

Published by the Society of Inquiry at Lancaster Theological Seminary
Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

October 25, 1950

REFORMATION DEFENSE AND ADVANCE

Neither easy tolerance nor careless indifference should keep us from hearing three charges that are being hurled against the Protestant Reformation. Meeting them should put us in position to advance in line with three positive meanings.

The first charge is that the Reformation was divisive. We should remind our challengers that there were many divisions long before the 16th century involving Armenians, Nestorians, Copts, Waldenses, Hussites. The great break between Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic came in 1054. The papacy itself was split two ways--for a while three ways--in the Great Schism. The Church, reformed, restored, united on a New Testament basis, was the goal of all the Reformers. They and their followers were cast out from the mother church as heretics. But the best answer to this charge is not argument but ever closer co-operation and union among Protestants and other non-Romanists. The World Council is a great syllable in that answer.

The second charge is that the Reformation was economic and political. Admittedly, princes and other magnates tried to use it. Especially in its later stages there were strange ailments and unholy involvements in power politics. But these should not blind us to the primarily religious character of its origins and motivations. Which lands have stood most stalwartly for the separation of Church and State? Compare Spain with the U.S.A. today. But here again the best answer is more democracy and more vigorous religion in our communities and nations.

The third charge is that Protestantism is negative. The original protest was far wider and deeper than that against the 1529 violation of a 1526 compact. It was against a whole system that was defeating the purpose of God for His people. Moreover, as is more and more acknowledged, "protest" is a positive word, meaning "witness in behalf of". With the understanding that the best answer to this charge is ever more religion of the right kind and sustained and increasing loyalty to that religion, as conceived by and expressed in our Reformation churches, let us now ask to what the Protestant Reformation testified, i. e. to the positive meanings of Protestant Christianity today.

1. The Centrality of the Word: The Personal Word of God, His Son and the written Scripture which is fulfilled in Him. This over against the accumulated tradition of the centuries, the

laws and institutions of the organized church, the saints and the Virgin and all other human mediators between God and Man. The primacy of the Evangel. Here is the Evangelical Principle of the Reformation. We honor it and use it best by more diligent study of the Bible itself and by yielding ourselves to Him who is its heart.

2. Forgiveness by God's Grace through faith: Here is the Reformation's answer to "What must I do to be saved?" Over against an earned salvation and resort to a treasury of merits in the custody of the Church, utter dependence upon God--the spirit of the cry: "Lord, I believe, help thou mine unbelief!" With this went a rediscovery by Luther and his colleagues of Paul's great conviction of Christian liberty based on an even deeper fact: the law of Christian love. This might be called the Reformed Principle of the Reformation since it changed the whole concept and practice of the way to salvation.

3. The priesthood of all believers: Each man his own and his brother's priest! Linked with this is the belief in the sacredness of the common life, just as attainable in the farmer's cottage as in the monastery or cathedral. This might be called the Protestant Principle of the Reformation since it testifies to the "communio sanctorum", based upon the direct, personal, unmediated relationship and communion of the individual believer with our Lord, and through Him with other believers. Practice of this principle should lead to such love and loyalty to the Church as the Body of the Lord as will provide the most effective defense of the Protestant cause and the surest advance in the continued Reformation of the Holy Catholic Church.

Dr. Dunn

SOCIETY PRESENTS MUSICAL PROGRAM

Tuesday evening, October 10, the Program Committee of the Society of Inquiry of the L. T. S. initiated its fall series of programs. Mr. Frank McConnell presented a program of music. Richard Wilson and the Seminary Quartet also participated with vocal selections.

On the chapel organ Mr. McConnell played selections from Handel's "Water Music", Haydn's "The Clock", and Bach's "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring". Mr. Wilson sang two arias from Mendelssohn's "Elijah" and a spiritual "Jour-

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SOCIETY PRESENTS MUSICAL PROGRAM
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ney's End". The Quartet sang two German chorales. Other numbers were also included.

A reception in the Refectory followed.

The next program will be November 21. Dr. Italo de Francesco of Kutztown State Teachers' College will address the Society on: "Art in the Church."

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The Theology of Nationalism?

If this nation were not the land that it is, I might not be writing this editorial. Indeed, if the United States were any different than it is now, we would probably not have any such school paper as The Seminarian in which we could air our views. By saying these above things I mean to indicate that I appreciate the facts implied therein, and that I value above much, the opportunity to write these next few paragraphs, which at some points on the globe might be taken as a slap at our way of life.

A few days ago I heard a recording of a lately written "popular song" entitled, "Thanks America." How far this ditty will go, I have no idea; but it occurred to me that some of the things for which the song writer was giving thanks shed thousands of candle power worth of light upon the mind that is in our national thinking. Two of the things I particularly recall were: for the blue sky above; for the abundant fields..... thanks America.

Now, granted that along the latter line the Dept. of Agriculture could claim some credit, (and I'm sure the Rural Church Dept. would concur here) there seems to be a slight confusion of categories. Patriotism is a thing to be desired. We would not have come far in our national history, but for the multitude of devoted patriots in our past. However, most of these were also religious men, and they were careful not to confuse categories by ascribing to the state things which usually and properly are credited to the Creator. Somewhere in the dim reaches of memory is the recollection of reading of a political philosopher of ancient times who thought of the state as the Highest, the Supreme, i.e. God. Perhaps I am thinking of the Caesar worship of Rome. At any rate, that's a good example, for as any student can point out, for Rome, that was the beginning of the end. It can't happen here??? Well, we hope not.

It is hard to know where to place the blame for thinking such as this.

It can't all be placed on the head of the song writer who composed the lines which provoked this harangue. Nor can all rest on our government. That would be an unfortunate case of "buck-passing." Most probably such thinking has been growing up for a century and more, fostered by our national sense of independence, isolation, and well-being, which has given us such a sense of The Nation Exultant, as to compare most favorably with the petty nationalistic jealousies of the European states.

Whatever the source, this sort of thinking hurts. There is good nationalism and there is bad. This "Thanks America" business isn't so good. The song itself isn't all bad, certainly not. But, is it the theology of true nationalism? Hardly. When something is exalted to such a point so that it no longer sees the ground on which it is standing, then the proverbial ride for the fall is painfully short, and no one person or agency would be totally to blame for said fall.

Our nation was founded on a base compounded of several things, among which were religious principles. If we like it that way, we should keep it that way. But what we need most is a better perspective of values, a sense of true nationalism and not just emotional state-exaltation.

Dick Glatfelter

SPORTS PAGE

The official opening of the 1950 football season at the Seminary was scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 10. Inclement weather, however, prevented team #1 and team #2 from playing, and the game was postponed until a later date.

On Thur., Oct. 12, teams #1 and #3 rolled into action. Team #1 did all the rolling and emerged the victor by the convincing score of 22-0. Team #1 scored first late in the first quarter on a short pass play over center. Tom "Dutch" Harding was on the receiving end, and gets credit for the first touchdown of the 1950 season. Team #1 added two more points on a safety midway through the second quarter, and left the field enjoying an 8-0 lead at half-time. They came back to score two more T.D.'s in the second half and the score read 22-0. The team-work and the speed which team #1 showed in their initial game of the season was worth seeing. The backfield of Trout, Lutz and Gockley gives this team speed and balance that will be hard to beat.

The second game of the season pitted once tried team #3 against unseasoned team #2. Both teams were evenly matched and played on equal terms until late in the third quarter when Dick Glatfelter swept wide around
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SOME SENIOR SUMMERS

For the members of the Seminary's present Senior Class, the summer of 1950 was very unusual in one respect particularly. It was the last summer that the '51-ers were to spend as an interlude between sessions of scholastic classroom work. The following summary is intended to be informative concerning senior whereabouts and workabouts from June to September.

Although this article both admitted-ly and apparently is concerned with the third year men, there is no intention at slight for the Middlers. Many members of the class of '52 were also busily occupied in summer charges this year while, assuredly, those who were not utilized their time to best advantage. Greater proximity of the senior to his diploma and a permanent job dictates that limited space in THE SEMINARIAN, at least in this issue, omit but not forget the Middler Class.

Bill Anderman was the assistant pastor of the five-church East Berlin Charge, East Berlin, Pa. He was assisting Rev. Alton M. Leister with the following congregations: Zwingli, East Berlin; St. John's, New Chester; Emanuel, Hampton; St. Paul's (Union), Red Run; and Mt. Olivet, Bermudian.

Society prexy Bob Delp supplied the Crescent Charge, near Rockwell, N. C., during his summer. His churches were St. Luke's and Bethany E & R. Bob also spent part of his time working with the guests at the Nazareth Orphans Home, Rockwell, N. C.

Ed DeChant assumed a summer pastorate at the Reformed Church, East Petersburg, Pa. He also worked part-time at Eshleman's Feed Mill, Lancaster, Pa.

Stan Dunn served the Pine Grove Community Church (interdenominational and open only in vacation season), Pine Grove, Pa. During the week he worked on the maintenance staff of Camp Michaux, near Pine Grove Furnace.

Nev Feather was student pastor of the Dunning's Creek Charge, Cessna, Pa. Nev stayed at his home at King, Pa., while serving the charge. The charge: St. Paul's Church, Cessna; Pleasant Hill Church, Bedford R.D.; and St. Luke's Church, Fishertown.

Larry Felton was and still is the supply pastor of Messiah E & R Church in his hometown, Philadelphia.

Merv Gerhart, while working regularly at the Armstrong Plant, kept busy most Sundays preaching for pastors in Lancaster County and vicinity.

Dick Glatfelter was student supply at St. John's E & R Church, Cattaugus, N. Y., from June 1 to Sept. 1.

Dick Gross worked at a summer resort at Schwenksville, Montgomery County. He supplied the Schwenksville church during the vacation of the pastor.

Bob Haas was supply pastor of St. John's E & R Church, Bangor, Pa. He was also a member of the summer staff of the Allentown Evening Chronicle, Allentown, Pa.

Bud (Ray) Harwick did church work at Lancaster's historic First Reformed Church. He also mixed in some high pressure work in the pressing department of the Lancaster Laundry.

Earl Lutz continued as student pastor of the Tremont Charge, Tremont, Pa. His congregations are: St. Peter's at Tremont; the E & R Church, Zerbe; and Salem E & R, Donaldson.

Dave Mark was student associate at St. John's Reformed Church, Shamokin, Pa, serving under Rev. Harold C. Baer.

Dick Masters assisted Dr. Charles Freeman in his work at Salem E & R Church, Doylestown, Pa.

Frank Pirazzini was supply pastor of the Orangeville E & R Charge, Orangeville, Pa. He served three congregations: Orangeville E & R, Orangeville; Zion E & R, Orangeville, R.D.; and St. James E & R, Stillwater.

Harvey Schlichter served the Manchester, Md., Charge, consisting of St. Mark's E & R, Syndersburg; Trinity E & R, Manchester; and Lazarus E & R, Lineboro.

Roy Schmid was student assistant at St. John's E & R Church, Lansdale, Rev. Harold E. Ditzler, pastor.

Lloyd Sechriest did Community Chest secretarial work at the Lancaster Guidance Clinic in addition to frequent Sunday supply work.

Ken Shreiner preached for Dr. Oliver Maurer at St. John's E & R Church, Red Lion, Pa., during Dr. Maurer's vacation.

Charlie Sigler made his summer haunt in the mountain foothills at East Mauch Chunk, Pa., where he served and continues to serve First Reformed Church.

Dave Wen did not stop his formal education with the school year last May. Instead he studied during the summer at Temple University, Philadelphia.

Dick Wentz went to the southland for his summer pastorate. He served Mr. Bethel Reformed Church located at the Rolling Rock, N. C., Assembly Grounds of the Southern Synod. His work also included duties in connection with the grounds.

Johnny Winter is the stated supply of Christ E & R Church, Alexandria, Pa. During the summer he completed his college work at Juniata College, Huntingdon, Pa.

Geroge Yoder was the student assistant at Christ E & R Church, Norristown, serving under Dr. Cyrus T. Glessner, the pastor.

Bob Haas

SPORTS PAGE

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right end to pay dirt. The extra point was booted by Norm Bucher and that wound up the scoring for the afternoon.

A third game scheduled for Thursday afternoon of last week was forfeited due to lack of players. Team #2 presented this gift to Captain Charles "Bucky" Trout of team #1. Their record for the season now stands at two wins and no losses. A practice was held between the two teams, in lieu of the official game.

Sharing the Seminary students' enthusiasm also at this time is the ping-pong tournament which began last week. Fourteen players are entered in this tournament, and many a thrilling moment will be had in the basement. The number one position is held by Mr. Bucher, a junior and newcomer to the Seminary. "Bucky" Trout, winner of last year's tournament, has won his only match so far, and will be seeking his select position before long. To see a good brand of ping-pong, you should be in the Seminary basement when the matches are played. The boys are good.

Bob Titus

HUMOR ESQUIRE

While I'm waiting for Lem Remlap to arrive from the South, I'll tell you something. Those white markings that are lying out there on the drive are fruits of labor from some of our more industrious Seminarians. Those who did the work are mostly car-owners, although Banks Shepard, Ruth Muthard and the wives helped. Especially the wives. I got a big kick out of watching the men stand over the wives with little whips and make them paint the markings.

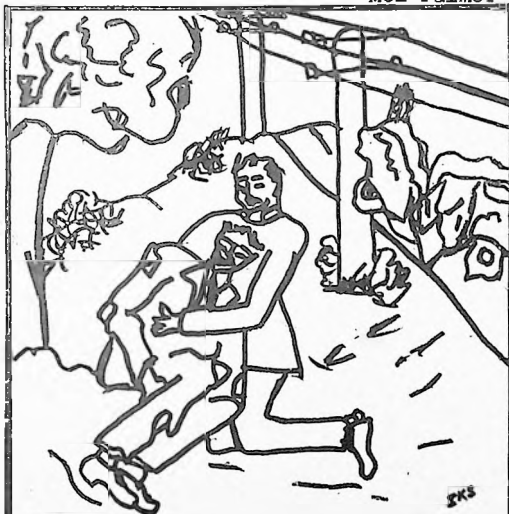
Lloyd Sechriest compelled his wife to do the painting that he was supposed to do by appealing to her sympathy. He kept complaining that the brush didn't fit his hand. He was positive that it would wear blisters in his palms, and no one enjoys gesturing with raw palms in the pulpit, especially with Palm Sunday so far away. So Lois very kindly took the brush and did his painting for him. Don't think Lloyd is unkind to Lois, because as she painted he mopped her brow. Now, that's what I call a kind husband.

Wayne Fouts tried the same trick of sympathy on his wife. He complained that the handle was too large for his hand and that the brush was too stiff for him to use. His wife promptly showed him his trouble. He was holding the brush by the bristles and trying to paint with the handle. I believe that's why he thought the brush was a little stiff.

Shepard and Muthard had quite a time. Ruth was painting some of the straighter lines, dripping paint all over the drive when Banks came along. Just before Banks got to where Ruth was painting, a squirrel caught his attention with a nut-juggling act. Two steps later Banks' right foot was planted firmly in a can of white paint. Ruth was laughing loudly as Banks jumped around trying to get the can off of his foot. She laughed even louder when he fell onto the grass, throwing his feet into the air and pouring paint all over himself. Banks was a bit disgusted with this paint all over his clothes so he gave a kick and sent the can flying into the air. Of course the can had to land on Ruth's head. That was some sight. But they both laughed about it and told each other to get the lead out.

So you see there was quite a sacrifice made for the benefit of all car owners. You ask, "How do I know all this?" I supervised all of it from the window sill.

Mel Palmer



"My son, have you made your peace with God, and renounced the devil?"

"Listen, I've made my peace with God, but I'm in no position to antagonize anybody."

SCHOOL CALENDAR

- 26 Oct. - Final game in Seminary Intramural League. Teams 2 and 3 will meet on F & M practice football field.
- 26 Oct. - Pilgrimage to historical shrines by members of class in C.H. 57a, leaving Seminary at 10:15 A.M.
- 30 Oct. - Musical program at faculty chapel, Prof. McConnell in charge.
- 31 Oct. - Publicity picture for Seminary Choir to be taken at 1:30 P.M.
- 2 Nov. - Halloween Party, sponsored by Society. Meet in south cloister for undisclosed destination at 8:00 P.M.