



the **SEMINARIAN** •••••

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DR. FRY VISITS MT. AIRY

The presence yesterday of Dr. Franklin Clark Fry created quite a stir on campus. It was indeed a day of unusual activity. Representatives from the Western Penna.-West Virginia Synod were here to interview their men. Huddled in the Faculty-Board room of Hagan Hall were members of the Board of Directors and faculty men, meeting to discuss, among other things, the decision of whether to re-locate the campus or not, academic policies, and curriculum changes. But by far the greatest excitement among the students was caused by the visit of Dr. Fry. We regret that the only sight the majority of us had of him was in the refectory during the lunch hour. Perhaps time might have been set aside during the day for Dr. Fry and students to meet and exchange ideas. For example, it might have been most interesting to hear from our President what the Church is expecting from her seminaries; what, if any, changes the merger will make in the way of subjects studied. Also, what his impressions are of the seminary (we believe his statements recently published in a non-Lutheran journal are untrue) after nearly forty years in the ministry. At any rate, we recognize that exigencies of time probably did not permit the opportunity for a meeting between Dr. Fry and the student body. We are indeed proud of Dr. Fry's association with our seminary. He is a recognized world figure and churchman, a dedicated and moving force in the Lutheran Church, both here and throughout the world.

Wesley Hamlin

SEBASTIAN SEMINARIAN REPORTS...INTRODUCING A NEW SERIES.

I am happy to introduce a new series of articles being especially prepared for this column. The nature of the series is apologetic -- but it is not from the Lutheran standpoint. Believing that the Seminary provides us with a solid foundation of Lutheran systematic and practical theology, it was believed worthwhile to look at other denominations with regard to their thought and practice.

Therefore, each week a different major denomination will be represented in this column, with the writing being done by someone who has been or currently is a member of that denomination. The approach therefore is subjective, and will not necessarily be definitive, although it is hoped that the column will give us some idea as to current positions within these denominations.

Areas to be covered, although not always the same areas each week, will include worship, doctrine of the church and ministry, the sacraments, the Bible, ethical action, personal piety and witness, and relation to other denominations.

Comments and suggestions for the series will be received by me - Sebastian Seminary -- in the Seminarian office.

And away we go...

FOOTNOTES

Perhaps you too have been hearing some criticism of our church's magazine THE LUTHERAN. Well I, for one, want to commend those responsible for their courage to undertake so radical and inspired an approach to the question of denominational publication - let us give credit where credit is due!

Do you know of any other group of people in the whole world who are willing to admit that their average mentality or educational level is at tops adolescent. What manly Christian honesty is ours when we square when we square with ourselves as we forgo the world's vain struggle for sophistication and intellect!

And the theological propriety of this kenosis of the mind of the church is obvious. How so like Christ's own incarnation is the theologians descent to the common man - both leave those unapproachable, not-really-to-be-thought-about heights so that the actual honest-to-goodness heart of the average thoughts will be met.

If anyone dares to protest this incarnation shout to him of the necessary offense and the stone-of-stumbling. People who devote themselves to intellectual or technical advancement are surely trying to win their own salvation. We stand firm in our conviction - and we will demonstrate it at every opportunity - that God saves us because we are sinners, incompetent and unenlightened. God forbid that we should obscure this precious Gospel with a display of the world's journalistic talents, artistic craft, or inconvenient ideas.

Let the congregations and Christians take a lesson here in stewardship too. Our journal is patently inexpensive. Staff writers can turn out the type of material used faster than anything of more pretension, and their services are valuable long after they have entered their blessed senility.

I am sure that the appearance of this new LUTHERAN has been the source

of renewed piety in our church. Do you not, as I, fall on your knees in prayer to God for his Church when you see each

George Weckman

SENIOR BANQUET PLANS TAKING SHAPE

The Middler Class Banquet committee is pleased to report that progress is being made in plans for the senior banquet. As of today, the following things are definite. Date: April 26, 1963; Time 5:30; Organ Recital: 6:00; Vespers-6:30 the Banquet; following the banquet a dance will be held. Place: St. John's Lutheran Church, Mayfair. We are happy to report that Dr. Edmund Steimle has agreed to be banquet speaker.

In accordance with the will of the student body (referendum of Oct. 11, 1962) each student must pay his own way. Dinner will be prepared and served by the Slater system. Details pertaining to the cost of the dinner are still being ironed out, but they should be forthcoming shortly.

Mark the date on your calendar: Friday, April 26...Senior Banquet. We hope that the entire community will participate in this event.

SUMMER PULPIT SUPPLY:

Requests for students to supply in pulpits this summer are now being received. Upon his return from the Easter vacation, each student will be asked to fill in a form listing his open Sundays. (Continued on page 3)

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It's Something Like A Club

It's something like a club. You know, you've probably all been a member of something called a club. I used to be in one myself. We even made a tree-hut and everyday after school we used to gather there and hold secret meetings. We would leave our bikes down the street and sneak through the woods to our tree. The meetings weren't really secret but we were a closed group and didn't want anyone else around. They were the uninitiated and couldn't share in our fellowship, now or ever.

But, it's something like a club. You know, you get a couple of guys together, you choose a leader and pick a place to meet. Then no matter what happens you take your stand with your leader because this fellowship is sacred. Even though you're all equal in this club, you still choose because everyone needs a leader. The leader is not really special but seems to be more gung-ho than the rest of you. Maybe he works in a soda store, or his mother might be willing to supply the club with cookies every once in a while, or maybe he has a Masters Degree, or something. And the others follow and listen because he's the leader.

But, it's something like a club, and because it is, it's got to be something secret. Things go on in the meetings which you just don't mention outside. You set up certain rituals to go through to reassure yourselves of your brotherhood and dedication. If anyone should not show up for one of the meetings, you wonder if he's fallen out or gone chicken.

But, it's something like a club, and I guess we all learn from our experiences, or at least we are supposed to. I guess also that we all have to pass through this stage where we are secret members of a special group assembled or called for a special purpose. But if we are to learn from our history and grow from it, why do we try to bring it back or seek to live in it?

It's a contemporary world with real people who have real problems and need real contemporary answers. Not an adaptation of some former "idealized" condition. We in fulfilling our task as ministers to these real people ought to know what these people seek and be able to give them the real answers.

Are we too insecure in this real world that we try to find security somewhere in the past because we can't conceive of the past ever having harmful effects on us today, or better yet, tomorrow.

But, it's something like a club and for a while it still carries the mystery and smoke of an irresistible fascination. But if it's got any real contemporary value these things will find themselves being replaced by a more mature understanding and outlook on those whom we will have to lead as ministers.

Russ McIntyre

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above article is printed this week because it was omitted from the last issue. It is the last of its type to be reproduced because: 1. it is a personal polemic; 2. it does not reflect the thinking of a large group; 3. it is written about a small group; and 4. the suppositions and allegations it makes are more imaginary than real.

Petty gripes or imagined grievances have no place in a publication for all students. Our duty is to present articles which pertain to the entire seminary and church community.

PULPIT SUPPLY (cont'd) We will then make preaching assignments from the Field Work office. The majority of our requests are for August and July, in that order. In previous years, we have had more requests than we can fill.

John P. Stump