



# the *seminarian*

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## On The Truth Of The Great Pumpkin

by St. Schroeder

There has been much contemptible discussion lately on the matter as to whether or not the Great Pumpkin exists, and what His relationship is to the realm of creation. This is most contemptible because the existance of the Pumpkin is a thing most obvious; even to the most simple-minded of men. All one must do is look at the order and complexity of nature to see that such order demands a power great enough to maintain it. And in as much as pumpkins are a part of the natural order, what is more natural than to have the Great Pumpkin as the Lord of creation? For through this connection with the created lesser pumpkins, the Great Pumpkin exerts a direct interest and claim in maintaining the present order. For as it is written; "Let us create pumpkins in our own image, so that they might be a witness to all men!"<sup>1\*</sup>

A further proof for the existance of the Great Pumpkin is that we, as finite creatures, have a concept of the divine. However, since we are finite and therefore imperfect (or is it the other way around?), we cannot, of ourselves, come to a knowledge of the absolutly perfect. Therefore since we do have such a conception of the divine it must come from a source outside of us, a source which is able to conceive of the perfect- the Great Pumpkin. Further, it is known among all men that the most Holy Day of Halloween is celebrated each year, at which time we create representations of the Pumpkin and thousands go out to collect offerings for Him. Such a day was not known in the times before the Great Pumpkin became known to men, so the existance of the Holy Day itself proves the existance of the Great Pumpkin.

The existance of the Great Pumpkin is not a matter of rational proof, and even if it were it is clear and obvious that the Great Pumpkin is that than which nothing greater can be conceived; for if a greater could be conceived then what was originally conceived would not be the Great Pumpkin but a creation of man's imperfect imagination! The Great Pumpkin, by His title alone, is said to be the greatest conceivable, and to be such it must exist or it would not be the greatest conceivable because existance is a necessary part of the greatest conceivable thing.

We should not, however, attempt to prove the existance of that which exists by necessity, but accept it as a fact in faith, thanking the Great Pumpkin all the while for His most providential care. For as it is written in the III Letter of Linus to Gettysburg; "Turn from the folly of your false gods, and the worship of Santa Clause and Luther, for unless you do this you will not taste salvation!"; and "He that believes in the Great Pumpkin and is faithful shall receive the gift of eternal life in the Great Pumpkin Patch!"

I do not expect all of you to have the same conversion experiance that St. Linus had, who came to faith after being hit in the head by a pumpkin while singing christmas carols, but it is hoped that all men will see the truth and turn in faith to the Great Pumpkin, for it is the intention of the Great Pumpkin that all men should come to good things in Him. It is only through the power of the Great Pumpkin that

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# CPE EVALUATIONS

A few guiding principles relative to CPE reports have been agreed to by a committee involving students, faculty, and synod presidents.

The committee is concerned to protect the confidentiality of the CPE reports, since those reports were written for a very selected audience (the student and a qualified seminary representative) about a very particular experience. Consequently, it is agreed that no synodical representatives will receive from the seminary a student's CPE report until both the student and the CPE supervisor have given written consent. This principle will be applied prospectively and not retroactively. Concretely, this means that after September, 1970, "all subsequent intern and CPE reports are to be collected with the common understanding that they will subsequently be shared with the synod presidents alone." The present juniors, therefore, will be asked to sign appropriate releases.

The policy is different for all current seniors, interns, and middlers. The seminary will not send out, and will not be required to send out, their CPE reports. Generally, this means that the synod presidents will receive no evaluation or summary of the student's clinical experience. Please note that there may be exceptions to this rule. The agreement does not prevent a synod president from asking one or all of his students for CPE reports. The seminary hopes that this privilege will not be exercised, but whether or not it is up to the discretion of each synod president.

If you have any questions, I will be happy to discuss them with you.

Dr. Aden

## MOTHER HOUSE

The deaconess students remind you that the Deaconess House is open on Nov. 1, from 2-4 P.M. for all students, faculty, and wives. For those of you who have been curious, this is your chance to see where we live and enjoy an afternoon in the country. Celebrate All Saints' Day with a trip to the Deaconess House, 801 Merion Square Road,

in Gladwynne, Pennsylvania.

# IPOEM

ROAD COMPANY

the clown  
frenetic  
changing roles  
running to the wings  
heart hammering in its ivory cage  
donning new motley  
changing masks  
there are so many aspects  
and never time enough

weep here -- laugh there --  
sigh now -- frown then  
poor posturing jackanapes

wondering if the prompter in his box  
is yawning  
curiously the prompter is also the backer  
ticket taker, audience, and  
critic

but when the reviews appear  
the play has already folded

Bill Berglund

Lynn and Henry Fromhartz are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Deborah Suzanne. Their baby was born on October 11, 1970, weighing 6 pounds, 7 oz.

It seems that Madison Avenue has even invaded the newly redecorated hallowed halls of the "most inexpensive theological bookstore in town." We commend the new(d) look in the windows--but we can't help but think what will be next?--full-page ads in the Seminarian (for a price, of course),...topless (bottomless?) store personnel?...SCREW, KISS, GAY for sale?....TV appearances beginning, "Hi friends, Honest Mike here to tell...." Special sales with entertainment offered by Hedge Hog Rolf--straight from VTR?... We thought we had seen everything when we saw the "pink/orange" walls--but with Mike Heinsteint at the wheel, who knows? Any bets? -ed.staff.

# AROUND CAMP I

Congratulations to Papa! Another single middle-aged man has hit the dust- he got engaged last week.....According to our job opportunities man a woman wants a student to live with....her father. Also wanted is a person to assemble bird feeders. Very interesting? ....Harley R. has again conducted a demonstration of his mighty powers by walking through the closed "C" hall door. Scratch another door!....Word is out that Bob H. has retired from his waiter duties with full benefits, including freedom from the Head Waiter. Best of luck to his successor Mark R.....There is a new feature which has made its opening debut to a packed house last Thursday morning at Harold's hide-away. The show's entitled "And here's Hedge Hog" starring Rolf H.....Rumor has it that the new football jerseys or the Deconi wearing them have struck fear into the hearts of Mt. Airy's opponents. Right on girls!....What disciplined Church History professor brought the wrong test to class on Monday?....Rumor has it that Dr. Aden can hardly wait to read the verbatums which Bob Y. has come up with as a result of his late night (sex) counseling sessions.....The word has come down from Mr. Kaufmann that unless the Seminarian gets an editor it will have to stop publishing-interested John K.?

-good night all-

## FROM THE BOOK STORE

The book store manager and committee wishes to express their gratitude to Mr. Ken Garver and "The Philadelphia Picassos" for their efforts in redecorating the most inexpensive theological bookstore in town. Accordingly they have offered to take off the shelves any book written in the following languages: Spanish, German, Russian, Polish, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, or Hottentot and Suru. Again, many thanks for your efforts!

The job opportunity to work in the book store as a clerk until May, 1971 is still available. The salary is \$1.75 per hour. If you are interested see Rolf Hedberg.

All this week the paperbacks from the SCM "studies in Biblical Theology" series will be sold at cost! Hurry and get your copy now before the supply runs out!

## CHAPEL

Dr. Robert E. Bornemann will be the speaker at convocation on Wednesday October 28. His topic will be "Theology and Meaning of Worship". After the presentation there will be a period of discussion.

It is hoped that this will only be the first in a series of such presentations on worship, and it is hoped that the response to them will be good.

The next Seminary Communion Service will be held Thursday evening, October 29 at 8:00 p.m. Dr. Theodore G. Tappert will be the preacher.

On November 4, 1970 the seminary will have the opportunity to hear Mr Grant Griffith, Director of Alcoholic Rehabilitation at Haverford State Hospital. Mr. Griffith will speak at convocation on the topic of alcoholism.

DON'T ASK US DEP'T.

(Or--the bookstore does it again!!)

The staff doesn't understand what's going on but nevertheless we report the news as we get it, so here goes!!!.ed.

Any junior interested in working part time in the bookstore this year and becoming manager of the bookstore next year please contact Rof Hedberg by Friday of this week. Thank you. Rolf.

If you can figure out how this ties in with the announcement at the top of the page, please let us know, or at least let Rolf know.

## Meditations from the Home Front

A woman should create a serene home in which her husband can enjoy total peace. Everyone has heard these pious sentiments, and supposedly they are universally accepted. Being fairly new to this fascinating occupation of wifehood, I was determined to make our apartment an oasis of serenity amidst the turbulent duststorms of the desert of the outside world.

The obvious first step, of course, is a tidy, well ordered home or apartment. Without any children, this would seem like an easy task, or so in my innocence I thought. Instead of children, though, we have two kittens who are determined to improve upon the Law of Entropy (matter tends to its most disorganized state). What they can do with newspapers and books (the student's constant companion and the housekeeper's scourge defies description. (Besides, I'd rather not think about it.) Well, so much for that part. A homey atmosphere beats too much tidiness any day. After all, ~~no one~~ wants her husband to feel compelled to put his books away. Fat chance!

Vastly more important is a serene environment. Saturday I was aiming just for that when one of my cousins dropped in looking like Attila the Hun. Now don't get me wrong--I have nothing personal against beards, but anyone knows that a full beard on a face one has seen clean for 21 years can be a shock. In fact, recognition was even a problem (perhaps a function of the dark glasses and jacket which make him look like Attila the Hun as a motorcycle bum), which is a pretty sad commentary on the closest thing I have to a brother. Anyway, Attila came in and informed us that he is getting married. The only problem is that his fiancee's minister won't marry them. The minister, a rather stern Southern Baptist, has reservations (understandably, now that I think about it) about a Baptist marrying an atheist (an Atheist!!! Oh, that's something else he'd forgotten to tell me!) The minister seems to think that they'd have problems, but Attila assured us that they've worked the problem out (How? Is the first kid to be an atheist and the second a Baptist?) While I know better than to challenge his beliefs (we're Scots, and Scotsmen never let anyone change their ideas), the problems of his soul rather disturbed me. (Rather? I was--and am--scared silly. Hopefully, it's just a phase. He's had plenty.) Meanwhile, he and husband are cheerfully discussing the Immaculate Conception and the influences of Zoroastrianism on the Old Testament. Did you know that Mother Goose is pornographic? Neither did I--until Saturday. Why would anyone look for dirt in Jack and Jill? Once they mentioned it, I did look, but I still can't find it.

Frustrated literary critics do not make the best wives, so I soothe my spirits by working. A co-op from Drexel works for me, and knowing that my husband is a seminarian, he asks me questions (is piety contagious?) like "Don't Methodists and Baptists us grape juice rather than wine because it's cheaper?" and "Is boozing the one mortal sin?" (He's a Methodist who went to a Lutheran Sunday School or vice versa, but whoever had him in his youth did not make much of an impression upon his mind. He's a mathematician--I like mathematicians: I am one, in fact--but this kid doesn't even know the alphabet. Perhaps we should start re-emphasizing liberal education--or at least the alphabet!) And then there's the Jewish lady who very vocally admires the Ku Klux Klan.

My husband is serene all right. Blessed with a gentle disposition, he's so serene he's almost asleep; hey, maybe he is. But trying to give him something he already has isn't easy. I think I'll just go out and scream--LOUDLY.

Name withheld by request.

(Ed. note: This is the first of the series which began last week with the second of the series--due to a slight mix-up. Our apologies to the author.)

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO CARE ENOUGH.....

For those of you who spent Tuesday evening studying, watching television, reading Playboy or whatever, we say congratulations--apathy has STRUCK AGAIN!!! The juniors specifically asked for a meeting with Dr. Lazareth to discuss the curriculum, etc. of the seminary. When this discussion was suggested, there was quite a bit of precision head-nodding which seemed to indicate that there was adequate interest for such an event. Realistically, however, a head count at this meeting revealed that only twelve students cared enough to attend. Granted, there were some legitimate excuses which we know of, but not nearly enough legit. ones to explain the fact that two thirds of the class was missing.

Many complaints have been heard the last few weeks about the relevancy of our education, and the sensitivity of "the establishment," to our plight. Dr. Lazareth suggested this meeting and Dr. Lazareth showed up, it was the students who didn't. In light of this, it's not too hard to see where the insensitivity lies in this institution. Congratulations again, oh, SILENT MAJORITY, you've scored another NON-victory. Your interest and concern is UNDERwhelming.

The faculty wives picked up the feeling of "concern" of the students and did something about it. They put much preparation into the get-together which was held last night. But student apathy was to score two smashing victories yesterday. Only a handful of students came. Where were the rest? We're sure that those that were there would like to see these "coffee hours" continue--but it's disheartening when no one shows up--for whatever reason.

Finally, we thank Dr. Lazareth and the faculty wives for the fine evening. Those that were there appreciate your concern and efforts--someday, maybe the students will match your concern.

(As editor in the Seminarian Vol. 32, no.6, I commented on "faculty apathy"--it seems that I was mistaken--student apathy does not spring from the faculty, nor does it issue forth from them--it just is--Q.E.D.--or so it seems.--Hopefully, we as committed men can pick up the enthusiasm and concern of the faculty.)

Bruce Davidson, Pres. Jr. Class  
John R. Koons, editor.

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I think that more frequent gatherings would be a waste of time because no one would come anyway.  
Further comments, suggestions, complaints:

continued from page 1-

we are able to overcome the temptations of the evil Lucy who is ever trying to tempt men into making pies out of the Great Pumpkins representatives on earth.

So, come to the Great Pumpkin all you who are weary and desire good things, for to those who believe are given the things of the Patch; for as it is written in the Epistle of Linus to Mt. Airy, "To those who believe in the Great Pumpkin will be given toys, candy, and other good things every Halloween." So believe and receive freely from the abundance of the Pumpkin.

The Peace of the Great Pumpkin which gives all good things, keep your desires fulfilled, now and forevermore.

Amen

\* All scriptural quotes are taken from the Authorized Version of Pronouncements from the Pumpkin Patch, and are quoted by permission.

1 The Gospel of Snoopy, Chap. 1:16.

PLEASE NOTE!!!

Please do not take multiple copies in order to obtain extra copies of the cartoons. There are extra copies of the cartoons available in the bookstore. If a shortage should develop the stencils are being saved.

At the end of the year it is hoped that a compilation of the cartoons can be published.

thank-you

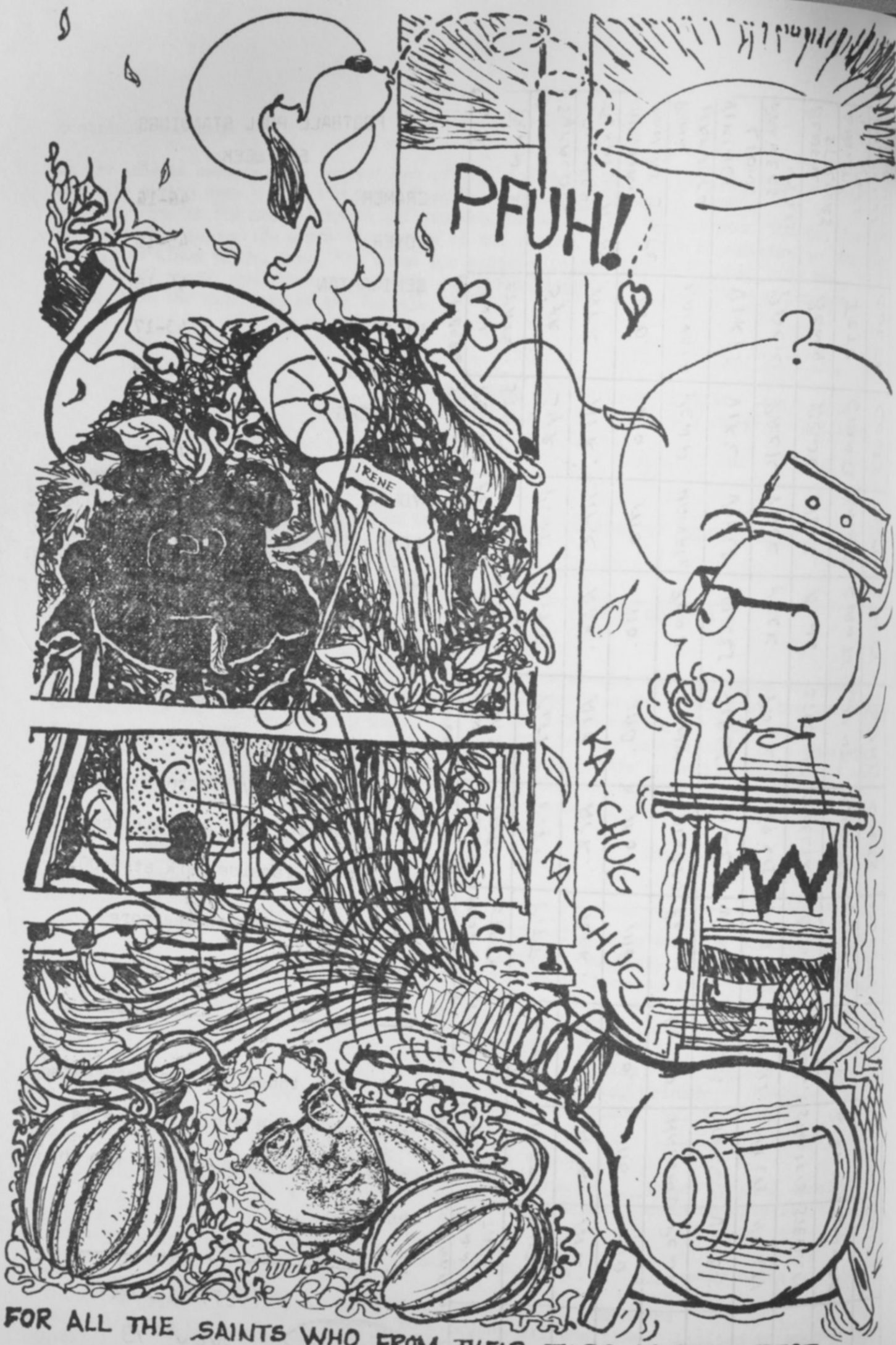
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DETATCH ALONG DOTTED LINE-----

I attended the get-together on Tuesday and found it:      Boring      So-so      Interesting      Great      Other (please specify)  
I did not attend on Tuesday night. Reason (if you would care to give it):

I think gatherings such as this ought to be continued on a :      weekly basis      bi-weekly basis      monthly basis  
Time preferred:      Afternoon      Evening      Weekdays      Weekends  
I think the gatherings should be      open to everyone all the time      limited to specific class groups and faculty      kept small and held on an invitational basis.      other (specify)





FOR ALL THE SAINTS WHO FROM THEIR 7:00 LABORS REST...