

Table Talk

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

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Missioner on Campus

From Feb. 21-25, the Rev. Louis T. Bowers was on the seminary campus. Pastor Bowers has just returned this past summer from Liberia, which has been his field of service for 33 years. Now on furlough, he hopes either to obtain a parish in Pennsylvania or return to another newer mission field somewhere in Africa, where his 33 years' experience would be useful in developing it.

While on campus, Pastor Bowers visited classes, spoke in chapel (Tues., Feb 22), and was generally available to talk to interested students. On Wednesday evening, at the college, and Thursday evening, at the seminary, several students had the opportunity to see slides and hear comments on the nature and extent of his mission work.

Pastor Bowers pointed out that his primary aim was not to persuade students to enter missions. Rather, he wished to make future pastors aware of the work being done there so that they might then accurately convey that knowledge to their congregations. It is these, in the final analysis, which are the chief supports of mission work.

Youth and the Coffee Shop

In the past few months, a significantly large number of Gettysburg high school students and other youth have been taking advantage of the availability of our coffee shop. They may be found putting our television set and ping-pong tables to good use on most evenings. In general, they respect the privilege and do not abuse the property. It is certainly good that our seminary facilities are put to such use when not fully occupied by seminary students.

But some students have wondered if this is only a rather "passive" contribution to the Gettysburg community. It has been suggested that some sort of loose program be instituted in the coffee shop to minister to these youth in more concrete and constructive ways. There is the feeling that we, as Christians, have more to offer than a good ping-pong table.

The matter deserves some reflection. We suggest this for your consideration, and replies are encouraged.

R. vonFrisch

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Reminder: Thursday, March 2nd, Alumni Colloquy on
"A New Look at LCA Function and Structure" 10:00 am

Reflections on Washington

I have viewed with detachment and a touch of humor the development of the Washington Program since my arrival at the seminary. My own denomination expected me to go to our (Wesley) Seminary in Washington. I didn't go there for two reasons: 1) I don't like to do what I'm expected to do, and 2) I didn't relish the idea of commuting from Baltimore to Washington (as it were I got hoisted on my own Petard - I don't like commuting from Baltimore to Gettysburg.) But in any event I seem to be going in the wrong direction - away from the Sacred Mecca of Washington.

The rationale behind the Washington Program is Ecumenism. The reasons for ecumenical programs are becoming more and more convincing. Tom Peterson is so convinced that he is going to Chicago next year! I am not against ecumenism - for I am a Methodist (whatever that is?) graduated from a Catholic college and I am attending a Lutheran (whatever that is?) seminary. At this point I feel compelled to point out a danger of ecumenism - my theology at the present is slightly mixed up - it is an abortive attempt to synthesize what I have learned from the Catholics, Lutherans, and Methodists (in that order.)

I would however like to make a point - in pinning our Messianic hope on Washington - could we have possibly overlooked the possibilities at home? For example - I am required to conduct one Lutheran Chapel service in order to graduate. Why am I not permitted to do a service of my own Faith?

August Jagelman

A THOUGHT PERTINENT TO THE UPCOMING DISCUSSION ON CHURCH STRUCTURE

"The development of Denominations - greater organization and division of labor involves the abandonment of involvement in area after area of men's lives by the Church." from Righteous Experience, Martin Marty, p. 68.

submitted by Roy Steward

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"I love Jesus"
-Skip Courter

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Notice

The Publications Committee is to publish the minutes and reports of all Student Association committee meetings. We have received only four reports altogether since September. Either (a) the committees are doing nothing, (b) they are unaware of this service, or (c) they have chosen to communicate their activities through other means. We suspect the lack of reports is due to the first reason, but hope it is the second reason, and admit it may be the third.

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As you plan your events, remember that the month of March is the "Colonial Building Preservation Month" and the "International Halburger Pickle Month."

Charismatic Cooking

"But the Lord ordained that a great fish should swallow
Jonah." - - Jonah 1:17a

Reading this passage, one might wonder just how tasty Jonah seemed to this over-sized, water-bound gourmet. (Later information seems to indicate that our fine finny friend acquired an acute case of indigestion, but data on this point is sparse.) However, we can state with no reservations that mankind considers such scaled creatures a delicacy. And rightly so, for what other animal has been so blessed by the Creator? Or served such noble purposes? Without the fish, not only would Jonah most probably have drowned, but think of the miracles that would never have taken place! There would have been no astounding catch to amaze Peter, James, and John (Lk. 5); and no coin would have appeared to pay the Temple tax (Mt. 17); and consider the effects if that final, dramatic touch had been missing from the feeding of the four thousand (Mk. 8)!

From these earliest times the fish has grown in importance until it became one of the basic symbols of Christianity (Imagine the surprise of the early followers when they translated the phrase "Jesus Christ Son of God" from English into Greek and found the name of this significant animal staring at them from the first letters of the words!) and is now considered the heart of the Lenten diet.

Thus, for this season, and in honor of one of the world's wisest men who of course spoke of them often (I Kings 4:33), we hereby present:

SOLOMON'S LARGESSE

3 pounds trout
3 cups water
1 cup vinegar

1 onion, sliced
1/4 cup seedless raisins
1/2 cup brown sugar
4 gingersnaps, crushed
3 tablespoons chopped parsley
1 lemon, sliced

Wash the fish; soak in lightly salted water (1 tablespoon to a quart of water) for an hour. Remove from the water and rinse thoroughly. In a 2-quart enamel or glass pan, combine the water, vinegar, onion, and raisins and cook until the onion is tender-- about 10 minutes. Add the sugar and the crushed gingersnaps and blend thoroughly. Add the fish and barely simmer until the fish is tender-- about 12-15 minutes. Remove the fish to a warm platter and serve garnished with parsley and lemon. Serve the sauce from the pan in a separate bowl. Serves 6.

Paul Xander
Larry L. McDaniel

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Doggercl

In the spirit of public service, Table Talk wishes to remind all readers that ours is not an abiding kingdom. Thus, we suggest the following epitaphs for professors. While we hope that all connected with this prestigious seminary will enjoy long and happy lives, it is always wise to be prepared for any eventualities. Our suggestions are as follows:

Mr. Nieting, the professor of Greek,
Has found that Life which we all seek.
Yet he will let out several hollars
when he finds no clerical collars.

Mr. Jordahl was a saint.
But still he had at least one taint.
Not crossing himself when the blessing was read,
He preferred to cross his feet instead.

Mr. Myers, the Hebrew scholar,
puzzled a problem for many a hour;
But he at last is able to know
The actual size of Jericho.

Mr. Hale lies here dead,
Known in life as "Big Red."
Now his soul leaps to analyze
The social structure of Paradise.

Mr. Jenson does now sense
That after death one changes tense.
No longer is it the Future Hope
But the Eternal Present with which he copes.

--VF.

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It's A Girl!

Congratulations to David and Doris Hunsberger on
the birth of a daughter last February 22nd.

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Deadline for submissions to next issue: March 10th.