

THE SEMINARIAN

Academic Year 1956-57 Lancaster, Pa. April 29, 1957 No. 14

NEWS FLASH.....George Hazen has been selected Editor-in-Chief of the 1957-58 SEMINARIAN. Flowers may be sent to his room in the third floor.

"Our Town"

If the January production of "The Hourglass" were not enough, we would certainly be convinced now that the Chancel Players are and will be a vital asset to our Seminary. In the length of time that it takes the average new organization to begin functioning, our dramatic group has reached maturity. Under the fine direction of George Hazen, Thornton Wilder's moving drama, "Our Town," came to life in Santee Chapel over the past weekend. Deep within the spirit of the play are religious undertones, subtle in the early moments of the play, more pronounced in the later stages. The whole cast and the director are to be congratulated for avoiding the temptation to overplay the religious motives which were there.

To single out a particular performer as outstanding is a difficult task. One recalls how vividly Chuck Bawel painted the background, looking at an imaginary building as though it were really before his eyes, recapturing a past as though it really happened. In his easy-going manner, Chuck kept the play moving, always looking upon the activities with interest and compassion. Bob Bayler made a fine George Gibbs, handling well the difficult change from a carefree teenage boy, through the awkward moments of romance, to the realization that he was a man with responsibilities, to the emptiness of standing by his young wife's grave. Particularly good were his facial expressions as he communicated from his window to Emily's.

The "Oscar" for superb acting, in this writer's opinion, goes to Dorothy June Whitebred, for her portrayal of Emily Webb. While she performed more than adequately in the first two acts, the true quality of her talents emerged in her stirring interpretation of the dead Emily who wishes to return to earth for a day. Within the space of a few minutes, Mrs. Whitebred had to express many varied emotions - joy, regret, pity, hope, surprise, desperation, agony, resignation, understanding - as she discovered the blindness and ignorance of earthly existence. The shift was not an easy one, yet she never displayed the wrong emotion at a particular time. The dramatic impact of the play depended upon her performance, and few will deny the actuality of this impact. On this basis, she is our choice as the outstanding performer.

The rest of the cast did a fine job, especially those handling the difficult character parts. Frank McConnell was so convincing that many were certain he wasn't acting. Robby Moss had the most difficult role, sitting still through the last act, and he fulfilled this nobly.

To George Hazen goes a great deal of credit, both for directing and for the fine job of casting. Though we could heap on glowing words of praise, we feel that the performance speaks for itself. The staging was well done with what was available in Santee Chapel. We look to the future with happy anticipation, for if this play is a sample of things to come, the Chancel Players may become our most worthwhile activity.

- "Posy"

DEAN NOTES

May Faculty Meeting, Friday, the 3rd at 2 P.M. Senior Schaff Building Trip the same day.

A whole galaxy of stars twinkled in Santee Chapel, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, April 25-27, when Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" was presented by our Chancel Players. George Hazen and his group merit our gratitude and felicitation.

The Senior Class visited the V.A. Hospital at Perry Point on Friday, April 26 as guests of Chaplain Ernest J. Melchert. On the same day quite a few of our more recent alumni came back for the semi-annual gathering of rural ministers. Rev. Marshall Stephenson, Life Minister of the New Hampshire Conference (Congregationalist) was special guest and resource man.

The gift of the (soon) graduating class to the school is already drawing admiring glances on the cross corridor, main floor of the Administration Building in the form of a fine new glass-enclosed, three-section Bulletin Board. Many thanks, Class of 1957!

Softball in Full Swing

The Seminary softball season began on Wednesday, April 10, with a game with East Hall. Most of the runs were scored in the first inning, Seminary getting 4 and East Hall 5. By the end of the fifth inning, we were still trailing, 8 to 6. Each team scored an additional run in the sixth inning, making the final score 9 to 7.

On April 11 the Seminary team did much better against Hartman # 2. Six runs were scored during our first time at bat and our opponents did not get a run until the fifth inning. It was an 11 to 2 victory for the Seminary.

On Wednesday, April 24, the Seminary team won a game against the Vets by forfeit. On Friday we played East Hall for the second time this year. Few runs were made during the first two innings, but the 5 and 8 runs which our opponents scored in the third and fourth innings, respectively, proved too much for us to overcome. The final score was 17 to 12. Bill Keeler hit the only home-run of this year's season, so far. He, Welsh, and Benner have hit triples.

The following have been at bat at least four times:

Russ Mengel	-----	.600
Bill Keeler	-----	.500
Bob Reiff	-----	.429
Dick Barley	-----	.417
Bob Welsh	-----	.400
Dick Benner	-----	.333
Jack Aregood	-----	.308
Dale Shellhamer	----	.286
Jim Bright	-----	.250
Bob Bayler	-----	.250
George Rankin	-----	.250
Chuck Bawel	-----	.167
Hal Schoup	-----	.167
Jack Oliphant	----	.000

Don Ely

DEN T S
O E

We welcome as speakers at our Monday Assemblies: today, April 29, Rev. Theoldore L. Trost, Jr., supply pastor of the Reamstown Charge, who is teaching this semester at F. and M. College. Last year he studied at Edinburgh University and is presently engaged in writing a doctoral thesis on Philip Schaff; next Monday, May 6, Rev. William F. Baur, on furlough this year from our Honduras Mission Field and living in the Lancaster Missionary Home on President Avenue. (On the day before Easter, Deborah Ruth arrived to join her two brothers in the family circle.)

Today (Monday, April 29)--Deadline for submission of complete texts of B. D. theses to the responsible professors. The latter will return the same with corrections and suggestions, so that the revised texts may be returned for final approval by Monday, May 13th. Middlers! Topics for B. D. theses are due in the Dean's office on or before the Ides of May (the 15th). Deadline for Senior Sermons for the Board of Visitors: Friday, May 3.

Registration for next Fall Term courses: Thursday, May 2, from 9:00 A. M. to 12:30 P. M. and from 1:30 P. M. to 2:15 P. M. Students will do well to read the new Catalogue-Year Book, especially pages 20-37, dealing with the Curriculum as a number of changes have been made from the set-up of the present school year. This publication came forth just before the Easter Recess and in new cover garb. The student editorial board, Messrs. Kern and Irwin and Miss Bean, together with Dr. Gable, deserve emphatic thanks for a hard job well done. Any student who has not yet received his copy can apply at the President's office.

Spring Communion Service: Wednesday evening, May 15, at 7:30. Dr. Vassady, liturgist; Dean Dunn, preacher; Mead Bailey, Student Assistant.

Student Elections--The Society of Inquiry has elected the following officers for the next school year: President, Mead Bailey; Vice President, George Hazen; Secretary-Treasurer, Robert Welsh. The Middlers have chosen Russell Heintzelman as director of supply preaching for next year.

Dr. Stonesifer has been in the General Hospital, Lancaster, since Easter Monday undergoing observation and tests. Jim Jackson entered the Veterans' Hospital near Lebanon the Wednesday before Easter. They have our hopes and prayers for complete recovery.

This column is authorized to make the following interesting announcement: Rev. & Mrs. Emil Burrichter of New Albin, Iowa, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lavon, to Robert N. Bayler, son of Mr. & Mrs. Russell L. Bayler of Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The wedding date has been set for June 26, 1958.