

NOTED INDIAN LECTURER ON CAMPUS

Next Wednesday is the day: Mark it on your calendars. Dr. Eddy Asirvatham, noted political scientist and theologian from Jabalpur, India, will be guest lecturer here at the seminary that day, October 21. Dr. Asirvatham, professor of political science and public administration at Jabalpur University, arrived in this country during the summer to assume his appointment as a guest professor at the School of Missions of Chicago Lutheran Seminary for the fall and winter academic quarters. He comes to Gettysburg on the twenty-first through the efforts of the Student-Faculty Lecture Committee.

Dr. Asirvatham's education and background have provided a rare combination of experience which enables him to analyze both the contemporary religious world and the political situation with an incisive and unified view. He was educated at Madras, Harvard, and Edinburgh Universities and Hartford Theological Seminary, and during his teaching career of more than thirty-six years he has served on the faculties of a half dozen schools and universities throughout the world. He is also the author of numerous books and articles on political theory, Indian political and social developments, and Christianity's role in India. He is co-author of several books published in this country and is currently preparing three new works for publication.

An active member of the Methodist Church, Dr. Asirvatham has been active in Indian Christian affairs on a national level. For four successive years he was elected president of the All-India Conference of Indian Christians, was chairman of the Jabalpur Christian Welfare Association, has been for some time a member of the Executive Committee of the National Christian Council in India, and is involved in other Christian enterprises.

Dr. Asirvatham is no stranger to this country. He was on the faculty of Boston University from 1945 to 1952, delivered a Christmas message to a large gathering at the Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., in 1950, and substituted several times as a public speaker for a former Indian ambassador to this country. His wife and two of his three daughters are graduates of United

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ELECTION YEAR 1964

SOME SOBERING THOUGHTS

Recently the President of the United States charged that the Republican Party had been kidnapped by a special interest group which represents a very narrow political view and that therefore the Republican Party could no longer be considered a national party in the true sense of the word.

In a normal election year statements such as this would be considered political hash and would be dismissed by even nominally perceptive individuals as a rather questionable vote-getting device.

But this is not a normal election year, at least as that terminology has thus far been understood in the history of American politics and in the development of the political party system in the United States.

For this year the President's remark about the kidnapping of the Republican party does have considerable credence; this becomes most obvious when one considers even briefly the whole genius of the political party system in the United States as it developed over the past 150 years.

The reason that the two-party system has worked so amazingly well in the United States is that both major parties have historically incorporated within themselves a wide range of political views. In terms of its historical development it is utter foolishness to use the label of "conservative" for the Republican party; it is equal foolishness to denote the Democratic Party as the historically "liberal" one. Rather, each of the parties has incorporated within itself elements of the entire "responsible" political spectrum.

The major political parties have thus never restricted themselves to any one political view. It is precisely because the major parties could contain widely divergent political elements that they have been able to withstand the mercurial political situation of any given election year.

Had this, for instance, not been the case in 1936, the Republican Party would have slipped into political oblivion. But because the party contained within itself the potential of a liberal Wendell Willkie candidacy in 1940, it managed to lick its wounds after the absolutely incredible and

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FEATURE EDITORIAL

"He (the common man) will have pictures painted on the walls only because he likes them or for decoration or some reason that does not involve sin." Luther, Vol. 36, Am. Ed., p.260 (discussing images in the church).

There are many paintings and numerous books of poetry in my room but few display or deal with what would be narrowly regarded as religious or Christian subject matter. I trust that this might be an indication of the grace-full freedom which the Seminary might exhibit in its display of artistic creations. Artistic works are organic expressive forms wrought out of space, time and/or experience. They create expressions of "virtual" space, time and/or experience. These are all elements of The Creation and no more. As such they come under the affirmative reconciliation and the negative revelation of finitude of the Incarnation. Since we are not bound to defend natural theology, we need not be anxious about finding the reality of God in the art which we display because there are only cryptic hints and guesses too deeply hidden, nor need we fear idolatry because we no longer need expect the obvious, primary revelation of God in the artistic works which we display.

The artist exhibits (is given?) a heightened usage of synthetic imagination, "inspiration," and rational capacities than other men possess or exhibit, at least within the boundaries of his mode of expression. This we presume of all whom we judge as "artists." They see into existence and also out of it, and they communicate to the sensitive. What they "create" and what they express is firmly within the bounds of Creation. Thus, it helps us to see into our existence, into the "given" world. The believer might also see more of The Creator this way but that is only because he is pre-disposed. All men see more of the creation through art and that is the Creation of the Creator and the world reconciled by the Incarnation. This mode of perception is a part of that which makes existence and action for the man of faith and the man of disbelief. Art partakes of the limitations and the finitude of creation; we should ask nothing higher of it.

All of this is to applaud Carol Lango's exhibition this week as a step in the right direction for this seminary. It is also to mourn the bare walls of this seminary. Good artistic expression of all types, should be here for us to listen to and to respond to.

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COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR

Watch next issue for the "new look" of TABLE TALK's front page. The bits of talented art work across the top of our front pages so far have been spur-of-the-moment creations of publisher Chuck Hartbauer, but starting next week we will have a printed letterhead designed last Saturday night in the dorms by Dick Graf, advised and encouraged by his wife, the Myers, and the Hagodorns.

Now that we are becoming so professional, perhaps we can attract the attention of some of the "silent brethren" on campus, Juniors, where is your writing talent? Middlers, have you nothing to say? So far Seniors and staff members have been bearing most of the burden. Don't be afraid to try your talent, folks; we print 'most anything! R.F.G.

SCHLUCKER FIELD REPORT

The athletic committee reports a new venture for the seminary in both athletics and "seminary relations." Last Wed. and Thurs we were pleased to entertain 17 guests from Mt. Airy seminary. The original idea, and perhaps central event, was a football game between teams from Gettysburg and Mt. Airy. With new ideas for communication between the two schools being sought it was decided that this would be a good situation for just that.

The Philadelphians arrived on campus at 5:00 p.m. on Wed. and ate dinner in the refectory. Later in the evening there was an informal "smoker" in the coffee shop. The visitors were housed in the various dorms. On Thurs. they visited classes, Chapel and ate in the refectory at noon.

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Pictures, poetry, sculpture, drama, music, and dance should be here to constantly prick our existence that we might affirm them and/or shout back at them or smile or laugh. What a joy to attend and change classes among walls of perception.

By Frod Roisz.

One sunny day a few weeks ago I met Dr. Piper taking a stroll before lunch. I watched him from across the road as he stopped to examine a metal rod protruding from one of the trees along the sidewalk on the way to the ad building from his home at the Wentzos' house, and finally crossed over to ask him what he had found. "This was once used to get maple syrup," he informed me, indicating the rod he had been looking at. From this point we engaged in a spontaneous discussion on trees as we walked to the refractory together.

"Some of these trees ought to be removed," I said as we passed one gnarled old maple whose trunk was more cement than wood, the two substances being held together by a rusty bolt. Dr. Piper explained to me, however, that in some parts of the world dead trees are considered very artistic. As we passed old dorm another very interesting specimen looked down at us; half of this particular tree had decided that Autumn should come earlier in the year and so had shed its leaves already as the other half still sported its summer green. Then, a schizoid tree, I thought to myself.

"Yes," Dr. Piper continued, "Buddhists in Japan enjoy having dead trees stand next to live ones in their garden. This reminds them always of the contrast between life and death which exists in this world." I thought about what he had said as I sidestepped to avoid a sheet of peeled bark lying on the sidewalk.

Somchow, I decided, I could never be an Oriental. For me a tree has to be flourishing and green to be truly beautiful. I think Joyce Kilmer would have been less than inspired if he had gazed out the window of his ENOTE class and observed bare branches waving in the wind: "I hope that I will never sight, Another tree with elm blight...."

Who owns these trees anyway? Are they battlefield property being preserved as examples of civil war casualties? Or does the scrubby own them, and thus have the privilege of taking them down. Perhaps that would be a good student project some night, rather than decorating Martin Luther. "Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees...."

Oh, well, pretty soon all the leaves will have fallen and all the trees on campus will look the same. But that cement! And those bolts! Hey, who needs an axe? Got a wrench, anybody?

R.F.G.

by
Dick Graf

In response to an article in the last TABLE TALK about the Coffee Shop, this column offers the following figures and conservative estimates.

"Yuban" (a high quality brew several steps above L.T.S. brands) with sugar and real cream costs from two to two and a half cents per cup. Washing the cups takes under ten seconds as does the preparation of the coffee. If those serving the beverage received \$2.00 an hour (which they don't), the full expenditure per cup, including the most expensive of materials, is under three cents.

Sure, it is a service to return cups to help the workers, but the Coffee Shop is not a profit making business nor is the student association which it helps to support. Ten cents for a cup of coffee-flavored water with sugar (if you are there soon enough) and milk is bad enough, but twelve cents for the same beverage in paper cups? How really!! This writer's brief case will hold a cup and a jar of "Yuban", shall I reserve space for your cup too?

In reference to the defeat of the sometimes impressive and always determined "Schmucker Saints" by a well organized and obviously prepared team of "Almost Angels" from Mt. Airy, compliments are due all around. The underdog efforts of the local squad, the stirring renditions of G-burg's non-marching band and the effective direction of a talented Mt. Airy team by a rather obstreperous "Angel" coach made the afternoon worth a little procrastination of thesis work, etc...

Before getting too far away from the Coffee Shop article; it was signed "J.H." The feature editor of TABLE TALK with these initials did not issue this warning to coffee drinkers. One question, WHO?

If you are not a coffee drinker, but prefer some other beverage, these thoughts might interest you.

Intoxication is to feel sophisticated and not be able to pronounce it and a resultant hangover is something to occupy a head that wasn't used the night before.

Do watching for Under the Table's endorsement in the coming presidential election - it's sure to be determinative.

Pax.

(Ed. note: Hint: The student body treasurer's initials are also J.H.)

INDIAN LECTURER (Cont'd from p.1)

States colleges and universities, and about thirty members of his family circle were educated in this country and subsequently returned to India to hold responsible positions in the educational and public life of the country. In the last ten years, Dr. Asirvatham has returned to the United States four times, lecturing widely.

On October 21, Dr. Asirvatham will present two lectures entitled "The Future of Christianity in India" at 10 A.M. and "India and the World Scene" at 2 P.M. A discussion period will follow the 2 P.M. lecture for those interested in further conversation with the lecturer.

The program is being widely publicized to inform those beyond the immediate seminary community who would be interested in hearing Dr. Asirvatham. His method of presentation in the past has been described as "spirited, dynamic, humorous, critical, and analytical," and his varied background qualifies him to make informative and pertinent observations. This is something you will not want to miss.

R.F.G.

Note: As final preparations are still being made for Dr. Asirvatham's arrival the Student-Faculty Lecture Comm. is also looking ahead to its spring lecture, usually held in April. We would like to see suggestions come from the student body and faculty rather than have the selection of a speaker come from the comm. alone. Whom would you like to see come? The lecturer does not necessarily have to be a theologian, but could be in any field which would concern the seminary community. Think hard, come up with some ideas, and let me know, either personally or by a note in my mailbox.

Richard Graefe

ELECTION YEAR 1964 (Cont'd from p. 1)

abortive defeat of Alf Landon, who managed to scrape together the sum total of 8 electoral votes against Roosevelt's 525.

Or again in 1952, it was because of political flexibility that the wounds of the Eisenhower-Taft split could be healed. That year the Republican Party marched to a landslide victory.

But none of this seems to be true in 1964. This year the historic flexibility within the Republican Party has been replaced by a non-compromising and utterly rigid political philosophy which operates at the exclusion of all other points of view. This year the usual splits that always occur after a hotly contested convention were not healed; not even an attempt at a workable compromise was made at San Francisco.

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Governor Rockefeller was booed off the platform; the moderate conservatism of Governor Scranton was insulted during the acceptance speech and Governor Romney, who controls the important Michigan delegation, went home completely disillusioned.

1964 is thus the year in which the Republican Party moved in one fell swoop from its historic and traditional position of political flexibility to the narrow exclusivism of an heretofore unknown kind of conservatism. That Goldwater will lose the election is probably a foregone conclusion; one may even agree with Walter Lippmann that Goldwater will go down in an unprecedented landslide. The greatest tragedy will probably be that he will take a lot of responsible conservatives and moderates down to defeat with him.

Whether or not the Republican Party will be able to recover from its venture into political exclusivism is now the big question. There are those who believe that the Republican Party will go down into oblivion just like the Whigs did, and for much the same reasons. For like the Whigs in 1852, the Republican Party has in 1964 ceased to be a truly national party which represents the political interests of the entire American constituency. The Republican Party has instead become the fraternal brotherhood of "right" thinking Goldwaterism and the price of membership amounts to holding his views, giving his answers and attacking his political enemies.

The Republican Party, as it was conceived and as it has historically existed, is already gone. Only a solid and decisive defeat of those who now control it can give the party a re-newed and broadened perspective that will welcome once again, a divergent configuration of political views. The only other alternative for the Republican party is political oblivion.

By Hans Goebel

SCHUCKER REPORT (Cont'd from p. 2)

Thurs. afternoon was the scene for the football game. The Phila team was fast, hard hitting and well organized. After G-burg received the opening kickoff and was forced to punt, the "Angels" scored the first touchdown. They soon scored again making the score 12-0. Near the end of the half G-burg finally scored a 6 pointer. The second half saw G-burg on the defensive most of the time and yielding 3 more "Angel" touchdowns. The final score was 30-6.

Plans were made for an exchange visit near the first week of Dec. At this time we will journey to Philadelphia.

Fred Eichner

Hello



Donald!

(Perhaps in the archeological excavations of some future generation will be found the following newspaper account:)

Gettysburg, Penna.--Neither friend nor foe was able to foil the ingenious plot of seminary students, faculty and staff to confuse and surprise President and Mrs. Hoiges at a "we're-glad-when-you're-here!" party. The evening of 13 October was cool and breezy for those who happened to be passing by; and if they listened carefully, they heard strains of "Hell-o, Donald" being quietly rehearsed before the big moment arrived.

Then, the lights were put out and a hush felled the social room. Sneezes and giggles were suppressed--until, finally, the Doctor and his wife walked through the doors, into shouts of "SURPRISE! UBERRASCHUNG!" (There were several Germans in the group.) Immediately, the piano introduced the song, and the entire group welcomed the two to the evening's festivities.

Several new talent discoveries were made that evening. Doing a monologue on the subject of "holos" was senior comedian Paul Pool. Mr. Pool related the story of an English brain surgeon, Dr. McMulty Hawkins, who had combed the world collecting various types of holos. At the time of Dr. Hawkin's death, Mr. Pool was able to purchase this collection, which he shared with the audience. A few of his more famous holos included the holo-in-ono, the holy mackeral, the Irish holo (found on the golf course as a result of the wearing of the green...), and the moth holo.

Virtuoso pianist Jim Bramer broke up the group with variations on Franz Schubert's "Impromptu" (in A-flat major). The trained (and even untrained) musical ear was able to distinguish such other profound themes as "Dixie," "Yankoo Doodle," "The Eyes of Texas" (no partisanship in this group!), "Old McDonald" and "A Mighty Fortress."

A smashing success were the group of junior hams who called themselves The Schmucker Singers. This sing-and-dance group was composed of Richard Soaks, Fred Krautwurst, Chuck Kindsvatter, Dave DeLong and Dave Martin. (Rumor has it that this may have kindled the vaudeville spark among the "beat" generation.) The song which they presented (undoubtedly created and arranged for the occasion) was entitled, "We Like President Hoiges."

We like Prez-dent Hoiges
Good old Prez-dent Hoiges
Playod by the Seminary band
With foresight and great viger
Ho's made things now and bigger
We think that Hoiges is just grand.

We like Prozdont Hoiges
Good old Prez-dent Hoiges
He's given us a now curriculum
Our Professors are the best men
We got quality guest men
Compared to him old Schmucker was a
bum.

We like Prez-dent Hoiges
Good old Prez-dent Hoiges
He's got us under his command
Now G-burgers are merry
For we're brothers with Mount Airy
We're glad that Hoiges is our man!

We like Prozdont Hoiges
Good old Prozdont Hoiges
With eyes trained on things that are
to come.
Two schools grow bigger and better
They'll soon give a foot-ball letter
Now Hoiges loved by all and not just
some!

CHORUS: Oh Prez-dent Hoiges
Oh Prez-dent Hoiges,
Let's offer him a great big hand,
Oh Prozdont Hoiges
Oh Prozdont Hoiges
We think that Hoiges is just grand!

At this dramatic juncture in the evening, Dean Herb Stroup and Business Manager Clarence Bonson (representing faculty and staff) presented Dr. and Mrs. Hoiges with gifts, which they began to open. Fifteen minutes and five boxes later, Mrs. Hoiges found herself to be the proud new owner of a note pad and pencil, and Dr. Hoiges, a free pass to the local miniature golf course (to be used in his copious free time), and a chain of paper clips. The group then presented the Hoiges' with a glass serving dish.

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