

# Table Talk

News and Views of the Student Body of The Lutheran  
Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.

Vol. IV No. 2

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## EDITORIAL

First of all, let me say that I wish to offend no one with this writing. My purpose, rather than offending, is to compliment the student body here at the seminary. Let me explain further by telling you of a conversation that took place some weeks ago on a Friday morning shortly after departing from the Eucharist. There were four or five of us gathered together and the talk was naturally about the morning service and the different aspects of the service. Some of the things mentioned were that the minister's message was lacking theologically and some concern was evidenced over the celebrant's singing voice. Also, there was a comment from one of the students that he was not going to the next Eucharist because of the faculty member that was celebrating. This same group remained together throughout lunch and the conversation continued on the same topic -- a critical analysis of the morning service -- until finally after the meal I had a chance to construct my own thoughts about the morning service. It was during this time that it occurred to me that no one had mentioned that they had received anything good or beneficial from the service. There had been much criticism, constructive as it was, but no one had mentioned anything about the primary reason why we were at the service. What bothered me more then, after more thought, was that I had heard this type of conversation take place many times before, after many other such services.

Now, as I said, I don't want to offend anybody by what I've said. I'm not denouncing anyone for being critical of what he thinks is wrong and should be corrected. In fact, I would like to commend this attitude when it is used in a constructive manner. My point is not that we stop being critical of what takes place, but rather that we be  
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## WAIT & SEE

Ever wonder what happened to the new married student's apartments that were to be built this year?

Well, it looks as if we will have to wait a long time for them. According to Dr. Heiges, the problem is founded in the future of Gettysburg Seminary. A "Position Statement on the Objectives and Program of Theological Education" prepared by the faculties of both the Philadelphia and Gettysburg Seminaries outlines the proposals for the future of both schools. On May 9, 1966, after the Board of Directors had approved the Comprehensive Study Committee Report, both Boards of Directors of the Seminaries asked the Board Committee to make recommendations. The Position Statement on May 8, 1967 was the result of those recommendations.

On October 24, 1967, at the Board of Directors meeting, a progress report will be given. The plans for the new apartments are already prepared and ready. However, there will be no action taken in regard to the apartments until the Board meeting next May -- that is, unless there is a more positive indication and evidence that the Gettysburg Seminary shall continue as it presently does.

So it looks as if the future of the apartments lies in the future of the Seminary. The Board of Directors must be assured that if these apartments are built, they will be used sufficiently.

Dr. Heiges said that he welcomes any questions that the student body might have and would like to have a meeting with the seminary community on this question if there are enough people interested.

Jerry Weeks

## TUTORS AT HOFFMAN HOME

Monday through Thursday evenings  
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EDITORIAL (Cont'd)

constructively critical of what takes place. Moreover, my point is that keep in mind the primary reason why we are in attendance at any service here at the seminary. Our primary reason for being there is not to be critical of little mistakes that a man may make, or be critical of someone's own personal "high" or "low" beliefs just because they may differ with our own beliefs, but rather to worship and praise our Lord. I realize that in an academic institution, such as a seminary, we are taught and influenced to be critical -- this too is a part of our spiritual and academic growth. In this sense positive criticism is good. I want to make it clear that I am not condemning this type of criticism, but rather that with this "awareness" we remain "aware" of the real reason for our being in church.

Ron Reed

THESEBIANS

Chancel Players received an encouraging initial response to its recent student questionnaire. Twelve students and wives indicated interest in a full range of dramatic activities. Thus it now seems likely that there will be the interest and support necessary to carry on the successful tradition of the Sign of Jonah, The Cocktail Party, Heavenly Discourse and Luther.

There will be a reorganizational meeting Monday, October 16 at 7:00 P.M. in the Aberly Room. Officers will be elected and selection of plays for presentation will be discussed. All members of the seminary community who are interested in drama are encouraged to attend.

"From the Balcony"

Max really isn't an exciting name, but then, mice generally aren't exciting. However, I am a special sort of mouse: I'm a real, live Church Mouse. My full name is Maxwell House Rodent, O.C.M. (Order of Church Mice). The first two names came from a tin can my mother saw in the church kitchen. My family  
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THE CONSTANT NATIVITY

I was visiting there -- alone  
and everyone and thing within my  
sensical grasp  
was apart and unaware  
of all that was there  
fro the place had existed for eons  
unaffected by neaons  
and all that---  
except for the one who had ordained  
it all to happen.

a light of brightness was a maple tree  
with roots imbound in the ground --  
growths in green  
tall and lean  
implanted in all and spreading above  
the wake of all the multi-colored mounds  
of life that swerved and swelled around  
and round and round  
the soft velvet stoma of mother earth --  
she lay listfully fertilizing  
with her white and gold buttons  
that garnished her dress green--  
open  
confessing the promiscuity  
by blowing about freely  
as her mercurious bees buzz  
from flower to flower --  
the hour of love --  
the bower of birth --  
being called at hand  
and the intimacy happened as ordained  
and it rained --.

a red man chewing tobacco sign  
stood away  
on a building black  
aging rot - gut grown from time  
reminiscing of his prime --  
watching remote from the scene  
where all was happening --  
the sign stands out on the barn  
black fiery red images --  
lustre lack of what has been  
and will always try to be  
over against what is born --  
born constantly.

Ron Reed

SPORTS

"Defense is the name of the game"  
and this saying adequately describes  
the past two weeks action in the  
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TUTORS ( Cont'd)

you can't help but notice the small group of seminarians and wives gathering at the Library, climbing into a car and dashing off for Hoffman Home. "What's the Geschichte?" you ask.

The Hoffman Home for Children near Littlestown is an agency of the United Church of Christ. It is a treatment - centered facility for emotionally disturbed children, who range in age from 8 to 18, both boys and girls. With a few exceptions, the children have been placed in care at HHC by their parent(s), who for varying reasons are unable to deal with them in a family setting.

The children live in cottage groups of 12-15 under the supervision of "Child Care Workers" ( "houseparent is an archaic term). They attend public school in Gettysburg, while sharing group life on the home's campus. The staff at HHC provides treatment for the children individually and through group therapy, utilizing the professional services of social workers, psychologist, psychiatrist and Chaplain.

In nearly all cases, the emotional disturbances of the children lead them to be academic "under-achievers". This is where the Seminary people come in. Study hour is from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. nightly; homework time. The Tutors in each cottage help the children with homework problems, check completed work for accuracy, administer spelling drills and generally render whatever assistance possible to the children in coping with their homework assignments.

It's not terribly demanding work, but it requires patience, understanding and a good deal of brain stretching. After all, it's been a long time since we were in 4th grade! Tutors get involved in all sorts of subjects: English, math, science, languages, social studies and so forth.

The challenge is that the average child achieves about 2 years below his present grade level; some as much as 5 years below. A child trying to cope with 8th grade math when he's functioning on a 6th grade level presents quite a challenge to the Tutors.  
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FROM THE BALCONY (Cont'd)

left Main Street Lutheran Church in favor of the Reformed Church in the next block. They have more suppers there so there's more food. I stayed here because I've always liked the Lutheran church.

I live a quiet life in most respects. There usually isn't too much activity here. I sleep a lot during the week and do a lot of exploring. There are still a few corners of this church I haven't seen. But I have the most fun on Sunday mornings.

The people at Main Street Lutheran Church are fun to watch. I usually stay in the balcony. Nobody ever sits up here. Since they put padding in the pews on the main floor, nobody wants to sit on the hard seats in the balcony. From my vantage point on the rail of the balcony I can see everything that happens. Most Sundays it's quite a show.

The pastor is a very nice man. He is one of the few people that really seems to have his heart in the church service. In fact, he's so wrapped up in the service that he doesn't notice the people in the congregation.

There's Mrs. Furry, who always wears big fur coats or a fur neckpiece. All through the service she has to re-adjust her fur and straighten it out. The family of moths in the choir room would just love to get their teeth into one of Mrs. Furry's fur coats.

Mr. Snoozy always sits about half-way back on the side aisle near the radiator. As soon as the sermon starts he settles down on the cushioned seat and drifts off to dreamland. Sometimes he snores and Mrs. Snoozy has to poke him. She gets very red in the face when that happens.

Miss Mouthoff and Miss Elabber always sit together near the back. They spend most of the time whispering to each other. It would really be funny if the pastor could hide a microphone in that pew and record their conversation. He would probably learn a lot from their gossip.

One Sunday I decided to hide on  
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TUTORS (Cont'd)

That's just a nutshell view, but the small group from the Seminary Community who spend time at HHC are probably learning just as much as their "Pupils" -- perhaps more.

Fred Krautwurst

SPORTS (Cont'd)

Seminary Football League which witnessed two scoreless ties and another game which was knotted at 6-6 when the final whistle sounded. The only contest which had the makings of any scoring battle was the Seniors' 18-12 defeat of the Juniors in a noon day game.

On September 26, the Juniors got their first taste of gridiron combat and managed to eke out a 6-6 tie with the Middlers on a last minute touchdown run by Charley Voit. The Middlers, who were outplayed most of the afternoon, scored their only touchdown on an odd play. On a running play, Middler quarterback Jack Ferrera, fumbled the ball on the Junior 8 yard stripe. The elusive pigskin bounced all the way into the endzone where Mark Peterson pounced on it for the only other score of the day.

The following day, game time was moved up to 12:45 on account of classes, and at halftime the Seniors and Juniors were scoreless. However, the Seniors went to the air early in the second 30 minutes as Gary Brown tossed a 33 yard bomb to Jim Bricker for the team's first tally of the season. After the Juniors were unable to move the ball again, the upperclassmen struck swiftly as Brown pitched out to Paul Showalter on the right side. The Senior captain then tossed to Bricker who had gotten behind the defense. Bricker outran his defenders to complete the 57 yard play.

The Juniors were not out of it yet, however, as Darrel Layman, who is leading the league with four interceptions, picked up a loose ball in the Senior backfield and raced 12 yards into the endzone. After the kickoff, the Seniors iced the game with a 32-yard TD toss from Bricker to Russ Siler. The Juniors showed their best offensive strength of the game with a min-  
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FROM THE BALCONY (Cont'd)

the altar in back of the big book there. All during the service I peeked out around the book and looked at the people. To my surprise, many of them looked attentive. But I could still see some of them looking about a thousand miles away. That morning Mr. and Mrs. Snoozy were late and had to sit right up front. It was sure funny trying to watch Mr. Snoozy try to keep awake.

I sure learn a lot here in Main Street Lutheran Church. You'll be hearing from me from time to time and I'll tell you more about what I see here.

Until next time -- be good.

Max - O.C.M.

FROM THE BALCONY #2

I always look forward to when the Ladies' Missionary Society meets here at Main Street Lutheran Church. They always have tea and cookies that leave a lot of crumbs that mice like me just love. The ladies meet once a month in the parlor.

This month one of the ladies, Mrs. O. Bese, prepared a lecture about missionaries in India. I was hiding under the sofa and listened to them. She told the ladies about the poor people of India and how they didn't have enough food to eat or clothes to wear. She told them about the missionaries and how they worked to teach the people about Jesus. The ladies looked at pictures of the hungry children and made clicking noises in their mouths.

Then they all clapped for Mrs. Bese and told her what a wonderful job she had done. There was lots of tea left so they had some more and finished all of the cookies, too. I heard them talking while they were eating. They said some nice things. They all agreed that what India needs is more missionaries.

After they talked some more, they all clapped for the lady who had made the cookies and then went home. At last! I was really getting hungry watching them polish off those cookies. I got the crumbs they left.  
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SPORTS (Cont'd)

ute remaining as Dave Ungerman completed a 40-yard pass-run play to Rich Barley for the final score of the day.

On Friday the Juniors played their third game of the week in a second engagement with the Middlers. This one ended in a scoreless deadlock with much credit going to both defensive squads.

The Juniors had their backs to their goals most of the afternoon but the Middlers were not able to make the key play when it was needed. Within the opening five minutes of the game, the Middlers twice had a touchdown within their grasp, but a dropped TD pass and a penalty halted both attempts.

Penalties frustrated the Juniors in the first game of last week's action also. Twice the youngest seminarians had scored apparent touchdowns against the Seniors and twice the ball was called back; once for clipping and once for offsides. The Seniors failed to make a serious threat and the game was marked by numerous interceptions. Layman and Jack Keeler both picked off two interceptions for the Juniors.

As of last Tuesday, the standings showed the Middlers still clinging to first place at 1-0-2 while the Seniors were in second at 1-1-1, and the Juniors last 0-1-3.

Basketball is just around the corner and notices will be distributed in order that anyone who is interested may sign up for the team. The Ping-pong tournament will be held earlier this year and names will be called for around November 1.

Charlie Stetler

FROM THE BALCONY #2(Cont'd)

I think it is nice that the Ladies' Missionary Society is so concerned about missionaries. Almost every month they agree that more missionaries are needed all over the world. Each place that they mention seems to need more missionaries.

I'd better go now and see what crumbs the sexton dropped from his lunch. Until next time -- be good.

Max, O.C.M.