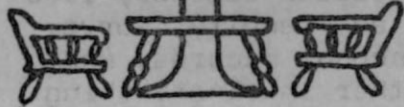


Table Talk



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

Vol. VII, no. 3

November 24, 1970

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GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

A GENERAL CRITIQUE OF THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

From the beginning of the academic year 1970-71 the theme of the Student Association has been one of involvement and concern. At this point, I would like to add my comments on the form and shape this involvement and concern has taken. Generally, involvement in any organization is sporadic. Since I consider myself a realist, I can rationalize the small involvement of students in the student organization as typical. However, I pose the hypothetical question, "Should this organization of theological students be typical?"

It seems to me that the major gripe I've heard for the past two years is that this seminary does not provide enough practical areas for us to put our book knowledge to work. I personally believe that the Student Association is one such practical exercise whereby the students can become an effective organization which has among its express purposes, the concern for other people. In actuality, however, our concern has never gotten past the stage of "what's in it for me?" As unconcerned and unorganized as the seminary student body was last year, they were extremely organized when it came time to fighting the faculty over comprehensives. It seems that when there are matters directly affecting the welfare of this student body there is all the enthusiasm and backing anyone would want, but, when it comes time for committees to function for purposes outside this "community" we are all too busy.

Maybe we should ask President Nixon to make another blunder involving the nation as he did with Cambodia in order to stir up some outside interest and concern. Fortunately for the country, terrible blunders have been very sporadic to this point in our history but when they happen this community swoops down on Gettysburg like it was the symbolic dove and spreads Christian advice to the Gettysburgians. The problem is that it only does this when and where it feels like. To me, commitment is not a weekly, monthly, or even a yearly endeavor but one which involves us daily. What gives seminarians the right to tell a community that it should get involved and give a damn when we ourselves don't? To the extent that one does not preach the Gospel on special occasions but daily, to that same extent our involvement must witness to that same Gospel daily and not whenever it suits us.

The Student Association needs and asks for your support so that it may be an untypical organization and as such, function realistically and not merely on the pages of the student constitution.

Bill Scholl, president
Student Association

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Ed and Linda Rohde on the birth of their 8 lb. 1 Oz. baby boy last Thursday. Table Talk joins the seminary community in welcoming their newest member.

MSA ACCREDITATION SOUGHT

Well, look what's happening on campus, another accreditation! Can it be that we must keep striving for perfection, or is this accreditation a decision which is deemed necessary to undertake. According to an interview with Dr. Heiges, the latter would be the appropriate idea to assume.

In order to understand the present accreditation, the reader should realize some pertinent historical events. The first accreditation the seminary received was in 1938 along with eleven other institutions. This accreditation, which is good for one decade without being renewed, was from the American Association of Theological Schools. Because the renewal date was reached in 1969, the seminary developed a two volume self-study. In March 1969, the self-study was presented to the American Association of Theological Schools who, after analyzing it, renewed our accreditation for another decade.

The seminary then decided to request an accreditation from the Middle States Association for two reasons. First, the seminary was going to be involved with Catholic Universities and secondly, it had the Luther House of Studies in Washington. Because the AATS was primarily Protestant schools and the MSA included Catholic schools and universities, the Catholic universities expressed their desire for our seminary to join the MSA.

As a part of the MSA's accrediting process, a team of men are commissioned to survey a school and issue an "Appraisal Areadiness." In preparation for this Appraisal Areadiness team, a supplementary guide to the self-study was composed. The supplementary included a synopsis of the self-study and statements of graduates of the last seven years concerning their thoughts about the preparation the seminary provided them for parish work.

Because the Appraisal Areadiness team recommended our seminary, the actual accrediting team will survey

the campus from December 9-11, 1970. The team will consist of six men who will discuss seminary life with students and faculty, survey property and school records, and about every other imaginary thing which has something to do with the campus.

The team will then submit a report to the Middle States Association's committee of Higher Education who will review it in the spring of 1971.

hw

Student Publications staff--

Managing editor--Ed Neiderhiser
Faculty Advisor--Don Matthews
Editorial staff--

Jack Keeler
Steve Dorsett
Harry Wolpert

Washington Correspondent--
John Keating

THANKSGIVING RECESS

There will be no classes November 26-27, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Table Talk extends to all its readers the greetings of the Thanksgiving holiday and asks that all of you who will be playing the Pilgrim role and will be traveling to drive carefully.

Special Thanksgiving greetings to the Senior football team--what a real bunch of turkeys.

WANTED: MUSICIANS

I am looking for a drummer and a sax and/or trombonist who is experienced in or interested in playing jazz. Object: some liturgical work and some good, solid jamming.

Contact me immediately.

Ed Neiderhiser

REPORT FROM THE MARTIN LUTHER BOWL

The skies proved to be not the only gloomy aspect of Friday November the 13's annual clash between the Mt. Airy Saints and the men of G-burg, as the Saints romped over Gettysburg by a score of 18-0. Following the arrival of the seminarians at Philadelphia, an atmosphere of reunions and remembrances prevailed throughout the lunch. But these feelings soon changed to one of friendly hostility as the teams entered the muddy and water-filled field.

Both teams seemed equally matched as the first series of downs for each ended in punts. However, the game broke open when Philly quarterback hit Herb Lohr for the score.

Following the kick-off, it looked as if Gettysburg might score. But the combination of fate and a beautiful defensive play by John Schlotter turned the tide. Stepping in front of Randy Neubauer, Schlotter intercepted quarterback Bill Scholl's pass and took it in for the score. The score was 12-0 after the PAT failed.

Neither team was able to mount a good offensive until late in the closing moments of the half. Once again the accuracy of Holtberg paid off, as he hit Schlotter with a pass over the hands of Dwane Michael. The half ended with the score 18-0.

The second half began with what looked like a new Gettysburg team. The combination of short passes and runs put Gettysburg deep in Philadelphia territory. Again the defense prevailed and four great efforts on the part of the defense stopped a score.

The remainder of the game was played during intermittent showers, with the only notable play coming on a bomb to Jim Hulihan. However, the play was subsequently called back on an off-side penalty.

Congratulations to both teams on a well played game.

sd

SUGGESTION: MARTIN LUTHER BOWL

One can hardly live in today's world and not believe the doctrine of Original Sin. And perhaps one of the most blatant manifestations of man's total depravity is to sallie forth in the cold and rain to a field resembling a rice paddy in order to defend the honor of one's seminary in a form of combat called touch football. Human absurdity at its best was the situation of the annual Martin Luther Bowl at which the Mt. Airy Saints slushed, slogged, and splashed their way to an 18-0 victory over the Gettysburg irregulars. Field and weather conditions did nothing to help either team and even spectators went home cold, soaked, and mud-spattered to the waist. The much improved Philadelphia team is to be congratulated for its winning effort. And in some sense a good time was had by all.

The course of the game did raise some questions, however, and I would make a proposal to the Athletic Committee. It would seem to be a good idea to get together with the Athletic Committee from Philly and work out a complete set of rules to govern the traditional game. A uniform series of rules, completely familiar to both teams would avoid such mishaps as confusion over kicking formations and unfortunate calls by zealous referees. If the traditional game is to remain a welcome tradition by both schools, a standard set of rules governing the affair would be helpful. How about it, Athletic Committee?

Ed Neiderhiser

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

next issue of Table Talk--Dec. 8
deadline for articles--Dec. 3

Literary Journal deadline--Dec. 2

ADVENT MUSIK

An interesting and stimulating program of Advent music will be presented this December 3, 1970 at 7:30 p.m. In the context of Vespers an informal atmosphere of singing and worship are set to the music of Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) and Hugo Distler (1908-1942).

The prelude will prepare us for worship with works by Johann Sebastian Bach: Kommst du nun, Jesu vom Himmel herunter, and Prelude and Fuge in D Major.

Using the worship supplemant there will be antiphonal singing of hymn 701:

Introduction: Organ chorale by
J.S.Oach

Stanza 1: Congregation and choir

Stanza 2: Choir

Stanza 3: Women

Stanza 4: Men

Stanza 5: All

Stanza 6: Organ chorale by
Paul Manz

Stanza 7: All

Hymn 706 will be done in similar fashion.

The music sung by the choir will be two motets: "O Saviour Throw the Heaven Wide" by Johannes Brahms. The beautiful tonal quality and diversity of rhythm portrayed in this Advent selection will surely enhance the quality of the worship experience. Second the choir will sing Hugo Distler's motet, "Lo How a Rose E're Blooming." Professor Distler, a contemporary composer using original rythm variations with modern harmonizations, equals great masters of the Baroque period on whom his technique is based.

After playing of Dietrich Buxtehude's Magnificat Primi Toni, an organ composition used as inter-ludes and commentary on the plain-chant setting of the Magnificat, the service will conclude with the singing of hymn 8 in the SBH.

The performers for this evening of worship and music are a newly formed madrigal group under the able direction of Ronald Morris, a graduate

in music from Susquehanna University. The group consists of sixteen members singing in the traditional SATB. We welcome the entire community to share in this evening of worship.

jk

WOTS NEWS

On November 19 WOTS attended the meeting of the American Association of University Women. The program concerned a Family Planning Agency in Adams County developed by the AAUW. We were made aware that the need for family planning services in Adams County is acute because of the magnitude of poverty here and the unavailability of family planning services.

A hayride was scheduled for Friday November 20 at Hickory Bridge Farm, but had to be postponed due to the rainy weather.

We have tentative arrangements for an evening at the Heiges' in early December or January.

Carol Michener, president

ADVENT SERVICE

On Tuesday, December 8, 1970 at 7:30 p.m. the annual Advent service will take place. The service will begin with a few announcements by Professor Jordahl followed by a procession of choir and officiants. At this point the Chancel Players will perform the E.E. Cummings play, Santa Claus.

Eucharistomen: the community celebrates!!! We rejoice at the anticipation and expectation of the coming of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus the Christ.

Eucharistomen: we celebrate; the seminary community, the community of Gettysburg, and any other guests who care to come.

Pax vobis cum.

jk

BROTHER SEM PUBLICATIONS

Gettysburg Student Publications has initiated an exchange with Student Publications of other L.C.A. Seminaries. Copies of Table Talk are sent to all of our brother seminaries and copies of their publications have been requested.

If you are interested in reading what is being published in other sems, the current issues of their newsletters are being posted on the Student Association bulletin board outside the field studies office. You are invited to read them and return them to the clip. Issues will be kept as current as they are received.

en

ADVENT OPEN HOUSE

The Advent season, the expectation of Christmas, is loaded with traditions and customs. One of the most enjoyable of the Advent traditions here at Gettysburg Seminary is the annual Baughman Hall Open House following the Seminary Advent Service. Immediately after the Advent Eucharist Wednesday evening December 8, all members of the community are invited to Baughman. Decorations and refreshments galore will await those who join the Baughman koinonia.

en

POPE JERRY I CELEBRATES ANNATE NO. ?

On Thursday evening 11/19/70, at 8:00 p.m. the refectory was the scene of a Medieval Banquet complete with all the courtly figures from Pope to gesters.

Students of Professor Christianson's Eve of the Reformation put on a very enjoyable program. With everyone getting to know each other, strains of medieval recorder music was played as background by Professor Stuempfle and his group, more familiarly known as "Herman and the Homiletics" or is it "hermeneutics?" Tom Quickel had trouble deciding.

The famous bard of Bordeaux, Joel Springer, read a couple of selections by candle-light while everyone feasted on pork pie, baked bread, and honey mead.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Professor Christianson with a birthday cake with everyone singing "Happy Birthday." He wished that everyone should receive an A for the course and attempted to blow all the candles out. After the first attempt the grade went down to a B at which point Paul Frank offered to assist lest the entire class should fail.

It was an interesting excursion into the past for a taste of Medieval life.

jk

WASHINGTON NEWS:

notes from under the table

First impressions. I am pleased to report that Washington runs with a pleasant human noise rather than the dull mechanical whirr of most eastern cities. Peaceful, except for the rush hour traffic and an occasional paranoid vision of violence and vandalism. Pleasant, when the rain stops stabbing reality into damp fall days. But, more than that, exciting. Life teeming onto the streets like an impressionistic painting. A creative landscape pumping the gift of living back into veins dulled by the coma of boredom. Washington, in its own way, creates a mood. Creates dreams of sunshine. Lyrical dreams to warm the winter fast approaching.

The classes are varied. Spread across an eccumenical hanger to dry and evaluate. We seldom find each other engaged in the same classroom struggles and there is none of the dampness which creeps in when students are lumped into large piles, still wet and molding. Not as boring.

Never repetitious. hardly ever. And the physical spread makes it seem faster paced. Moving at a pleasant clip. Faces different every day. Different views. Different ways of life challenging you and listening carefully. And action research. Most students enjoying the doing/learning of a program carefully tailored to your own interests. In some cases your wildest dreams of making connections between theology and whatever you can justify.

The community. Young and fresh. Still becoming and feeling all the growing pains along the way. Crying for an end to the pain, but willing to touch them. experience and learn. Determined not to fall into old ruts filled with cobwebs. Constantly questioning its own actions. An experiment in relevance.

John Keating
