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Christmas Greetings

Through this courtesy copy of *The Springfielder*, the twenty-two faculty members and 416 students of Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Illinois, extend their warm greetings of this blessed season.

May the peace with God through Christ of which the angels sang be yours through the coming year.

CHORUS APPEARS IN NEW VESTMENTS

Through an "Adopt a Chorister Plan", suggested by alumnus Pastor Walther Eissfeldt, Buckley, Illinois, the sixty-three members of our seminary chorus were able to appear in new tailor-made vestments at their annual Christmas Concerts in Decatur, Lincoln and Springfield.

The chorus wishes to express its gratitude to the many congregations of all sections of the United States and Canada for their gifts for the cassocks and surplices for the chorus.

WANTED: A NURSE

We sincerely hope that the alumni and friends of our seminary can help us in our search for a nurse who is to work full time in our seminary hospital.

We are looking for a registered nurse who would like to serve her Lord in the Church managing our seminary hospital.

If you know of anyone who would be interested in this position, please write the seminary in care of the Dean of Students.

"The greatest wonder ever on earth is, that the Son of God died the shameful death of the cross."

—Luther.

CURVE OF CONFIDENCE

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This statistical curve reflects the confidence that Synodical Conference Lutherans have placed in the Aid Association for Lutherans with its Lutheran life insurance representatives, its capable Lutheran business management, and its demonstrated ability to provide life insurance at a low net cost.

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The Acting-President's Page

Where shall I begin to tell about the many interesting things that have happened since the last appearance of our school paper? Let us pick up some items at random.

Donation Day and the Seminary Guild

October 22 brought about three hundred visitors to our campus. The donations amounted to 3,685 quarts of canned goods and preserves, 150 bushels of potatoes, 15 bushels of apples and pears, 14 chickens, 620 dozens of eggs, 30 pounds of lard, and sundry other items. Cash receipts for the commissary amounted to \$217.75. The project of our guild for the next two years is the furnishing of the student lounge in the proposed dormitory, toward which \$1,661.50 had come in by October 22. Our students took care of the guests by means of conducted tours of the campus and a program of entertainment. The ladies of the guild served a very tasty meal at noon and there was ample food for all. From numerous complimentary expressions we take it that our guests enjoyed the day with us. For this we are glad and thankful. At this writing the guild of the seminary is looking forward to its annual Christmas party. Our chorus will sing for the ladies and there will be the usual lunch and exchange of gifts. Even baby-sitting has been provided.

Library-Administration Building

During the last weeks of October and the early part of November a committee of the faculty met several times with a representative of our Board of Control to determine as closely as possible the space allotments of the new building, which will be our library, but which will yield some of its space temporarily to accommodations for our administrative offices. Sufficient headway was made to enable our Board to give specific instructions to the architect in the preparation of preliminary plans. As we write this, a Decatur firm is examining the soil to help the architect in determining the footings for our new buildings. Moffat Avenue, which will be vacated permanently after building operations begin, is closed to traffic while these tests are being made.

New Residence Hall, Bookstore, Tunnel

In the places where the "Sheep Stable" and "Castle Garden" once stood a new dormitory will be under construction very soon. In size it will be like Van Horn Hall, but in appearance it will have features all its own. Chief of these will be the lounge at ground level looking out upon a sunken garden. The most recent developments in the planning provide a new bookstore of 1,250 square feet with a receiving room of 260 square feet. The display room of the store is to be lighted with sky domes. The building will stand between Van Horn Hall and the new residence hall. All of this calls for a new tunnel to take care of the heat pipes and other services. The present tunnel for the heat pipes lies in the place where the new bookstore and residence hall will stand. The new tunnel, 400 feet in length, seven in depth, and six in width, will connect the boiler house and the dining hall. The plans will make possible the enlarging of the present snack bar, and will provide a place for the handling of mail and parcels.

Winter Quarter

Yesterday we observed Thanksgiving Day after closing the Fall Quarter of this year on Wednesday afternoon, when the last finals were given. Students and professors alike will testify that we spent ten very busy weeks together. This was our first experience with the quarter-system. It will be interesting to hear what impressions were carried to the people in our churches as our students tell about their respective work loads, and the amount of time at their disposal to complete their projects. Now we are on the threshold of the Winter Quarter. This runs from December 1 through March 6, 1959. Christmas vacation begins at 3:30 on December 18, and closes on January 6, at 9:45 a.m. The last two quarters each will be longer than the Fall Quarter by a week, and as usual, there will be plenty of work for students and staff members. It is our wish and prayer that all will be kept in good health so that our work may be carried on without hindrance. The Savior has been very good to us thus far, and we look to Him for a continuance of His blessings.

New President

The new year will, as we hope, bring a new president to our school. If things go well, we shall receive the man of God's choice in the early part of the Spring Quarter. Nominations are being received by the Secretary of our Board of Control. The faculty has a committee to collect information needed by the electors. This committee is composed of Prof. M. Naumann, chairman; Prof. L. Petersen; and Prof. F. Kramer. We trust that many congregations have availed themselves of the opportunity to place a person in nomination, and that the list will contain the names of men who are well suited to the task of administering the affairs of a Lutheran theological seminary. Will those who read these lines kindly remember our institution in their prayers, not only with respect to our manifold needs in this era of planning and expansion, but especially with reference to the vacant presidential chair? In that way all who are charged with duties leading to the election of the new president will be led aright to the glory of our Savior and the best interests of this seminary.

Chapel Drive

We trust that the next few weeks will find this project of our alumni in full swing. At this time we can report that we are approaching the \$30,000 mark in contributions received or, putting it another way, a total of \$45,000, figuring in unpaid pledges. We all agree that we should be able to report to the alumni at San Francisco that the venture is assured on the basis of reports that come to us from the field in the meantime. We here shall put forth renewed efforts promptly to engage the officers of the association, and the individual members as well, in a planned thorough solicitation of all who are yet to be reported from, in order that the oft-repeated wish of Springfield's friends, viz, that our much-needed chapel will soon become a reality, will be realized in not too many months. In this, too, let us beseech the Savior to bless us.

Christmas and New Year Wishes

You all know, of course, that Christmas is upon us, and that there is precious little time remaining in

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The Lutheran Free-Churches In Germany

When a church grows up to the size of our own synod, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, it can undertake projects that are completely out of the reach of smaller churches. A small church will have great difficulties in publishing its own church papers and books; in training its own ministers; in doing mission work among the people of its own country. The Missouri Synod has always recognized this practical fact and has felt that it had to support fellow Lutherans in other countries where they fought for the maintenance of good Lutheran doctrine and practice. In Germany our church has valued the Lutheran Free-churches as valiant confessors of the Lutheran Faith in the face of rationalism and liberalism in high places of the many people's churches. In doctrinal agreement with these small groups our church has been supporting the work of these churches now for a great number of years. Especially after World War II the leaders of our church recognized the need for help. The churches being helped by our synod and also the Wisconsin Synod are the Evangelical Lutheran (Old Lutheran) Church, sometimes referred to as the Breslau Church; the Evangelical Lutheran Free-church, sometimes called the Saxon Free-church; The Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Each has had its own history and carries on its own tradition, but each has had to fight a battle for "Luther's doctrine pure", and each represents a small minority among the numerically large churches in Germany. In the ranks of these people are few well-to-do families. Their zeal for the Lord compares favorably with any church in the world; their needs are those of the smaller, the poorer, and economically weaker brethren. Yet they represent a force proportionately much greater than their numbers indicate. The seminary they jointly support and for which they get support from the brethren over here in America is, practically speaking, the one reliable and orthodox Lutheran training school for theologians manned by men with a theological standing on a par with the theologians of the great German universities. Their influence not only on the churches they serve, but on the theological scene is of paramount value to all Lutheranism.

The Free-churches of Germany have been doing more and more to become self-supporting. The subsidies granted them by our own church have been reduced systematically; in conferences and lectures as well as by materials describing our own methods of expansion and stewardship we have tried to help them do their duty more efficiently so as to reach complete independence. Actually the support for the German Free-churches amounts to the subsidy only for the theological seminary and for the refugee congregations. As soon as the German economy which still has a far way to go has reached normalcy, and as soon as the standard of living in Germany which is still far below that in the United States has been raised a little more, we can expect the Freechurches of Germany to take over not only their own work but to increase also their present effort at supporting their own foreign mission in Africa for which they even now raise respectable sums. Gratefully and joyously we see the banner of true confessional Lutheranism upheld by these brethren in Europe and pray that God may strengthen them in their work.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT'S PAGE (Continued from Page 2)

the year of our Lord 1958. We thank our dear Father in heaven, through Jesus Christ, His Son, for His abundant mercies upon us, our church, including the readers of our little school paper, and our beloved nation; we pray Him to fill the hearts of His people, as also many whom He will bring unto the knowledge of salvation through the Christmas Gospel, with genuine and abiding joy in Jesus the Savior; and we commend all who will be permitted to enter the new year, 1959, to the continued grace and goodness of our God in heaven, to Whom, with Jesus and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, praise and dominion now and forevermore!

Clarence W. Spiegel

"To be thus taken command of so that when we go out to preach it is not ours at all but Christ's self-testimony—this is our vocation and the hope of our ministry." —Stewart.

ALUMNI NEWS

In a letter dated October 31, Missionary Rudolph Prange states that Missionary George Sedory (class of '58), his wife and three daughters arrived in the Philippine Islands. Missionary Sedory is scheduled to work in the Mountain Province, among pagan tribes that have some times been referred to as "head hunters." He also informed us that Missionary Fred Jagow (class of '57) and his wife recently were blessed with a baby boy.

"You may recall from your reading of history that one of the battles in the War of 1812 (Battle of New Orleans) was fought after the peace treaty had been signed. That battle was fought, men bled and died, because communication was slow, and those who fought did not know that the war was over! What a tragedy that men continue to fight when 'the war is over!' Is the reason perhaps this: The great majority of people in the world do not know—or do not believe—that the Great War is over, the war between God and sinners? That war was over, peace had been negotiated and pardon for sinners had been procured when the Son of God, with His dying breath, announced to the world: 'It is finished.' That is our privilege as your missionary proxies, to tell people in the Philippines that the Great War is over, that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Continue to pray for us that God may help us do our work well. Pray God to bless our feeble efforts, that many people may embrace Christ as their Savior and rejoice because 'the Great War is over'."

Pastor Truman Broetzmann, a graduate of our seminary of ten years ago, has suffered the affliction of a collapsed lung and will undergo surgery at the Wisconsin General Hospital. We commend him to the Lord's gracious care. . . .

The Reverend Edward Tippen, according to newspaper reports, officiated at the funeral of Mel Ott on November 10. . . .

Funeral services were held at Big Springs, Nebraska, for the Reverend George Koslowske who died of a heart attack at the age of 61. He spent 37 years in the ministry following his graduation from our seminary.

After twenty-two years as a parish pastor, Walter H. Moeller, class of '36, turned to politics, winning a seat