

Table Talk

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

Vol. VII, no. 7

February 9, 1971

INTERN WORKSHOP

This Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday there will be an intern workshop which will invite all those students who have sent in applications. Previous to this workshop students filled-out applications which expressed their choices of churches. However, in this procedure the congregations had no choice in the applicant. This year the Committee on Field Education hopes to change this.

Congregations who wish the opportunity to chose their intern may do so; however, final decision on placements will be the responsibility of the Field Education Committee. This committee, on the completion of placements, will then present their recommendations to the whole faculty.

The schedule for the workshop will begin Wednesday evening with registration, orientation, and a getting acquainted session for supervisors (which number 32 at present), prospective interns who are invited to bring their wives or girl-friends. Thursday morning there will be a supervisor session which will be involved with "Creating a climate for learning." This discussion is so titled because the intern year of school is fundamentally a learning situation. Also involved in this session will be a discussion dealing with matters covered in the intern manual. Thursday afternoon will be for interns and supervisors. This particular session will involve "supervisors and Force Field Analysis." A feedback period which will involve only the supervisors will be conducted Thursday evening. Friday

morning will be a time when interns and supervisors may get together and discuss their internships. By the end of this session, it is hoped that students will have definite preferences for internship locations.

This workshop, which is financed by the Board of Theological Education and the seminary, will be the first attempt of its type in compulsory internship programs.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Table Talk joins the rest of the seminary community in congratulating Dave and Linda Hess on the birth Saturday of their 6 lb. 2 oz. baby girl. We all rejoice at the birth of this new gift of God.

REMINDER

Once again all members of the seminary are reminded of the WGET radio broadcast of "The Seminary Explores" each Tuesday evening at 5:30.

BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Thurs., Feb. 11, Seminary vs. Knouse
Thurs., Feb. 18, Seminary vs. Knouse
Mon., Feb. 22, Seminary vs. Jaycees
Support your local basketball team.

Table Talk welcomes the Seminary Board of Directors who are meeting here this week.

FROM THE APC: RE: NEW CURRICULUM

The editor has invited comment on the committee proceedings that deal with the new curriculum now being formulated through a sub-committee of the Academic Policies Committee. In response to his request, I have divided this report into three sections:

1. Why a new curriculum? A new curriculum is necessitated primarily because of the calendar change to be introduced in the 71-72 session. In order to align this institution with the members of the Washington Theological Consortium, Gettysburg Seminary has adopted the 4-1-4 calendar. This will facilitate the Consortium's use of our offerings and vice versa e.g., in the exchange of students for semester, year or mini-month periods of time. Such a calendar alignment will certainly provide us with maximum flexibility as we make use of Washington possibilities.

Two features of the new calendar next deserve special attention: the mini-month and the contraction or expansion (depending upon your viewpoint) of quarter courses into semester courses. The mini-month is the special concern of another sub-committee and the details are not yet worked out. However, anyone's imagination can readily toy with the idea and at least one thing is certain: for anyone who has wished that he had time to really pursue a special interest project--"the new day's a comin'!" The idea--minus complete details--sounds exciting.

The second feature of curriculum change involves the move from quarter courses to semester courses. Under the quarter system, a student in his three academic years takes a total of 36 courses. Naturally under a semester system the total number will be less. This necessitates a re-working of the number and placement of area distribution requirements--this problem is under study.

2. What happens next? The APC has been charged with suggesting the framework of the new curriculum. This means sub-committees are at work on various areas. Where divisions must contract some course offerings and expand others into semester length, their proposals will have to be adopted by the faculty, guided by recommendations from the APC suggested framework. APC goes to faculty, faculty to APC, APC to divisions, divisions to APC, then APC goes to the Student-Faculty Consultation--this is the group that has met twice and is composed of student committee representatives from all three classes. This group will later meet to receive reports and to offer comments and advice on what is shaping up. From this group, we go back to APC for a formal statement which is then presented to faculty for adoption. Such is the road map of Academe!

3. What about Comps? "They'll never be the same." If they remain at all in the new curriculum (this too is not yet decided), they most assuredly will be changed. This is to suggest that there are three viable options: 1) keep them and bring them into line with their suggested bibliographies; 2) abolish them; 3) incorporate them into a track system where a student may go the "course route" with a prescribed academic program or he may opt to go the "comp route," where he would demonstrate his ability, background and understanding in certain areas thereby permitting him to accelerate or specialize in his academic program.

This is a broad and general report of what's happening. As the specifics are worked out and receive official approval, more information will be forthcoming. It should finally be mentioned that all votes along the route are enabling votes. This is why one must use the word "tentative" when commenting on any and all proposals.

Jim Cobb

O DIKAIOMI

Our age is a very troubled era with much discontent, grumbling and agitation. The foundations not only of religion but also those of our very society are more and more the focal point of the question mark. The Christian Church by means of her theologians and pastors has gingerly, yet progressively, eased into the turmoil searching for new language and new ways of expressing the message of Christ. One of the most prevalent areas of concern to emerge and re-emerge is the topic of "being" or living for "others." What follows will seem to many to be a petty facet of this living and caring for others when placed in comparison with the large and overwhelming issues of the day but the petty facets are nevertheless aspects of the larger concern and should not be passed on the way-side. This, it seems to me, should be particularly the case in a community which seeks to be a living example and which is training individuals to be living examples to the world; a community which literally teaches men and women to be compassionate, loving, and helpful to one another and others.

Here on campus, many students, representing a substantial minority if not a majority, have increasingly become aggravated over the lack of consideration by professors and fellow students. The irritating factor is SMOKE. For some of us it is physically an "ordeal of fire" to attend classes in which cigarette and pipe smoke plug sinuses, fog the mind, taint clothes, cause headaches, and in general fill one's lungs with a substance that is known to be injurious to health. The problem would not loom large in my mind were it possible to leave a room at will. In effect, however, the non-smokers are actually a "captive audience." By being charitable to the smokers and thus refraining from violent protest the non-smokers have in short been heaping burning "ashes" upon their own heads as well as those of the culprits.

I think it finally time to suggest

that offending professors and students be given an opportunity to indicate that they are a caring and a loving community by merely refraining from smoking in the classroom. No one is disputing anyone's right to smoke, what is being questioned, however, is the right of some individuals to smoke in the classroom where there is no escape for those who find the atmosphere completely stifling. My appeal is therefore for an act of justice (to dikaiomi) and an act of love. Perhaps only a miracle can bring this about. It is my hope and prayer that this may come to be a reality very soon.

Roy A. Steward

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Next issue of Table Talk--Feb. 23

Deadline for articles--Feb. 18

Second quarter issue of Kethovim--
March 9

Deadline for contributions--March 4

Student Publication Staff:

Managing editor, Ed Neiderhiser
Faculty Advisor, Don Matthews
Editorial staff, Jack Kealer
Harry Wolpert
Steve Dorsett
Washington Correspondent,
John Keating

A QUOTABLE QUOTE

"Racial equality is an established fact; the struggle is for cultural pluralism."

--Charles Keil
Urban Blues

Don't forget:

Friday at 3:00 p.m. is the deadline for registration for third quarter.

Need liturgical supplies?
Almy display, coffee shop,
all day Tuesday, Feb. 16.

EVENING PRAYER

"Let my prayer be set before thee as incense, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice"
. . . this passage from Psalm 141 is a familiar one to those who are acquainted with the Vesper Office. From the beginning of the history of Christianity, the faithful have gathered regularly for prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. Liturgical life has from the beginning been just that--a life, not merely a specific activity or duty to be performed and then cubby-holed into its proper place. Unless the body of believers considered itself in that sense, as a BODY, there could have been no Christian legacy for us to preserve; indeed there probably would be no knowledge of the Good News for us to Celebrate. At the risk of heresy, I must state my conviction that the Word of God DOES depend upon us as men--NOT FOR ITS OWN VERITY, but for its PROCLAMATION! This dependence places us in a rather uncomfotable position of responsibility. If we are in truth FREED BY THE GOSPEL, this freedom is not one of apathetic quietism, (so typical of the "Lutheranism" which some of us so ardently condemn), but rather this freedom must be an active, responsible "leturgia" in which we do indeed act as the BODY and not as dismembered apendages.

Several weeks ago, at the encouragement of a significant number of this community, a former tradition was reactivated. Each evening a number of members of this community gather for corporate worship, a different "form" being used each evening in order to utilize as many resources as possible and to provide an interesting variety of expressions of worship. Those in attendance are encouraged to volunteer to lead the Office, to participate in discussions of the lectionary, and to make prayer petitions. After some initial shyness had worn off, the services have begun to feel comfortable and free and it seems as if genuine need in the community is finally being met, a need vir-

tually ignored in the morning "lecture series" of chapel end in the Friday "potpourri" Euchariste; not to mention the "Greatest Shows on Earth" produced periodically on some of the Christian festivals which we have chosen to observe.

Since then, it has become obvious to those who are still attending the evening offices, that a smaller number of the community are attending each evening, and many of the initial supporters of the idea have shown up only a very few times. It has been suggested that the hour chosen is too inconvenient for many to attend (a valid argument in some cases, which, however, would be true no matter when a "meeting is called"); it has also been considered that possibly the orders of worship are too formal and rigidly scheduled, another valid point. However, it would appear, as usual, that the criticisms come from those who have no other constructive suggestions, since no one has offered to assist in planning the orders of worship or expressed any interest in making their ideas known. Except, of course, for those who are a regular part of the evening congregation, Dr. Jordahl who offered some helpful advice and assistance in getting the services started, and Dr. Heiges who so far has been the only member of the faculty to show any interest whatsoever in attending, it would appear that this community which is so "liturgically oriented" has no real interest in each others' needs or in acting together, outside of the regular working (or playing) hours.

EVENING PRAYERS WILL CONTINUE
For any who wish to come together,
regularly each weeknight in the
Chapel at 6:00 p.m.! The forms of worship will be geared to those in attendance and suggestions for improving the series are urgently sought. If you are someone who feels that these services are of value to this community, please support it by your attendance or

(cont. on page 6)

CHAMBER CHOIR PROGRAM

On February 15, at 7:30 an unusual program will be presented in the seminary chapel to commemorate the death day of Dr. Martin Luther (Feb. 18, 1546). The program will be presented by the Gettysburg Chamber Choir under the direction of Ronald Morris. The program will draw heavily from the musical heritage of the church of the Augsburg Confession. Three of the composers of this tradition, Schuetz, Bach, and Distler have had great influence upon western music. The program will open with the last chorus of the Schuetz Passion according to St. Matthew, "Christ be Thine the Glory," work which is the culminating document of passion form. The music is of exquisite beauty but in no way overshadows the text and is one of the rare examples in music literature where text and music do not compete but compliment. Additional motets will follow, all of them belonging to the High Renaissance and Early Baroque school of choral writing.

The second section of the program will consist of two arias by J.S. Bach. Both of the arias will be performed by Jack Keeler (tenor) and Ronald Morris (organ). The first work will be the "Benedictus qui Venit" from the Mass in B minor, a work of extreme naturity displaying elements of Romanticism which are not usually attributed to the old cantor. Bach's use of chromaticism and his expansion of tonality is still as startling to the modern ear as it was to the parishioners of the church at Arnstadt who reproved him for making many "curious variations" in the chorale. The second aria is from Cantata 78 "Jesu der du meine Seele." This work represents one of Bach's greatest achievements, in that the entire twenty minutes of music is based upon Johann Rist's chorale "Jesu der du meine Seele." The choruses are clearly built upon this tune, however the same organic unity with the chorale is not as evident in the solo arias. The

chorale is characterized by leaps of the 4th and 5th followed by step-wise ascending motion, this similar melodic pattern is incorporated into the aria which Jack Keeler will perform. The aria is one in which Bach incorporated the "doctrine of the affections" that is he uses various devices to say musically what the words say literally. Leaps of the octave in the accompaniment depict a striding, bold movement which occur at the words "to battle" and at the words "standeth Jesus" the tenor sustains a note which is held throughout an accompaniment that at times clashes harmonically as if Bach were proclaiming in this abstract way Jesus the logos stands supreme in spite of circumstances. The aria shows no mercy on the soloist and demands many stunts of pure physical endurance.

The choir will perform a section of works, mainly from the heritage of the Lutheran Chorale. The closing work of this section will be a motet by the twentieth century German composer, Hugo Distler whose work in the Lutheran Church of Luebeck was so threatened by the Nazi government that he took his life. The work shows a remarkable sensitivity to the text, the music is fresh, clear and the work of a master craftsman.

A section of organ works will comprise the final section of the program. The first piece will be the contemporary Lutheran composer Ludwig Lenel. The second work is a two movement dance suite by a contemporary of Luther Bernard Schmidt the elder.

Concluding this program will be the office of Vespers including a G lineau Psalm accompanied by Norman Gauch (guitar). Hymns appropriate for the remembrance of the reformer will be sung and the propers for the Festival of Reformation will be used.

Ron Morris

SEMINARY PREJUDICES

I would like to discuss prejudice here at our Seminary. It is so prevalent that the air stinks of it. Conversations reek with judgements formed beforehand without thoughtful examination of the pertinent facts, issues or arguments. We do untold injury and damage to people which arises from our hasty and unfair judgements. We refuse to confront people with our feelings or what we think to be the facts but rather prefer the slashes of cutting innuendoes. We prefer the back alley called slander to the main street of truth and love. I Corinthians 13 is unpopular not because it is trite and overworked but because we seldom try to apply it to our lives.

We are not patient. We demand instant change. We are cruel, not kind. We envy everyone and woe betide anyone who merits a little praise. We boast and conceit runs out our ears. We are rude. We are so selfish that we refuse to share even a few moments at meals with someone who we do not like. We take offense at the drop of a hat. We keep a score of wrongs so long that it would fill a library. We gloat over other men's sins. We shun truth because it is too uncomfortable.

We scream with rage at the hate and prejudice of those bumkins in the congregations. What hypocrites they seem to us. When will we look at ourselves? I have. Thank God for forgiveness.

Kenn Ward

ed. note--Mr. Ward is a student at Waterloo Seminary. This article is reprinted from the Feb. 2 issue of Waterloo's student newsletter, "The Crystal Ship." If I had not told you this, would you have known it was not written here? Many thanks, Kenn, it needed to be said.

(Evening Prayer, cont. from page 4)

suggestions, speak to Dr. Jordahl, Ron Morris, Walt Startzel or any one whom you know is a participant in the evening offices. We miss you!

It is indeed unfortunate when theological education fosters an attitude that it is too pietistic to pray or that any kind of gathering other than the Eucharistic celebration is unimportant. Maybe there is a great deal of "closet praying" and "Bible study" going on behind closed doors, but isn't it strange that at least some of its affects are not the least bit noticeable in our attitudes and treatment of each other? But maybe we'll all be better counselors, preachers, priests, etc., etc., in our ministry if we don't get too involved with each other; for after all, familiarity often does breed contempt, and we certainly wouldn't want to risk that on top of all of our other troubles. It may be helpful to remind ourselves--the next time we make our mass exodus from the refectory to the altar of "Pong" or to the catacombs across from Valentine Hall, or to the flesh pots of Gettysburg, or the next time our wives or husbands say it's too cold to go out tonight, or that Walter Cronkite is on now, or that our first duty is to our family, etc., etc.,--that the dirty carpenter from Nazareth didn't zap himself off his cross and hightale it across the Syrian border, nor did he stay in his grave where he belongs now that we don't need him anymore! We may be FREED to cop out on him, but thank God he hasn't coped out on us.

Maranatha!

Walt Startzel

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 3, 1970

In attendance: Bill Elgar, Chairman; Mr. Bream, Faculty Advisor; Larry Miller

The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m., by its Chairman, Bill Elgar. The Chairman acknowledged receipt of a notice from the Student Association President about the need for movie and film strip projector operators at the Lutheran Home. Persons interested should contact Mrs. Folkemer.

Discussion followed concerning the size of the committee and time available for committee work by the committee members. The limited number of man-hours available for committee work on the part of the committee's members was regarded as a weakening factor in the committee's work. An increase in size of the committee was suggested and favorably regarded. Further discussion at this point will be made.

The preliminary Report on Social Services in the Gettysburg-Adams County Area was discussed. It was agreed that a comprehensive survey of existing social action agencies in the geographical area is necessary for further committee work. The report will be continued, although the manner of investigation will be reviewed at the next committee meeting.

A suggestion to create a sub-committee within the committee on political action was made and discussed. The academic importance to the seminary of fundamental political awareness was noted. The committee asked Karl Myers to check on the availability of the Congressional Record in the Seminary's library. Further discussion of this point was postponed for later committee meetings.

The goals and purposes of the committee were discussed. The major points discussed were:

- 1) an immediate purpose of the committee is to collect and disseminate information on social-political action;
- 2) the necessity of formulating both short-term and long-term plans of action by the committee for increased activity in the social-political area by the Seminary community;
- 3) the necessity for a re-evaluation of the committee's goals and purposes, plus the formulation of a concrete statement by the committee on its goals and purposes. The Chairman said he will undertake the preliminary work necessary to such a step.

A later committee meeting was agreed on for January 7, 1971, at 11:00 a.m. in the Coffee Shop.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sedgwick

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 21, 1971

In attendance: Bill Elgar, Chairman; Larry Miller.

The Social Action Committee met at 11:15 a.m. The size of the committee was discussed. Bill Elgar will check with Bill Scholl about changing the committee's composition.

There was discussion of the Emergency Pastoral Services Program, submitted by Ronald Jones and Larry Miller. The program will be reviewed for one week, and at the next meeting the program will be revised, accepted or rejected by the committee by vote. If the program is accepted, it will be referred to the appropriate student-faculty committee. If the program is referred, no further discussion of the program will be made by this committee's members.

Richard Barley is investigating the possibility of instigating a pastoral care program at the Lutheran Home. He will submit a report to the committee.

The committee will meet again at 11 a.m. on January 28, 1971.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sedgwick

It is hereby moved that the following words and phrases be temporarily discontinued:

relevant, cool, meaningful experience, Tillich,
community, communication(esp. failure of),
my thing, your thing, or anybody's thing or bag,
where I'm at, where you're at, or where anybody is at,
meeting people where they are,
seminary love and concern,
"Christian" as an adjective,
and all those "Christian ought to's".