



A publication of the Student Body of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

Volume XXVI

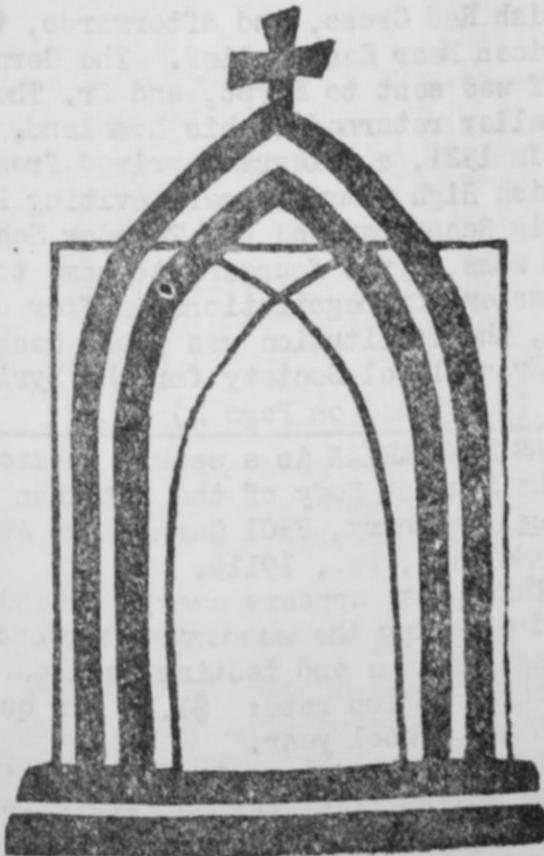
April 28, 1965

Number 28

Bookstore Sells Booklets on Theology in the Church

The Bookstore is now selling booklets entitled "The Nature and Place Of Theology in the Church." Included in the booklets are the Lutheran, Baptist, and Roman Catholic understandings of this problem. Each booklet costs thirty cents.

The papers in the pamphlet were presented at the "Day of Ecumenical Study" on February 10, 1965, at St. Mary's Seminary, Roland Park, Baltimore. Oscar Arnal, Ron Bohr, Paul Kokenda, Ron Lee, and Bodo Mischak drafted the Lutheran view which was presented then.



Symposium Presents Lutheran and Reformed Talks Program

On Monday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 1 of Hagan Hall the Symposium Committee will present a panel discussion on the topic of "Lutheran and Reformed Talks." Dr. Martin J. Heineken and Dr. Theodore G. Tappert of our seminary will join Dr. George S. Hendry of Princeton Theological Seminary in an informal discussion of theological issues.

These men have been meeting with other representatives of the Lutheran and Reformed traditions since 1963. Although these talks are not official and the participants have spoken only for themselves, areas of agreement and dissension have become evident.

The first of these talks was held in 1963 to consider the topic "Gospel, Scripture, and Confession." The second in the series was held in New York City in February, 1964. The subject selected was "Christology, the Lord's Supper and Its Observance in the Church." The third meeting, February 25-28, 1965, considered "Creation and Redemption, Law and Gospel" and "Justification and Sanctification, Liturgy and Ethic."

The papers that were presented in these talks have been published and are made available through the National Lutheran Council, 50 Madison Ave., N.Y.

In conjunction with the symposium, the Inter-Seminary Committee has invited a group of students from Princeton Theological Seminary to our campus. There will be opportunity to meet and talk to these students before the symposium presentation begins.

ROBERTS OUTLINES HISTORY OF SCHNELLER SCHOOL

Most of you have heard something about the Schneller School, especially if you were present at the last Student Body meeting. Yet, for most of you, the Schneller School remains obscure. All that is known is that some of our students serve there as teachers. This brief article attempts to remedy this situation.

Johann Ludwig Schneller, a missionary from Erpfingen, Wurttemberg, went to Jerusalem in 1854 to work for the "St. Chrischona Mission." In 1860, after the Bruze's massacre of Christians in Lebanon and Syria, Schneller went to Beirut and Sidon to help the refugees who had fled from this persecution. He asked France and England for assistance, and he was able to take ten boys back to Jerusalem with him to his little mission house built just outside the old city wall. This was the birth of the Syrian Orphanage which was later to be called The Johann Ludwig Schneller School.

The institution grew quickly. More orphans were accepted. A home for girls and the blind was opened. By 1890 there were over two-hundred children in the orphanage. In that year, Schneller succeeded in renting a large plot of farm land from the Turkish Government, which later was to be the site of a branch orphanage. But he never finished this task, for he died in 1896.

Johann Ludwig Schneller had set up the program for the institution, a program which is still largely followed to this day. The children were to be educated in a Christian spirit. They attended daily prayers in the morning and evening. They studied, not only in elementary classes, but also were trained in crafts, while the more gifted students continued their education in a teachers seminary. They had fixed working hours each day, either in the kitchen or the houses, or on the school farm.

In 1898 his son, Theodor Schneller, took over the institution. At this time new massacres of Armenian Christians broke out in the northeastern part of

Turkey. The Schneller School was asked to admit about one-hundred and forty Armenian boys who had lost their parents. The Evangelical Society for the Syrian Orphanage in Germany called upon all German Christians to help. In 1900 these boys were admitted. Many of these boys went through the teachers seminary and succeeded in building new lives in Palestine, Egypt, Germany, and even America.

In 1910, the institution celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Members from the three supporting boards (German, Swiss, and American) went to Jerusalem to conduct the celebration. From Jerusalem they traveled to Nazareth, where a plot of land had already been bought, to open a second branch of the Syrian Orphanage in Jerusalem. This was urgently needed, for there were over four hundred children on the waiting list. The corner stone for this new branch was laid in 1910 by Dr. Theodor Schneller.

The outbreak of World War I halted the work on this new site. It was the first of difficult times for the school. Famine broke out after the locusts devastated all the fields. In 1917, the British occupied Jerusalem, and the institution was handed over to the British Red Cross, and afterwards, to the American Near East Relief. The German Staff was sent to Egypt, and Dr. Theodor Schneller returned to his homeland.

In 1921, a telegram arrived from the British High Commissioner inviting Dr. Ludwig Schneller and Dr. Theodor Schneller, both sons of the founder, to come to Jerusalem for negotiations. After one week, the institution was given back to the Evangelical Society for the Syrian

(continued on Page 4)

THE SEMINARIAN is a weekly publication of the Student Body of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, 7301 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, Pa., 19119.

This paper appears every Wednesday morning during the academic year except during vacation and testing periods.

Subscription rate: \$1.50 per quarter; \$4.50 per school year.

Bob Peary, editor; Paul Payerchin, sports editor; Len Ashford, staff artist; Jack Denys, Walt Enquist, Ray Hittinger, Mike Merkel, Earl Werdelin, Dave Holmberg, and Al Waganan.

PILGRIMAGE OF A PREACHER TOPIC AT BANQUET

"The Pilgrimage of a Preacher: A Kind of Fable - Part One" will be the title of the speech by Pastor Earl Knaus at the Spring Banquet this Friday.

Pastor Knaus' life does seem almost like a pilgrimage. He returns to the seminary community on the twentieth anniversary of his ordination. Since 1945 he has been a mission developer, Eastern Regional Secretary of the Division of College and University Work (National Lutheran Council), chaplain at Hartwick and Upsala Colleges, and is currently pastor of the Church of the Good Shepherd, King of Prussia.

Drawing on such sources as Charles Williams' seven novels, C. S. Lewis' Surprised by Joy, Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Life Together, Pastor Knaus will tell a quasi-autobiographical fable in the third person, recounting the ups, downs, ins and outs of twenty years of diversified ministry. Pastor Knaus is a provoking, witty, and edifying speaker and is well worth hearing, Bob Cornelius, chairman of the Spring Banquet Speaker Committee, affirms.

Brian Snyder, general chairman of the banquet, asks that everyone purchase their tickets by tomorrow so that final plans can be arranged. The cost is only \$1.50 per person.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY INVITES STUDENTS TO RECEPTION

The Women's Auxiliary of Mt. Airy Seminary invites the student body to a reception this Sunday at 4 p.m. in Krauth Memorial Library to be held in honor of President and Mrs. Donald R. Heiges. At 3 p.m. that same afternoon the Women's Auxiliary and the Men of Mt. Airy will hold their annual meeting in the Chapel.

BABYSITTING OFFERED

The women of St. Michael's Church have again offered to babysit for the children of seniors and faculty during commencement on May 21. However, they will be unable to babysit during the

luncheon hour.

Anyone wanting a babysitter from St. Michael's, must register his child by May 10 with one of the following: Delores Shade (VI3-0129), Jan Peischl (PH 2-0927), or Mrs. Prigge in the main office.

GOLF DAY PLANS ANNOUNCED

On Friday afternoon May 7, the student body will sponsor "Seminary Golf Day" at the Montgomeryville Country Club. Golfing will begin at 1:30 p.m. and starting times are guaranteed. The cost per person is only \$2.65. To receive this reduced rate, students must sign up on the list in Hagan Hall by this Friday. Those wishing to play foursomes should contact either Fred Hopke or George Hanssen.

WIVES' CLUB NEWS

The Wives' Club will culminate its year's activities with a picnic on Monday, May 10. Supper will be served on the seminary lawn at 6 P.M. The cost will be \$.75 for adults and \$.50 for children. Children under five years of age will be served free. The cost of the supper for boarding students is covered by the refectory fee.

Officers for next year's Wives' Club were recently elected. Elected were: Barbara Matthews, president; Joyce Anderson and Sue Johnson, vice-presidents; Fern Furst, secretary-treasurer Ruth Le Van.



ROBERTS OUTLINES HISTORY

(Continued from page 2)

Orphanage at Cologne. Applications for admittance rose as high as six-hundred, and the school did its best to admit as many children as possible. In 1927, the Nazareth branch was completed, and in 1930 another plot of land was bought in the Philisten Plain near Gaza. This was a Moslem area where no Christians had lived for hundreds of years.

Not much was done in this area for the storm clouds were gathering once more. Difficulties arose between the Jews immigrating to this land from all over the world and the native Arab population. The tension rose during the years after 1930, and from 1936 to 1939 the country was full of terrorism. Bombs were exploded in the towns, land mines were put under bridges, and many lost their lives.

World War II broke out during all of this. Some of the German staff were called back to Germany, while the rest were deported to Australia, including Dr. Hermann Schneller the great grandson of the founder who had taken over the institution. In May, 1940, the main school in Jerusalem had to be evacuated within forty-eight hours. British soldiers were to live where the orphaned and blind had lived. Most of the children were dismissed. About eighty boys were brought to Nazareth where the school remained open under a board of British and American personalities. The Swiss Consul, Charles Lutz, controlled the institution.

By 1948, the last hours for all activities of the Schneller School in Palestine came to an end when the Arab-Jewish war approached Nazareth. Most of the boys were taken to relatives by the Arab Military Forces. The rest fled to Lebanon with their teachers. Dr. Moll of the Lutheran World Federation took them in and cared for them. Everything was lost when the new state of Israel was established, a loss estimated at well over ten million dollars.

In 1949, Dr. Hermann Schneller arrived in Lebanon to start the work all over again. He rented a small house in Schamian. For a while, the thirty boys that fled from Palestine stayed with him, but were soon transferred to a Lutheran Orphanage in Bethlehem, Jordan.

A year later the Board of the Syrian

Orphanage decided to open a new school in Lebanon. Dr. Hermann Schneller was entrusted with the building of this new institution. At first he rented a house at Zahle in the valley between the Lebanon and Antilebanon mountains, and admitted twelve boys. Two years later, a plot of land was bought at Khirbat Kanafar, about fifteen miles south of Zahle, and two houses were built. The institution grew rapidly. The church building was dedicated in 1960.

Today the institution has thirteen houses, one-hundred and ninety boys, and thirty staff members including Arabs, Germans, and Americans from The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. The Boards for the Syrian Orphanage has already begun work on a Trade School in Amman, Jordan. When completed, the Schneller Schools of Jordan and Lebanon will serve about four-hundred and sixty students.

From its beginning up to the present time the Schneller School has educated about six-thousand children. Most of them are scattered all over the Arab states. A smaller part are to be found in Cyprus, North Africa, Australia, Germany, Great Britain, and in the past two years, two students have come to the United States and are studying at Hartwick College in New York State.

One of the problems facing the Schneller School today is how to help gifted students continue their education beyond the high school level. The school does not have funds to send these boys on to college. Several of the American teachers have been concerned about this, and have tried to help the more gifted students continue their education here in America. So far two boys have been helped. But the need is great.

The Heyer Commission hopes to help a boy this year. Because many of these boys will go back and help the Schneller School and their country build a future, this is our chance to help in this work too.

Al Roberts

Next week's issue of the Seminarian will contain a feature on the spring meeting of the Middle Atlantic Region Inter-Seminary Movement which was held in Richmond, Virginia, April 23-24.