Romig

Bela Vassady Award to be offered:

In honor of Dr. Bela Vassady, Professor emeritus of LTS and a pioneer in the field of ecumenical relations, the S.C.C. has initiated a "Bela Vassady Award" of \$50 to be given to a student for work in the area of ecumenical relations. This award will be based on either (1) a term paper written for a class assignment, or (2) a short reflection paper on field work which involves an ecumenical aspect. Further details will be forthcoming, but for now, as the second semester approaches, you may want to consider the area of ecumenics in the writing of your papers and the selection of your field work.

Mike Romig

Mr. Saylor of the Ministers Life and Casualty will be in the Hub to talk with students and faculty on January 23.

Lyman Farrar