

alice

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READ AND PASS ON.

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COMMUNITY ACTION STUDENTS HELP STUDENTS

Largely through the efforts of one Virginia Tech student--Mark Crowley--the Christiansburg Community Center is now functioning. Throughout the year he has been unfaltering in his desire to acquaint the students at Virginia Tech with the community in which this institution is located. In the beginning he organized students at both Tech and Radford to help in the building of the Center itself. Once the building was renovated, he sought out and found students who were interested in tutoring the youth who attend the Center. His tutorial program serves all levels of youth, from kindergarten through high school.

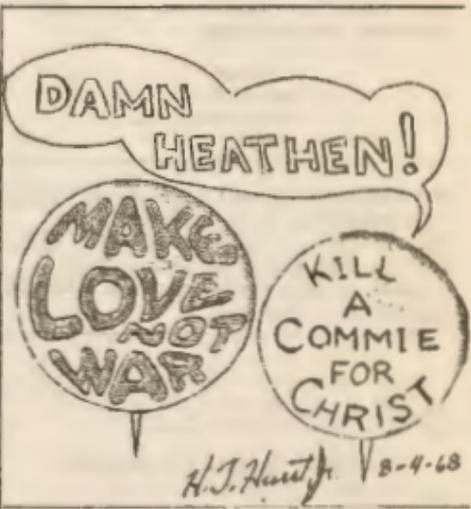
During this summer, classes in black history have been substituted for the tutoring services. These classes are conducted by Tech students. Periodically films which relate to the classes will be shown to the Montgomery County youth.

The format was drastically changed Thursday night when a courageous C'burg lawyer, Bill Winder, asked a group of militant black youths "What do you want?" After making this initial mistake, he proceeded to ask that all-important "liberal" question "How can I become the black man's friend?"

There is no doubt in either the minds of Winder or the youths; he was conversing with sincerity. The answers he received however left him wondering if there is really any hope of solving the racial tensions in the United States. He frankly told one person following the end of his grilling session, "I'm scared." The fright was evident as he was continually bombarded with the questions of people who have been denied their humanity. Winder didn't even know where to seek the answers, but he tried. And he'll be back again to talk, and learn. As long as there are men like Mark Crowley and Bill Winder around, men who have opened up their minds and hearts to America's illegitimate children, there'll be hope. Maybe.

alice CAME HOME!

"alice" has moved! If you are interested in submitting an article, talking to a staff member, or working on the paper, we can no longer be found at the Wesley Foundation. Come by and see us on Thursday evenings at the DMF apartment on College Ave.



GI OR CO?

Are you one of the thousands of young people in the United States concerned over and utterly opposed to the role of the US Government and its armed forces in Vietnam? Does your conscience require that you not enter the armed forces? Does your opposition spring from some concept of what man's relationship to man should be? Are you opposed to war in any form?

If you answer yes to these questions, you may be eligible for Conscientious Objector status. You have certain rights and to see if you qualify as a CO, you should obtain the Handbook for Conscientious Objectors. This will explain your rights and detailed information about the draft law, describes life in prison plus a detailed bibliography. It can be obtained for \$1.00 from Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, 2016 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19130.

You should not wait until your senior year. It is better to apply now while you have time. Later may be too late.

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"alice" is a free press service in and for the V.P.I. university community. As a non-profit organization, we rely on contributions from our readers in order to continue publication. As an open forum, we request your opinions, comments, and articles.

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The subscription rate for "alice" (mailed to any address in the States) is two dollars (\$2) per quarter for about ten issues. This will also include the magazine should there be enough interest to make it a success.

Advertise Now!

Classified ads will be accepted at the rate of 35¢ per line, or \$1 for three lines, or maybe less if we like you.

Art dealer wants used furniture in good condition. Also there is space available to those interested in selling their art work. Dealer seeks 5% commission. Contact Linda Gregory, 382-8997.

If You
Fly..... 
WARC COUNTRY

Washington, July 23 (LNS)— The House of Representatives has passed legislation to make trafficking in LSD a federal offense. Users can get one year's imprisonment and a \$1,000 fine for first offense, three years and \$10,000 for repeat performances. Penalty for sale of acid and other hallucinogens, for depressants and other stimulants (such as pep pills) goes to five years and \$10,000 when involved with adults, 10 years and \$15,000 when dealing with minors and 15 years and \$20,000 for repeats. A rider allows judges to give probation and wipe the record clean for first offenders who live out a promise to be good. The bill passed 320-2.

* EDITORIAL

THAT'S WHERE IT AIN'T

"Viewed in this light it can be seen that the good of the university is of higher priority than the good of any of its component parts." This is part of an official statement that will appear in the Student Life Policies this fall. Significantly, it appears under the section entitled Student Life.

Might we suggest that our enlightened and benevolent administrators pursue this bit of the organic theory of institutions further:

Man as a corporate reality has no function beyond that of serving the state; as a citizen he owes allegiance and subservience to the higher will as manifested in the actions of the state.

The perpetuation of administrative positions may seem sufficient reason to an administrator to remove an individual, but I seriously doubt that the student can accept this bit of logic. The highest priority of the state is the reflection of the wishes of the people. The highest priority of this institution is to reflect the needs and wishes of the students and faculty. All other structures are to serve the bureaucratic functions of procedure.

This institution is not an organic whole to which we must prostitute ourselves, but rather it should be a structural framework in which individuals can learn and operate to the utmost of personal satisfaction. May I interject that this personal satisfaction does not come by decree from Mount Olympus. Since the university's function is to serve the members of the community, how can it become an entity that takes higher priority than the individual? This monolithic entity is a fragment of the minds of Kahn, Brandt, ... Our problem is that we have listened to empty thunder for too long. We have listened to hollow ideas of no import and hallowed them in the name of the maker.

We have been content with these absurdities, confident that in the long run we could avoid conflict. But the powers that be build themselves up on such trivial phrases of philosophy (that men have learned to discard) and then call them down as the word of God when one transgresses. Let us make our point clear. We will not accept this statement nor the men who perpetuate it. The highest priority of this university is to provide the needed facilities for the full intellectual development of its members.

AFRICANS ON AMERICANS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Editor's note: This is part of a series of articles collected by J.O. Chambers from individual Africans on what they think of Americans. Medical doctor, 52; educated in France; head of his section:

"I had never given the Americans much thought before they opened their embassy here; but I must admit that from what I had seen of them I had a very low opinion; I had seen them brawling and pushing people around in Paris and Bordeaux. I know that they were drunk a lot and that they came on like salos mens (dirty s.e.b.'s) whenever a negro came into the bar where they were drinking. No culture about them, that's for sure. Then the Embassy opened here and your navy made a goodwill tour; you know what happened; the usual brawling...beating up some of our people; no, that is not just the way sailors act. You have seen the French navy in port and no brawls. There was the robbery downtown at the hotel. And the manager and his wife both beaten up. And it wasn't just enlisted men who did all that; the junior officers were in on some of the hijinks. They would never have pulled that type of thing anywhere else and we know why; people here know enough English to know what 'nigger' and 'jig' mean; even if they didn't, they would soon learn from your officers at the embassy. Oh well, all this is soon going to be settled; things can't go on like this; I personally don't intend to start anything; there's really nothing to start in this country; but if any foreigner living here starts anything with me I'll know exactly what to do. Am I talking about South Africa or the US? Of course! Both! They are already settling things in the US (Newark) and it will keep going precisely for the reason that you have proclaimed to the world that you demand liberty and freedom for everybody; your Negroes will see to it that you keep your word. Sure I include South Africa. And Rhodesia. And the Portuguese territories. We've already won a lot of ground in Guinea and Mozambique; we would have a lot more in Angola under our control if the Portuguese there weren't getting help from NATO. You know that we are not violent, but it takes a lot of violence to make the whites see that we will not tolerate their violence. Of course the violence will be extensive...and it will go on for quite a while. It takes whites a long time to learn, you see. A lot of people will be killed, an awful lot. Whites? Of course! Why not? Mostly blacks at first, but more whites in the long run."

Dear "alice":

In the some few weeks during which time you have been the "Blacksburg Free Press" I have agreed completely with very little of what you have said. I nevertheless agree completely with and am delighted by the fact that you have said what you have—and that you have invited comment be it either pro, con, or unique.

I praise as excellent your article in the July 29 printing on page 6, "Student Power Now."

I join you in attacking the Student Activities Committee, as an organization for the safes and the shiners, most of whom cowardly attach themselves to a system that rewards them, in return for their dignity and integrity, with a simple and well-defined role in a fetus-like existence within the stagnated womb of our status quo administrators. Our administrators who cope with any real challenges to their control by excluding anyone with ideas and conviction and make the real decisions behind a shallow facade of student participation.

I sometimes wonder what virtue our administrators most deeply cherish—bankruptcy of ideas, fetish of tradition, or fear of reality.

"It is the business of the future to be dangerous."

"The folly of intelligent people, clear-headed and narrow-visioned, has precipitated many catastrophes."

"The task of a University is the creation of the future, so far as rational thought, and civilized modes of appreciation, can affect the issue. The future is big with every possibility of achievement and of tragedy."

—Alfred North Whitehead

Certainly knowledge of Whitehead is not part of the training of our deanry.

Robert Paine, Jr.

HONEST ABE TELLS IT LIKE IT IS

"This country with its institutions belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it."

--Abraham Lincoln

SCIENCE FRICTION

There has been much talk lately over the proper and restricted sale and use of guns. Many say that guns kill people and therefore should be done away with. Let us look into the future and see what this kind of thinking could lead to.

The year is 1976, and the nation again mourns a great political figure who is savagely bitten to death by an outraged Transylvanian national. The wheels of government start to roll and soon the sale of false-teeth through the mails is prohibited. The House on Un-American Activities Committee investigates the American Dental Association. Dentists are required by law in many states to register all tooth X-rays of their patients. J. Edgar Hoover announces that the F.B.I. has tooth-prints on over a million Americans and that in the coming year he hopes to reach the two million mark. The mayor of New York calls on the people of the city to voluntarily turn in their teeth, and five thousand New Yorkers heed the call and organize Gummers of American Groups (GAGS). (Needless to say, soap sales rise 300%.) Toothpaste adds are banned from TV, and Congress passes a bill doing away with draft deferments for dental students. There was no telling where it all would have ended when three days after the assassination another political figure is kicked to death by an irate grape crusher from Italy. And Americans raise the banner against this new danger with the cry "What has happened to the sole of America?"

Moral: Things do not kill men. Men kill men.

D. P. S.

SAVE VIET-NAM FOR DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM

SAIGON, July 26—Truong Dinh Dsu, the runner-up in South Vietnam's recent presidential election has been sentenced to five years hard labor. The crime for which he was convicted was voicing the opinion that a coalition government should be formed, and advocating talks with the National Liberation Front. His action was officially deemed "harmful to anti-communist spirit of the people and the army." Nguyen Truong Con, a 23 year old student editor who said much the same thing received the same sentence the previous day.

The teacher who walks in the shadow of the temple, among his followers, gives not of his wisdom but rather of his faith and lovingness.

If he is indeed wise he does not bid you enter the house of his wisdom, but rather leads you to the threshold of your own mind.
Kahlil Gibran

CARL DAVIDSON ON STUDENT APATHY

The following is a reprint from "The Multiversity, Crucible of the New Working Class." In it Mr. Davidson discusses student apathy, its causes and its consequences.

What do American students think of the educational institutions in which they live an important part of their lives? The most significant fact is that most of them don't think about them. Such young men and women made up that apathetic majority we called the "silent generation" in the 1950's. While the last few years has shown a marked and dramatic growth of a new radicalism, we should not forget that the apathetic and the cynical among the student population are still in the majority. But this need not be discouraging. In fact we should view that apparent apathy among the majority of students with a certain qualified optimism.

What makes people apathetic? My feeling is that apathy is the unconscious recognition students make of the fact that they are powerless. Despite all the machinations and rhetoric used by hot-shot student politicians within the administration sponsored student governments, people's experience tell them that nothing changes. Furthermore, if and when change does occur, students fully recognize that they were powerless to effect those changes in one way or another. If this is in fact the case, then why shouldn't the students be apathetic? The administration rules, despite the facade of student governments, of dorm councils and of student judicials. And when they give us ex-officio seats on their academic committees the result among most students is that deeper, more hardened kind of apathy—cynicism.

The apathetic students are correct as far as they go. They are powerless. The forms given us for our self-government are of the Mickey Mouse sand box variety. I would only be pessimistic if a majority of students really accepted the illusion that those institutions had meaning in their lives, or that they could significantly affect those institutions. But the opposite is the case. The apathy reflects the reality of their powerlessness. When that reality confronts the lie of the official rhetoric, the contradiction is driven home—and the apathetic becomes the cynical. What that contradiction, that daily living with a lie, all adds up to is a dynamic tension and alienation. And that, fellow students, is the necessary subjective condition for any successful movement.

GEORGE WALLACE:

If I become president, I'm going to make it safe in Washington if I have to have it patrolled by armed troops 365 days out of the year. If we would turn the country over to the policemen for a couple of years, they'd straighten things out.