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STUDENT BODY TAKES ACTION ON HOUSING

At the specially called Student Body meeting held last night, the following measures were ~~overwhelmingly~~ adopted:

1. The creation of a Student Housing Commission composed of two members of the Student Body and two members of the Wives Club appointed by their respective organizations in the Spring of the year for one year terms.

2. The Student Housing Commission shall establish and maintain an up to date Approved Housing List. The names of all landlords in the vicinity of the seminary who indicate they will not discriminate against a prospective tenant because of race or national origin, along with a brief description of the facilities they have available, shall be placed by the Student Housing Commission on the Approved Housing List.

3. The Student Housing Commission shall offer guidance to all members and prospective members of the seminary community desiring to rent in the vicinity of the seminary. This guidance shall consist of calling attention to the Approved Housing List and encouraging the selection of landlord and facilities from the Approved Housing List.

4. The Student Housing Commission shall use all means at its disposal to achieve its dual purposes of compiling and maintaining an Approved Housing List and of guiding members of the seminary community desiring to rent in the vicinity of the seminary.

It also adopted the following measure:

That all students and their families currently renting accommodations, be encouraged to speak to their landlords and seek to gain their active participation on the Approved Housing List, and that the Student Housing Commission request the active co-operation of the office of the registrar of the seminary in directing the attention of seminarians to the list.

ARCHAEOLOGIST TO SPEAK TOMORROW

Dr. David Noel Freedman, professor of Hebrew and Old Testament at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, will speak tomorrow about discoveries made in recent excavations at Ashdod, and again Friday on the use of the term "Messiah" in the Dead Sea Scrolls. Tomorrow's lecture will be at 3:30 in the basement of the chapel, and Fridays in the chapel at 10:15, following a short devotion.

Dr. Freeman has worked for the past two summers on the excavation of Ashdod, in Israel, and will illustrate his talk with slides from the site. The most notable find is an inscription referring to the Assyrian conquest under Sargon II, the first such discovery in Palestine.

ANTIGONE - FRIDAY NIGHT

The Mount Airy Players will present Anouilh's, Antigone, this Friday at 8:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Devon, Penna.

The Players will also present Antigone on March 6, at The Church of the Holy Trinity (Episcopal), Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, and on March 20, at The Lutheran Church of the Redemption, Rhawn Street and Bustleton Avenue, Philadelphia.

WELCOME NEW MEN

We extend a cordial welcome to the new students who have entered the seminary this quarter: Bill Walling, John Ganzle, and Willian Nives. These men, classified as Juniors, are taking their courses this quarter with the Senior Class.

Another newcomer to the community is Mr. Joseph Cooney, who is the new chef in the Refectory, replacing Tom Beers. Having had considerable experience in industrial kitchens, Mr. Cooney is a welcome addition to Mr. Heinbach's staff. We certainly welcome Mr. Cooney into our midst.

LENTEN DEVOTIONA:

A Devotion for Lent will be the Wednesday morning office today and next Wednesday, March 4.

Mt. Airy Seminary has again been invited to send a delegation of faculty and students to a Regional Conference for Theological Students. This Conference will be held in Atlantic City on Monday and Tuesday, March 23 and 24. The Conference is being held in conjunction with the United Auto Workers' Convention. Principal speakers will be President Lyndon Johnson and Walter Reuther. It is expected that all of the major theological schools in the Middle Atlantic area will be represented.

EDITORIAL

The Housing Issue

"Little boy blue, come blow your horn...the sheep are in the meadow and the cow is in the corn..." Regression on the part of the editor? Maybe. However, this little rhyme went through my mind during the course of last night's specially called Student Body meeting. For, last night strong and positive action was taken which has sounded the note that we as a group have taken a clear stand. These sounds will, hopefully, reverberate throughout the community and awaken those who have been slumbering.

The action was necessitated by discrimination in housing. The Executive Board of the Student Body studied the situation very carefully and then made the proposals which were presented for adoption last night. After healthy debate, the proposals with slight amendments were overwhelmingly adopted. (see Page 1 for the measures).

As President Fred Berkobin pointed out, the Student Housing Commission will approach landlords and ask their cooperation and will also aid new students and newly married who seek housing accommodations. Notice that no imperatives are given. A student does not have to rent from the Approved Housing List (he will be encouraged to do so) nor does a landlord have to agree to the measures (his name will not appear on the list in that event).

The steps taken last night are only the beginning of what should prove to be a genuine and positive witness to the community. Needless-to-say, some persons will be offended or hurt by our actions. But as Mr. Beck stressed (confirmed by Dr. Heineken who was in attendance at the meeting), love sometimes must take strange forms. For our basic motivation can only be that of love--a love which compels us to seek justice. This is not a lost cause as some would intimate--but a cause to which each one of us should give his wholehearted support. We have adopted the measures. Let us now act.

WH

The work at the tell is progressing nicely. The foundations of the mud-brick city wall (Iron II?) are being cleared off in preparation for planning and photographs. The large north staircase has been cleared from near the top of the tell to the bottom revealing 72 steps. (I fear I may win the pool with my guess of 78 steps. If I win, I must prepare a mansef, which involves buying rice and a sheep). We are anxious to find the end of the steps near the spring. These steps may reveal some special water system.

Two mud brick houses have been completely uncovered now. On one of the floors we thought we had some potter's clay. I carefully and lovingly scraped some into a bag and sent it away for analysis. We received a long, formal report about this strange substance. It was manure.

There is a lot of nice pottery turning up and some small objects such as iron pieces, alabaster, bronze pots, etc.

Dr. Robert Smith, from Wooster College, recently joined us. He is working on the lower "bench" of the tell which is thought to be mainly Early Bronze.

Dr. Lapp, the director of the American School, was out to visit us. He directed the operations at Ta'annack. He is going into the hills to excavate some caves in a place called Wadi Dali. Some interesting 3-4 century B.C. scroll fragments have been found there. The place is almost inaccessible and conditions are bad. They must dig in the cave through a heavy layer of bat dung. He is taking a few other Lutherans along with him to work on the project.

Besides digging we have other ways of keeping busy. The other night we walked over to another tell about a quarter of a mile away. There we collected sherds. They were mainly Bronze to Iron Age... It is amazing how fascinating this can be.

Two nights ago we had a real "night out on the town." Dr. Pritchard (who sends his regards to the faculty) took us all to the local cinema. We got the most expensive tickets (\$24). Before

movie we had Turkish coffee. We saw a dramatic movie from Egypt that showed the evils of lusting for money. It was quite exciting and the ending was happy.

Today was special because four of us got horses from the local village and rode home from the tell. It was a wonderful ride of more than four hours. We rode along the Jordan and saw it in all of its beauty.

By American standards this little river sounds insignificant and small, but the Bible has made it the most famous river in the world. Now a war may be fought over it. The Arabs are furious over the prospect of its waters being diverted by the Jews. My sympathy is with the Arabs. No people, friend or foe, has the right to take unilateral action affecting a river that flows through three or four other nations. There would be strong protests if Canada diverted the Columbia River without our consent. Such is the situation which the Arab countries face. The new Arab plans to divert the sources of the Jordan away from the Jews is a response to the actions of the Jews and it is something that has the approval of many more people and countries affected by the Jordan. This is the river that has flowed by tell Sa'edeyeh for thousands of years....

Regards to all,

Tom Mc Clellan

BOWLING "It Couldn't Be Done?"

After a week off the alley's, the teams of the E. B. L. made it back in full swing. Last Monday night, the aggressive Matthew team put the pressure on John to walk away with 3 of 4 points. Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the Luke five had one of their best nights of the season by upsetting Mark. After the smoke cleared, we found that Matthew had edged their way into the number one slot and Mark took second place. John and Luke maintained their undisputed positions, 3rd. and 4th. respectively.

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ON INSTITUTIONAL FEEDING

"The following is taken from "Hospital and School Feeding," Feb., 1963, and provides some insights into the characteristics of "institutional" feeding.

From my point of view, the major problem of institutional feeding is the fact that it is "institutional." Whenever a group of people are aggregated into an emotionally involved situation, brother, you've got trouble-- and more trouble as the number of people increases.

"Now, don't tell me eating is not an emotional situation. The consumption of food may be a physical act, but it's also over-charged with emotional under-currents ready to strike like lightning in a Kansas tornado.

"Given any hundred people who are meeting their gastro-intestinal needs around the same table, and you have a situation that does absolutely nothing to build up their individual egos. And if one or two egos of a group are deflated at meal time -- again, brother, you've got trouble. A few ruffled egos can turn the whole place into an uproar!

"A group of people eating the same food under the same roof three times a day is an emotionally charged group. Their situation invites animalistic snarls on the slightest provocation -- sometimes on no provocation. Some individuals insist it's hard enough just to maintain emotional tranquility when eating breakfast with a paper-screened husband, or hair-curlered wife -- to say nothing of a group of students, patients, or employees, many of whose eating habits wear, tear, and cut on anything vaguely resembling a tranquil state of mind.

"Believe me, I know. For one agonizing year, I had to eat three meals a day with college fraternity brothers: one slurped his coffee -- another talked with his mouth wide open after each fork load -- still another pushed his food around his plate in circular motions with his forefinger -- and one gluttonous nut ate like someone was out to swipe his plate if he came up for air. This gustatory environment prompted my ordinarily easy-going temperament to become belligerent towards not only the cook, the food, the waiters, the housemother, the dining room decor, and my fraternity brothers, but also the college, the professors, and the world in general. Many times I would skip the institutional feed-bag and buy a hot dog in the corner greasy spoon just to nurse my wounded ego by eating alone.

"Furthermore, everyone knows it's absolutely impossible to serve the same food to any one group of people and satisfy them all. In fact, there will always be a certain percentage who finds some item highly objectionable. The psychological hazard of serving a hungry person any food he dislikes has caused many a dietitian to book passage boat headed to China....."

Interesting sociology of dining halls!

BOWLING...

The "Man of the Night" was Cliff Stierle, who was also title holder two weeks ago. Cliff rolled a 216--the high game of the night. On Monday, he proved that that wasn't enough as he rolled up a 221. "Don't worry, the highest he can get is only 300."

There are only four more nights of bowling left. Since the games on Feb. 17 were postponed because of final examinations, the termination of the E.B.L. will be March 23 instead of March 16 as was previously announced.

Next week we include a list of the top men and their averages.

William Hamilton, The New Essence of Christianity (New York, The Association Press, 1961)

In this book, with a highly imposing title, Professor Hamilton sets out to deal with the problem of human suffering--a problem which he feels is the major barrier to faith in our time. He has learned from Bonhoeffer and Camus that "the special power of the problem of suffering is that it can really cut off in a man any capacity or wish to call out for the presence of God." From this angle, the irrelevance of the traditional Christian conceptions of the attributes of God appear in the inability of ascribing to this God any participation in, or concern with, human suffering. When God is proclaimed in the lofty, supra-worldly terms such as "almighty," "immutability," "infinite," etc., people are unable to see signs of his presence in the world and so pronounce him "dead." (This book pre-dates the more famous work by John Robinson, Honest to God).

Our author then tries to make a case for the relevance of the Biblical message of God's suffering love. According to Hamilton, the Incarnation means not only that God took upon himself human nature with all of its weakness, but that God also bore in his own nature the sufferings of mankind. Sounds Patristic! But, Prof. Hamilton says he has something else in mind. He is trying to follow up the daring language of Luther, Bonhoeffer, and others who inveighed against seeking God in the supra-worldly heights, and continually pointed to the suffering, dying, and quite human flesh of Jesus as the place where God is to be found. In this way, Hamilton tries to show that the sufferings of our age--and every age--are not alien to God.

The final and most interesting chapter attempts to describe the main features of a Christian "style of life" consonant with this view of Christ. Bonhoeffer's penetrating words, "Man is challenged to participate in the sufferings of God at the hands of a godless world" set the tone of the

The New Essence of Christianity...

discussion. Although the author has many good things to say, the basis for his judgments is not always as theologically "kosher" as one might hope--a fault of which he honestly admits. (p. 122).

One section which can cause one to raise his eyebrow is Hamilton's suggestion that Bonhoeffer's prison letters "can be read as the beginning of a of a systematic attempt to face the theological task by doing without a doctrine of the Church." (p. 106). Hamilton does point out, however, that several important European interpretations of Bonhoeffer's thought come to the opposite conclusion. At this point I would swing along with these other men. For one thing, the passage cited by Hamilton only indicates that Bonhoeffer was finished with "religion!" Bonhoeffer always sharply distinguished between "religion" and Christianity, "religious societies" and the Church. In the book on which Bonhoeffer was working just prior to his death, it is clear that he was trying to develop an interpretation of the Church that would be free from any connotation of a "religious society" and which would give it a form consistent with the Christology he had been developing. (cf. Letters from Prison, pp. 178-181)

With such an imposing title and the subject with which he deals, one is left a little disappointed at the lack of "meat" in the treatment. But, in light of the problem of human suffering, his familiarity with Bonhoeffer, and the issues brought to light by John Robinson, this book should be of interest to all theological students.

W. Hamlin

The SEMINARIAN is published weekly throughout the academic year by the Student Body of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(A STUDENT WIFE SPEAKS)

Although I am the wife of a seminarian and my place is undoubtedly the home, I feel compelled to comment on the letter to the editor in the last issue of the Seminarian.

From what I read in the newspaper and magazines and by the sound of things from the radio, T.V., pulpit and podium I am led to believe that we are living through a social revolution.

It would seem there are several solutions to the problems involved in such a revolution. 1) We can allow ourselves to be "beat over the head" as was implied we are doint them our response seems to be misinterpretation and misunderstanding. This, it would seem, only widens the chasm instead of solving the problem. 2) We can hind behind theological argument and jargon. Perhaps if we dig deep enough we won't feel the pressure. 3) We can, as Mr. Grove has suggested, face our problem (fear, prejudice, sin) and do something to solve them.

As can be readily seen there is not suggestion here of meeting the demands of the law. Mr. Wilhelm would have us believe this to be the only answer, that it will solve the problem and that love doesn't "work". My good man, if this be the case, why Christ?

From my recollection, Mr. Grove suggested that the church lead the way and not take a back seat. He does this in a commentary similiar to that found in any newspaper.

In 1951, the congregation to which I now belong intergrated. It is my understanding that this was done not out of fear, the demand of the law or a desire to perpetuate a reputation. This was before forced school integration, sit-ins, boycotts, and the like. This move was based on the vision and insight of a pastor who saw the mission of the church and translated that into deeds of love. A Christian's prayer can never be "bless me, for that's as far as I can see". This I believe was love at work and it brought a measure of success.

I agree with Mr. Wilhelm, Christ did not promise perfection. He did, however, promise the more abundant life. If this be the case why speculate the problems of perfection? Rather let's face the realities of our life. If Christ is the answer, and I believe He is, our social ills won't have to be sought out. They will be clear mandates.

Neither complacency nor blind submis-

sion will solve our problems. We must rather solve them ourselves by: 1) openly admitting to fear, prejudice, and hatred which is rooted in sin, 2) acceptance of Christ's forgiveness and strength, 3) use of our God given reason, and 4) live lives which reflect our conviction.

Perfection may be an impossibility but what is needed are more Christians who have the boldness to face themselves, the faith that Christ is the answer to man's woes, and the strength for our feeble efforts and lastly the courage of our convictions so that some small part of the life of love may be acheived by all.

Carol A. Stierle

CORNELL*MT. AIRY SEMINAR - MARCH 13

More information about this years seminar is now available. Dr. Tappert has informed us that he will not be in town on the date of the seminar and will not be able to participate and we are indeed sorry that we won't be able to have him with us. Mr. Lee has graciously consented to take over Dr. Tappert's position to represent the History Department on our panel. Once again, our panel members will be Dr. Heineken, Dr. Reumann, Mr. Sigel, and now Mr. Lee.

Representing the Cornell faculty will be:

John S. Harding, Ph.D., Professor of Child Development and Family Relations
Rose K. Goldsen, PH.D., Professor of Sociology

Dorthea C. Leighton, M.D., Professor of Clinical Psychiatry, Cornell Medical College and Senior Research Ass. Cornell Program and Social Psychiatry and Anthropology.

The Rev. John Lee Smith, Ph.D., Dir. for Studies at Cornell United Religious Work.

Our faculty has recommended the following book be read in preparation for the discussion on the theme: "The View of Man in Light of Modern Psychology" - Immortality of the Soul or Resurrection from the Dead, by Oscar Cullman.

We will welcome these distinguished members of the Cornell faculty on our campus, March 13th, the date for the seminar. Please keep this date open and plan to attend and participate.

Russell McIntyre, Chairman