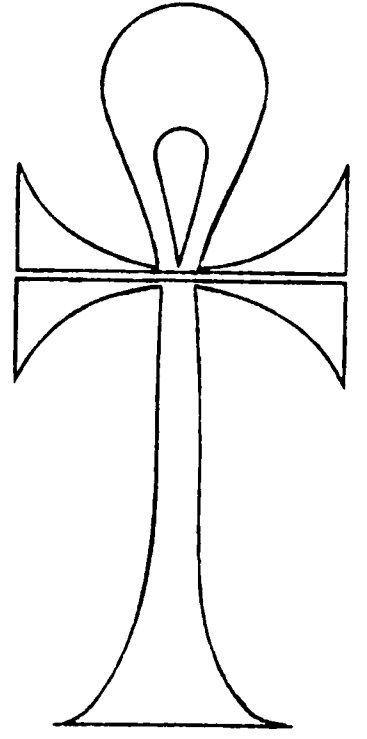
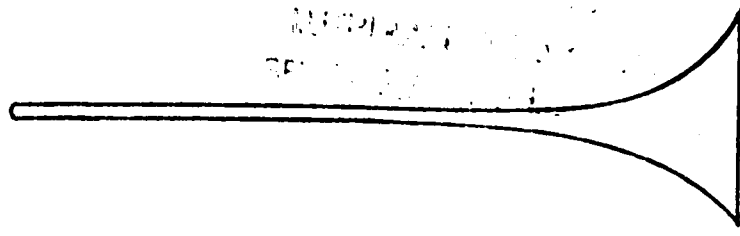


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# the SEMINARIAN

Published by students of the Lutheran theological seminary at Philadelphia

VOL. 34 no. 8 SPENCER WEAK November 2, 1972

## PASSAGE TO INDIA

(With apologies to E.M. Forster and Walt Whitman)

"Getting there is half the fun," even for a sabbatical. The Reumanns, who want to greet the Mt. Airy family from a similar school at Bangalore, United Theological College, made it, all 5 of us, to India on Aug. 24 - 26, on an Air India 747. Two movies and innumerable meals eased the 26-hours of flying, but Bombay airport at 4 a.m., and then the drive from New Delhi airport to the hotel as an introduction to the sprawling subcontinent and world's largest democracy, are not exactly the most comfortable way to begin life in your new country for four months.

In New Delhi we holed up in our air conditioned hotel for most of the first day, sleeping off "jet lag." Then the first ventures into the streets, amid the sacred cows, water buffalo, beggars, crowds, etc. New adventures in eating. And some sight seeing, including a trip to Agra for the Taj Mahal.

Calcutta followed for 3 days. All that the guide books say is true and then some. The crowding, the poverty, every act of life and death on the sidewalks, actually exists, in spite of heroic efforts at progress, complicated by the refugee situation from Bangladesh. We managed a trip to Serampore COLLEGE, FOUNDED IN 1827 by Carey and Marshman, the pioneer missionaries, and a visit with the Rev. K. Devasahayam, the first Lutheran to be rector there; he did a Mt. Airy S.T.M. in 1965.

Madras was our introduction to the south, a totally different area in language, culture, cleanliness (more so), and with a greater proportion of Christians. The heat was if anything, worse here, sightseeing slowed down, but we saw some of the sites connected with the supposed labor of St. Thomas in India. The 1900th anniversary of his martyrdom is being celebrated this year.) THEN ON TO Bangalore.

In all three areas visited, we shared hospitality from LCA mission personnel. While diminishing in number here, such people (cont. p. 2)



# THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDANT

As was promised earlier, I shall deal with the problem of how to handle a sandy and playful St. Bernard (the St. Bernard being of the canine type, not the beautiful version). But perhaps I should dress to an earlier stage- or start at the very beginning, a very good place to start.

As an intern (and the variety in these parts are called "Curate" not "vica" or vica or any other such colorful name - Although "vica" might also be a correct pronunciation in New England, especially right around Boston) freedays come and freedays go, and if you don't do it get away, more freedays go than come. It was one of these free days, a sunny one, reenergized the old "Wanderlust" in me. Hopping into the trusty (about as trusty as an American dollar) Cricket, I was drawn along a road bearing the strange sign "Cap Cod". A short drive brought me to Cape Cod, to a town well-known in American, Hyannis Port. There I met the St. Bernard, the bikini, the sea-gull and the cast of thousands (in the high grass).

A strange custom among New England folks is that dogs can run free on the beaches. Step carefully... especially if you happen to be barefoot... dogs have a strange custom of leaving their "parks" behind them.

One such day, a St. Bernard who shall remain nameless, was participating in this folksy custom, of running free that is. Being a friendly sort, and his seeing me to be a stranger (since the speaking of Pennsylvania Dutch among the good Swedish folks of New England is a mark of a stranger) came up to greet me. Perhaps he was enthused at hearing his native tongue spoken (heaven knows there many Pennsylvania Dutch dogs - I've known a few.) he started jumping on me to greet me. Now, far be it from me to dislike dogs (let the SPCA take note) however, the dog's enthusiasm had to be cooled- perhaps a quick dip in the ocean? Forgetting about dogs' other strange custom, I ran to the water and you guessed it- the greatest Faux pas (?) to hit Hyannis Port this year. Now a swim was imperative.. Life has its way of teaching us all little lessons.

The ruckus (not related to any student named Fritz) raised brought forth a flock of sea gulls, a great bikini and a cast of thousands...

Free days come and free days go - oh well.

Next: How not to go camping in Maine, in tents, with forty kids, in rainy weather, when snow is expected, and it's only September 15th.

That's about all the news from the frozen Northlands of the New England Synod. (Goodnight momma, vica, and John T. Schweitzer- wherever you are.)

Dennis P. Kohl

P.S. Faux Pais is French.

P.P.S. Happy Birthday- all around

The highlight of the Mt. Airy Saints football season will take place on November 9<sup>th</sup>... THE GETTYSBURG GAME!! In the past this football game has been the focal point of our two seminaries interaction. When two highly motivated teams meet there is the possibility that hard feelings and disgruntlement will result.

The history of this game has been marked by many controversial referee decisions by "volunteer" officials. Since this is such an emotional game for the two schools the officials are under extreme pressure to make "the right call"

To help alleviate this situation the two seminaries have decided to hire two officials. The objectivity of these men does cost money... \$15 to be specific. The Gettysburg Seminary Community has agreed to contribute the fee for one man. We have agreed to accept the fee the other man. In order to involve the community we have decided to ask for contributions... All such donations should be given to Dr. Andrew White or Tom Richards. Please have them in by Monday afternoon. T.Richard

# CASINO NITE Success!!! (THE CHIPS WERE FLYING)

# THE UNEXPIRED LIFE OF ROGAR WILLIAM SPENCER

Last FRIDAY NIGHT NEARLY SIXTY people jammed the Mt. Airy Casino (the refectory) to try their luck at a variety of casino games. All tables were busy as the players tried to out-fox the sly house dealers. Mr. Lucky, yours truly, aroused the gamblers several times during the evening when fabulous prizes and services were auctioned off. Other highlights of the evening included Rick Sebastian's father who refused to lose, and dealer Greg Johnson who refused to win, a 5 stud dealer who raked in the chips with his left hand and had his right hand on his trusty Seagrams 7 bottle, and Jumping Jim Jerge with a phenomenal display of mathematical skill at the big wheel.

The following is a brief autobiography of Roger WILLIAM Spencer, after whom this week is named (Thanks to 30 pieces of silver).

I was born and raised (two events upon which I will make no value judgments). Some years later, I moved, with my family (father, son and ~~holy~~ mother) from my former home to my new home town. After high school, I graduated, a relief to all those concerned. After a brief stint in the Marine Corps (I visited their recruiting office for 20 minutes) I decided I couldn't be a "man" and so I went to college. Traversing those hallowed halls of ivy for seven years, I made my mark in higher/sic/ education and it left its mark on me (I still haven't recovered). I graduated honorably (Magna praiz d'Lordâ), but realizing I wasn't prepared to do anything, I decided to enter seminary and follow in the footsteps of perhaps the greatest theologian and preacher of our day, The Rev. Dr. Billy Sol Hargus of the First Church of the Gooey Death and Discount House of WORSHIP. I am currently on the brink...of graduating, and therefore being reverend.

Here is a list of prizes and services. Will those people involved please get in touch with each other!

I am currently married to that weaker vessel, Pat.

My athletic prowess is unquestioned! As my coach has often said, "He may be small, but he's slow."

I enjoy music, especially whistling, and models--whether building them or looking at them.

This is my life as I have lived it.

- Student of the Week: Roger Spencer  
(biography in the SEMINARIAN)
- Refectory Privileges: John Koons
- Dinner - Newphers': Gary CARRIER
- Dinner - Bornemanns': Gary Carrier
- Dinner - Lundeens': Gary Carrier (HOG)  
(sold to J. Koons)
- Dinner - Olsons': Dick Niewohner
- Dinner - SPENCERS': Tom RICHARDS
- Dinner - Harpels': Dulsey from M'berg--  
Given to M. BODNYK
- Mrs. Heinecken's Apple Cake:  
The Muhlenberg Girls.
- Dr. Heinecken's Bread and Sermon:  
Dave Rhone--thanks to the providers!

Also a sincere thanks to the Social Committee and those who helped st up and clean up. Well done!!

Tom Omholt

student body  
meeting  
today after  
chapel  
in refectory

HAVE FUN RWS

## IN THE GLE' HAY

The Social Committee is planning a HAYRIDE for the seminary community.

DATE: November 10, 1972

TIME: Approx. 8:00 P.M.

COST: Approx. \$1.25/person

PARTY TIME AFTERWARDS with beer and chicks at the Harpels'!!!

A sign up sheet will be placed in HAGAN HALL.

FURTHER DETAILS LATER!!!!!

-----to-----  
Beware of those who, in getting up for the game of life, smoke the hash marks on the field of play. r.w.s.

# OF RUM, JUMBIES, and CRUZAN GHOSTS

Since yesterday was Halloween and the ghosts of all saints and the not-so-saintly were supposedly on the prowl, I thought that I'd join in the "spirit" of things (sorry about that!) and mention a few of the Cruzan apparitions which haunt this little island. Foremost among denizens of the nether world which stalk Cruzan shores are the "Jumbies." "Jumbies" are supernatural beings similar to those found in Voodoc cults in Haiti and Obeah cults in Jamaica and which have been described as a "special cross between a ghost and an Irish leprechaun." Jumbies act on people the way "gremlins" act on airplanes-- not disastrously, but prankishly. For example, it is playing with fire to let a Jumbie know that you are feeling well or fine, for he may then take steps to see that you soon aren't. Therefore, in response to the question, "How you go-in?" (How are you?) posed by a friend on the street, the proper response is "Not too bad," or "Not as good as you." -- this supposedly keeps the Jumbies guessing.

Although the presence of Jumbies may be a little too hard to believe, they do exist on the island-- and they're everywhere. Although no one seems ever to have actually seen a Jumbie, the proof of their existence is also everywhere. If your car won't start, if the electricity goes out at the wrong moment, if the telephone system goes on the blink when you've got to make an important call, if you're roused from a sound sleep by things "that go bump in the night", you can be sure that the Jumbies are wreaking their merry havoc and having a ball over your consternation. There is no known way to get rid of Jumbies, so the best thing is to just learn to live with them and try to stay on their good side (if they have one.)

St. Croix also has its share of genuine ghosts and superstitions. Among the foremost of the latter is that one should never look into a well at noon on Good Friday, for he will see the face of the next friend of his who is to die! Brrr!! Also, the ghost of the wife of one of the former Danish governors of the island supposedly haunts one of the ruined estates on the island. One of our more adventurous parishoners has talked me into going along to see if we can catch her sometime. If we do, I'll report on the event, but don't hold your breath!

Finally, there's the ghost in the vicar's apartment. Although my wife and I have yet to hear or see him (except for the rattling of a few chairs, which could be the work of Jumbies), the wife of one of the former vicars nearly lost ten years from her life-span when, while sleeping alone in the apartment one night, she heard him (the ghost) walk from the museum next door, through the bedroom wall, through the living room, and through the kitchen wall to the fellowship hall at the other end of the apartment! It seems that what is now the vicar's apartment was once part of the living quarters of the pastors of the Lutheran church here in Christiansted. In fact, what is now the apartment had been the sleeping areas of the Danish pastors and it was in one of these bedrooms that one of the old Danish "Herr Pastors" dropped dead about a hundred or so years ago. Why he should stick around the old quarters is a good question, as scaring the livers out of vicar's wives doesn't sound like much of a good time to me. In any event, he hasn't been heard from in a few years (and we're hoping that this isn't the year he decides to make a return engagement!). It's my theory that the "new theology" being espoused by the present pastor and vicars has been sufficient to exorcise the "old school" ghost. In other words, the ghost of the Dane has been vanquished by the ghost of Bultmann, and it remains to be seen which will be the worst pest! That's life on an island!

NEXT (in a few weeks): "Of Rum, and a Ride on the 'Goose'!"

Peace,  
The Vica

Rum recipe of the Week: West Indian Punch

"This is not what you have usually known as punch. Originally, the name was panch, the Hindutani word for "five". There are five ingredients: tea, water, sugar, lemon juice, and rum. Proportions to taste. Serve hot or cold. Refreshing! (Taken from 1971 edition of "The Settlers Handbook).

# WHAT DO YOU HEAR?

1. Where did Paul meet Timothy?
2. What was Jerimiah's wife's name?
3. What was Cain's first son's name?
4. Which direction did Shem go when he left the ark?
5. How many cubits long was the ark?
6. Where did Jesus go after he healed Bartimaas?
7. Whose house was Jesus in when he was anointed?
8. Who was the prostitute James talks about in his letter?
9. How many trolleys did Solomon construct?
10. How many heads did the Huge Red Dragon have?
11. Name the seven (7) churches in the Province of Asia that John wrote to.
12. What was Susann's husband's name?

It may seem to you that a "test of faith" is absurd. However, I would argue that it is in keeping with the practice implicitly in operation at this seminary; it is a matter of serious concern.

Rather than to give a series of such "tests", as is presently done, throughout a seminarian's career as such (especially in the Junior Year), it would be wiser to administer such a test as the one above as an entrance exam and alleviate the problem that presently exists - multiplicity of test that fail many students. In such a case one would be able to ascertain whether or not an individual had within him all of the proper makings (including enough knowledge) for an ordained clergyman before he entered the seminary. It would also insure the presence of only those who are "complete believers" on campus.

The absurdity of such a suggestion is of course quite clear. Yet this very kind of thinking seems to be that by which the fates of the future church leaders are decided. The emphasis is placed on how much the individual knows, the content he can give back on a piece of paper. The more he can write, the more complete his beliefs and the more "he will succeed" in the parish.

I do not say that content is unimportant. Certainly any worker must be able to use tools of his trade with either manual dexterity and/or mental dexterity. This is not in dispute. The emerging reemphasis on content is a reflection of a problem in the parish. Not only do clergy not know the content of faith, neither does the bewildered layman. Something must be done about this problem, but changing the basic principle of the educational process of the seminary back to the classical traditional content/memorization mode, will not solve the problem it will only make it greater. Let us forget the problem today of lack of knowledge of the Bible grew out of yesterday's overemphasis on content. People then knew the orders of the books of the Bible and could quote scripture, but it was meaningless like the sounding brass in the troubled world. I was raised in the SCS tradition of memorizing the books of the Bible, but I don't know them now. There is a vast difference between memorization and knowing. I know things because they are vital to my life and I use them everyday.

Time and again I hear from old pastors that the Seminarian today lacks knowledge. They say (how ironically!!!) that when they were seminarians they knew all the stuff. The irony is that they will admit that they don't know it now. Not one pastor could take the above test and pass it. I venture to say that not one professor could get more than a 50 on this test. Content becomes absurd because no one can agree on what is important to know. The very emphasis on content interferes with the process of using the hermeneutical tools. There is a point beyond which the remembering of facts for regurgitation on tests inhibits the real learning of the tools. It is this latter for which we enter the seminary but in requiring these "measures of faith", "of good Christianity" both the students' time and the faculties' is wasted. But of more importance are the people who lose the most - the people in the congregations. If our concern is not with the congregations. If our concern is not with the congregations, the whole academic pursuits of the seminary are pointless.

# OPEN LETTER

ADVERTISEMENT

# THE HOLY B \_ \_ \_ E

To the Editor:

One of the most impressive and moving things I have experienced since my arrival at Mt. Airy, was the opening Communion Service. Part of the reason for this I am sure was the awe with which I met the campus, and the shock of actually being here. However, there was also a feeling of having an entire community involved in this experience with me, and the moment the first hymn began, I felt sure that I would melt through a crack in the floor.

Then, last month, another Wednesday Communion Service and only a handful of the community that I now belong to was there, and I wonder why. All sorts of distracting thoughts were going through my head.

While I realize that it is not necessary to have great throngs present to have a meaningful worship experience, I find it more meaningful to have a greater representation of the wonderful family at Mt. Airy in attendance.

Next Wednesday evening, November 8, at 8:00 P.M. is another evening Communion. I would really like to see everybody make an honest effort to attend, even if the only reason you come is to make me happy (but I hope it isn't!).

Jim Jerge

Friends, for a short time only, the Rev. Dr. Billy Sol Hargus of the First Church of the Goocy Death and Discount House of Worship in Del Rio Texas

offers the book you all have been waiting for. Have you ever taken an oath, with your left hand placed firmly on HIS book, only to neglect that oath at a future date? Well, now the Rev. Dr. Billy Sol Hargus of the 1st Church of the Goocy Death and Discount House of Worship can offer you THE book, with blank pages! As you thurb through this beautiful imitation leather bound volume you will notice there is not a printed word between the covers. So the next time you take an oath and want to hedge your bet, only you and HE will know and HE won't mind, because the pages are blank.

So send your buck four eighty to The Rev. Dr. Billy Sol Hargus, 1st Church of the Goocy Death and Discount House of Worship, Del Rio, Texas (Site of Holy Land - the Biblical Amusement Park) Amen, brother, you may take your hands off this paper.

R. W. Spencer

## COMMUNITY CALENDER

### THE MT. AIRY COP-OUT

You got to be clinically detached, boy!  
Don't wear yourself out  
Save yourself for the rest  
And when you get involved, save yourself for the rest  
And when you see the rest, save yourself for the rest  
And when you feel the rest, save yourself for the rest  
You got a long life ahead of you, boy  
Don't give it up now  
You can't be naive about life  
Can you boy?  
Detach yourself from them, before you find out that they are you  
And you can't save yourself, can you boy?

Greg Johnson

Today..... Student Body Meeting, after Chapel in the Refectory.

Tuesday, Nov. 7..... ELECTION DAY..VOTE!!!

Wednesday, Nov. 8..... Evening Communion at 8:00 P.M.

Thursday, Nov. 9....Gottysburg Day  
10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.  
Football Game at 3:00 P.M.

Friday, Nov. 10..... Hayride!!!!!

COMMUNION WED.  
7:30 P.M.

# Seminarian

## NOTE BENE FOR SEMINARY BUFFS:

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra will perform in Jadwin Gymnasium, Princeton University, on December 4, 1972, at 8:00 P.M. Student tickets are available at \$3.00 from the concert office. Tickets for other than students are \$5.00- \$7.50.

## G - DAY

On Thursday November 9, students from Gettysburg Seminary will coming to Philadelphia for a day of fellowship, dialogue and football. The schedule for the day are as follows:

- 10 A.M. G'burgers arrive and worship with us.
- 10:50-11:20 Coffee break with G'burgers
- 11:45-1:15 Lunch
- 1:30 Tour of campus
- 3:00 Football Game... Rain or Shine!!!
- 5:30 Dinner
- 7P.M. Leave for Gettysburg.

All seminarians, faculty, are asked to join in the fellowship with the Gettysburg students to give them a hearty welcome to fun city south.

## CHAPEL CONVENERS:

The choir is willing to sing for weekly chapel services (e.g. anthems, special liturgies, etc.). If there is anything special that you would like the choir to do please let Dr. Bornemann know by the Thursday of the week preceding the week of your chapel services so that there is time for the choir to prepare.

- Bob Mitman

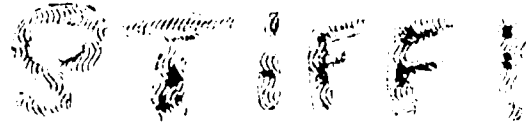
## DID YOU KNOW?

The women's Auxliary of the Semihary is made up of more than 12,000 women congregations throughout the supporting synods. Did you know that since its beginning in 1939 the Auxiliary has contributed over one half million dollars to the Seminary in the form of schlarships, funds for housing, books for the library and maintenance? Whether or not you have

(Continued on next column)

been the recipient of one of the schloarships, you have benefited from their loyal and generous support in ways of which you may not have not been aware. The Auxiliary is helping to encourage even further interest and support for the Seminary by sponsoring a day of visiting on the campus. On Tuesday Nov. 14, the entire membership of the executive committee, members of all regular committees and all atudents and faculty wives have been invited to come to the Seminary to sit in on the classes, attend chapel and lunch in the refectory. Please welcome these visitors to the campus and help them find their way around. If any student wives have not recieved a letter of invitation, please note her name and address and put it into the Auxiliary mailbox in "C" Hall.

- Joan Krodal



WE NEED YOUR HELP!!! PLEASE COME UP TO THE SEMINARIAN OFFICE TO HELP TYPE, STAMP OR ENCOURAGE THESE BRAVE MEN WHO FEARLESSLY PLACE THEIR REPUTATIONS ON THE LINE FOR THE SAKE OF THEIR BELOVED SEMINARY. (SIGH)

The Seminarian is a student publication of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in the senic town of brotherly love (that's Greek, you know). Our offices are located in the third floor of "F" hall. We print (go to press in newspaper talk) every Wednesday evening from 6:30- 9:00. Please place all articles in the "P" mail box(?).

Co-editors: Bruce Potteliger, Richard Davis  
Typists: John Kunkel and Koons, Mike Bodnyk, the editors, and Hubie(Rube).  
Crank: John Kunkel, Jeffy Bortz.  
The Stampler(alias The Beater) BANG\*BANG.  
Maybe Dave Rhone.

Contributors: The Transcendental Maharishee  
Dr. Jack Reumann, Mike Bodnyk, John Koons, Bob Mitman, Rick Sebastian, Roger(the Godfather)Spencer, Greg (the prophet) Johnson, Tom (the bouncer) Umhoolt, Jim Jerge (alias Jerky) Editor Emeritus, Denny Kohl the Dutchman, Dwight(the viceh) Shellaway, David Wartluft(the Comedian), etc.  
Visitors and otherwise: Tom Richards(he's back on campus again- so rumor has it), Jerry Arndt, Dave Allen (who is now sick, also Ken Gould. Thanx G. Freeman!!!!

MRS. KRODAL



