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# CONSENSUS OR DIVISION?



A STUDENT PUBLICATION OF

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
WAKE FOREST, N.C.

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## CONSENSUS OR DIVISION?

(EDITORS NOTE\*\*\*This article is written on a topic which has seen substantial controversy. Accordingly, some of the quotations included were made by faculty members who have preferred to remain anonymous.)

THE RESPONSE to Dr. W.A. Criswell's now infamous statement in Nashville concerning the unity of the Southern Baptist Convention has been decidedly negative. His apparent appeal for a workable consensus among the liberal, conservative, and fundamental wings of the denomination is generally understood to have been a sell-out to the fundamentalist. The flamboyant attitude of one who said in so many words take it or leave it "shocked a large portion of the convention family, especially those who seriously are seeking to re-interpret the gospel message for modern man." It is certainly unfortunate that a statement of this kind should come at a time when the unanimity of the convention is particularly strained.

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LET IT BE noted that the tension which exists among Southern Baptists results from the efforts of fundamentalist who are trying to "purge the ranks." The intellectual community among Southern Baptists is satisfied to abide by the confessional

faiths of our history, remembering that our statements of faith have never been binding creeds. Baptists have always believed and practiced an associational fraternity which recognized that not everyone will agree in doctrine, except in the most general terms.

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A BASIC principle that has held Baptists together over the years necessitates that each man be free to follow the dictates of his own soul in matters of interpretation and application of the Gospel of Christ. No one should be asked to accept as a creed a confession which was originally written as a general guideline for co-operative Christian ministry. No doubt Dr. Criswell had good intentions in making his statement as the modification suggests. One can appreciate his effort to contain the different wings of the convention as ministering people united in Christ.

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CERTAINLY, not one pastor or layman ought to be lost to the Convention. Every man who teaches, preaches, or witnesses has a contribution to make to the life of Southern Baptist. The withdrawal from active participation in the life of the Convention by any group, however large or small would be tragic. We pray

(Continued on Page 7)

# EDITORIAL

## COMMENT

THE ENQUIRY is the weekly student newspaper of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C. It is circulated on campus each Tuesday afternoon.

# LECTURE METHOD INEFFECTIVE

A prime principle of education put forward unanimously in Southern Baptist literature is that the straight lecture method of teaching is outmoded, boring, and ineffective unless it is done with the consummate skill of a genius. There are few professors in this institution with that ability.

In a large class situation it is difficult to use any other method, but it is to the real credit of most of our professors that sincere questions asked of them result in a response of serious sincerity in their answer. For a professor to resent the asking of questions in his class as insolence, or a threat that undermines the pragmatic presuppositions of his well prepared, cut and dried lecture, is a tragic, almost unforgiveable attitude, especially for one with the intelligence required to earn a doctorate.

While it may be felt that it is clever theologically to answer questions with more questions, avoiding and side-stepping answers, this is in reality the precise reason that many students regard the theological and higher educational method to be irrelevant and empty. Dr. Joyce Brothers, who was voted by the students of over one hundred American universities to be one of their ten most admired women, states concerning her study of students, that they are seeking answers to basic questions, and because they are not finding these answers in the universities and do not feel they have the responsibility of any real important accomplishment, the result is protest, demonstration, and revolt. (R.M.)

### STAFF MEMBERS

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### TOPIC FOR THE WEEK

Next week we want to hear from you concerning the recent statement issued by Dr. W. A. Criswell.

Submit your response to THE ENQUIRY office or to any staff member any time before Thursday afternoon.

Consult the editorial found on page one of this newspaper for possible source material.

# WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES

WHEN MORNING first yawns its ray of sunlight over the quiet little parish of Wake Forest these days, the spirit of the escaping darkness lingers, stretched over the streets of busy traffic. A lone, silent figure may be seen searching the sunny morn for signs of midnight mischief, fighting the good fight for stability. This quaint little setting reminds one of that great classic of literature—Charles Dicken's A Christmas Carol, where the ghost of Christmas past lumbers into the nocturnal bedchamber, haunting the idle thoughts of those concerned only for themselves.

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AS A CHERISHER of the literary figures of Dickens, one cannot help but become excited at the mention of a Marlowe dragging his chains from the cruelties of the past into the world of old Ebenezer and Tiny Tim. It seems that submerged in the literary traditions of the parish of Wake Forest there exists certain ghosts of the past that arise on those special occasions to remind of the supposed shackles of the present. We have our own Tiny Tim do-gooders riding their crutches through the night awakening the present to the memories of the past.

## WE NEED HELP!

It is our desire to make THE ENQUIRY the best it can possibly be. Therefore, we need your help to make it so.

At the present time we are in desperate need of reporters, editorial writers, artists, and make-up men. Especially needed are persons in the last two categories.

A staff position on THE

THE WORLD MAY take little notice of the sign-painters of today, whether they are crusading college social changers or whether they are mischievous theological students seeking to add more life to an often stale community. What they picture as the shackles of the past however may well be the links to the future.

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IT WAS NOT the purpose of Charles Dickens to simply roust out the ghost of the past but to stir the unattentive mind of the present in order that the future might be considered before it comes. One hopes that those nocturnal ghost writers of our parish are serving with the cause of Dickens.

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THERE CAN BE no real purpose in dropping names of the past unless there is a concern for the future of the academically-crippled Tiny Tims. We need a community in which each individual is interested in the welfare of his neighbor and not just in his own personal security. The ghost of Christmas future is no ghost at all, but a dream of a better day. Let us all strive to realize that dream.

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A MERRY CHRISTMAS to all and to all a good night. (C.F.)

ENQUIRY offers little pay, in fact none, but it does offer the sometimes more satisfying opportunity for service to this Seminary family. Furthermore, there is the chance offered to become a direct influence on the thought life of both faculty and student alike.

If you are interested in such a position please see any staff member soon.


to the EDITOR

UNITED FUND CAMPAIGN.....

RECENTLY, we passed up good opportunities--an opportunity for total involvement in the seminary and community life; and opportunity to practice what we preach and teach; and an opportunity to express our spiritual compassion through our material resources.

I'M REFERRING to the Wake County United Fund Campaign on Campus. Frankly our total giving was commendable (thanks to the faculty and administration's response), but the student participation in this worthy enterprise was pitiful.

I'M BEWILDERED at the bland lack of interest and complacent "so-what" attitudes uncovered in this effort. Truly, if "seeking empties a life but giving fills it," careless indifference blights it out seriously. I trust that in the future, students will give a better account of themselves in these matters. A special thanks to those who did contribute cheerfully and were willing to share with those less fortunate(?) than themselves. My gracious thanks to you who helped solicit contributions.

--Gene S. Carnell  
Welfare Chairman  
SCC

100 HOUR REQUIREMENT.....

IT BEHOOVES me to express my undaunted and completely unbiased opinion of the present status of seminary students in quest of II.Div. degrees with regard to the requirement that they complete 100 semester hours before being awarded that degree. Let me say first of all that I have received this conclusion which I am about

to expound upon through a process of logical, determined, thoughtful effort. I have weighed the issues which have manifested themselves and which include a series of pros and cons. Furthermore, this conclusion has undergone strenuous hypothetical testing from several of my peers as well as withstanding multiple criticism coming from diverse areas of intellectual habitation, and in the words of Shakespeare has come out smelling like a rose.

WITH THIS in mind, I will now present to you my conclusions concerning this problem. (1) One hundred hours seems like a lot, but taking into consideration that it is only three or four years of your life, it's not so bad. (2) Not only are you exposed to the basic studies designed to enhance your theological understanding of God, man, and neighbor and their inter-relationships; but also, you have the momentous opportunity of learning numerous secrets of human relationships on your own. Among these is tolerance for utter stupidity, sympathy for stark naivety, accommodation for rhetorical nonsense, acceptance of biased bigotry, heartfelt thanks for crass hypocrisy, and probably most important of all, love for born losers. (3) You may become involved in meaningful and fruitful and relevant discussion of all your courses in the many small group meetings conducted by the faculty and be able to question and challenge and gain significant response. (4) Finally, 100 hours is, in and of itself, an inducement for young men who are still unsure, doubting, unbelieving sometimes, and not convinced that a Master of Arts degree of 30 hours and a thesis is sufficient to place them in a position wherein they

(Continued on Page 6)

# DR CARLTON WELCOMED TO SOUTHEASTERN FACULTY

(EDITOR'S NOTE--Each month THE ENQUIRY will feature a faculty member elected in a campus survey as outstanding faculty member of the month. The results of the first such survey will be revealed in the second article of this series, which will be released during the second week of December. In this article, THE ENQUIRY is featuring a new faculty member, Professor John W. Carlton.)

By Paul Mauney  
Editor--THE ENQUIRY

THE SECOND session of summer school found a new figure standing in front of classes at Southeastern Seminary. This institution was fortunate indeed to secure the services of an outstanding professor such as Dr. John William Carlton. Dr. Carlton has returned to the Triangle Area after a seven-year absence to teach classes at his alma mater, Duke, and also at this Seminary.

THOSE WHO HAVE known Dr. Carlton in the several months since he has come to Southeastern describe him as a perfect gentleman, an able teacher and lecturer, and a true friend to every student who sits in his classes. A Texas native, he was born in Orange Texas, on October 6, 1920. Dr. Carlton attended Delmar College in Corpus Christi, Texas, and received the BA degree from Baylor University in Waco. In 1946, he entered Southern Seminary in Louisville, and then transferred to Duke Divinity, which awarded him the B D degree in 1950. The College of Arts and Sciences at that same school conferred on him the PhD degree in 1955. In all his 49 years Dr. Carlton has happily remained a bachelor.

DR. CARLTON'S true home is behind a lectern in front of a preaching class. His vivid por-

trayal of the preachers of history reflects a keen perception of the men he describes. This past summer he taught Post-Reformation Preaching as his first course at Southeastern. Despite the early morning hour which the class met (7:30 A.M.) Dr. Carlton commanded the interest and attention of his class with his well-prepared notes.

AS A TEACHER, Dr. Carlton began his career as a member of the faculty at Duke Divinity School in the fall of 1955 as Instructor in Preaching. After seven years, he moved his base of operations to Louisville and Southern Seminary, where he remained for another seven-year period as Associate Professor of Preaching. This year Dr. Carlton returned to this area to become Professor of Preaching at Southeastern Seminary and Adjunct Professor of Preaching at Duke Divinity School.

DR. CARLTON has written articles on preaching and worship for various religious journals, among them Baptist Student Magazine and Review and Expositor (the quarterly journal for Southern Seminary). Among his interim pastorate positions have been posts in Indiana and New Jersey, as well as tenures at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church in Raleigh and Temple Church in Durham.

IN EXPLAINING his move back to North Carolina, Dr. Carlton admits that he was enticed by the exciting educational opportunities which

(Continued on Page 8)

# OPINION UNINHIBITED

by Paul Mauney  
Editor-THE ENQUIRY

How important are grades to the seminary student? Should grades be any more or less important at this level in the educational system? These are questions which are not easy to answer, and we cannot arrive at answers concerning them here which have eluded educators for many centuries.

Nevertheless, we examine the grading scale at Southeastern Seminary with as much a feeling of fascination as anything else. Here the emphasis is placed on the C grade while elsewhere first priority is accorded to the A grade. Apparently, a C grade reflects satisfactory work, while effort above the ordinary is prescribed for B and A work. Simply stated, C+ work at Southeastern Seminary might be A work in most other places.

## LETTER — from Page 4

might make some difference in the spiritual as well as intellectual growth of other young men and women just like themselves.

THUS, I SUBMIT my conclusions to you. As you can see, there is both bitterness and aspiration intermingled within this writing, and it is with a heavy heart that I take my stand and generally support the existing program.

--L. Alan Sasser

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Even though this is the ideal system of grading in the sight of many, it creates many crucial problems for those aspiring to enter graduate studies. The student at Southeastern must perform at a higher level in some cases to reach equal consideration with students from other schools.

This writer believes that it would be proper for the policies of this theological school to not get modernized too quickly.

## A MOMENT APART... (A SHORT DEVOTIONAL)

### THE POWER OF PRAYER...

Scripture Reading: Mark 11:20-25

Jesus tells his disciples that obstacles to fruitfulness (fig tree) and progress (mountain) can be overcome; but only by faith which is in God.

Today if we as Christians see God through the mountain, we are in a terrible shape; but if we see the mountain through God we can make our difficulties van-

ish.

It is by our prayer life that we keep in touch with God. However, many people have become strangers to Him. Let us therefore let our light shine so that others may see Jesus in our lives.

Prayer: O Lord, forgive us for the many times we have ignored Thee, both in times of trouble and in times of happiness. Compel us to rely only upon Thy truth and love...Amen.

--Lee Roy Johnson

# SWINGIN' SINGERS SWING

by Doug Sturgill  
Features Editor

On October 31, 1969, we experienced a new form of worship in our chapel. The worship service was organized and narrated by Jim Montsinger. Jim was found out in front of the pulpit rather than behind and gathered around Jim were a group of drum-beating, guitar-strumming, turtle-necked students known as the "Swingin' Singers."

\* \* \* \* \*

The congregation soon discovered themselves being a truly participating community. Some sang, some patted their foot, some eyebrows were raised, and all soon discovered themselves in the midst of worship.

The worship service included prayers, biblical readings from contemporary men such as Malcolm Boyd and Martin Luther King. Some songs possessed familiar words, but new tunes were used such as the "Doxology" sung to the tune of "Jamaica Farewell. Other songs were rather untraditional in the church setting; yet, holding such meaning and relevancy to the church and its ministry.

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The subject concerned was love as expressed to us through Jesus Christ. The particular aspects read and sung about were war, poverty, and race relations. Montsinger had selected a group of significant readings to deal with these particular aspects,

CRISWELL from Page 1

as Jesus "...that they (we) may be one." So the suggestion that the Convention is large enough for liberals as well as fundamentalists is well taken.

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THIS IDEA, however, is shattered when a confession is thrown down as a gauntlet and becomes a creed, the acceptance or rejection which is the sole basis of inclusion among Southern Baptists.

(E.B.)

Which were generally followed by a contemporary song or a traditional song set to a contemporary tune.

The reactions to the worship service were rather favorable. It is indeed hoped that other experiments will be attempted in the future. This is to say it would be an injustice to only reveal the factual evidence of this worship service without pondering further implications. The specific implication is participation. The Word was spoken and enacted with new music which called upon participation from the community as well as from Jim and the "Swingin' Singers." The leader and the group became vessels by which the community could experience a reality often absent in the usual personality-centered worship experience.

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C O M M E N T

Too often there is a "Great" preacher and then there are minor staff members, who do the "other" ministries, as Dennis C. Benson so well brings out in his book, The Now Generation. Pierre Berton speaks just as strongly for a new form of worship when he states in his new book The Comfortable Pew, "...The best immediate solution might be...to declare a moratorium on all pulpit-preaching for a period of at least a year and probably longer."

The stronger implication of such a worship service would be to have an enactment of salvation with the tire community participating. New forms of worship are needed desperately.

# CONVOCAATION COMMITTEE INVITES STUDENTS TO SUBMIT NAMES FOR SPEAKERS

The Committee on Convocations, Lectures, and Missionary Days is ready to begin its work of arranging for speakers for the various lectures and Missionary Days for the two coming academic years.

Students and members of the faculty are invited to submit to the committee the names of persons who might be considered for these assignments. Speakers will be needed for the following occasions: Missionary Days; 1970-1971: Founders' Day Address; Spring 1971: Fall Lectures; Fall, 1970 and Fall, 1971: Spring Lec-

tures; Spring, 1971 and Spring, 1972: Carver-Barnes Memorial Foundation 1972. The lecturer for the Carver-Barnes series should normally be someone in the field of the history of Christianity.

If you wish to make a suggestion, please submit the names and positions, with addresses if available, and any helpful data on the persons you would like to have considered. Indicate the occasion for which you are recommending each person, and hand the information to any member of the committee or place it in the faculty mailbox by Monday, November 17.

## DR CARLTON . . . . . (from Page 5)

the concentration of schools in this area offers. Just as well, Southeastern's newest Professor cites his long-standing ties with Duke as another factor.

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IN STATING his impressions of Southeastern thus far, Dr. Carlton said, "I am impressed by the vision and integrity of the

administration, the versatility and dedication of a competent faculty that is broad in its training and ecumenical in its spirit, and by the abilities and friendliness of the student body. Southeastern Seminary is a place where one can richly invest his life and find personal and professional fulfillment.

# CAMPUS BILLBOARD

### CHAPEL SPEAKERS:

- NOV. 12--Dr. Ben S. Johnson
- 12--Dr. M. Ray McKay...  
Preaching...Southeastern Seminary
- 14--SCC...Ethics Committee
- 18--President Olin T. Binkley
- 19--Dr. Archie L. Nations
- 20--Dr. Homer J. Tucker...  
Director of Urban Work and Community Ministries... New Jersey Bap-

### tist Convention

- NOV. 21--Dr. John W. Carlton
- Murray D. Craft
- Hugh R. Grimmer
- David L. Grogan
- H. Adrian Grubbs, Jr.
- Glenn O. Gunter

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- NOV. 12--Dr. Glendon McCullough...  
Home Mission Board...Student Interviews



# POOR CHAPEL ATTENDANCE...

In connection with the request made in THE ENQUIRY today for students to suggest the names of persons who might be invited to our campus for various speaking engagements, it seems needful to propose some consideration of the response to such special speakers. As chairman of the Committee on Convocations, Lectures and Missionary Days, I believe that I reflect the embarrassment of the administration, the faculty and students that is occasioned by the poor attendance at our special services. I refer specifically to the fact that on last Thursday only about seventy-five people were in the Chapel to hear Dr. Richard H. Stephenson on Missionary Day. More than a third of this number were faculty, staff, and visitors, which means that fewer than fifty students were there. Furthermore, the lack of interest in Chapel generally, and the relatively poor attendance at most special functions is disturbing.

What does this condition say about us? Does it reflect a lack of concern on the part of students for the cultivation of the devotional and spiritual life? Or does it indicate that students have no decisive commitment to the Seminary, to fellow students and to God? Does it say that they reject any opportunity for spiritual and intellectual stimulation beyond that which is provided in the classroom? Does it belittle the importance of worship as an element in spiritual and personal growth? Does it express disdain for the time, ener-

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THERE WILL BE A FULL REPORT IN THE PAGES OF NEXT WEEK'S PAPER ON THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTRAMURAL SEASONS IN FOOTBALL AND GOLF.

gy and financial cost involved in bringing speakers to our campus, sometimes from great distance? It certainly seems to reflect a lack of respect for the persons who take the trouble to accept speaking engagements at Southeastern Seminary.

It might be well to point out that more than \$3,000.00 of financial resources are expended annually to provide speakers for our special days, and that members of the Committee on Convocations, Lectures and Missionary Days devote many precious hours to making the arrangements. In addition, the speakers themselves spend many hours in the preparation of addresses, in travel and in absence from their posts. If the students at Southeastern Seminary have no appreciation for these factors, and for the benefits which can accrue to them from hearing our visiting speakers and participating in the specials, it may well be that it is time to reconsider the entire matter of having such guests on our campus. I would rather hope that our student body might reconsider its attitudes and decide to give overwhelming support to daily Chapel and to special services.

--J. Carroll Trotter  
Chairman, Committee  
on Convocations, Lec-  
tures and Missionary  
Days.

## LIBRARY GROUP WANTS SUGGESTIONS

The student library committee met with Dr. Eugene McLeod, head librarian, on Friday. It was resolved to solicit student suggestions concerning the library through the student newspaper.

The student committee is composed of Andy Moon, Mike Watts, and Don McKinney.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Department of Chemistry  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:

I have the pleasure to inform you that your application for admission to the Ph.D. program in Chemistry has been accepted.

You are invited to join the department in the fall semester. The start date will be September 1st.

Your advisor, Professor [Name], is pleased to have you as a student in his laboratory.

Please contact the department office at [phone number] for further information regarding admission procedures.

Sincerely,  
[Name]

Enclosed are the details of the admission process.

Yours faithfully,  
[Name]

Enclosure

Very truly yours,  
[Name]

cc: [Name]

cc: [Name]

cc: [Name]

cc: [Name]

cc: [Name]