

CAMPUS COMMENTARY

by Sam

SECOND SYMPOSIUM ANNOUNCED

Thursday night provided the seminarians a time for real rejoicing: the Angels posted a 33-29 overtime victory in basketball against the student nurses of Lankenau. In a hard-fought ridiculous game with much cheering from the sidelines (including "Bumblebee, Bumblebee, sting that awful referee!") the superiority of the visitors (ie. Mt. Airy) was occasionally evident.

It was noted by this reporter, however, that the game -- played using girls' rules -- was a bit cautious. In an interview with coach Reitz (pronounced 'rights') it was learned that "the reason we played a cautious game was that we didn't want anyone to foul out." P.S. They didn't, although a few of the Angels were almost knocked out.

---We were pleased to have as our visitor on campus for Saturday and part of Sunday Bishop Schneemann of the German Lutheran Church. His arrival was an occasion for many pictures to be taken, and general celebration. Unfortunately, his visit came to an abrupt end when because of "such a hot Sunday" he lost his head and fell to pieces. The ceremonies for consecration et al. were necessarily cancelled. At the time of writing the last remains of the bishop were observable on the north side of the campus drive.

This Thursday evening, February 8th, at 7:30 p.m. in room 1 of Hagan Hall the symposium committee will present its second program of the year. The subject of the symposium, Funeral Customs, is not only of great importance, but also useful in providing valuable insights into one aspect of the Ministry. In the course of the symposium such matters as the value of present funeral customs and the relation of the pastor to the funeral director will receive attention.

The members of the panel are the Rev. Norman K. Bakken of Mt. Airy, acting as moderator, Dr. John W. Doberstein also of Mt. Airy, Mr. Paul Krause of the Marple Funeral Home, and Dr. John D. Newpher, pastor of Christ Church in Oreland.

As usual, a question-and-answer period will follow the formal discussion, after which the evening's program will be concluded over a cup of coffee.

Students, wives, faculty, and guests are welcome.

William G. Rusch,
Chairman

NOTA BENE: The lines entitled "dododekatos" below were submitted under the nom de plume (we hope) of mll yvn. The submitter assured us in his cover note that his ancestors will hold no curse against us for printing this hagiographon.

dododekatos

life is a nightmare with a god sedative
freedom is not a right but a situation
the Son will disclose great ideas relevant to the functioning
of the social order
unclear language and complex words lead to death
man can never realize life while he lives it
living is fighting faith is fighting not fighting man can't find faith
make a city but never plow in it
man is ethical only from fear
religion being equated with consciousness is equated as intuition
religion is the escape from the unconscious
healing religious experience is simply very real illusion

---mll yvn

UNITY

Thanks to Bell & Howell, TV had one of its brighter moments last Tuesday. The hour-long show on the ecumenical movement was uninterestingly handled at some points, but on the whole proved complete and informative.

The coverage of the New Delhi council gave great insight into the tenor and attitudes of that particular level of ecumenical work. But wisely the program continued, to show the less widespread and less "official" aspects of the movement. These are the real strength and vanguard of the trend toward unity; they cannot be dismissed.

The monastery at Taize is a good example of the significant progress which is being made beyond the work of the WCC. Certainly the very institution of Protestant monasticism, even with its Reformation roots, is an important witness to a unity which exists at the deepest levels of all the churches. And also from this piety and social concern come many contacts at a personal level which make for better understanding on both sides. The role of Protestant monasticism in the ecumenical trend can be seen at Darmstadt too, where over 40 Lutheran sisters constitute the "Ecumenical Sisterhood of Mary." We shall say more later about these groups of "religious" which are springing up in many areas of Protestantism.

Another comment-worthy part of the program was the Roman Catholic theologian's statement that nothing concerning faith and morals would be compromised for unity. We would heartily agree, but not while ignoring the fluidity of interpretation which exists in all Christian theologies. Even though it is much more conservative, Roman theology changes too - not just increases but actually changes, through the reinterpretation of the old formulas. That this is true I cannot prove here, but I refer you to an article by George Lindbeck, a Lutheran professor at Yale, in the Fall 1961 issue of Cross Currents, in which this observation of the change in Roman theology is documented.

George Weckman

THE FIRST ENCYCLICAL

Old systematic systems are tottering; economic structure of all modern refectories is in great jeopardy church attendance at Matins is decreasing and the cost of living is increasing. Because of this dire situation we have found it necessary to proclaim THE FIRST ENCYCLICAL -- the first of a series. The better the teaching of this encyclical is grasped, and the more faithfully it is lived up to, the less secure will be the financial situation of the seminary and of the Slater System, and the more secure will be the ancient institution known as the coffee break.

This encyclical is to be known commonly as The Doctrine of the Eternal Second Cup and The Doctrine of the Everlasting Other Doughnut:

WHEREAS: Cannon Law states that one cup of coffee is to cost 10¢ and a second cup of coffee is to cost 5¢.

BE IT HEREBY DECREED, that we being guided by pure selfishness and cheapness, and after having considered all possible ways of saving dinero, that after the initial purchase of a cup of coffee in early September, that all following cups of coffee are to be considered as part of the series of the eternal second cup (Effective September 1968).

AND WHEREAS: Cannon Law states that one doughnut costs 8¢ and two cost 15¢.

BE IT HEREBY DECREED, under the same guidance as above, that after someone else buys one doughnut, than it must follow that you buy the "other" doughnut - and therefore that the essence of this doughnut must be "otherness" and hence must cost 7¢ (cf. Cannon Law #2415-148 on Positive Logic) (Effective September 1968).

Given at St. Melchior's in South Dorm, the 7th day of February, DCCLXII, the seventeenth hour of our coffee break.

Signed and Sealed
S. S.

NWXT WEEK: S.S. presents Part III of the Pastor's Reading: Practical Theology-Liturgio and the Arts