

Published by The Society of Inquiry, Lancaster Theological Seminary

27 September, 1950

Lancaster, Pa.

THE SEMINARY'S FUNCTION IN YOUR LIFE

What would you think of a woodsman who has so much to do that he has no time to sharpen his axe? The ministers of our day who neglect Seminary training are like the woodsman with a dull axe.

The faculty welcomes you in that you feel the necessity of the disciplines of seminary training, the Old and New Testament, Theology - Biblical and Systematic - - - Church History, Christian Education, Pastoral Theology, Homiletics, Rural Life and Work, Church Music. Here you receive a solid grounding in a minister's special field. Before you attempt to apply the gospel you must know what the gospel is.

Because you need a wide orientation in the fundamentals of your work as a prophet, priest, educator, counsellor, administrator, your three years in the seminary should be spent in hard intellectual effort. Financial necessity constrains some students to do outside work. Such work should be kept at a minimum. Your training here demands thought, study, worship, practice; if you neglect these primary matters your testimony as to the reality of the living God will be thin and unconvincing. In the community you serve you must stand for God and godly living. Examine your life as to the goals, purposes, and habits in the light of your future responsibility. Since you must be an interpreter of God to your people, be careful not to stand in the way of God. Learn to live consciously and unconsciously in the presence of God. Then you will know that the best preaching (the cutting edge of your ministry) is the outflow of a converted heart and a ripe mind.

Dr. Meck

AT HOME WITH GOD

The one hundred twenty-sixth year of the Seminary opened Tuesday evening September 19, in Santee Chapel, where Miss Ruth Seebury delivered the annual Schneder Memorial Lecture. Dean David Dunn introduced Miss Seebury, Secretary of Missions of the C. C. Church.

Miss Seebury's address centred about dynamic Christianity as she experienced it in her foreign travels & work.

She spoke of a professor in India who spent a complete day talking about "this Christianity". He asked her if Christians knew what they had. In Christianity the professor noted two things.

First, the power of a savior. Every person must be saved from selfishness, futility, and loneliness. But he thought that Christians showed signs of all of these.

Secondly, the power of the congregation. We have made the congregation an audience, a group coming to be entertained. It is necessary to incorporate the power of the savior in the congregation in order to make a church a true church. There is no nationality to goodness or badness, pain or joy. Christianity must be made to work in the common life.

Miss Seebury closed her talk with a thought-provoking idea. A young Japanese wrote to her: "God is like being at home." All his children are your family. Everyone is a member of the household of God, so there is no room for loneliness or futility.

A reception for Miss Seebury and the new students of the Seminary followed the lecture.

Joe Kim

PUBLIC SERVANTS

Last night many of you attended the first meeting of The Society of Inquiry for the academic year 1950-51. Presiding was our new prexy, Bob Delp, who heads a very capable executive committee elected by The Society last May. Prexy Delp, Veep Haney, and our charming secretary Ruthie Muthard intend to bring to the student body many interesting programs this year. With such a fine start, we are sure that this year will be the best in the Society's history.

Every organization needs an official organ. Every school has a newspaper. In the Lancaster Theological Seminary, THE SEMINARIAN serves as both the voice of The Society, the faculty, and student body, and the newspaper that carries news, sports, and feature articles. This makes it a combined newspaper and trade journal. Its staff has sought to maintain the dignity and high standards becoming its dual role in the Seminary, and it stands ever ready to cooperate with any faculty or student program.

Like its parent, The Society, The Seminarian is a public servant. It stands ready to print any items of importance submitted by faculty or students. Notices from committee chairmen, faculty members, the Dorm Council, and others will be eagerly received for publication. Signed letters to the editor (con't. on page three)

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Running along the same lines as most of the rest of this issue of the Seminarian, I, as the editor, would like to extend greetings to all the returning students and to all the new students, as well as to the faculty and to all members of the seminary family whose steps have brought them through the doors of our institution during the last seven days. Personally, and on behalf of the staff -- best wishes and good luck for a successful 1950-51.

Since the date of our last publication changes have come about in all our lives. Not only has some of the personnel here at the Seminary changed, but as individuals we have all had three months more of experience roll over the dam and become history. Some of the bachelors that we knew last year have come back not bachelors; some of our married couples have come back families, and others soon to be. Some of the rest of us have just come back.

On the serious side though, there have been several new elements added to our lives in the past months, all of which have not been completely good. I speak of the troubles in Korea which some choose to call the beginning of the third, if not the last, World War. The matter of what and who is to blame for these things is largely an issue of intellectual exercise and diplomatic hair splitting. The fact is that here it is and what does it mean?

Certainly it means many things; but, for us here, beginning a new year of preparation for our work as Christian ministers, it has a very special meaning. Already among people there is discernable the tendencies toward the old war-time behavior which was such a part of us during the years from 1941 to 1945. We talk in terms of surprise bombing attacks, new draft laws, shortages, and all the other things which add up to a day to day existence so typical of the years during World War II. Herein lies our meaning. During those years not long past, the Church was one of the bulwarks of the world, trying desperately to keep people on an even keel, free from hysteria and "later then you think" planning. For centuries this has been a chief function of the Church.

Now, to us, students for the Church's ministry, there is an attitude that we might proceed to cultivate. There is and will be a need for citadels of strength in this time of trouble. Our Seminary is that sort of place. Not a monastery, aloof from the world's cares, but a spot of calm in a storm, radiating assurance and courage. This can't be done with words alone, but must be done with action as well. We have come here to study and learn, and it is of prime importance

that we do just that; but over and above it there is much to be accomplished by us through a healthy attitude on our parts toward what is going on in the world around us. One of our faculty members was moved to remark during a chapel address recently, that the earth is good and life is good and we should enjoy both as good Christian stewards. To enjoy life means exactly what the words imply, to get the most out of life in the most wholesome way possible. There is an enjoyment to be found in living despite what the surrounding circumstances may be. This is not to be oblivious to the circumstances, but rather to have a healthy view of them in their long range perspective. Now, again, we, as a group of prospective Christian ministers, must be particularly mindful of the responsibility of showing forth to all the world the example of living with enjoyment; not blind pleasure, but true enjoyment. People like to enjoy things, not worry about them. By showing them the way to enjoyment, we, as the future leaders of Christian people leading the way in a sound life for troublous times, perhaps can demonstrate something of what the Christian Church has been and should be to men: a level, firm foundation for the building of the affairs of men, a foundation whose location knows no east or west, no south or north, a foundation upon which neither war nor peace, principalities nor powers, monarchs nor empires have made or can make any appreciable demolitions.

This to me is a keynote thought as we begin our scholastic year 1950-51.

Dick Glatfelter

HUMOR ESQUIRE

Greetings and salutations. What with everyone returned to old I.C., you hear greetings from all points and solutions to most any problem. I'll leave the solutions to those who have the more fluid minds and dwell on the greetings. The thing I like about greetings is that they are so comprehensive. Greetings go all the way from "hi" to "Lo, Jack, the 'gave is at 2:30." The smiles and laughs that go with greetings make the first few days of Seminary life the best of the year. And then there is an interesting side behind the greetings of the first few days. People see each other in the halls, shout like long lost brothers, pat each other on the back, exchange jokes and then part to their respectable rooms. There isn't anything odd about this scene, except for the fact that not a name is mentioned. Alas, the name has been forgotten. They call each other Pal, Buddy, Friend, Comrad and other affectionate pseudonyms.

(con't. on page three)

SPORTS

Amid the rigors of academic work here at Seminary there is always the need of relaxation. To fulfill this indispensable aspect of our school life, a power-packed sports program has been devised. It is intended to be broad enough to include the entire Seminary family. The purpose of this recreation is not only to give needed physical exercise, but also to furnish a means whereby the fellowship of our group may be strengthened. So let us all participate and make the program a success. And, remember, any suggestions will be welcomed by the Committee on Recreation.

Touch football heads the docket for the fall's activities. A paper will be posted on the bulletin board and all those desiring to take part will please sign. Scrimmage will get underway next week. By that time teams should be drawn and a schedule arranged for the campaign. Loosen up the muscles, boys, and join the ranks of the gridiron greats.

A bridge tournament is also slated for the first term. This time you'll participate as couples, so choose your partners and sign the paper on the bulletin board.

Of course, there are two ping pong tables in the basement for the use of the students at any time. But keep in mind the tournament for championship of the dorm which will be conducted later this year. As usual, from these matches there will be a team chosen to represent the Seminary in the College Inter-Fraternity competition. Why not start practicing now and improve your game for the forthcoming battles?

For the basketball sharks, the Seminary will probably enter a team in the College Intramural Program. The past years have proven that the preachers can play basketball as well as anyone. Let's keep up our splendid record. In order to do this we need all of you sharpshooters, so plan to display your talents.

Listed later for the fall and winter are dart, baseball and bowling.

As spring rolls around, the softball bug will be biting and causing all Seminarians to become diamond demons.

That's the tentative schedule for the year. Dr. Englert supervises all the activities. So make it a point to come out and join your fellow students in the fun of these various sports.

Dick Masters

THE FAIRER SEX

Boys, you can stop reading this article here and now, because this is strictly for the women of the Seminary.

Now that we're alone, girls, I'll say my word of welcome. It is swell to see all the new pretty faces in the halls. Who in the world said that it's a man's world? I'd also like to greet

the wives who have returned this year.

I suppose that most of you ladies know that we have an organization here at the Seminary called the Association of Seminary Women. Well, if you didn't you know it now. All the women in the Seminary are members. I do hope every one of you will come out to the first meeting, to be held in the very near future.

Our organization is very young; in fact, it is one year young. But we are very bright for just one year. Those of us who were here last year remember the fine meetings we had and are looking forward to some wonderful ones again this year.

So, girls, when the call goes out that the women of the Seminary are to have a meeting, drop whatever you are doing: be it ironing (it will wait), washing (it will still be there when you get back), or studying (that can be done tomorrow), and come on down to The Lounge to the first meeting of the Association of Seminary Women.

Ruth K. Muthard

(con't. from Page two)

They ask how each has been, what he did over the summer, did he have a nice summer, etc. etc., but are there any names mentioned? Absolutely not. If your memory fails you and you would like to give a greeting, using the fellows name, here is a sure-fire method. Simply substitute this word for the individuals name... "Brahmann." Sort of slur it a bit, shifting the jaws from side to side. Chew it somewhat. With a little practice, and spoken softly enough it will sound like anything from Alphonse to Zephaniah. Yes, you too can be recognized as "The fellow who remembers everybody's name."

Mel Palmer

(con't. from page one)

itor will be printed in the pages of the paper. Anyone interested in learning of the official policy of the paper may do so by making this request to the President of the Society.

As a school needs a faculty and a factory its laborers, your student paper needs a staff. Each passing year demands replacements. A growing student body and heightened editorial responsibility necessitate and expansion of the staff. Writers and technicians are needed. In order to return the publication of THE SEMINARIAN to its normal status, the editor has called an organizational meeting for 6:15 P.M. tonight in Room 106. All old staff members and new students interested in this extra-curricular activity are requested to attend this important meeting.

Dave Mark