

Table Talk

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



VOLUME XII

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Issue #10

ACCREDITATION GROUPS REVIEW

SEMINARY PROGRAMS

This week representatives of two higher-education accreditation groups are visiting Gettysburg Seminary for periodical review of the academic programs. The Middle States Association, a college and university accreditation agency, has sent six representatives for its five-year review; the agency conducts such reviews at five-year intervals, with its major review conducted every ten years. The Association of Theological Schools, a seminary accreditation agency, has sent two representatives to study the D.Min. program in particular; this visit is a follow-up to their first visit in June, 1974.

Representing the MSA are: Mr. D. Campbell Wyckoff, faculty member at Princeton Seminary; Father Fred Krause, faculty of the Washington Theological Coalition; Mr. Robert Matthews, librarian at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore; Dr. Norman Steinfeldt, faculty at Manhattanville College; Mr. Dale Lund, president of Midland Lutheran College in Nebraska and chairperson of the group; and Dr. Warren Evans, Penn. State Department of Education. Dr. Evans also represents the State Accreditation Board, which has granted

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DR. PEERY VISITS

We have recently been fortunate enough to have with us Dr. William Peery, Professor of Systematic Theology and Indian Religions, at the United Theological College (seminary), Bangalore India. Dr. Peery will soon be finishing a year's furlough in the U.S., the first nine months of which have been spent as a "missionary-in-residence" with the South Carolina Synod.

Not unexpectedly, Dr. Peery reports that there continues to be a number of misconceptions about the mission field today and the work of our missionaries abroad. Missionaries today are not all working "out in the 'bush' among the heathens". The mission field today emphasizes growth in a qualitative as well as quantitative sense. There is no longer talk of "making the world Christian in our generation", these days--missionaries are still spreading the gospel to the non-Christians, of course, but they are also concerned with deepening the understanding of those already within the fold.

This is the area in which Dr. Peery is working. In the community in which he lives in Bangalore there are a number of "very mature" Christians, some of whose families have been Christian

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Accreditation, cont.

provisional acceptance of the D.Min. program; official acceptance of the program by the State of Pennsylvania depends on this board. The MSA group is looking at four major areas of seminary activity: the Lutheran House of Studies, finances, the D.Min. program, and the future of the seminary; secondary areas of investigation include field ed., library, and curriculum.

Representing the ATS of D.Min. study are: Dr. Marvin Taylor, ATS staff; and Dr. Robert Baker, faculty at Southwest Baptist Seminary in Ft. Worth, Texas. All of these representatives have spent the week looking at various aspects of seminary activities, including interviews with students, faculty, and administration. On Monday, two representatives of MSA travelled to Washington to visit the House of Studies program and meet with Dr. Heikkinen. On Wednesday evening, both groups had dinner with the Executive Committee of the seminary Board of Directors. Oral presentation of the findings of both groups will be given on Thursday morning, with final written reports to be sent to the seminary at a later date. No surprises are expected on either side; said Mr. Wyckoff, "With a seminary as established and settled as Gettysburg, we expect to have no difficulties with our review."

Dr. Peery, cont.

For four, five generations or more. (And who, incidentally, have very little knowledge about their non-Christian neighbors as a result of it.) Dr. Peery characterizes his particular role at the seminary along the lines of helping the Indian Christian community better understand their relationship with God, with each other, and with their non-Christian brothers. This is certainly a far cry from the stereotyped picture of the missionary that many of us still have in this country.

Because of its own particular historical situation and development, the Indian Christian church today is, of course, in many ways different from the church with which most of us are familiar. One quite positive difference, Dr. Peery believes, is the general feeling among Indian Christians that they are part of one universal church. Certainly the high degree of co-operation among the different Christian denominations within India these days encourages this attitude. Other developments are much more doubtful, however, such as the growing debate among Indian Christians as to the necessity of baptism. Dr. Peery says that there are many in India who accept Christ as their Lord and Savior but who do not join the church because of the often harsh sanctions (social and otherwise) which are imposed upon one who "officially" admits his belief through baptism.

Dr. Peery made it quite clear that these sanctions, though undeniably a fact, were nevertheless quite unofficial. Much of
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Dr. Peery, cont.

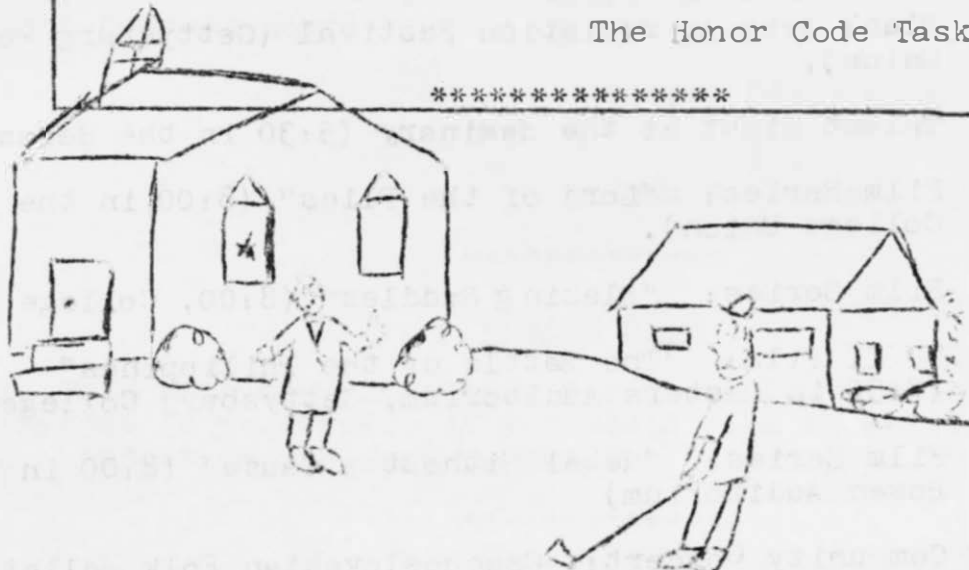
it has to do with the caste system still in effect in India, apparently, and Dr. Peery saw some analogies with the racial situation in many churches in this country.

The "official" government policy, on the other hand, is quite generous. Missionaries have "complete freedom to preach the gospel wherever they want," he says, adding that this freedom has been not at all effected by the recent political troubles within that country. He noted that at a recent synod meeting of the Church of South India (a native "union church") strong political opinions were openly voiced with no governmental reprisals anticipated or received. On the whole, Dr. Peery sees the Indian Christian community as strong and vital, and is optimistic about the future.

NOTICE: STUDENTS TO VOTE ON HONOR BOARD

During the week of April 5-9, a referendum will be conducted among the student body concerning adoption of the proposed Honor Board. Each student will receive a copy of the revised proposal and the details of voting procedure by Monday, April 5. We urge you to carefully read and consider this proposal and to participate in this important decision by casting your vote. Questions should be directed to members of the Honor Code Task Force: Dwight Penas, Chris Price, Mr. Bream, and Lee Penvose.

The Honor Code Task Force



"See here, Dexter, it's bad enough that you didn't get to church today!"

SPORTS MENU

--Harold Hand

With the basketball season about to reach a conclusion, the Seminary team can be proud of its record, 5 wins, 9 losses. There is one game left against the Gettysburg National Bank on April 5. Victories this season came mostly in the second half against the Bank, T&S Outlet, and 3 wins against the Foursquare Gospel Church. A victory against the Bank next week would give us a stronger hold on fourth place and the most wins in a season certainly in the last few years. Support of players, fans, and our various coaches helped to make this a most successful basketball season.

With the warm days we are now enjoying, softball season has an early start. Teams B and C have posted wins over teams A and D respectively. It is good to see so many players out this year to enjoy the fun and exercise. Hopefully, we'll be able to play a good number of games in the time remaining, that is, if the weather holds out.

SCORES:

Team B--12, Team A--7
Team C--18, Team D--9

ADIAPHORA

- April 1-3 Black Arts Appreciation Festival (Gettysburg College Union).
- April 2 Talent Night at the Seminary (5:30 in the Refectory).
Film Series: "Lord of the Flies" (8:00 in the College Union).
- April 4 Film Series: "Blazing Saddles" (8:00, College Union).
- April 7 WW II Film: "The Battle of the Philippines" (7:30 in Masters Auditorium, Gettysburg College).
- April 8 Film Series: "Rebel Without A Cause" (8:00 in Bowen Auditorium)
- April 9 Community Concert: Czechoslovakian Folk Ballet (8:00 in the College Union)
- April 14 Foreign Film Series: "A Very Curious Girl" (7:30 in Bowen Auditorium)

DOC PHELADITCH SITS IN ON "WORSHIP"

or

JENSON ON THE SACRAMENTS

"'Sacrament' includes, but is by no means limited to, the olefactoral communication of non-olefactoral grace. This is of primary importance, because were grace indeed olefactoral, then we would inevitably arrive at the regrettable formula 'grace smells.' 'Smells like what?' 'Well, you see, that is precisely the sort of question we ought not to be asking in the first place! If it communicates the gospel, SNORT BOLDLY!'"

BIBLI-TRIV

This week: Mountains

1. Noah's ark came to rest on Mt. _____ . (Gen. 8:4)
2. Yahweh gave Moses the law on Mt. _____ . (Ex. 19ff)
3. Esau and his descendants had possession of Mt. _____ . (Deut. 2:1-5)
4. Moses died on Mt. _____ . (Deut. 34:1)
5. Aaron died on Mt. _____ . (Num. 20:28)
6. Saul died on Mt. _____ . (I Sam. 31:1)
7. Before meeting Sisera, Deborah and Barak gathered their troops at Mt. _____ . (Jud. 4:6-12).
8. Forced to flee Jerusalem, David went to Mt. _____ and prayed. (II Sam. 15:30)
9. Mt. _____ was considered the holy mountain of Yahweh. (Ps. 48:1-2)
10. At Elijah's command, Ahab gathered the prophets together at Mt. _____ . (I Kings 18:20).

Nebo
Hor
Ararat
Zion
Carmel

Sinai
Olivet
Bilboa
Seir
Tabor

SESQUITENIAL MINUTES

In our last issue we introduced the seminary constitution adopted by the board of directors in March, 1826, and presented the sixth and ninth articles which dealt with students and beneficiaries respectively. We now continue with that document, presenting below the fourth article:

Course of Study, Examinations and Vacations.

Sect. 1. The regular course of instruction and study in the Seminary shall embrace the following branches: Greek and Hebrew Philology, Sacred Geography, Sacred Chronology, Biblical and Profane History connected, Jewish Antiquities, Philosophy of the Mind, Evidences of Christianity, Biblical Criticism, Exegetical Theology, Biblical Theology, Systematic Divinity, Practical Divinity, Ecclesiastical History, Polemic Theology, Church Government, Composition and Delivery of Sermons, and Pastoral Theology.

2. The time requisite for a complete course of study is three years: though Students may be received for a shorter time.

3. Each Student, who has the necessary physical and mental capacity, will be expected to pay a reasonable attention to sacred music.

4. At the close of each session, there shall be a regular examination of all the classes on the studies of that session, conducted by the Professors, in the presence of such of the Directors, and other literary gentlemen as may be present. And at the close of their course, the senior class shall in like manner be examined on all the studies of the whole course. The theses of the senior class, shall be assigned them by the faculty, three months before the time when they are to be publicly defended.

5. Particular attention shall be paid to the German language and the course of studies shall be so regulated, that a due portion of them may be pursued in the German language by all students who wish.

6. There shall be two vacations in each year, of six weeks continuance each. The first shall commence on the Wednesday before the third Thursday in May, and the second on the last Wednesday of September, in each year.

7. All students shall be in their respective rooms during study hours, and no Student shall be absent from recitation or lecture, without having previously obtained the permission of the officiating Professor.

8. Every Student shall be required to read an original composition, on such subject as the Professors may appoint, at least once a month in the junior year, once in three weeks in the second year, and once in two weeks in the senior year. And once a month during the whole course, each Student shall commit to memory a piece of his own composition, and pronounce it before the Professors and Students.

POTSHOTS '76



WHAT'S UP, DOC?