

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

12 October 1949

RURAL CHURCHES

Many alumni and friends of the Seminary have said in the last months, "The new department of the Rural Church is a fine thing. It is the sort of thing that should be done, but my church is not a rural church." In a majority of cases, the church in question stood with no neighbor but the cemetery on the open road.

What these persons meant was, "Our church is not a 'farmer' church or our church is not a 'hick' church." The term "rural" is not synonymous with "hick" or "farmer". It is a term which implies a community which is not incorporated or, if incorporated, does not exceed a population of 2,500. In some cases a rural church is a church, the membership of which is largely made up of farmers. In some cases there are rural churches which do not include one farmer on membership rolls.

The beginning of the solution to what some folks term "the rural church problem" is an understanding of what is meant by the term. The U. S. Bureau of Census divided the population of our country into urban and rural in this proportion: namely, 43.5% is rural and 56.5% is urban as of 1940. According to the same division of population, 58.8% of the congregations of the E and R Church are in the areas classed as rural. One more percentage: of the more than 2800 congregations in the whole church, 68.8% lie in a six-state belt consisting of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Wisconsin. In this area there are many large towns and cities. Most of the people living in this area are within driving distance (50 miles) of a city of 10,000 or more in population. While we have not as yet collected data on this matter, it is logical to predict that the church membership constituencies are as diverse in occupational differences in each congregation as they are in the rural church of which you know best and which is usually saying, "We are not a rural church."

The Committee on Town and Country pleads only one cause. Before you close your mind to the matter of the rural church because you are not of it, think of what it is. The rural church is a church made up of persons who

work with the soil and those who serve those who work with the soil and those who serve the ones who serve those who work with the soil. It is a church set sometimes within the bounds of several school communities. It deals with many community organizations. It must face the leaders of all the community activities because many times those leaders are members of the church itself. It must cooperate with conflicting powers and attempt to reach a rapport with them all.

Above all, the rural church must overcome the obstacle of space. It must solve the problem of transportation and must adapt its program to neighborhood groups or bring the groups to a central place. It has many more problems that are particularly its own and it shares the problems of other churches.

But the rural church is not a bundle of problems. It is a place where men live closely to each other. Pastor and people know each other intimately. The joys of one member are the joys of all and the sorrows of one member are borne by all. It is a "fellowship of kindred hearts."

Town and Country Committees, departments of Rural Life and chairs of The Rural Church attempt to bring the understanding of the community surrounding the church to the knowledge of the student and equip him with some tools with which he can deal expertly with the church in its community.

Prof. Bartholomew

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Wed., Oct. 12 - Society of Inquiry meeting. Musical and social. In the Chapel at 7:30 P.M.
Thur., Oct. 13 - Football, Seniors vs. Middlers. College Field 2:30 P.M.
Tue., Oct. 18 - Football, Middlers vs. Juniors. College Field 2:30 P.M.
Thur., Oct. 20 - Football, Seniors vs. Juniors. College Field, 2:30 P.M.
Tue., Oct. 25 - Football, Seniors vs. Middlers. College Field, 2:30 P.M.
Thurs. Oct. 27 - Soc. of Inquiry outing. (Old clothes, Hallowe'en party at Lititz.
Thurs. Nov. 17 - Reception for F & M pre-theos. 8:00 P.M.

THE SEMINARIAN

THE STAFF

Editors

Dave Mark & Ray Harwick

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Ruth Muthard
Mel Palmer

News

Bob Haas, Ed.
Joe Kim

Sports

Dick Abernethy, Ed.

Technical

Ray Groff
Joe Gyorke, Jr.

Faculty advisor

Dr. Frantz

SEMINARY CHOIR ORGANIZES

The Seminary's musical program for the academic year 1949-50 has gotten under way with flying colors. To date, the choir strengthened by many new voices from the new Junior Class, has rehearsed three times in the practice room in the basement of Alumni Hall. The Society of Inquiry has planned an excellent musical program to be presented tonight in the dormitory lounge.

Music has always been an important part of Seminary life, and the Choir one of the most important student organizations. The choir fulfills not only the function of providing a valuable extra-curricular for the students who join its ranks, but also has proven a means to acquaint ministerial students with congregations in the E & R Church and the congregations with the men who will serve their parishes.

With the organization of the Choir and an excellent quartet, which is composed of four lettermen back from last year, the manager, Ernie Hawk, has begun to line up churches in which the choir may sing its seasonal programs and present its annual spring tour.

Since the Choir represents the entire student body and makes no strict demands concerning talent or previous vocal experience, it is the request of both the manager and the director that everyone interested who has not yet expressed his desire to sing, make known this request to one of the leaders.

SPORTS CORNER

The curtain on the 1949 Seminary football season went up with a bang, in more ways than one!

Tuesday afternoon last week found the Crusaders of the Senior Class and Team 2 playing the curtain-raiser. The game was nip and tuck, with Team 2 doing it all. The Crusaders kicked off to Team 2, who marched down the field rattling off one first down after another, with Harwick and DeChant doing excellent running and "All-Star" Lutz chucking some passes. Somehow the machine failed, and the Crusaders got out of the hole.

Early in the second period Bruce Hatt got behind the secondary and managed to catch Able Abbey's pass, which was good for a touchdown. However, the Middlers were not to be denied, for they struck back on the second play from scrimmage following the Crusader's kick-off to tie the score at 6-6. Harwick with good interference went 70 yards for the TD.

Your writer is unable to tell you much about the second half, because most of that period he was "out of this world". However, about three hours later he realized that the Crusaders had lost 12-6.

It seems that the old men of the Crusaders just aren't in shape, with Bruce Hatt sustaining a dislocated disc in the same game.

Thursday found Teams 2 and 3 playing a rough and tumble game with the Middlers coming off the battlefield with the 7-6 victory.

Everyone was surprised at the up-rising the Juniors pulled, and the first period ended with them holding a 6-0 lead. However, in the second quarter Middler Harwick raced from his own 9 for a score, and Ned DeChant carried the all-important extra point across.

The second half found both teams playing to a stalemate.

It is worthy of note that the Middlers have some very capable mail-carriers in Harwick, Dechant, Masters, and Lutz. All four of these boys seem to know how to carry the pigskin.

What say, Crusaders and Juniors, let's stop these rampaging Middlers.

Diok Abernethy

AS I SEE IT . . .

In my reading recently I discovered an item that conveyed such an excellent idea that I decided to make it the basis of an editorial.

"Somebody once asked: 'Why were saints saints?' And this was the answer: - 'Because they were cheerful when it was hard to be cheerful and patient when it was hard to be patient. Because they pushed on when they wished to stand still; kept silent when they wished to talk, and were agreeable when they could have been disagreeable. That was all.'"

Perhaps a work on systematic theology by one of the ancients might have defined a saint in different terms, but the essential meaning is identical. The world has always admired the optimistic, industrious, unselfish person. These are the people who give life meaning. One definition for a saint in a sermon ran something like this: "A saint is one who makes life easier to live for those around him."

In the Pauline Epistles we find references to saints in the salutations. This leads us to believe that the earliest Christian conception of a saint was one who through faith in Christ had allied himself with the Christian movement and thus by divine grace been sanctified by God. As Roman Catholicism grew, the category was narrowed, and a select few came to merit the appellation.

But today we again revive the earlier conception and expand the confines of sainthood so that it may embrace all those who bring joy in living to others. There is some simple yet meaningful philosophy behind the acrostic on "joy" that runs:

J - esus
O - thers
Y - ourself

meaning simply that joy in living will come from placing the teachings of Jesus and concern for the welfare of others before selfish considerations.

Such a view places the attainment of sainthood within the grasp of all of us. Each day presents in its round of experiences many opportunities for showing just such a spirit as is the prerequisite for sainthood.

All men are potential Sons of God, meriting the respect of all others. It is our duty, therefore, to adjust our social relationships in the light of this, and by so doing we too can be numbered among the saints of all ages.

Dave Mark

THE SOCIETY REPORTS

The wheels of the Society of Inquiry have started churning since the first official meeting held on September 27th. All of the Seminary family is reminded that each and every one is a member of this organization and upon their support rests the success of the Society. Let's get together and make this the best in the history of the Seminary. - Don't forget to keep the second and fourth Tuesday nights of each month open for the regular meetings. The programs are scheduled for the second Tuesday while the fourth is reserved for the business. Make it a point to attend the next gathering and discover what is going on in your school.

Vesper Services are being now held nightly, Monday through Thursday, in Santee Chapel at 6:30 p.m. All of us can certainly spare a few minutes for spiritual inspiration which may be found in these services. The entire Seminary Family -- students, faculty members and all guests-- is cordially invited to attend.

Realizing the importance of flowers in the beautifying of our chapel, the Worship Committee again makes an appeal for bouquets to fill the altar vases. Anyone wishing to place memorial flowers, contact a member of the committee.

The Lounge Committee requests that all empty coke bottles be returned to the cases in the basement. Since it is necessary to present the empties before any full bottles are delivered, the bottles must be returned if we desire cokes. Let's prevent a bottle-neck and cooperate with the committee.

The Program Committee, under Merv Gerhart, has lifted the curtain on the first of its functions. On Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m., a Musical Social will be held in Santee Chapel. Reading the program, we find a group of very talented musicians holding forth. Frank A. McConnell, F.A.G.O., will present several semi-classical numbers. Then Richard Wilson, local singer, will sing some selections. Last but not least, the Seminary Quartet will render a few songs. It promises to be a delightful evening. After the music, everyone is invited to a social, refreshments and all, in Alumni Hall. Let's turn out 100% and enjoy the music and the fellowship.

HUMOR ESQUIRE

It seems as if all my efforts at beating my roommate, Keith Sink, in various sports fail. He always makes more points than I. I thought I could beat him in ping-pong, but he consistently makes more points. He says practice does it. Any game he excels in, he spends much time in practice. Take golf for instance. He spends all his spare time putting golf balls across the room. Charles Sigler sent an ultimatum to him that this has to cease, but Mighty Sink shrugged this off by flexing a muscle at him (Chubby Sink used to be a 98-pound weakling, that is until he took a Charles Atlas Course, and lost weight.) I saw a postcard he wrote; it read: "Dear Mr. Atlas, I have been taking your course for eight months. Will you please send me my muscles?"

Keith practices his chip shots with a nine iron by placing a coffee cup across the room and chipping the ball in. This comes in handy when we have some friends in for coffee. I ask the guests if they prefer sugar; those that do hold their cups very steadily while Sink calmly chips the sugar golf balls into their coffee from the bedroom. The guests delight in this type of golf proficiency, and all goes well until he gets a real golf ball mixed with the sugar type. You should have seen the expression on "Pappy" Papenmeier's face when he tried to dissolve one last Friday night. "Pappy" tells me he is going back to saccharin; it's easier on his false teeth.

I have never played any golf in my life, so Sink tries patiently to explain the game to me. I always had the idea that a chip shot was a piece of wood used as a target which had been fired at and hit. He tells me it is something else. And when he told me he was going to show me his new spoon, I thought he was going to bring out a piece of silver from his hope chest. He had similar silly definitions for driver, putter, wood, green and pen. Oh, well, I've always heard golf is an excellent game to improve your vocabulary. Anyway, he is going to take me with him the next time he plays. I'll probably get beat too, for he always makes more points than I do in the other competitive games.

Mel Palmer

GET OUT YOUR OLD CLOTHES

To help maintain a healthy balance in the Seminary's rigorous schedule, plans for a Halloween party, Thursday October 27, are in progress.

Arrangements are not definite as yet. However, a reconverted barn will be rented, and an invitation will be extended to the faculty, if a majority of the student body expresses an interest in the party. Old clothes will be the order of the evening.

Merv Gerhart is working on the possibility of securing dates for those well-meaning bachelors among us. This should not frighten any of the self-imposed bachelors, for entertainment for both couples and stags is being planned.

An assessment of about 50¢ a head will be charged to pay for rental of the building and refreshments.

See Merv if you haven't signed the list. Let's make it a success!

A. W. V. (A Woman's Viewpoint)

I have been told that I am the first woman writer for The Seminarian. That may be true; I hope, however, that I am not the last one. This is a new experience for me-- writing for a newspaper. But I will do my best to make it interesting, if not to the men, at least to the women of the Seminary.

Being the only woman student at the Seminary has its advantages, and also disadvantages. Needless to say, the first few days I was a little bewildered by so many masculine faces and not a pretty feminine face to greet me in the hall, but I am getting adjusted to this fact and now feel quite at home with all of them. At least I can't complain about the competition -- there isn't any. However, even I get tired of talking to men all the time and long for a hen session. Hope you wives don't mind if I climb up to the third floor some day to see you and talk ladies talk.

My first visit to the Seminary was during last year's Christmas Vacation, and I was very much impressed by its appearance, both by the inside and the outside of the buildings. Since September 18, I have become acquainted with the Seminary, the professors and their wives, the students, their wives and the courses and their books.

Speaking about courses and books, I was thoroughly buried in assignments the first week, but I started digging my way out with a book in each hand and am now just beginning to see daylight again. Isn't it surprising how much work an individual can do when he knows it must be done?

I must bring this delightful (?) little article to a close, but have no fear I shall be back again in two weeks with A.W.V.

Ruth K. Muthard

JUNIOR SKETCHES

One of the things which we must do if we are to become a real family here at the Seminary is to become better acquainted. The Seminarian Staff is trying to help this cause along by printing some of the vital statistics of the Junior Class in this issue. You

Thomas W. Phillips, 216 Sem. Dorm. from Garwood, N. J., and Union Junior College. Interested in golf, ping-pong, and sketching.

Ivan E. Frick, New Providence, R- 1, Pennsylvania. A. B. from Finlay College. Activities: College YMCA, Alethan Society, Theta Epsilon Delta, Yearbook Staff. Interested in sports.

Raymond D. Groff, 104 Sem. Dorm., from Trumbauersville, Pa. B. S. from Muhlenberg. Activities: Pre-Med frat., AKA Honorary Frat. Interested in sports, music, nature study, photography.

Edus Floyd Haldeman, 208 Sem. Dorm. from Northampton, Pa. B.S. from Muhlenberg. Activities: Band. Interested in music.

Joseph M. Kim, 107 Sem. Dorm. from Larimer, Pa. A.B. from F & M. Activities: Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Upsilon Kappa, Phi Beta Kappa, Yearbook Staff and YMCA.

Orville E. Miller, 424 East Hall, F & M. From Leighton, Pa. A.B. from Muhlenberg. Activities: AKA Honorary Frat. Interested in softball and photography.

Ruth K. Muthard, from Boyertown, Pa. A. B. from Catawba. Activities: College Choir, YWCA, E & R Student Organization, Penna. Club. Interested in Tennis, Basketball, Knitting, Reading.

Robert F. Peeples, 102 Sem. Dorm. from Cleveland, Ohio. A.B. from Heidelberg. Activities: Excelsior Lit. Society, S.C.A., Student Council, Social Sc. Club, Football. Interested in sports and photography.

Fred Santschi, 104 Sem. Dorm. from Akron, Ohio. A. B. from U. of Akron. Activities: Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. Interested in reading and sports.

Charles R. Trout, 102 Sem. Dorm. from Boyertown, Pa. A.B. from Heidelberg. Activities: Concert Choir, Tennis Team, S.C.A., Pre-Ministerial Group. Interested in sports in general and chess.

Jack F. Busler, 208 Sem. Dorm. from Hellam, Pa. Baco. of Mus. from Westminster Choir College. Activities: Choir and Solo work. Interested in music and fishing.

Paul J. Gerhart, 210 Sem. Dorm. from Jonestown, Pa. A.B. from L.V.C. Activities: Psychology Club. Interested in Recreational Leadership, Folk games and dances.

will find listed here the names of the Juniors with local addresses, hometown, previous school attended, activities, and interests. We apologize now for any abbreviations or condensations that the Juniors may notice on the information they gave us.

Joseph Gyorko, Jr., 210 Sem. Dorm. from Clifton, N.J. A.B. from Bloomfield College. Activities: Intramural sports, Student President, Delta Rho Frats. Interested in reading and sports.

Morgan S. Haney, 216 Sem. Dorm. from Coopersburg, Pa. A.B. from Muhlenberg. Activities: Choir, Band, Alpha Tau Omega, AKA. Interested in Music, Football, Basketball.

Richard E. Kessler, 317 Sem. Dorm. from Nazareth, Pa. A.B. from Ursinus. Activities: Brotherhood of St. Paul, V.-Pres.-YMCA, Delta Mu Sigma, I.F. Council. Interested in Intramural sports, music, model railroading.

L. Eugene Moyer, 606 W. James St., from Kimberton, Pa. Westminster Choir College. Interested in baseball and football, music.

Mel Palmer, 217 Sem. Dorm. from Lexington N.C. A.B. from Catawba. Activities: Annual Staff, School Paper, V. Pres., Junior Class, Blue Masque Dramatic Club, YMCA, Adelphians, Cheerleading, Intramural Sports. Interested in Sports, Writing, Reading.

James T. Rubright, 213 Sem. Dorm. from Cressona, Pa. A.B. from F & M. Activities: YMCA, Music Club. Interested in music.

Charles K. Sink, 217 Sem. Dorm. from Lexington, N.C. B. S. from Davidson. Activities: Intramural sports, Campus Club, Spanish Club. Interested in golf and ping-pong.

Richard H. Whitney, 1118 $\frac{1}{2}$ W. New St. Schwenksville, Penna. A.B. from Ursinus. Activities: Brotherhood of St. Paul, Chorus of "Messiah". Interested in sports and vocal music.

Ivan R. Morrin, 29 Kready Ave., Millersville, Pa. Emory University. Activities: Emory Christian Ass'n., Emory Concert Band, Band and Political Sc. Fraternity. Interested in sports, music and stamp collecting.

Glenn E. Schultz, 650 W. Phila. St., York, Pa., from Mt. Carmel, Pa. A.B. from Penn State.

Milton F. Gockley, Jr., 615 Third St., Lancaster, Pa. A.B. from F & M. Activities: Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Upsilon Kappa (pre-ministerial), Pi Gamma Mu (honorary social science). Interested in all kinds of sports, music.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Society of Inquiry plans to present on Tues. Oct. 27 at 6:30 P.M. the Rev. Mr. Druckenbrod, Chaplain of the Lancaster County Prison.