

seminarian

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students of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

May 6, 1970

BOARD VOTES--

CLASSES OUT?

With one dissenting vote, the Board of Dirctors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia suggested to the faculty and administration of the seminary that classes be suspeded Thursday and Friday of this week. The resolution was formulated the night before, which was reminiacent of the action in the reformer's beer gardens of Wittenberg, around pitchers of Bud and Gemutlichkeit at Wolfe's on the Square in Gettysburg. The Board felt that they should support the students of this seminary in their concern over the recent escalation of the conflict in Southeast Asia now extending into Cambodia. The resolution was presented to the Gettysburg Board in the morning session and passed by a close margin. In the afternoom the Philadelphia Board dealt with the resolution in all clarity and precision with only one negative vote, the Board was resolved that the students should participate in a witness for peace on May 7 & 8, 1970. The original percipitation for the matter grew out of an expressed concern of the Rev. Robert Neumeyer brought to the attention of both Boards in session on Monday evening. The exact formulation of the resolution took place that evening with the help of the Rev. Paul Bosch, Chaplain at Syracuse University, who also brought the proposal to the floor of the Board meeting Tuesday

This action, however, was not the only center for discussion by the Board. In the heated, smoked-filled room below the chapel at Gettysburg, proposal and counter-proposal; discussion and counter-discussion; argument and counterargument, ensued for over six hours. Whatever could percipitate such verbiage? ANSWER: The recommendations of the Select Committee to the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Theological Seminary, of course. The Select Committee was authorized by the Board of Directors to concentrate, "...in its consideration of options on the metropolitan Philadelphia area, especially the generous offer of the Philadelphia Divinity School;.." With thses directives, the committee (consisting of Board members, faculty, alumni, and students) met as a unit on February 27, March 31, and April 24 and divided itself into five subcommittees. These subcommittees concerned themselves with three major areas, i.e. Program, Finances, Philadelphia Divinity School and Locations. Much of the work of the Select Committee, including the gathering of data and preliminary study, was done by the subcommittees which held meetings in conjuction with or between, meetings of the full committee. "In evaluating the two site options under consideration (P.D.S.) and the present Mt. Airy campus the major question was which location would be preferable for carrying out the program objectives of the Seminary." The major concern centered around the financial feasability of a relocation at P. D. S. or renovations of the present site and development of program. Having these concerns (Con't on page 3)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following recommendations were adopted by the Board of Directors on May 5, 1970.

- 1. Whereas our examination of the Seminary's first degree, graduate education, and continuing education programs, and of Philadelphia Divinity School as a site, regard the West Philadelphia University City (PDS) site as the preferable location for carrying out program, we recommend the PDS site for a co-located seminary and as a nucleus for a possible ecumenical cluster.
- 2. Recognizing that adequate financing for both construction and program is necessary, we recommend that up to forty percent (40%) of the Seminary's funds (net from capital appeal and sale of real estate) be set aside in a sequestered fund to provide income for program, and the remainder be available for relocation and construction.
- 3. We recommend that plans for a relocated seminary be formulated realistically within these limits (indicated in 2 above) in consultation with Philadelphia Divinity School and any other seminaries which may be involved in such an ecumenical cluster, and we further recommend that immediate steps be energetically pursued for additional funding.
- 4. We recommend that until plans for a West Philadelphia (PDS) co-located Seminary are formally submitted and adopted, the Constituent Synods of this Seminary be asked for permission to use all available income from the capital appeal funds for energetic and creative program development of the current site and in cooperation with Gettysburg Seminary.
- 5. We recommend through whatever steps are necessary in the judgement of the Executive Committee of the Board, that the President of the Church be requested to appoint a commission to work closely with the B.T.E., the Constituent Synods, and other judictorial that may be interested toward exposing and developing plans which would create a unified Lutheran thrust in theological education in the Northeast.

"VIOLENT DISSENT IS INVITATION TO TRAGEDY, NIXON SAYS"

News Headline -- Philadelphia Inquirer May 5, 1970.

EDITORIAL:

Yesterday, Tuesday, May 5, 1970, the Board of Trustees of the Philadelphia Seminary met at Gettysburg. For the full report see the front page article by Dave Newhart. The most immediate effect of the action of the board is the moratoriam on classes this Thursday and Friday. The resolution of the board is as follows:

"Resolved that the Board supports the students of the Philadelphia Seminary in their concern over the recent escalation of the conflict in Southeast Asia and suggests the administration and feculty suspend classes Thursday, May 7 and Friday, May 8, 1970, so that students may participate in a witness for peace."

Inasmuch as the board has expressed their confidence in the students of the seminary, it is the hope of the Seminarian that the student body will not pack their bags for an extended weekend. Rather, it is hoped that the students will show some concern by participating in a student body meeting at LUNCH—TODAY at which time activities for the moratorium will be planned so that the seminary community may participate in activities in remembrance of the two Americans already killed in Cambodia and for the four students killed at Kent.

In addition to this, each seminarian is urged to write to his congressman and senator to express his displeasure and disdain of this recent action by the president. Therefore, if you are indeed in disagreement with the recent actions of President Nixon—for Christ's sake (and as students preparing for the Christian ministry, it is indeed for Christ's sake) do something about it.

John R. Koons, Editor.

BOARD VOTES - - CLASSES OUT! (cont from page 1.)

in mind, the Board of Directors felt that the three recommendations of the Select committee deleted future possibilities of jointure with Gettysburg and did not allow enough probability for the development of program experimentation in the University City area. This brought to the floor two recomendations to be added to the three presented by the Select Committee.

At this meeting the Board also dealt with many varied issues extremely relevant to this student body. (1) There will be a student representative on the committee which will choose the new Seminary president. (2) The Board has supported the student body efforts to have representation on the Academic Policies supported thereby allowing the faculty to make that decision within due course. Committee thereby allowing the faculty to make that decision within due course.

(3) A motion was also passed by the Board that two students as well as two faculty members be elected as full voting members of the Board of Directors of the faculty members be elected as full voting members of the time that the charter Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. Until the time that the charter of the Seminary can be changed to allow for such representation on a voting status, of the Seminary can be changed to allow for such representatives of the student body without voting power.

WHY CAMBODIA?

As recently as a week ago, President Nixon showed another example of Yankee ingenuity by postulating the theory that the best way to end a war is by starting another. one. Despite the fact that he promised to end the war as quickly as possible, he has invaded Cambodia. Perhaps he feels the only way to insure the neutrality of this nation is to invade it, thus protecting her from an aggressive invasion from the north. For some reason he thinks it is the responsibility of the United States to protect the world from communist aggression and make it "safe for Democracy" through its own aggression.

The Seminarian finds it hard to believe that the best way to end the war in Viet-Nam is to start one in Cambodia and thereby risk another 50,000 lives for the cause of "Peace" in Viet-Nam. The President acts as though he were totally oblivious of the possibility of Chineese intervention and the possibility of a third world war, all fer the "honor" of the United States.

The Seminarian feels it is time that the United States get out from under the mystique of "never having lest a war" and face the reality that it can never win the war in Viet-Nam. It is time that the President realize that he is responsible to the nation and the Cengress and has ne right to act independently, expecting them to follow him blindly. We ask, is it worth another 50,000 lives to risk involvement in Cambedia?

It is time that the "Silent Majority" of this nation and seminary become vocal and show the President that we are tired of this war of "honor" and "protection". The Seminarian questions how the president who has vowed not to preside over the defeat of this nation DOES plan to end this war!

"I PROMISE TO END THE WAR. I SHALL KEEP THAT PROMISE."

DesPite / vier promise,

Mr. President, you have

Stepped-up the Fighting.

THIS WILL, IN EFFECT, HINDER THE CHANCES OF PEACE AND PROLONG THE WAR.....

You have ordered an INVANION into Cambodia, yet you claim this action is defending the neutrality of its borders.

In the name of "honor" you have added torisk to the lives of American boys by expanding this senseless war in Vietnam and Indo-China.

In doing this you have increased the risk of heavy military involvement by the

Ten days after you felt that the chances of peace were good enough to withdraw another 150,000 men, you attempt to win a military victory by escalating the war.

Escalation of the war certainly DISABLES Vietnamization.

The American people have heard BEFORE the excuse that a step-up in the fighting will save lives and shorten the war. Yet over 49,000 American boys have died and this continues. In view of history, this rationale is no longer satisfactory.

By ordering American troops into Cambodia, you have expanded an undeclared war without the CONSENT of THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO RISK AMERICAN LIVES FOR FEAR OF HUMILIATION.

President Nixon has made a grave mistake. It is up to patriotic Americans to write their officials and pressure them to correct this error.

Senator Hugh Scott Senate Office Building Washington, D.C.

and

Senator Richard Schweiker Senate Office Building Washington D.C.

WRITE

THE SEMINARIAN is a student publication of the Lutheran Seminary at Philadelphia. The office is located in "F" Hall, 3rd floor, facing the recreation area. We welcome any articles, newsworthy items, criticisms, cartoons, ect. The staff for this week is:

Editor: John Koons Assistants: Skip Erickson, Barry Lace, and Tom King. Articles: David Newhart, John Koons, Skip Erickson, and William Rosevear.

Again the Seminarian is coming out a day early in order that it may provide you with the up-to-the-minute news as we receive it.

There will he a meeting at Lonch today to discuss further Possible participation in Spectic witnesses for Peace in which the Board of Directors supports the Student Body.



ER, SAME explanation for Cambodia, chief?

(Reprinted from the Evening Bulletin May 5, 1970)