



THE SEMINARIAN

Volume XXIII

November 24, 1971

No. 11

THE FORUM: GESTURE OF OPENNESS

Lancaster Theological Seminary will have a somewhat unique opportunity on December 2, 1971. This is the date for a seminary-wide Forum which is designed to give the whole community a chance to express its feelings about any and all issues related to any and all aspects of the life and work of our educational institution.

This is definitely not a time to hold in any feelings, whether negative or positive. This is not a time to sit in front of the soap operas or quiz shows with a cold glass of Coke or a hot cup of coffee in a state of indifference. This is not even the time to sit in front of a desk with St. Augustine or St. Paul: "For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven." This is the time to show our faces and our minds in an encounter which it is hoped will make all of our other times meaningful and relevant. -----

If any member of our community should choose the former of the above possibilities (staying home), we must assume that he is here to pass his time for the sake of passing time itself rather than for the sake of preparing himself for effective and committed ministry. If anyone really cares about his future and the way he is prepared for that future, then he cannot, in good conscience, stay apathetically away from this rare chance to shape that future.

We hear complaints about our community and our education all the time. We gripe about the insensitive faculty and administration. The faculty wonders what all this student unrest means. They are surprised to hear that there is so much dissatisfaction with the system. The time to shout out these and any other complaints is not after the Forum is over. If you are not willing to place your complaints before all concerned for debate at the Forum, then don't bother to do so in the security of your own small group of fans afterwards. This Forum is a concrete gesture of openness from the faculty and administration. Let us respond! The Forum is "where it's at." Where will you be?

- Steve Cote'

HAPPY

THANKSGIVING!

"IT'S NOT A MYTH. IT DOES EXIST"

I find it very disheartening to have to write this article. Here we are a Christian institution. We are supposed to be those who are proclaimers of the Gospel of our Lord. We are to be the prophets of the twentieth century. It is to be our job to bridge the gap between the races, and to be concerned about our brothers.

This is what this is all about. That is what I thought until I was confronted with one of our ministers recently, in the process of trying to acquire an Involvement Ministry position. I say "our" even though I am black and he is white. I say "our" because he is a member of the United Church of Christ and so am I. And I have to think for a moment, and wonder if I am in the right place; am I a member of the right church? For when I am taught the Gospel by an institution, to be

"IT'S NOT A MYTH...

concerned about my brother, and in that church I am to be one of their ministers, what am I to think about this institution which openly practices racism?

Yes, brothers and sisters, racism! How else can you define it when you are confronted with a minister who tells you that you may not work for him in his church because you are black? He says that he is afraid of the possible reactions of his congregation were he to hire me.

I find this hard to accept because I believe in Christianity, which is what our church is all about-isn't it? I am not pointing the finger just at the minister who told me this. He alone is not to blame! It is the institution of which he and I are members, the United Church of Christ. We who are members of the community of Lancaster Theological Seminary are supposed to go out and build a better society. This is what we are commissioned to do by our Lord. But I feel this is not what I hear from my experience with this church, for it seems to be telling me to preach racism, according to their example.

This should be of common concern to everyone in the community here at LTS because each one of us is a part of the greater community outside of the seminary. If we can't begin to change the church, the very institution of which we are all parts, what can we hope to accomplish in the greater realm of the Christian community?

There will probably be some reactions, such as, "Well, you're black. Why aren't you attending some black seminary?" or "Why aren't you where your black brothers and sisters are?" I assumed that this was a Christian community and wherever this type of spirit exists, I feel myself to be with my brothers and sisters.

I hope that my thoughts and feelings will have some meaning for you. Some type of real meaning, and that something can be

done about the problem of racism which exists within the structure of our United Church of Christ. If we can't correct it within the church, how can we stop it in our society as a whole? We must deal with it-it does exist!

-Algynon Reid

REACTIONS...

We all know the children's story about the little shepherd boy who called "Wolf! Wolf!" whenever he wanted attention. Then came the day when he yelled "Wolf! Wolf!" and no one paid any attention...

Clearly this is a morality story to keep little kids from constantly plaguing their parents with the world-crisis of the minute. Hopefully, they learn the point of the story...

And yet when we look around us here at LTS and what happens? "Wolf! Wolf! Wolf!" Everybody wants Mr. Wolf! And everybody cusses under his breath when Mr. Wolf can't make it right away!

But is this fair? NO!!! If Mr. Wolf had the time and the personnel, there wouldn't be any complaints. The first step has been taken towards this goal with the hiring of a full-time man for maintenance. But more will be needed so that Mr. Wolf can do his job to his and our expectations. Then some day we won't have to worry about bright orange living rooms and royal(MESSIANIC?) purple kitchens...Then Mr. Wolf will be able to do the job he is intended to do...and should. Let's give Mr. Wolf a chance-and a break-by seeing that he gets the personnel to do the job he wants and CAN do!

-Al Johnson

REFERENDUM RESULTS

On Monday a seminary wide poll was conducted to see if there existed a desire for a change in the time of morning chapel. Of some 103 ballots distributed, 57 were returned. 33 of these, the majority want chapel to be from 10-10:30.W.S

HUBIN' IT

There is a great deal happening in the HUB these days. The sharp contact of pool balls and the mighty switch of the ping-pong paddle indicate that the HUB recreation room is now ready for use. The pool table and equipment and the ping-pong equipment have now been totally restored. Because of the considerable expense of the restoration of this equipment, the Student Community Council felt it necessary to enact the following regulation in regard to the use of the equipment: "With the exception of special functions of the HUB, access to the Rec. Room is open only to members of the Seminary Community and their friends who accompany them." This action was taken as a mandate for the HUB Committee and at this time it is felt by the committee that no further regulations are needed as students are showing responsibility and courtesy in using the equipment.

Another point of interest is the proposal of the SCC for the administration of the HUB which was passed on Tuesday by the Administrative Council. It is reprinted in full in this issue and will take effect immediately. Please note the scheduling procedure for use of the HUB facilities.

This column will now become a regular feature in THE SEMINARIAN. To keep up to date on what's happening in the HUB, read HUBIN' IT weekly. To keep things happening in the HUB, give it your support. The HUB is now yours; use it often.

- John Fureman

"Better is open rebuke
than hidden love."

- Proverbs 27:5

HUB AND CHAPEL BANNERS

Design and construction of banners for the Chapel and the HUB will take place on Monday, January 10, 1972, at the ASW meeting in the Hafer Center at 7:00 PM. In order to integrate the ideas of the entire community for these banners, we would ask each one of you who is interested to put your creative talents to work on ideas for designs on these banners. If you are interested, please submit, in drawing form, any ideas for motifs by Friday, December 3, 1971. From all the motifs received, a number will be selected for use. Drawings may be given to Diane Strever or Joyce Cote in person or by putting them in Wayne or Steve's HUB mailboxes. Thank you for your support and interest.

- Diane Strever
&
Joyce Cote

"SONG WITHOUT WORDS"

Tired - yet I can't sleep;
Wounded - yet I can't weep;
Sinful - yet I can't pray;
Father, hear the words I cannot say

Certain - yet I'm afraid;
Going - and yet I've strayed;
Faithful - yet untrue;
Father, make me more and more like
you.

Sorrowful - yet not sad;
Happy - and yet not glad;
Searching - yet I know the Way;
Father, teach and lead me day by
day.

- Linda Rich

SUGGESTIONS PLEASE!!!

I read The Seminarian with a good deal of interest each week, and I am delighted that it has been revived. In the last few issues, however, we have been treated to a persistent attack on the seminary, the faculty, and the Church. In the Nov. 18 issue, Curly Stumb tells us that the whole seminary program, its student products, and the Church are a joke. The difficulty is that he never tells us why or gives us any constructive suggestions as to how the seminary, the students, and the Church should be changed. This doesn't help any of us very much. It is very easy to throw stones. It takes a good deal more intelligence and training and skill to build something useful with them.

There are those of us on this faculty and staff who believe very deeply that the most important task in life is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the world, and our whole educational effort is directed toward training responsible men and women to help the Church fulfill that task. We assume that the reason we all are here is to prepare for the job of communicating the Word of God to the world. All right, what is the best concrete means of learning about the Word and what he means for our world? What should the seminary program be? What is helping us to hear and proclaim the Word of God and what isn't? Indeed, where is the Word of God to be found, and what does that imply about our seminary programs? When we get out into our churches, then, what should be our method of proclaiming the Word? How can we grow in our ministry and be sustained through all its ups and downs? What are the tools we should have to be responsible interpreters of the Word to our people? How should we use those tools and what should their effect be? What will we be trying to accomplish? What is the Church

now and what should it be?

There are literally hundreds of questions of this nature which could be dealt with in The Seminarian, to the mutual profit of us all. I don't mind being attacked -- I did a good deal of it myself in seminary. But a responsible attacker should have some viable alternatives to the way things are, to lay before his audience. Let's hear your alternatives and your theological and educational presuppositions lying behind them. Then perhaps each of us will be using our own particular "manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (I Cor. 12:7).

- Elizabeth Achtemeier

LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS!!!

This article is in response to the action taken by the Student Community Council at their meeting on November 18th. They decided that The Hub is "off limits" to F&M students, unless they are accompanied by a seminarian. Is LTS a Christian community?? Many times we look in wonder and ask how God could have made this world of ours such a chaotic mess. God did not make it that way -- man did!

Our Lord taught us to "love our neighbors as ourselves." And how do we show our love to our neighbors -- by "kicking them out" of The Hub? Are we afraid that they might come in and destroy our "precious little student union?" We frown on congregations that don't allow community groups to use their facilities for fear that someone may write on the walls or scuff the floor or scratch the furniture. Are we, in essence, not doing the same thing? If we cannot practice the principles of Christian love and brotherhood in our tiny community, what can we expect from our churches? PRACTICE WHAT WE PREACH!

It was almost 2000 years ago that Jesus said "Love your neighbor." Yet few people have bothered to give it a try. Maybe our world would be better if we tried RIGHT HERE!

- B. Lohman, T. Corcelius, L. Long

REFLECTIONS . . .

IT'S FUN TO BE A JESUS FREAK

Monday—Just when I thought nothing exciting was going to happen today, my December Reader's Digest came in the mail.

R. D. is fun to read because there are always humorous articles like: "Laughter", "Humor in Uniform", "I am Joe's Prostate", and "Fighting Inflation is Everybody's Business", by Richard Nixon.

Recently, they have had serious articles, even about religion. There were great articles during October and November about the pinko, trouble making, nigger-loving World Council of Churches. Spiro, our hero, has finally made the media tell the truth.

December has two articles on the Jesus Revolution which are condensed from progressive magazines, i. e. "Time" and "Guideposts". The second article was written by the head of 20th Century insomniacs, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale (D.D.).

These articles have inspired me to write of my own experiences with the movement. How I got saved is personal, but if I tell you and you come with me to the coffee house, I'll get a Bible verse card with a picture of Roy Rogers on the back. When I save 25 cards (and get 25 jewels in my heavenly crown) I can trade them in for a transistor radio. A guy I know named William Graham has saved so many he can have a Rolls Royce any time he wants it.

Before, I was an idealistic liberal like everybody else. It was fun while it lasted; but the Jesus Freaks are getting all of the attention now and I figure I'll try that for a while.

It all happened one night at a rally when everybody got high on Jesus and promised not to use drugs or sex or booze any more. I had never "done" any of these, so I figured I was way ahead of the others. Maybe some of the others hadn't either, but then they passed around a box for acid, pot, and horse collection. I knew I was a long way from getting in with the group. My first testimonial was a bummer. What I needed was a little proof of original sin.

So, the next week I spent raising hell. I convinced this little broad from the rally that we had to have something to sacrifice for Jesus. WOW! If I ever became a liberal again.

I didn't need to take any drugs because I had given blood the previous week and several holes remained in my arm from the technician's inability to hit a vein.

The fun of being a Jesus Freak, besides being white, middle-class Protestant, is telling other people about being saved and watching how embarrassing it is for them. The more I talk about being saved the more I believe it is true. It is also fun to carry a Bible and quote from it just like Jesus did.

But the greatest joy is putting the hassle to my parents. They have always gone to Church, and now they have to believe that I am 100% right because I have forced them to accept me by their own standards. I even go to Church now and pretend to enjoy doing so.

Perhaps I should quit here, and go to Bible Study. We are having a real relevant discussion tonight entitled: "Ephesians, Answer to Woman's Liberation".

In parting; remember, peace, ecology, racial harmony, these things are not important. The latest way to cop out is not sex or booze or drugs; now we have Jesus.

- Cliff Kelbaugh -

ONE WAY to keep your wife from snoring is to come in just late enough to make her lie awake all night wondering what kept you out to such a late hour.

NO MATTER how large the house is, it isn't large enough if it doesn't have room for laughter.

Being a husband is just like any other job: It's much easier if you like the boss.

(EDITORS NOTE: The following is a proposal for the administration of THE HUB. It was unanimously approved by the Administrative Council on November 23, 1971.)

1. Definition of THE HUB:

THE HUB is the Student Union Building (former library) with the exception of the Bookstore and Dr. Hartley's office. This shall include, therefore, the main floor (containing the student mailboxes, THE SEMINARIAN office, the conference room, and the kitchen), the balcony area above this main floor, and the ground floor below this area (containing the pool table and ping-pong table).

2. Definition of THE HUB Committee:

THE HUB Committee is a standing committee of the Student Community Council. The chairman shall be appointed by the SCC at the beginning of the school year no later than the end of the first meeting of the school year. This chairman shall then appoint at least five members of the student body to serve on this committee within two weeks after his appointment.

3. Functions and authority of THE HUB Committee:

THE HUB Committee shall be responsible for providing supplies for coffee, hot chocolate and/or other refreshments in the kitchen area of THE HUB. It shall also handle the collection and management of donations received from the above mentioned refreshments in order to finance the continued supply of such refreshments.

All scheduled functions in THE HUB should be registered with and approved by THE HUB Committee at least two weeks prior to the date of any such functions. Spaces and use of THE HUB will be allowed on a first come first served basis. THE HUB Committee shall have sole authority over the use of THE HUB, which is, in fact, the students' area of independent activity. The rationale for this control lies in the fact that students must have exclusive authority in order that student interests might be protected and preserved against the possibility of usurpation by higher administrative authority.

4. Public communication of above actions:

The fact that THE HUB Committee has the authority and supervisory functions outlined above shall be initially announced through the official weekly announcements and THE SEMINARIAN. Future information to this effect shall be communicated through the Lancaster Seminary Yearbook and Handbook each year.

5. Summer Administration of THE HUB:

THE HUB Committee will be responsible for appointing a summer resident to supervise the administrative functions outlined above during the summer months.

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Man is willing to accept woman as an equal, as a man in skirts, as an angel, a devil, a baby face, a machine, an instrument, a bosom, a womb, a pair of legs, a servant, an encyclopedia, an ideal or obscenity; the only thing he won't accept her as is a human being—a real human being of the female sex.

- D. H. Lawrence -

The staff of THE SEMINARIAN will meet in THE HUB every Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Anyone who would like to hand in any material to be published is welcome to do so at that time or prior to that time by giving it to anyone on the staff.

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