



THE SEMINARIAN

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ALL TALK . . . BUT NO ACTION

We're fed up with indifference, apathy and neglect! It is astonishing how people can talk about how things ought to be done and what things ought to be done, but never do them.

The Church nowadays is "social action oriented" as we all know from our involvement, in varying degrees, with the churches of this community and Penn Central Conference. But being oriented towards a goal and struggling towards a goal are two different things. In the same way this seminary is "social action oriented", i. e. many people talk about things that should be done but do nothing about them.

To parody an old saying "social action and concern starts at HOME". A home of course is a dwelling in which a family lives, but in a larger sense OUR home is OUR seminary where, because of proximity and mutual concern (occasionally) we are indeed a family. Then assuming the fact that each of us is concerned about society and also assuming that each of us is willing to back up that concern with some "elbow grease" and in some cases just a mere presense, we as a family, i. e. "elbow grease" and convictions combined should be able to do something in and for society instead of just walloring in our "social action orientations".

We would hope that given the opportunities for involvement in the community that now exist that the seemingly constant stagnation here in OUR HOME was washed away by the recent rains and that this "Christian" family will endeavor to meet the needs of this society (OUR SOCIETY) and this community (OUR COMMUNITY) under the direction of and the help of the social activist of of them all, Jesus Christ!

- THE SEMINARIAN -

To many people,
freedom of religion
means a choice of
churches to stay
away from.

- Nick Kozmeniuk -

The staff of the Seminarian will meet in the HUB every Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 pm. Anyone who would like to hand in any material is welcome to come to the HUB in person, or may give their material to any of the staff.

Regular publication of THE SEMINARIAN is tentatively scheduled for Thursday this semester.

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Communion

There aren't any fish in the water
only promises of love to come.
Secrets remain unspoken, unwished
dreams of lost freedom and
renewed strenght.
God is a terrible thing,
death is a choir singing
unholy echoes from heaven.
Life isn't even that good.
It sputters and spurts and asks
forgiveness.
Who can forget if he doesn't once
forgive all moments of past.
The present is ridiculous
even to a blind man not able to
see but believing still.
All there is after all the
rhetoric of the stage,
After all bad lines and curtains
call, a single voice looks up
and cries in hope.
Not hope for the past which pain-
fully rebounds off the shadows
of sunken holes.
Not hope living on the downpayment
of the present world unable to
turn or to kneel.
Our hope can not be an extension,
because a line that goes from
here to there
Still must start here.
And there isn't anything here
that transforms wine.
The end is not the middle of the
beginning, but the dream of
poets.
To say today is the day is only to
wish toward the dawn of
human dung.
In the end, at the beginning,
through the middle there is
only one life.
Lose and gain aren't kept on a
ledger. Hope is not a game
of chance.
Break bread in the bosom of your
soul, and the echo will warm
cold bones.
Drink wine in the shadow of a cross
and tears are offered for the hope
of man.

--- Anonymous

New Life For the Hub

The organizational meeting
of The Hub committee was held on
Monday in the Hub. The meeting
was attended by thirteen interested
members of our community. After
extensive discussion, The Hub
committee decided there was a
need to establish a coffee hour
each night from 9:00 to 10:30.
This should offer a break from the
pressures of study and a chance
to rap and get to know members
of the faculty and students whom
you may not know as you would like.
The attendance at the coffee hour
Monday night was encouraging and
provides evidence that there is a
need and interest for such a
service.

Another serious concern was
raised at the Hub meeting. A need
was felt for a seminary community
communion service each week. Agree-
ment was reached about such a
service and, beginning Wednesday,
Oct. 13, and each Wednesday after,
there will be a communion service
in the chapel. The service will
be followed the regular coffee hour.
A service of this type will be inval-
uable to our community for several
reasons. The first is that this
celebration will enrich our spirit-
ual growth. It will also give fam-
ilies the chance to worship toget-
her. Thirdly, it will give us the
opportunity as ministers to ex-
periment with communion forms. What
better place could there be to
experiment with communion forms
than at the seminary? Because of
these reasons, this program holds
great promise.

There are also plans to re-
finish our pool table and buy ping
pong equipment. It is promised
that costs, when they occur, will
be deferred by the S.C.C. treasury.
It was agreed that the committee's
goal in providing these services
would be not only to break even,
but to make a profit for contin-
uing improvement of the Hub. All
cooperation would be appreciated.

Some ideas for improvement
have been made, and for these ideas
to succeed we need your complete
support.

Movies at F. & M.

The Seventh Seal- Oct. 13/14
Marry Me! Marry Me!- Oct. 16/17
King! A Filmed Record- Oct. 20/21

WAR AND PEACE AT LTS

Peace is more than the absence of war; but the two cannot co-exist. The issue of war and peace has been raised in three important ways during the past week at LTS. First, on Thursday and Friday of last week, screenings of "The Selling of the Pentagon" poignantly illustrated the efforts of the government to legitimize policy by fostering a confrontation US*THEM mentality rather than the idea of universal brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God. Also "sold" was a reliance on arms, force, and violence as the only means of resolving such a situation. Clearly, such an acceptance - even affirmation - of the inevitability of war leads to the use of war as a mere instrument of foreign policy. Furthermore, the difference between defense and aggression is swallowed up in the notion of "national interest." If it serves the U.S. (or some segments of the nation) that Southeast Asia continue to function as it did as a French colony, then war is seen as a justifiable tactic in suppressing a popular uprising.

The second exploration of the issue was Monday night, at a fine program presented by ASW. Addressing the "Church and the Politics of Peace and War," were speakers Mrs. Charles Holzinger (Friends' Peace Committee) and Mrs. David Maugen (wife of a WWII Army chaplain, now a chaplain in the Active Reserves and a minister). Mrs. Holzinger called upon the churches to spread the "Good News" that Christ came for all by undertaking projects which "make for peace" as well as preaching universal brotherhood. Mrs. Maugen, after a brief sketch of the "assets" of military life in WWII, commented that the need was to minister to individuals, including those in combat, rather than for the church to address itself to the issue of war itself and the policies which lead to war. She saw the UCC as a denomination without a history of such social actions and pronouncements. (Education on our roots is a great need.) Finally, she affirmed her support for the Vietnam war, saying

Let's look at that final assumption, for it is shared by a great number of Americans. The sad fact is that the war is far from over. Indeed, it is expanding. It is the assumption of the Administration that the American people will tolerate the destruction of Indochina indefinitely if U.S. ground troops continue to trickle home. But the real issue, the war itself and U.S. backing of the Saigon dictatorship, continues. The killing goes on in Laos & Cambodia on a regular basis now. The ground war goes on, using 14&15 year old Vietnamese draftees, mercenaries, and massive U.S. armament. The air war carries a bigger share of the killing than ever. Laos, the size of New York State, has received as many tons of bombs as the USAF dropped in Europe, the Mediterranean, and the Pacific in WWII, most since the war began to be "wound down" in 1968. Nearly half the bombing in Vietnam (2½ times our WWII total) has been since late 1968. Casualties have never been higher.

The third raising of the issue is an opportunity to help stop the killing. Don Luce spent thirteen years of his life living with the people of Vietnam as an agricultural expert with International Voluntary Services. He is now seeking to educate the people of the U.S. about the cultures of Indochina, and the effect of the war. His point is that, whatever it seeks to prevent, the war itself is far, far worse. Mr. Luce will be in the Lancaster area next week, including a time at the seminary. People are needed to help in showing films, and in staffing a display at Park City next Tuesday, Wed., & Thurs. (Oct. 19-21) MEET IN THE HUB Thursday (Oct. 14) at 8:30 to plan for this opportunity.

IN SYMPATHY

Our sincere expression of sympathy is extended to Al and Linda Moyer on the death of Al's grandfather. "If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's." (Romans 14:8)