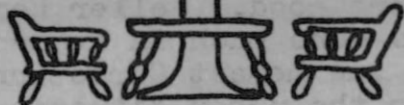


Table Talk



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

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TO THE SEMINARY COMMUNITY:

Oddly enough, the first quarter, 1968-69, has already begun --with business in the Bookstore, lectures in the classrooms, studying at all the desks, a few games of "Pong" in the coffee shop and choir rehearsals at 11:30. What does it all mean? It could mean that we now have some time to think about our intern experience. Or that we now are able to see-- what these students are really trying to say, especially after our summer of CPE. Or that we are now at seminary--is it anything like college? Or that we are going to teach those seminarians something this year. Whatever the case, it should mean something important, hopefully something quite important! In fact, something which could be expressed in the Malcolm Boyd style, "Are you running with me, Seminary?"

During this coming year, there will be three main emphases which will concern the seminary community as a whole, namely, a new and student look at the possibility of a "Seminary Cluster", a continued investigation with respect to the unification of the two seminaries at Gettysburg and Philadelphia, and a critical evaluation of our seminary facilities in terms of accreditation by the American Association of Theological Schools.

This is not to say that there are only these emphases. On the contrary, there is, in fact, a fourth concern which, for the lack of better description, refers to the student as he continues his theological study. With this in mind, the Seminary has added to its faculty Professors H. Grady Davis, A. Roger Gobbel, Robert W. Jenson and Daniel H. Sandstedt. Moreover, there have been scheduled some rather distinguished speakers and

lecturers who will visit the campus throughout the year. One of these men will be the Rev. Alfred R. Shands who has played an important part in the liturgical movement of today.

With this having been said, I now challenge students and professor alike to contribute by way of criticism and creativity to the progressive development of our seminary and community-at-large!

May God grant us all a meaningful and significant year!

Charles Voit

STUDENT OFFICERS 1968-69

Student Association

President	Charles Voit
Vice President	To be elected at a later date.
Secretary	
Treasurer	Richard Earley

Committee Chairman:

Athletics	Darrel Layman
Ecumenics	Andrew Werner
Lecture	Lance Braun
Missions	Kester Sobers
Publications	Robert Martin
Social	Allan Mirschman
Student Health Fund	James Rodgers

Joint Student-Faculty Committees:

Worship	William Dreikorn	S
	John Woods	
	Kester Sobers	ii
	Irvin Stapf	
	John Ludwig	J
	Richard Michael	

Student-Faculty

Relations	Charles Voit	
	Charles Miller	S
	Thomas Myers	
	Robert Goehrig	M
	Robert Martin	
	David Gleason	J
	William Janson	

Bookstore Cooperative

- John Kindsvatter S
- Burlington Latshaw S
- Winfield Devonshire II
- Roger Barns II
- Benjamin Larzelere J
- William Ritter J

Other Committees:

- Refectory
 - Robert Marks S
 - James Smith S
 - Sharon Beckahrdt II
 - Robert Martin II
 - Paul Andel J
 - John Ludwig J

C Class Officers

Seniors:

- President Charles Miller
- Sec'-Treasurer Thomas Myers

Middlers:

- President Robert Goerhig
- Sec'-Treasurer Robert Martin

Juniors:

- President David Gleason
- Sec'-Treasurer William Janson

FIRST YEAR SEMINAR:

WASHINGTON URBAN EXPOSURE

(This is not an objective report of the Washington experience, since I have long had complete sympathy for and a personal love of the urban situation and people, especially the black community. Most of my urban experience has been in center city and north Philadelphia. I fully recognize that Washington is a different city from Philadelphia with different problems. Yet, I am confident that the criticism here offered is valid and soundly based on the attitude of the churches visited on Friday.--LLW)

The idea of an urban exposure is both good and bad--good because it can give students, hitherto unacquainted in city life and problems, some idea of the tragedy and possibility of city life; bad because it can give no real understanding of the human dilemma, nor can it be anything more than a laboratory experience--a trip to the zoo.

Like the idea, the actuality of the urban experience is both good and bad. Several places visited were good. Keller Memorial Church has done much in community relations and honest Christian witness to the urban situation-- in short, Keller is radically beginning to become the Church of Christ. One-fourth of the group went to the "Sign of Jonah," which is an artists' shop connected with the "Community of Christ." The community is an ALC-sponsored community without the traditional church structure or institutional control. Both Keller and the community are excellent examples of the fine work being done by Christ's church in the city. But both places were still more like laboratory experiments than a true urban experience. Instead of seeing what each is doing, the group was told what was happening.

The two other churches visited represented to some the worst in city churches. Both Reformation and Luther Place are very posh buildings. Because the group only saw Reformation and heard nothing of its work, it would be unfair to judge it too harshly. But Luther Place's attitude, reflected in its ornate parlor and extravagant air conditioning, was confirmed by its pastor. In a frame of mind that belonged in the deep-pile carpeted parlor, the pastor expressed concern about dirty hippies in his coffee house. To make matters worse, he could not understand the fact that "colored people" never returned to the church after their first visit. Both Luther Place and Reformation were the antithesis of inner-city churches for which I have worked.

The over-riding problem of the urban exposure is that it was not an exposure. Those of us who know and love the city welcomed the chance to be home again, but only rarely did they see any evidence of the urban ghetto, or the human situation. Those who knew the city only from a sub-urban or tourist viewpoint, saw nothing of the real city problems. This problem still

remains: those who know--not only intellectually, but personally--still know; those who don't know, except intellectually, still do not know personally.

And one fears that the discussions headed by "lobbyist" Van Dueson of LCUSA and chaplain Piper of Lutheran Social Services confirmed the ideas of many that the real solution to the urban problem is a white motivated, paternalistic approach through the bureaucratic structures of the system, both ecclesiastical and political. Because of this "white liberal" orientation, none of the students were introduced to the terrible reality that I have learned in city work: the system has screwed the blacks, now the blacks, to get anything done, must screw the system.

Yet the greatest problem still remains. It is the problem of the city church in relation to the urban community. The urban dilemma is the problem of a WASP institution, the Church, trying to relate honestly to the black community. There is no easy approach and no easy answer to this problem. But, for the most part, it seems that the work is just beginning in a few small Washington areas. One fears that there will have to be a few funerals and, unfortunately, a few fires before the Church can go into all the world, including the world of the center city.

Larry Whorton

S P O R T S

With the beginning of another academic year at LTS, the hopes and dreams of each clerical-minded athlete turns to football. There appears to be much excitement in the air about which team stands the best chance of winning the championship. There's been a lot of talk and now this is the week the action begins. Thursday afternoon at 4:00, the Middlers play against the Seniors and on Friday afternoon at 3:00, the Seniors face the incoming Juniors. This will be the beginning of a twelve game

season that will end near the end of the first quarter. It is hoped that again this season an all-star team will be picked to go against a contingency from Mt. Airy.

Prospects for an informal volleyball tournament are in the informal stages of organization. Anyone in the Seminary community who might be interested in playing on a team is asked to see Darrell Layman at once. It is hoped that games can begin here at the courts in the coming week.

We hope that a large part of the student body is represented in our athletic program this year. Any suggestions for improvements or additions would be appreciated by the A.D. at any time.

Darrell Layman

LUTHER'S LITTLE LAP BOOK

Welcome juniors and returning seniors, to the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. The school is affectionately known as LTS by those who have ever engaged in the great learning machine which is cunningly camouflaged behind ivy covered buildings on the hill to the northwest of the lovely, picturesque town of G-burg and near the headquarters of Robert E. Lee.

By now you should all be familiar with the important landmarks and buildings on our beautiful and quaint campus: the Richard's House, the coffee shop, ping pong tables, shuffleboard, soda machines, Schraucher Stadium, the Pub and of course, the refectory. It is rumored that there actually is a chapel a library and classrooms, but they are of secondary importance to the student who truly wants to learn something and not be burdened down by adiaphera and tedious busy work.

Getting down to business, you must realize that there is neither time nor is this the place to conduct an orientation. However, if you juniors have any questions at all, feel free to approach any of the learned upperclassmen. They will be more than happy to lead you in the right direction and to answer

your questions in thier learned, loquacious preacher-way.

To help you get your feet on the ground and to get you swimming in the local sea of indecision, swamp of indifference and climb the hill of paradoxes, an ancient manuscript will soonebe made available for our use--as soon as the translators have finished thier task. This ancient relic, which has been established to be over two thousand years old, was unearthed by an archeological expedition near the Old Testament town of Sockie-toomey. For some mysterious reason the "Flying Fickle Finger of Fate" transported this precious document to the Abdel Ross Wentz Library where its existence was lost in the cobweb shroudded caverns of the past.

By the time the next issue of TT goes to press, the translation should be ready to pass on to eager young minds.

Harry

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS 1963-69

When a new editorial staff takes over a publication they owe their readers an idea of what the editors hope to do with the publication. However, TT is without a formal editor, as are the other student publications at the moment, so as chairman of the Student Publications Committee I offer the following "platform" which can either be rejected or ratified by you who will eventually produce (or not produce) student publications.

1) There is no time schedule for any of the student publications: TT, Theolog, Spontaneity or what have you, and I hope that you will force publication by writing up what you have to say and nagging me until it is published.

2) Any student who wants to edit or write for any publication is welcome to do so providing he is responsible for the results.

3) This third piont will make the "platform" look like a diving board but I have strong feelings for the subject and a lot of extra space in this issue of TT. The

following quote from Mark Twain's essay, "Concerning the Jews," (1899) exemplifies a spirit that I feel this and other student publications should cultivate.

"I am quite sure that (bar one) I have no race prejudices, and I think that I have no color prejudices nor caste prejudices nor creed preudices. Indeed I know it. I can stand any society. All that I care to know is that a man is a human being--that is enough for me; he can't be any worse. I have no special regard for Satan; but I can at least claim that I have no prejudice against him. It may even be that I lean a little his way, on account of his not having a fair show. All religions issue bibles against him, and say the most inurious things about him, but we never hear his side. We have none but the evidence for the prosecution, and yet we have rendered the verdict. To my mind, this is irregular. It is un-English it is un-American; it is French.

...We may not pay him reverence, for that would be indiscreet, but we can at least respect his talents. A person who has for untold centuries maintained the imposing position of spiritual head of four-fifths of the human race, and political head of the whole of it, must be granted the possession of executive abilities of the loftiest order. In his large presence the other popes and politicians shrink to midges for the microscope. I would like to see him. I would rather see him and shake him by the tail than any other member of the European Concert."

so let it be.

"Buffalo" Bob Martin

HELP WANTED

A typist is wanted to type TT stencils. We will pay 60¢ @ and the stencils will be provided. See Bob Martin.