

THE SEMINARIAN

Published by the students of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

Vol. 32 no. 17

January 27, 1971

ATTN:

MIDDLELERS

Here is some information which is to inform you about what is happening regarding internship placement.

1. If you want to stay within the Philadelphia area there are openings in the Center City Lutheran Parish. Call Dr. Newmeyer and make an appointment with him immediately if you are interested.
2. I will begin considering possible placements the week of February 8th--please come up and look over the different openings the week before and make your recommendations in writing of any church you would be interested in. Application for an intern will continue to come in after that date so check in again after a week or two.
- 3.. Let me know by the 8th of February if you have changed your plans concerning internship--IN WRITING.
4. I may call you in to discuss a possible placement with you.
5. The meeting of Directors of Internship will be Feb. 25-27. In early March I will be making tentative placements.
6. Do not try to get personal interviews with any of the places that have sent in applications until you are assigned there as their tentative intern.
7. I am doing my best to get a valuable placement for you--PLEASE be patient for the slow wheels of internship placement to grind on at their own pace.

Howard Stone

WHERE'S BARRY?

The blank page on the back of last week's copy of The Seminarian, brought to mind the fact that the paper has lost one of its most notable attractions, namely the cartoon. In spite of the uncharacteristically well written articles and editorial, the paper still seemed to lack something important. It was really refreshing sometimes to be able to pick up the paper and know that in addition to a raft of announcements and angry letters to the editor, there would also be one significant display of real talent, and a talent which allowed all of us an opportunity to laugh, sometimes at the idiosyncrasies of others, and sometimes even at ourselves.

However, it seems that many people did not think that the cartoons were especially humorous or refreshing. Some seemed sensitive about the implications of some of the cartoons, and amidst the flurry of controversy which was raised, the artist decided that it was no longer worthwhile to contribute to the paper. It was no longer worthwhile for him because he was aware of some of the personal implications of the criticism aimed at his cartoons.

This is not to say that the artist was oversensitive to criticism. I think it was probably more a matter of frustration. I don't know how many people are aware of all the trouble Barry went to to be sure his cartoons were not overly offensive. There was no cartoon published which Barry didn't show to a number of other people before he published it, in order to get other opinions and insights. When a suggestion was given he was eager to make any necessary changes. In many cases, the cartoon was shown to those depicted before they were published to see if they objected to the portrayal they received. Most of the criticism which I have heard directed at Barry's cartoons has not been nearly as carefully examined before it was given.

I know that there are many people here at the seminary who did appreciate and enjoy Barry's cartoons. I am one of them. I think that Barry deserves a lot more credit than he has received. He really did an outstanding job.

Bruce Davidson

Ed. Note: I would just like to say at this time that I too feel that a vital and important part of the newspaper is missing. When Mr. Henderson informed me of his decision before the Xmas holiday, I was disappointed, but I could well understand his reasons. Which brings me to simply ask: (and I will deviate from the no profanity policy)--Just what in the HELL do you people want anyway!?!?! The staff has tried many different approaches this year and so far we only get more complaints. I'm not naive enough to think we'll please everyone, but it would be nice to either hear good comments or receive contributions. I do thank the contributors and the staff for this week's paper; perhaps some of my faith in the interest of the students is being revitalized. I, for one, hope so! --John R. Koons, editor.

NEW YORK SEMINAR

Much of my Christmas season was spent anticipating the arrival of New Year's when my rejuvenated foot was to emerge from its plaster cocoon. At the appointed time, however, I was shocked at the sight of my corroded and emaciated foot and disappointed that I couldn't walk immediately. And in order that I could make the communications seminar in New York, my first week in January was a hectic and chaotic effort to strengthen my newly-healed leg to the point where I could walk some distance without too much effort.

Nevertheless, I spent most of my week in New York limping from experience to experience. At times a seeming disorganization and lack of connection between events grated on me. At other times my elation and involvement in what was happening couldn't have possibly been spoiled. Personally, the high point of my week was the off-Broadway musical, "Touch." Of course, unlike Steve Gerhard, I didn't have the added thrill of getting dug afterwards. Yet, "Touch" was still the high point for me. Other events that appealed to me were the movie screenings, the jazz at the Top of the Gate and the multi-media happening.

The seminar was my first massive exposure to the communication arts on a conscious level. One of the most shattering effects of this exposure was the revision of my goals for the week itself. One more week would be nowhere sufficient for the attainments of those nebulous "tools of critical interpretation" of the mass media. Yet, my appetite has been stimulated.

One of the signs of stimulation is the budding of new ideas and the desire to try them out. Presently, the seminary doesn't provide too much opportunity for this in the field of mass communications. Any practical experience we get in the last seven steps of the famed hermeneutical arch is mostly restricted to our homiletics courses. It's great to be able to run and even dance your way through the first seven steps, but it doesn't create such of an impression on people when you stumble and limp through the last seven.

I appreciate the opportunity I was given to "limp" through the communication arts in New York. But I also feel that the seminary with all the resources of Philadelphia at hand, should be able to offer an excellent course program to follow up on this exposure experience. I can bear witness to the fact that you have to limp for more than one week before you can walk smoothly and confidently.

Bill Villano

SKATING

Part of the tennis court has been flooded for ice skating. Any member of the seminary family is invited to use the rink. The key will be found on the fire extinguisher in F Hall. During warmer spells, such as we have now, the key will be taken out of circulation so as to preserve the ice. Hopefully, we will have a good number of days of ice skating since the forecast for the coming month is for below normal temperatures.

Bill Villano

CHRIST TO BE ON CAMPUS

Mr. Paul Christ will be at the coffee break on Thursday, 28 January, to talk to those interested in, "A Christian Ministry in the National Parks." After 10:20, he will be available in room 3, Hagan Hall, to talk and/or to show slides.

Field Education Office

MR. CHAIRMAN (AGAIN?)

Dear Dr. Perry,

There are several points in your letter with which I concur in intent, but I would like to expand on your ideas (perhaps much of what I have to say has already been discussed) and confront you with some concrete objections.

First, I agree that our future ministry will not be much changed geographically and sociologically in the future and for this reason our preparation should be in the areas of pastoral care. But by the time this comes about, I will be out of seminary. We need the option for that preparation now. Along with this I cannot see all students going through these four years of general preparation, with the option of specializing after receiving their M.Div. Students should be allowed to specialize upon entering seminary. Since most of us will be entering the suburban-rural pastoral ministry, one school should be devoted to this area of study. The other seminary could be comprised of various specializing schools: (ie., music, journalism, academic theology). This would allow for specialization for the specialist and general theological education for those preparing for the parish ministry.

Second, I agree with the maintenance of the present site of this seminary, however not as it stands today. It does not, in any way meet the needs of the students or the community because of its sad physical plant. The longer we wait for a decision, the further down the line toward ancient architecture the seminary moves. We need a place to serve the community, which, as you state, is a geographically and sociologically good place to practice.

Finally, the most pressing problem is time. It has to be done now. I hope your letter becomes the impetus for the beginning of the end of all the rhetoric so that plans may be finalized and programs begun.

Sincerely yours,

Roger W. Spencer
Lutheran Theological Seminary
at Phila.
Class of 1973

U.C.I.

The Urban Church Institute is sponsoring a three-part symposium on the theme "Theological Language in a Technological Age." The theme will be addressed by three outstanding theologians on three Wednesdays. February 3, 1971, the speaker is Dr. Robert Jensen, Professor of Systematic Theology at Gettysburg. March 3, the lecturer is Dr. Van Harvey of the University of Penna. March 31, our guest will be Dr. Daniel Day Williams of Union Theological Seminary.

The format for each day will include the address at 11:15 A.M. in the chapel and following lunch small discussion groups with the opportunity in the late afternoon to address group questions to the featured speaker.

The Seminarian is a student publication of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. The office is located in "F" Hall, 3rd floor, facing the recreation area. We welcome any articles, newsworthy items, criticisms, cartoons, etc. The staff is anyone who wishes to help. The staff this week is:

Editor: John R. Koons.

Typists: Bob Young, Bob Boyer.

General Ass't and clean up boy: Bruce Davidson.

Contributors: Jack White, Ray Ursin, Jeff Rickards, Roger Spencer, Bill Villaume, Bruce Davidson, Barb (i.e., Mrs. Norman) Nelson, Bill Rosevear, Howie Stone.

Other: Barry Henderson.

Other Other: George Turkle.

NEWS FROM LEBANON...

Dear John,

What you are about to read is an open letter to U.S. Senators. It was originally written in the Beirut newspaper, THE DAILY STAR, I ask you to consider printing this because the Middle East problem involves the whole world, not only economically, but morally as well when asked to interpret: "Who is my neighbor?" It is quite strange to be intensely involved in the Middle East Crisis because of my local habitation; while back in the States, it was basically, "Get Out of Viet Nam" or "Love America, or Leave It." Well, here I am in Beirut... (The open-letter-to-U.S.-Senators campaign is organized by American businessmen, educators, churchmen, and students in the Beirut community. The purpose is to underline the disapproval of Americans in Lebanon of their government's Middle East policies.) The letter:

"Neither 500 million dollars fighting for America in the Middle East nor even 500 thousand fighting GI's will bring peace to this part of the world. There are, however, 500 Americans and many more living in the Middle East who view with alarm and foreboding the proposal now before the Senate to further escalate the arms race in the Middle East with 500 million dollars of the most sophisticated offensive weapons from our sophisticated and formidable arsenal. And for what purpose? To expel the Russians from the Middle East? To stop the spread of communism? To prevent the "destruction" of the Jewish people? Who believes that such destruction is the objective of any person or government in the Middle East or that force of arms will achieve any of these objectives? Must we compulsively use this region from which our religious heritage came as a proving ground for our latest electronic missile systems placed eyeball to eyeball with the newest Russian weapons of war? Or perhaps there are some who have such limited information that they really believe that Israel is our bastion of democracy, our island of hope for the "backward Arab people" of this region?

Let not this decision become our Tonkin Gulf decision of the 1970's for there may not be room in this war-wearied world for yet another error of this magnitude for America. Gen. Dayan told us recently that his military organization in land and the air was already more powerful than all the Arab armies combined in spite of and including all Russian arms deliveries at the U.A.R. and Syria, and even including the latest missile build-up along the Suez Canal. No decision for more arms to Israel can rest on the specious argument of redressing mythical imbalance. Every single Arab state is today at the mercy of Israeli military might, and only Russian missiles have brought a halt to daily raids into the heartland of Egypt.

Some in America have expressed the view that the Arabs have much to learn from the Israeli, and many Arabs would, in more peaceful times, readily agree. But Israel has nothing to give the modern Arab while she persists in a state of militaristic arrogance and tribal narrowness. Maybe someday Israel will change, and we must all help her to make that change. One hundred years ago the boastful bravado of the conqueror would have been received well by the tribal princes and intriguers of dying empires, but the times have changed even though many refuse to see the change. It is time for the American people, our political leaders in particular, to take another look at the Arab

(continued on page six)

("Dear John," continued from page five)

people, and not through Israeli or even Jewish eyes as we are frequently asked to do, but with our own eyes and with our own interests in mind.

The Rogers' peace initiative is a good beginning, but it can be regarded as only a beginning. There has been a turning away from bellicose arrogance and towards a recognition of the Palestinians as people who have been deprived of their homeland, their livelihood, and their homes. Israel's participation now will not be bought with \$500 million without destroying that beginning. In the interests of those Jewish and Israeli people who still love mercy, seek justice, and walk humbly with their God, we plead that America not blunder into the Middle East with this excessive and misplaced magnimity presented in the name of "Foreign Aid."

We are 500 Americans, many of us disenfranchised because we are residents abroad. We cannot swing votes one way or the other, except as our vantage point permits a clearer view of these issues. We are dedicated Americans who feel deeply the human dimensions of life in the Middle East which \$500 million for armaments completely disregards. Today we ask to be heard. Our tomorrow, America's tomorrow, and yours, is in your hands."

The Committee of 500

Ray's comments...

Even though the U.S. has blunderously given the "aid for destruction," I think it is important that American voices who can speak about the Middle East situation more objectively than certain newspapers, be heard. Why has our government become so biased and prejudiced against countries and people who still love Americans in spite of their government's policies? Why has America decided which people shall live and which people shall die? The Palestinians truly believe that they can live with the Jewish people -- they had been doing it for years prior to the coming of the European Jew. Zionists (a word which claims for a chosen race, which has not been and should not be assimilated by other races, and which can fulfill its historic destiny only through the assertion of its unique nationhood and the establishment of its particular statehood in Palestine. This is a far more comprehensive claim than the simple humanitarian request for a refuge for the victims of anti-Semitic persecution). Not all Jews are Zionists, however. Many of the Jewish youth want to live in peace with their Arab neighbors; but, when they demonstrate for peace (sound familiar?) they are disrupted by activists.

I cannot see, how a once-persecuted people, after suffering pain, living in fear, and seeing death most of their lives, should turn against a people who accepted the Jewish populace as long as there was room. But it's like inviting a million people to sleep in your house, and two million come without invitation and push YOU out of your house and won't let you back in.

The then-Prime Minister of Israel, Mr. Levi Eshkol, stated in London in March, 1965, that Israel's goal was to become a country of four to five million people; in the same statement, Mr. Eshkol re-affirmed Israel's determination to close doors of Israel-occupied Palestine to the Palestinian Arabs, who are now refugees in the neighboring countries. It appears from this statement that Israel is not deemed, by its leaders, to be capable of allowing the Palestinian Arabs to return to their homes in Palestine. The cause of this refusal, given by Mr. Eshkol, is that the Palestinians "will only come back as enemies." (Quote and above source from, "Israeli P.M. Tells Frank Giles," SUNDAY TIMES, London, Great Britain, 28 March, 1965).

I will stop here, though I have very briefly commented on the Middle East situation (This sentence is really a straight line for any fool who is against peace in the Middle East!) If you like, I will be glad to continue, perhaps in a series, on the history, from 1895 to the present. So, take care. This (continued on page seven)

ABBEY NEWS

On Wednesday night four game sweeps by Hosea (J. Dugan--466) over the faculty (J. White--476) and Micah upsetting first place Jeremiah tightened up the league race.

Since there is now one less team, Amos drew a bye. (For one night they didn't lose!!)

STANDINGS:

Jeremiah	28-16	.636
Hosea	26-18	.590
Amos	20-20	.500
Isaiah	21-23	.477
Micah	19-25	.431

450 Club: J. White(175--476); J. Dugan (180--460). 400 Club: J. Rickards(174--445); B. Hoenich(162--421); G. Stuckey (167--403). P.S. Dave "oppel finally has a 100 average!!!!

Jeff Rickards
Bowling League President

(continued from page six)

internship has many more problems than a regular parish internship. I have chapel talks every other week, and a sermon every other month.

Though American by womb, I feel that a great injustice has been done. And anyone who feels that the Middle East doesn't affect the U.S. has a loose bulb. The U.S. is looked upon by the young as something wonderful. I think this is a fine image to have, but it should be true. Let's not show the world a fancy tree with wax fruit: look and worship, but don't touch.

The Middle East problem isn't the only problem. Certain heads of the administration are insistant in practicing the old game of prejudice even among their own people. So, even though Dr. Lazareth says that justice is at the bottom of the scale for the point of contact with the non-Christians, (they are Christians but vaguely in name only), I must deal with the problem that confronts me in my intern program.

Let's get on the stick...where

are those SEMINARIANS???? Tell all the girls (big ones and little ones) that I send my love and for someone who would still like my friendship after I return, to write. (No one is writing; it makes one feel that he won't return). This will most likely get to you after Christmas, but a merry one anyway.

The Prince of Peace Will Soon Come.

(Thank you...!)

From the Ladies -

Wives' Club News:

This month the Wives' Club enjoyed a presentation by Pastor Robert Neumeyer. Included in the presentation was a film on internship in CCLP made by Bob Holley and Ed Saling. After the film, Pastor Neumeyer addressed himself to the role of the minister's wife. Quite a fresh approach since Pastor Neumeyer is single! Thanks go to Pastor Neumeyer and Mrs. White for the use of her home for the evening.

Future Activities:

On Tuesday evening, 9 Feb., we will go bowling at the Green Tree Lanes on Mt. Airy Ave. near the Seminary. We will meet there at 7:30P.M. and, afterwards we will go to Janet Holley's for refreshments.

In March (date to be set) at Ascension Church, Dr. Krodel will offer an informal presentation on his recent sabbatical leave in Greece (with slides). This will be open to all. Coffee will follow.

Internal Revenue:

While some people may be able to return centralized funds to the people, the Wives' Club must continue to drain the people of their cash. A "temple tax" to the tune of \$1.50 must be levied due to deficit spending. Please give your husbands the above amount & ask them to give it to either Fred Nelson or Allen Heuss.

I would like to offer a personal thank-you to those responsible for the ice-skating rink now present on campus.

Barb Nelson

MR. CHAIRMAN TO BE ON CAMPUS

All of those who have been following the open letters to the pastors of the Mt. Airy constituency, the third of which is now available in the basement of Hagan Hall, should be familiar with the attitudes and ideas of their author Dr. Edward Perry, the present chairman of the Board of Directors of Mt. Airy. This Thursday and Friday, January 28-29th Dr. Perry will be on campus once again. However, this time he will be acting not in the capacity of Board Chairman, but as the President of Upper N.Y. Synod heading a group of some thirty men including Synod Presidents, church vocations and examining committee members and those involved in continuing education. These men will be meeting with representatives of the faculty to discuss the needs of practicing ministry at the present and in the near future (an overview of this topic was alluded to in Dr. Perry's last open letter at which time he was acting as Board Chairman rather than Synod President). The purpose of this meeting, as I understand it, is to give Synod leaders, pastors in the field and some of the faculty an opportunity to share their views on the present and future needs which should be met in theological education for the successful practice of ministry in the field. Such a topic would include all departments of Seminary education, but it also presents the opportunity for brainstorming new ways of structuring our practical department. Since retirements and sabbaticals leave it almost swept clean of faculty, now is an ideal time for reorganization.

Also hidden within the agenda for this conference could be the future of the interest on the capital released for innovative programs by the constituent synods. If you remember last spring at the various Synod meetings this interest on the capital raised for the relocation of Mt. Airy was released for innovative programs at the Seminary since our future location was still in doubt. However, in the fall the Board put a hold on distribution of this money until needs and ideas for its use could be made explicit. Hopefully this meeting will produce whatever plans or proof is necessary for the Board to release that money so that this school can acquire some of the tools and facilities it has been crying for.

It seems these men are meeting with the purpose of having some action take place after their conference ends. I pray that their meeting is a success and we can be set free from the shackles placed on theological education while the war on where is the proper place to do it rages on.

Bill Rosevear

Don't forget today in the chapel during the convocation hour the Second Student Body Meeting will be held. Under discussion will be our financial situation, the future of the new student lounge and the free phone since the grapevine has it that a number of penny pinching students are anxious to have it reinstalled. There will also be some information on the American Union of Lutheran Seminarians who have invited us to host their Spring Regional Conference.

Hopefully all this wets your appetite so that you can't wait for the meeting to start. If it doesn't, please come anyway; you may be able to contribute some suggestion of plans that are part of your interest.

Bill Rosevear

↑
NOTÉ BENNÉ
↑