

9 May, 1951

Lancaster, Pa.

THE CHURCH AND LAW - ENFORCEMENT

All will agree that the Church should include the principles of Christian Morality in its educational program; many will also be in favor of stimulating academic interest in Christian Social Action; but few have initiated programs of action in the local community. I have before me a copy of the work of the several departments of the Associated Churches of a mid-western city: Evangelism, Christian Education, Radio Broadcasting, World Fellowship, Church Women, and Finances - but there is not even a reference to social action. This is typical of most Protestant Councils of Churches.

The United Churches of Lancaster County is unique in having a Department of Social Action and Community Relations. Affiliated with this Department is the Lancaster Law and Order Society. This Society is supported by the budget of the United Churches and from contributions of about seventy members. The President of the Society serves as the Chairman of the Department of Social Action and Community Relations.

The chief function of the Law and Order Society lies in the area of law-enforcement. It is not a law-enforcing agency but it exists for the purpose of insisting that the law be enforced by the regular law-enforcing agencies: the City Police, the District Attorney and the State Liquor Control Board. Only when these agencies do not cooperate does the Society prosecute. In a sense the Society is the "watch dog" of the community.

To fulfill this function it is necessary to have a full-time agent, whose chief task is that of "watching": to patrol the city - cafes, bar-rooms, pool-halls, news-stands, and other places which are suspect. Whenever he discovers that the law is being violated he reports to the President, who in turn, in most cases, consults the proper law-enforcing agency. When the proper office cooperates the matter is simple. But, when the regular law-enforcing agencies refuse to cooperate by actually enforcing the law it is not a simple matter.

To be specific, let's take the case of violation of the liquor laws. When the agent discovers some violation within the city limits a report is made to the Police Commissioner. If he does not act, the agent gathers additional evidence, which the President then, reports to the office of the State Liquor Control Board. Agents from the Harrisburg Office visit the place, make observations, gather evidence, contact witnesses. This testimony is presented at a hearing to which the proprietor is called. The

penalty is then determined by the State Board. This process requires time but it is usually effective.

Most of the violations of the gambling law occur in connection with festivals, carnivals, and shows. The agent always visits these on the first night. In a few cases those in charge cooperate by asking the agent to approve the "set-up". However, in most cases, deliberate violations occur, which require definite action. If the affair is outside of the city limits a call is made to the local barracks of the Pennsylvania State Police. Several plain-clothes men are detailed to act at once. When they appear on the grounds and order the gambling devices to stop, usually that is all that is necessary. In other cases arrests are made.

The presence of salacious or obscene literature presents a different problem. The material is purchased by the agent. A Committee of the Society makes a careful study of the periodical, blue-penciling obscene illustrations and script. The marked copy is then taken to the Office of the District Attorney. If he agrees with the decision of the Committee, as he usually does, he orders all news-dealers to withdraw the periodical in question. Generally, no further action is necessary.

Much of the information with which investigations begin, comes from members of the Society and other citizens who are aware of instances of violation of the law. With these tips the agent proceeds with his investigation. This means that church people can cooperate by reporting evidence and being willing to testify if necessary. Unfortunately, many well-meaning church members are not willing to do this.

The Lancaster Law and Order Society was organized forty years ago because there were church members in Lancaster who were willing to "stick out their necks". At first this was "nasty work" and many men and women engaged in activities which were not pleasant, especially because the law-enforcing agencies were then "tied up" with vice themselves.

This kind of work requires (a) a few, brave, interested souls, who are willing to sacrifice; (b) a full-time agent who will gather much of the evidence; (c) the cooperation of the law-enforcing agencies; (d) the conviction that this kind of Christian Social Action is God's business, that His Kingdom of justice and goodwill cannot come into being unless there is law and order.

Dr. Charles D. Spotts, '25
President, Lancaster Law
and Order Society

SOCIETY NEWSBRIEFS

At the last regular business meeting of the Society of Inquiry the annual election of officers was held by President Robert Delp and the members of the Society. New officers elected on April 24 were:

President: James Rubright

V. President: Keith Sink

Secretary-Treasurer: Carolyn Kratz

This meeting was closed with a rising vote of thanks in appreciation for the splendid work of the retiring officers during the past academic year.

On Tuesday, May 2, the Program Committee of the Society sponsored its final function for the 1950-51 school year. The Seminary family gathered for games, supper, fellowship, and worship on the grounds of the Safe Harbor Hydroelectric Development's outdoor recreation facilities. Guest features on the program were Zambouri the Magician and Bill Daniels the Missionary.

The current drive for funds for the World Student Service Fund, sponsored by the Society is drawing to a successful conclusion, the solicitors turning in records of highly satisfactory pledges from faculty and student body.

Last nite the final meeting of the Society was held in the beautifully renovated lounge. The major topic of discussion was the financial state of the Society of Inquiry at the close of the school year 1950-51.

THE CALENDAR

- 9 May - The annual spring eucharist, Santee Chapel, 7:00 P. M.
- 10 May - Classes end for members of the Senior Class.
- 14 May - Deadline for term's work and thesis approval for Seniors.
- 18 May - Classes end for members of the lower classes; deadline for the term's work.
- 20 May - 3:30 P. M. - Sacred concert by the Seminary Choir.
5:00 P. M. - Informal reception for Seminary family.
7:30 P. M. - Baccalaureate
Sermon: Dr. Kosman.
- 21 May - 7:00 P. M. - Meeting of the Board of Visitors.
8:00 P. M. - Reception for the members of the Senior Class at the Mecks'.
- 22 May - 10:00 A. M. - Meeting of the Corporation.
2:00 P. M. - Joint meeting of the Corporation and the Board of Visitors.
8:00 P. M. - Annual Sermon: Dr. Rex Stowers Clements.
- 23 May - 9:15 A. M. - Meeting of the Historical Society.
10:30 A. M. - Meeting of the Alumni Association.
11:30 A. M. - Commencement.
1:00 P. M. - Luncheon.

HUMOR ESQUIRE

About three-thirty the other afternoon, I gracefully hauled my six-foot-two frame into the rear seat of Earl Lutz's Chevvy. Like the majority of the Seminarians, we were off to the picnic. Since Lutz was driving, I closed my eyes tightly and hung on. Three breaths later we were at our destination. Trembling, I stumbled out of the car and picked up a bat. I did not swing it, however, since it would have been a long walk back. The automobiles arrived in two's and before too long Leonard arrived in his non-descript means of transportation. While the women batted the breeze, we men batted the ball around and before too long Dr. Englert yelled, "Play ball!" We played. Who can argue with a professor when he is also an umpire? There were two outfielders to every square foot and a base hit was a type of miracle that would have made even St. Matthew bat his eyes. The only place you could put the ball without a player laying his gloved hand on it was up on the side of the mountain. This I noticed after I saw six players matching coins to see which one was going to catch my high line drive. It was the pitcher who won and I was robbed of another hit. Norm Bucher also noticed this, so he put his weight behind one and sent it soaring up through the treetops. As he grinned and trotted around the bases, John Winter came out from behind a tree, opened his hip pocket, and made a sensational catch. He tossed the ball in and then re-climbed the tree. Quite a ball player, that Winter. Dr. Meek yelled for both sides so hard, I know that he was disappointed when he found out that one of the teams had to lose. I started doing my ball tricks and standing on my head while batting when I saw a gentleman walk up who I was positive was a Major League Scout. He looked for the world like Branch Rickey, with his sport shirt and sunglasses, but it turned out to be the book-scout, Dr. Stonesifer.

Mrs. Buck (Trent) and Mrs. Harwick turned out to be real players. Book-scout take note! We have real talent in our midst!

After the ball game there was a doggie roast, and after that we had a magician. It turned out that the profs were the greatest magicians. I have never seen so many hot dogs disappear. There must have been some trick to it.

The singing was a lot of fun, but frankly I don't think any outing is complete without the patriotic singing of the National Anthem.....Dixie, that is. I think it is only fair to tell you that I mentioned the omission in my weekly report to the Confederacy. (Cont'd on p. 3)

HUMOR ESQUIRE

(Cont'd. from page 2)

Bill Daniels gave the meeting its climax with a very inspiring talk. It made this state-side student feel very humble and unequal to his task.

There were no casualties except my nerves, and everyone had an excellent time. I say no casualties, but in reality there was one. John Winter came by my room Wednesday evening looking for a needle and thread. One of those looping liners knocked the bottom of his pocket out.

Mel Palmer

SEMINARY SPORTSCOPE

The "Seminities" took the field four times throughout the past two weeks and emerged with a .750 average. They won three games and lost one.

The first game saw a strong hitting Seminary team swamping a weak Zeta Beta Tau outfit 17-2. D. Albright got credit for the win and aided his own cause with a round tripper to right center field.

The next day, the Seminites, playing short-handed because of the choir trip, kicked a game away 16-15. This game looked more like a circus than a softball game. The "Seminites" loaded the bases with two away in the final frame but lacked the necessary punch to pull the game out of the fire. Mel Palmer won batting honors in this game with two "White Owl" wallops.

Pitching no-hit ball for 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings, D. Albright went on to win his third game of the season with a neat two-hitter against a pretty fair Sigma Pi team. This win was the first shut-out victory recorded by any Seminary pitcher this year. The Seminary team collected only six hits in winning 5-0. This was by far the best game that the "Seminites" have played this year.

The men from Richards Hall chalked-up their third win during this period when they were credited with a 9-0 forfeit victory by the East Hallers.

The record for the year now shows an even .500 avg. with four wins and four losses. Three games are on tap for this coming week.

Dr. Frantz won the golf tournament played last Friday afternoon on the Himnitz Golf Course. In winning, Dr. Frantz posted a two-round total score of 90 for twenty holes. An outgoing score of 47 and a return score of 43 gave Dr. Frantz an easy victory over his competitors. How can you beat a score like that? Congratulations Dr. Frantz.

Bob Titus

FAMILY ALBUM CONTINUED

In the Nov. 8, 1950 issue of The Seminarian, there appeared an article listing the children of the oft referred to "Seminary Family." Since that November date several omissions and additions have been discovered, as follows:

Seniors:

Mr. & Mrs. Edward S. DeChant, a daughter, Barbara Allen, 7 mo.

Mr. & Mrs. H. Stanley Dunn, a son, David Harold, 5 mo.

Mr. & Mrs. Donald P. Miller, (missed the first time around), David, 7 yrs., Ruth, 6 yrs., Mary 5 yrs.

Mr. & Mrs. George H. Yoder, a son, Philip Allan, 3 mo.

Middlers:

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Santschi, a son, Allan Edward, 4 mo.

Mr. & Mrs. H. Richard Whitney, a son, Douglas Allan, 3 mo.

Juniors:

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Collins, (another omission), Linda, 19 mo.

Special Students:

Mr. & Mrs. W. David Albright, (another first rounder miss), Mary Nell, 4 yrs., James David, 2 yrs., Catherine Ann, 9 mo.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Chukla, a son, Joseph Jr., 2 mo.

Mr. & Mrs. David Ashina, a daughter, Morimichi, 5 mo.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Weber, (missed the first time around), Brenda, 10 yrs., Paul, 6 yrs., Peter, 6 yrs., Nancy, 3 yrs.

According to the current number of The Bulletin, the children of students at the Seminary are given as numbering 38. A quick retraction is in order. The correct number is 49.

Dr. Dunn

