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HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA, September 27, 1916. 191

Prof. Julian A Burruss,  
Harrisonburg, Va.

Dear Prof. Burruss:-

I thank you very kindly for the list of new Lutheran registrants at the Normal. I note also that you would like to take a drink at the philosophical spring regarding the paucity of Lutheran students. I think this is in a measure a mere coincident this year, though as I told you the other day we have lost at least a student or two, and for the reason then assigned. That however was an individual matter and not a Church movement, for nothing has been said except by a few individuals, and so far as I know to myself as pastor of our Church in Harrisonburg.

Now the schoolmen like to get at facts. And I have been thinking since my conversation with you, and I think it is due you to give you my frank impression of the matter, and in a few words.

A wrong has been done us. Our undergraduates last year were not allowed to come to our church at all for evening service. Our members of the graduating class came but the others either remained in their rooms or had to go to other churches in town with their chaperon, and this is what has stirred some Lutheran ire. It would have been the same with any other church if their girls had been so treated, except on a much larger scale. I know this to be a fact for I asked my girls why they did not come out evenings and they told me this. A member of the graduating class went to Mrs. Brooks several times and requested that undergraduates of our Church be allowed to come to the Lutheran Church with her and <sup>after</sup> one or two indulgences she either flatly refused or showed her teeth at it in such an ugly manner that the girls gave up and did <sup>not</sup> repeat the offense. To be sure of my case I have verified my position since my conversation with you the other day. Now this is a fact that can not be downed and is the reason for my coming to you. Since I talked with you the other day I am sure it was the fault of the matron and not the school and I am willing to accept it as such, though before I had no means of knowing it thus. Your matron may not have intended to be unfair but she was nevertheless. I did not have all the data in the case till this summer or I would have come to you last winter.

If I may be permitted to make the suggestion I think the thing to do now is to go right on and not make public a matter that is purely private. I am satisfied, I can handle the situation in my church and will be glad to do it. I was not authorized to give any names though I do not think the parties who complained to me would hesitate to tell you what they have told

*me. It will be better to go right on and I will stand by you in the right  
With best wishes for you and the success of the school. Very sincerely yours, E. A. Repass.*