

Table Talk

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



Volume XII

February 13, 1975

Issue #8

SYNODS ADOPT ANTI-MERGER RESOLUTIONS

Important meetings concerning the future of Gettysburg-Philadelphia Seminaries were held during the last two weeks. On January 31, Maryland and Central Pennsylvania Synods met at Gettysburg College with more than 700 concerned delegates in attendance; as a result, a resolution in support of the current program at Gettysburg was adopted and forwarded to the Management Committee of the Division for Professional Leadership, LCA. The Central Pa. statement reads as follows:

A. In view of the sound financial status of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, which continues to operate responsibly without need for funding by the Division for Professional Leadership (LCA); and

B. In view of the large number of students from nearly two-thirds of the LCA synods choosing to attend the institution; and

C. In view of the success of graduates of this seminary in receiving calls and securing employment in the Central Pennsylvania Synod and elsewhere;

1. That Gettysburg and Philadelphia Seminaries continue their corporate existences on their present sites, relating to each other through the Council for Lutheran Theological Education in the Northeast (CLTEN) which is responsible to the two seminaries and their supporting synods;

2. That Gettysburg and Philadelphia Seminaries, working through the Council as a service agency for the LCA, the Seminaries, and supporting synods, develop a common thrust for theological education in the Northeast;

3. That the LCA remain open to cooperation in theological education with other Lutheran church bodies in the Northeast, through its two seminaries and the Council, as opportunities develop.

"The Central Pennsylvania Synod supporting the need for sound theological education in the LCA affirms its willingness and commends to all synodical congregations the need to support the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg by financial commitments, through Synodical budget and through special seminary appeals as approved by the Executive Board of Synod."

The Maryland Synod resolution reads this way:

"That the Division for Professional Leadership, in cooperation with CLTEN, the two seminaries in the Northeast, and their

(cont. on page 11)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To Table Talk:

I was distressed to read last issue's self-evaluation by the first year class: as "the most ignorant ever" or something of that sort. I was the more disconcerted insofar as this estimate conflicts so decidedly with my own. Indeed, before reading Table Talk I had planned to write in these columns communicating my own--quite different--impression, other channels not seeming likely to reach the entire class. I now hesitate to contradict an evaluator who has proved his skill by creating such excellent test questions. Nevertheless I am bound to say that in my view the average final performance in my first year course was decidedly superior to any previously experienced.

In the hope that none will be offended by my disagreement in this matter I remain

Most sincerely yours,

Robert W. Jenson

Dear George:

While Mark Radecke's letter of January 22 brought to public attention the "direct and open violation of the seminary policy on preaching and calls," the tone of his criticism seems to reflect a strange notion on the part of many that the ordained ministry is a haven against competition in life. Much of his letter contained leaded words as "brown-nosing," "divisive competitiveness," and "Ya gotta look out for Number One." Such an approach addresses the issue of clerical competition with far more romanticism than reality.

The ordained ministry, while a vocation of service and Gospel proclamation, is a profession in which there are positions to be had and people to fill them. In our own day there are far more people than salaried positions. Thus, there is competition. This is especially true as regards the nonparochial ministries. In the face of this, the seminary cannot serve as a haven from reality, and the seminarian cannot expect to use the seminary or the church as an escape from the fact that competition exists even in the terror of competition. If we do not compete on the open market, we compete in the "meat market." It seems to me that the open market spreads out the personality pedaling and enables students to pursue these experiences which they feel will enhance their pastoral training. The open market enables the individual with some sense of self-direction to move towards creative internships

(cont. on page 12)

Gentleman Jones in Vittoria; Miguel Looking On

"Oh, to live here in Spain!" sang Gentleman Jones,
The castanets clutched in his heavy browned hands.
And lumbering proudly through the wild gypsy dance,
He stumbled and spilled out a credit-card trail.

"The arroyo chokes daily on duststorms and heat.
You natives could transform such desolate land
With souvenirs, guided tours, hotels and pools.
There's money in history for you who speak English."

Cervantes, who laughed at the mad Don Quixote
When he dashed at the mills clad in armor with sword,
Should have seen Jones in the marketplace waddling,
Armed with his camera, bermudas, and shades.

* * *
Brother Miguel, seeing moonlit Vittoria,
Grew tired of history, the fanfares, and odes:
"Even Wellington wept when his men died in victory,
For only in death lay their sought-after fame."

--Tim Bingman

POTSHOT 76

GIVE A

HOOOT

FOR

HERMEN-EUT !!



STUDENT-FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

ACTS ON STUDENT HOUSING AND HONOR CODE

Minutes of the Student-Faculty Relations Committee, Jan. 26, 1976

Present: Jerry Yarnell, Pres. Darryl Kiehl
 John Ranney, Sec. Mr. Stroup
 Phil Bendle Mr. Stuenpale
 Lee Penvose

Old Business:

The Housing Selection Committee's proposal of the lottery system for the assignment of apartments was discussed. The majority of student responses seemed to favor the lottery system as a more equitable method of housing assignment but that items 2, 5 and 6 of the original proposal lessened the equitability of the lottery (see minutes of Nov. 17, 1975).

A motion was made and adopted that the lottery system, minus 2, 5 and 6, be used for housing assignment. It was then moved and adopted that a detailed lottery system be presented by the Housing Selection Comm. at the next meeting of SFRC.

It was suggested that a Housing Bureau be established either through the SFRC or the Student Association to aid in obtaining off-campus housing.

The lottery system reads as follows:

- 1) That the 1/3 senior, 1/3 middler, 1/3 junior apartments be maintained.
- 2) That on April 1, the due date for housing applications, a drawing or lottery be made yearly to fill vacant housing, as opposed to the present practice of allocation of housing according to date of acceptance into the seminary.
- 3) That two bedroom apartments be assigned to students with to students with children.

The SFRC wishes to reaffirm that housing will not be assigned to those who want pets.

New Business:

The committee discussed the occurrences of the infractions of honor. The Dean will appoint a Committee to work on an Honor Code Statement for the Seminary which will include a statement of expectations and the due process used in cases of infractions.

The next meeting of the SFRC will be Feb. 15 at 3:50 p.m. in the President's office.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Ranney

Opposition to New Student Housing Policy

At its last meeting, the SFRC adopted a new student housing policy. It differs from the proposed policy in that Juniors occupying apartments will not be allowed to simply renew their leases for Middler Year, and that in Senior Year, priority would not be given to those students who had been unable to live in the apartments previously. The SFRC took this action because it felt that a yearly housing lottery without any stipulations or exemptions aside from the 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 class distribution, would be the fairest possible system of assigning apartments.

While I concur with the committee's belief, I, nonetheless have some serious reservations over the way in which the new system will be implemented. The SFAC decided that there will be a lottery this April 1. I feel that immediate implementation without a lottery period would be unfair to the present Junior and Intern classes. The Juniors now occupying apartments in Meiges and West Halls were, prior to occupancy, given to understand that they would be allowed to maintain their apartments for their Middler years. The returning Interns have been operating under the assumption that their housing would be assigned under the old priority-as-of-date-of-acceptance system. To decide to change the system and immediately implement it this late in the academic year would be unfair to the students and would create more tension and bad feelings in our community. In view of the financial planning and budgeting which the Juniors and Interns have done throughout the year, the strain it would place upon certain individuals' limited resources and the bad feeling which would almost certainly result, I believe that implementation should be delayed until April 1, 1977. I would suggest that the April 1 lottery for this year apply only to the incoming Junior class and that it be explicitly spelled out that their occupancy is only on a yearly basis.

In closing, I would like to support the proposal that the Seminary have a constantly updated list of available housing in the area in order to facilitate students' ability to find good off campus housing. I believe that this would alleviate much of the strain felt by incoming and returning students in relation to housing.

--Dom Bonadonna

He has showed you, O man, what is good;

and what does the Lord require of
you

but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God.

---Micah 6:8

REFLECTIONS DURING THE MIDNIGHT

Sitting here in my cozy, archaic, plastered, blue room in the far reaches of fourth floor Valentine, being lulled awake by the syncopated beat of my radiator, I feel the urge to give one Junior's reflection of his stay here at Seminary. I use this publication because its subtitle is "News and views of the student body of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg." So, here I write, I cannot do otherwise.

As you may remember what we as first year students got hit with, way back in the innocent days of September, was our orientation. It was during these days that we heard about the good classroom learning situations, where there would be much dialog between students and faculty. But as classes started we found that the entire first year class would be herded from class to class as one group. With as many as we have in our class, for many Juniors, the only direct interaction with a professor was during roll call.

The pass/Fail grading system was also glorified as a means to alleviate competition. As exams came and went, we found that many professors still handed out numerical grades (to let us know where we stood); or else we were given a simple P or F without any other comments, relying upon some divine revelation on our part..

Even some of the grading for certain courses were still broken down by percentages: such as saying that a good part of one's grade depended upon class participation, while it turned out that the course was practically a lecture course.

The curriculum was also mentioned. We were told that the work load was minimal, so that one could go into depth in the area that interested you. As it turned out, unless one did not like to sleep, one felt pressed to do just the required work.

For some of us, even our expectations of the Seminary's role in social and political concerns seemed to have missed its mark. The only "issues" the angel seemed to be concerned with were pets, or touch football games. At times, all I hear is Kurt Vonnegut's line in Slaughterhouse 5: "and so it goes."

But one cannot blame any particular person for these events, for we are all to blame. We are all members of "the community," whether we like it or not. But there does seem to be a light on in the house of the dead.

The "feel" between the students and faculty seems to be getting better, at least in the Junior class; the social action committee seems to be getting off to a good start with the Crop walk; and who knows, since this is a presidential election year maybe the Seminary will get interested in politics again, like I hear how it used to be in the good old days.

Good night,

Peter Kuritz

ADIAPHORA

- February 13 Film series--"Badlands" (8p.m. in College Union Ballroom)
- 14 Valentine's Day Dance (8p.m. in College Union Ballroom)
Basketball: Gettysburg vs. Muhlenberg (8:00 at Gettysburg College)
- 15 Concert Series: Maurizio Pollini (7:50p.m. in Shriver Hall, Johns Hopkins University)
Film Series: "Tristana" (8p.m. in College Union Ballroom)
- 16, 17 CPE discussion with Dr. Henry Cassler
- 18 Foreign Film Series: "Black Orpheus" (7:30 p.m. in Bowen Auditorium)
- 19 Film Series: "All the King's Men" (8 p.m. in Bowen Auditorium)
- 21 Film Series: "Notorius" (8 p.m. in College Union Ballroom)
- 24 Concert Series: Les McCann (8 p.m. in College Union Ballroom)
- 25 Foreign Film Series: "The Three Sisters" (7:30 In Bowen Auditorium)

At the Majestic: "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs"
Coming soon: "Mahogany", "5 Days of the Condor"

STAFF

Tim Bingman--Adiaphora & Poetry	Lovise Klaven--Art, Typist
Rae Bloomquist--Typist	Ken Phelps--Humor
Bob Gago--Printing	George Post--Editor
Harold Hand--Sports	Mark Radecke--Humor
Tom Lope--Feature Reporter	Bill Stonski--Art

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes, in seeing the universe with the eyes of another, of a hundred others, in seeing the hundred universes that each of them sees.

--Marcel Proust

SESQUICENTENIAL MINUTES

On March 2, 1825 the Board of Directors met at Hagerstown to decide the location of the proposed seminary. Present (among others) were S.S. Schmucker, his father, J.G. Schmucker, who was President of the Board, C.P. Krauth, who was Secretary and Benji Kurtz.

Five towns had been in consideration (Frederick, York, Carlisle, Hagerstown, and Gettysburg), but in the end only three made bids for the institution. Frederick made no bid. Neither did York, the home of J.G. Schmucker. Dr. A.R. Wentz says that the elder Schmucker, apparently not wishing to become the "second professor" to his son, lobbied instead for Carlisle. Carlisle offered \$2000 in cash, another \$3000 towards erecting a building, a plot of ground for that building, a professor's house for five years and a cooperative plan with Dickenson College. Hagerstown, which was favored going in by S.S. Schmucker and Benji Kurtz, pledged \$6655. Gettysburg offered \$7000 and the use of a building until the seminary could erect its own. In a letter written the next morning to his wife, S.S. Schmucker gives us the result of the meeting and, in addition some interesting personal insights. It reads:

"Gettysburg, Mar. 3, 1825

My dearest wife,

I was not a little gratified on sending to the office this morning for a letter to receive your dear favor of the 25th last as a pledge of your future punctuality in writing. Your letters must form the only substitute I can find for the pleasure of your company during my absence, & I hope you will suffer nothing to prevent you from fulfilling your promise of a letter per week. The Directors have met & Havenad a most solemn & laborious session. Indeed the business was not concluded until this morning at 1:00! After one we closed the meeting, we laid us down & slept for a few hours, rose at day light, prepared sundry instruments of writing, & started immediately after for this Place, where we arrived an hour after dark, & where your dear husband is now writing to his dear wife.

Offers were made to the Board from Hagerstown, Carlisle, & Gettysburg. I had been in favor of Hagerstown before I came here, I have heard all the circumstances of all the offers, & I am happy to tell you, my dear wife, that I believe the Seminary is located in the proper place, in the place which promises the greatest happiness for us, but also the greatest usefulness for the church of our Redeemer. In Hagerstown it appeared, that the different sects were much opposed to the Seminary & jealous of its influence. We could calculate on nothing but persecution & bigoted opposition, & as this would render our residence there very unpleasant, and as you never liked the society of Hag. & as I foresaw many very unpleasant circumstances to which we should have been exposed there, my desire for your happiness as well as my own compelled me to oppose Hag. and as the brethren accorded with me in opinion, that place was rejected. The offer of Carlisle was rejected for nearly the same reasons, though they existed in a less degree. The Col-

(cont. on page 9)

... offered a room for lectures, & to make me Professor of Hebrew & Oriental literature & member of the faculty. The place therefore on which the choice of the Directors fell was Gettysburg, & I believe that after I tell you all the circumstances, you would have chosen this place yourself. Here not only the Lutherans but all the other denominations are extremely anxious to have the Seminary. There was subscribed \$3000 in the borough of Gettysburg alone; & in the surrounding vicinity the sum was swelled up to \$7000. There is one Presbyterian, 1 Seceders & 1 Methodist Church in the town, & all these subscribed as liberally as the Lutherans themselves: even the Presbyterian minister himself, who is not a rich man, subscribed \$50. The Trustees of the Academy offered us one half of the whole edifice until our Seminary here, that we were hailed on all sides as we were returning, & no sooner had we reached Brother Herpst's house than a deputation from the citizens waited on us to inquire after the result & to communicate it to them. In short so decided were the circumstances in favor of G. that the vote was almost unanimous, & even the Virginia director voted for it & Mr. Kurtz of Ind. himself spoke in favor of it. The population of this county is three fourths English Presbyterian &c. The town contains 1100 inhabitants, & sister Betsy Barry who spent several weeks here says, she thinks the society more agreeable than that of Carlisle. I am also delighted to find that the difficulty with regard to servants may be obviated effectually by some little pecuniary sacrifice."

After continuing in some detail about the prospective servant situation, Schmucker adds a few personal notes and concludes:

"Your devoted & unalterable husband,
SSS"

And that's the way it was....

Bibli-Triy

This week: Musicians and Musical Instruments, Source: Jerusalem Bible---translations differ).

1. According to Genesis the first musician, "the ancestor of all who played the lyre and the flute," was _____. (Gen. 4:21)

a. Jabel	c. Menjuel
b. Jabal	d. Metusael

2. Yahweh commanded Moses to make _____ (Num. 10:2)

a. a trumpet of gold	c. two silver bells
b. two silver trumpets	d. a harp of acacia wood

3. David played the _____. (1 Sam. 16:23)

a. Mandolin	c. Harp
b. Lyre	d. Saxophone

4. When the ark was being brought into Jerusalem _____ went before it singing and dancing, to the accompaniment of lyres, harps, tambourines, castanets, and cymbals. (II Sam. 6:5)

a. Uzza and Aio, the sons of Abinadab	c. David and all the house of Israel
b. Zadok, the high priest, and his sons	d. The tabernacle singers, who were of the house of Hormon

5. The first group of exiles returning from Babylon to Jerusalem included-_____ male and female singers. (Ezra 2:55)
- a. forty
 - b. seventy
 - c. one hundred and twenty
 - d. two hundred

CLASSY-TIED ADS

Wanted: One co-editperson

Is eschatology getting you down? Are you experiencing continual frustration in your efforts to fill the hermenutical gap? Well fear no more, my friends, your deliverance is at hand--for Table Talk now has an opening for the position of co-editor. You too can experience the joys of Adiphora, the ecstacy of Bibli-Triv, and all the exquisite agony of all the gossip we hear but cannot print. Do not let this fabulous opportunity pass you by--contact George Post or your nearest Table Talk representative. Act now, before it is too late! (Offer void where prohibited by law.)

Community Meal Features Germany Trip

And now, together again for the first time, the participants of the recent Germany trip will share with you their wit and wisdom, their saurkraut and (of great interest) their slide show. This extravaganza, the greatest social and cultural event of the school year, will take place at the Refectory on Monday, February 16, at 5:45 p.m. Do not risk becoming a social outcast--come to the community meal! (Formal dress is optional.)

Bridge

A group of students, staff, and faculty have been meeting with some regularity to play bridge and wish to invite anyone interested to meet with them. Beginners, medium, and advanced players are all welcome.

The next "get together" will be Friday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. and will be at the Benson's home rather than the coffee shop. There will be time to play some bridge and still join any other Valentine Parties if you so desire.

Interested in an evening of bridge? Come to the Benson's, 54 N. Idj Street, On Friday evening at 7:30 P.M.

Talent Show Planned

Start getting your acts together for the annual talent show. It will take place on Friday, March 26 after a community meal in the refectory. Sign up sheets will be posted in Valentine Hall soon. Faculty and students are encouraged to make this the best talent night ever!!

RIGHT HERE IN RIVER CITY

When you come to Gettysburg you will soon discover that there are many students and faculty members that have had quite a range of musical training. Some of this training has been very extensive involving years of discipline, others only as an interest. But something else that is apparent is that we give them very little opportunity or encouragement to share these vast talents with the community.

If you are one of these people who have a particular musical talent or one who simply enjoys listening we would like to give you an opportunity to share and listen in the form of an informal recital evening the third Thursday of each month with performers rotating. For your convenience please fill out the form below and return it to John Ranney.

Let us share and have an opportunity to enjoy some of the excellent music around here.

I am interested in the informal recital evening:
 _____ in performing _____ in listening _____ performing, medium
 comments _____
 _____ . name _____

Synods, cont. from page 1.

supporting synods, The, instructed to submit proposals and plans for the future of Lutheran Theological education in that region to the LCA convention no later than 1986."

Dean Stuemple, representing the Seminary, saw the resolutions as " a great gain and a psychological lift" for Gettysburg. He is in attendance this week at the meeting of the Management committee of the Division for Professional Leadership, which will prepare a final report on merger for the Convention in Boston.

Mr. Tipton travelled thru regional cluster meetings of the Western Pennsylvania-West Virginia synods in Clarksburg, W. Va., Quarry, Pa., and Monroeville, Pa., to present the Seminary's position against merger. Due to winter storms, fewer delegates attended, but response was positive. Mr. Tipton reports distribution of over 45,000 Birthday Appeals folders at the meetings, an indication of financial support, in addition to many pro-Gettysburg evaluation reports. This information has also been forwarded to the DPL management committee, whose decision should be made known later next week.

Quote of the Week:

"King Solomon must have been fond of animals, because he had many wives and one thousand porcupines."

(from Religious Thinking from Childhood to Adolescence,
by R. Goldman)

Letter, cont. from page 2

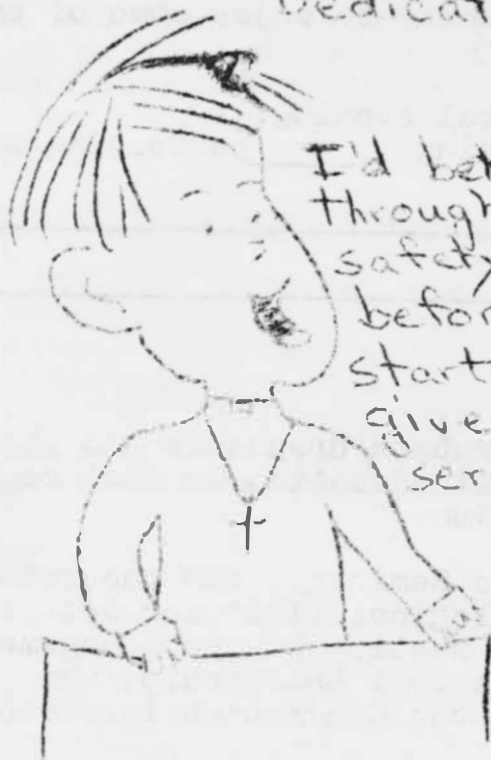
and calls, and do so when these opportunities arise. True, this may threaten some, but the ambivalence between the career ministry and the vocational ministry cannot be dispelled by an attack on those who seek out calls and internships for themselves. In the name of brotherhood, do we really have to legislate against and penalize those who show initiative and creativity?

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

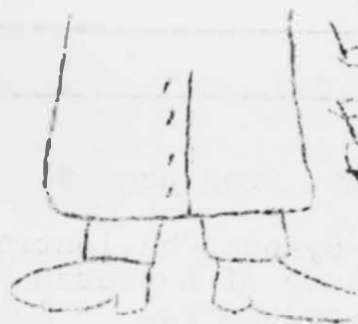
Sincerely yours,

M. George Mattson

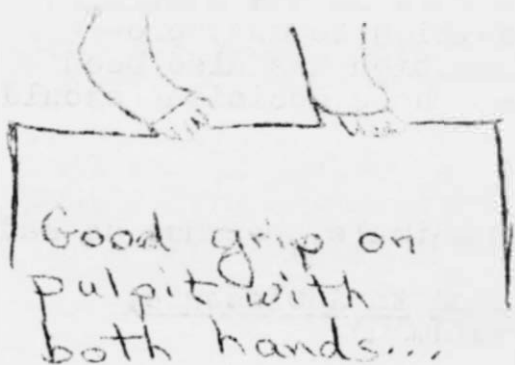
Dedicated to the Intro. to Preaching Classes



I'd better go through a safety check before I start to give my sermon.



Let's see... both feet planted firmly on floor



Good grip on pulpit with both hands...



...And head low enough to suck thumb in case nothing else works.