



THE SEMINARIAN

The Festival of the Reformation

OCTOBER 31, 1960

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The cover for this issue is the work of Fred Preuss. He has copied an old woodcut, c. 1550, which shows Frederick the Wise and Martin Luther at prayer.

EDITORIAL

The first issue of the Seminarian is often eagerly awaited by both faculty and student body. But there may be some disappointment concerning the meager amount of material contained in this issue. There are two reasons for this situation. The first is that we assigned articles to two men who were involved in the ULCA convention. After we had visited the convention, we realized that these men could hardly be expected to write creatively under such conditions. We apologize for our oversight.

There is a second reason, however, for which we cannot be held responsible...that is, the apparent reluctance of students to express themselves in public. We are aware, of course, of the embarrassment which can result from exposing ones ideas in print. But if your opinions are never thrust into the open while you are here, how will you be able to do this eventually in a less sympathetic atmosphere?

This publication has one reason for its existence: to act as the medium for the expression of your beliefs and opinions. We would like to emphasize the pronoun 'your', because the impression may have been conveyed that all contributors must adhere to some unwritten, orthodox policy. This is erroneous. We do not tell you what you can or cannot say. Your freedom of speech is respected. We cannot be responsible for what you say, but we will defend your right to say it.

INFORMATION PLEASE

Why should we waste our time worrying about Red China, it's 3,000 miles away? There's no sense getting worked up about a nuclear war, any country that starts one would be committing their own suicide. Why should we be concerned with foreign policy...that's the job of the government. What in heaven's name do these things have to do with seminarians?

In a few years the majority of us will be assuming the obligations and responsibilities of a parish minister. One of the major responsibilities which we will face will be to keep ourselves well-informed of the world situation. Recognizing the demands of a parish on a minister's time, I should like to anticipate, in this series, some of the problems which we shall have to be informed about and thereby stimulate some interest in them while time for study is more ample. The first of these articles concerns the Chinese problem, particularly what has come to be known as "Red China".

A Challenge from the Orient

The day is dawning when we shall have to recognize the growing problem confronting us in China and Asia...growing in terms of both world power and population. In a little over a decade since the Peking regime has been in power on the mainland of China, the world has witnessed the beginning of the most startling of revolutions in all history. We have seen a weak nation being welded into one of the most engulfing totalitarian societies in the world. The accomplishments of this regime have exceeded even those of the Soviet Union in the first ten years of its rule. The influence of such a tremendous rate of growth upon the weaker and underdeveloped nations of the world, particularly of Asia, is only

beginning to be measured and will, undoubtedly, in the future have very real and far-reaching implications and consequences.

Another factor which must be taken into consideration and which has more tangible evidence is the growth of the population of the Chinese. At the present time there are some 650 million people on the mainland with such a high rate of increase that the estimate for 1980 is one billion people, a figure which is almost unbelievable. Thus, although the United States has proclaimed a policy of "non-recognition", we must recognize the existence of this very definite reality which does exist, which is striving for world power and which is influential.

The Peking regime is today convinced that it is one of the world's major powers and they are determined to do all that they can to prove it. There can be no doubt in anyones mind that they will use any and all means to achieve their goals, for their policy is one of extreme flexibility which can be changed at any time to whatever will best serve their desires.

Wince the Chinese Communist Revolution in 1949 the Peking Regime under Chairman Mao Tse-tung has been able to develop an economy which is both modernized and industrialized. This has been accomplished through the program which is known as the "Great Leap Forward", an attempt to mobilize the human resources of China to the maximum degree in order to develop agriculture and industry. In carrying out this program, the entire population of China has been regimented and disciplined to meet the government's demands. One of the factors involved in this regimentation has been the institution of what is called "communes". This is the nationwide communization of villages in which male and female are thrown together, without any regard for family ties into townships with an average membership of about 5,000 families. These

"hisiangs", as the Chinese call them, are organized along military lines into production brigades and teams for work in agriculture and industry, as well as for other functions. Thus, one can readily see that the Chinese Communist leaders are determined to forge ahead as rapidly as possible despite all barriers, difficulties and costs which this "Great Leap Forward" will bring to bear upon the Chinese people. Who can measure the impact which a doctrine for economic development will have upon the people of the under-developed countries of the world?

Besides being engaged in domestic industrialization and growth, the Chinese Communists are also making notable advances in the fields of Foreign Trade and Aid. In the sphere of economic competition both Moscow and Peking have proclaimed that they can out-produce the West. For this reason trade and aid are very important aspects of both bodies of government. In the words of Soviet Premier Krushchev: "We value trade least for economic reasons and most for political purposes". Communist China has been constantly expanding her trade and aid with other countries, particularly the under-developed nations. The foreign trade of Communist China had doubled a decade after 1949 and is now greater than during any other Chinese regime. At the present time Communist China is carrying on trade with such countries as Burma, Cambodia, Ceylon, Cuba, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaya, North Korea, Pakistan, Sarawek, Taiwan, Thailand and the Philippines. With regard to aid, it is notable, in spite of the strains placed upon Communist China, that they are supplying more aid than they are receiving. Since 1956 the government on the mainland of China has been extending aid to non-Communist countries, especially those of Cambodia, Ceylon, Egypt and Nepal. It has been supplying large quantities of manufactured consumer and capital goods as well as raw materials, including some

items which the Chinese must import themselves. Technical assistance has also served as a major part of their aid programs, especially to the surrounding Communist Bloc countries of North Korea, North Vietnam and Outer Mongolia.

In any discussion of the country of Communist China the question of the relationship between Russia and Communist China is always bound to arise. Some of the more optimistic people than myself have stated that the two powers will eventually clash and thereby cause the disintegration of one or the other. Even more optimistically, some say that the entire Communist system will be destroyed. Evidence in recent months might lead us to believe that the clash has already begun, but within the past few weeks the wind seems to be blowing in the other direction and the Chinese-Soviet "weatherguide" has once again turned to "warmer". Recently Premier Krushchev and Chairman Mao have referred to their friendship as "eternal, inviolable, fraternal". Before we become too optimistic about the possibilities of the alliance breaking or relations becoming estranged, we should bear in mind the fact that both countries would have to pay a high price for such action. On the one hand, Peking would have to give up many of its major aims in Asia and would be surrounded by the unfriendly Soviet Union. On the other hand, Moscow's strategy toward the non-western world might be seriously undermined should its main ally in Asia repudiate the alliance.

A final remark which I should like to discuss concerns the subject of religion in Communist China. Buddhism has the largest following of any of the religions practiced in Communist China. Confucianism, which reveres God but stresses ethical and philosophical principles rather than divine revelation, also has wide acceptance. At the last report Islam had an approximate membership of 50,000,000 persons. There were 3,280,000

Roman Catholics and 700,000 Protestants. How reliable these figures are today is quite another question, for it is very difficult to assess what has happened with regard to religion under the policies of the Communists who do not tolerate religion. One can undoubtedly be certain that there has been much suffering for the faith on the part of many on the mainland of China.

Although much more could be written about Communist China, I hope that I have been able in this limited space to point out the challenge which we will be facing in the form of Communist China. The full impact of this threat to the world and to Christianity has yet to be felt, but when that time comes much will depend on whether or not we are informed and can speak with intelligence to our people concerning the problem.

ON PREACHING

When you are going to preach, first speak to God and say: "Dear Lord, I would preach for thine honor, I would speak of thee, praise thee, and glorify thy name. Though I cannot do it well, do thou make it good." Don't think of Philip, Bugenhagen, me, or any other learned men, but consider that you are the most learned of all when you speak from the pulpit. I have never been troubled because I cannot preach well, but I have often been afraid and awed to think that I have to preach before God's face of his great majesty and divine being. Therefore only be strong and pray.

Table Talk, Martin Luther

TWO BOARDWALK SPLINTERS AND A GEM

Vox Ecclesiae in Convento

"Number seven, please, number seven, please turn on microphone number seven, yes Mr. Schmdtheimer you don't look like yourself, are you putting that in the form of a motion, do I hear a second, hi there Charlie, how's the wife and kids, got a big program going in my church, people are giving like crazy, want to know the secret, look there's that fellow from Ohio, low church I guess, quiet here comes one of the big wheels, fourthly let me state that the problem goes much deeper than this. Hope I can make devotions tomorrow, Pinochle tonight at eight, wow are the meals expensive and they want a tip too, what a honky-tonk place this is, sorry only delegates on the floor, crazy New Jersey laws, can't take beer out on Sunday, sorry have to get to a rehearsal, late already, going home tonight, got an important meeting, let me know what happened, plaster statues, good grief, sure it's nice, red and black ink, but they left the chants out of it, what do you mean the pamphlets cost 75 cents, they ought to be free for delegates, don't we have to know what is going on, some people ought to know what they're doing."

Visum Ecclesiae in Convento

Rotating stewardship displays, Lamb Awards, stacks of books, lots of books, register here, bowties, feet sprinting down the boardwalk to the next session dodging rolling chairs and the Hardware Manufacturers, blue ribbons, red ribbons, gold ribbons, green ribbons, no ribbons at all. Christian love intermingled with parliamentary procedure, drunk delegates, billboard art, silver cups, religious hotplates, white ribbons, blue books, hot dog stands, welcome signs and free pretzels. Cross-

word puzzles, George Beverly Shea records, lots of desk copy tracts, dirty rugs, crowds from all over, cigarette butts, black suits, palm plants, salt water taffy, doormen, and pectoral crosses. The ocean was pretty.

Cantus Ecclesiae in Convento

"Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace for evermore;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest."

CN READING

It is not many books or much reading that makes men learned; but it is good things, however little of them, often read, that make men learned in the Scriptures and make them godly, too. Indeed the writings of all the holy fathers should be read only for a time, in order that through them we may be led to the Holy Scriptures. We are like men who study the signposts and never travel the road. The dear fathers wished, by their writings, to lead us to the Scriptures, but we so use them as to be led away from the Scriptures, though the Scriptures alone are our vineyard in which we all ought to work and toil.

"An Open Letter to the Christian Nobility"
Martin Luther

IT'S ALL IN THE MIND

D--- it, he's still in the head. You'd think these people would have more sense. Well, off to the refectory... What garbage! How can anyone make such greasy eggs? Not many people in the world would put up with such a breakfast, but I guess we all must sacrifice... Wonder what he's going to lecture on this morning. Boy, sure got a lot of notes. I'll have to look 'em over sometime before the exam. Hey! That's something. I never thought of... God did it because he loves me. Really am glad I can learn all this stuff... trouble is it makes a lot of sense when he says it, but every once in a while I think and get all confused. Probably isn't important anyhow... besides it ain't the kind of stuff you can preach. Think of all those poor slob fundies; they don't know none of this stuff.. D---, was that Buber or Outhouse? Doesn't matter... I'll get it later. Yes, sir, love... that's what it is... love. Might as well go to chapel; I'll have to read there soon anyhow.. Get back in the swing of things... He's too loud. Eye contact... no eye contact. Wonder what he thinks he's doing anyhow!?. Got a fair voice, but he doesn't know how to use it. Can't quite make out what he's saying. Sounds a little like the Old Testament or maybe the Pentateuch. Swinging arms... what an oaf. If he's going to bow his head, why doesn't he do it right? There's a sick prayer if I ever heard one... sounds like he's reading it. Wonder what slop we got tonight? Butter please. Seconds... Well, it wasn't a bad day. Sure is a good feeling to sit back and look at all those nice books. Cost a lot. Them guys at G-berg never read books. Nice covers, too. Got to get to 'em this summer. Sure am happy that I got this assignment... \$20. D--- good money. 'Course, I work for it... exegeting and all that, Maybe I can get it ripped off by noon Saturday. Need a few more scheckels for the little old___. Bet sacrifice would make a good theme. Maybe even a good sermon. That's the trouble with Protestants today... no sacrifice. Wonder if those clods will expect me to teach Sunday School too?

WIVES' CLUB NEWS

The opening event of the Fall season was the welcoming tea held on September 18. This event was well attended by incoming wives, faculty wives and regular members.

Wives, husbands and over a dozen children took Pot Luck together at a supper held on September 27. About 80 of us had a real family night out.

We learned some revealing and interesting facts on the duties of the minister's wife on October 19, when Mr. and Mrs. Stump and Mrs. Donald Helfrich spoke to us.

A Halloween party and square dance was sponsored jointly with the Seminary Student Body on October 28 in the refectory.

Coming events are:

Nov. 17: Creative workshop to make gifts for the children at one of our Lutheran institutions... meeting in Ascension Church basement.

Nov. 29: "Integration in the Church"- Rev. Orval T. Hartman, Sec'y of Urban Church on Board of American Missions; Dr. William Lazareth and Rev. Donald Moyer... husbands and single students invited... Ascension Church.

Dec. 9: Christmas dance and party

Dec. 15: Advent Vespers