

THE COLLEGIATE

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Thursday, January 13, 1966

A Complex Problem

The article submitted to us from Dr. Sharp this week is rather disturbing. It is disturbing because the indifference he has described is much too evident to be denied or to try and escape it. This is a serious and complex problem, and anyone affected by it at all cannot afford to sit back and not attempt to find a solution.

This problem seems to predominate among the freshmen. It is as though these students who act indifferent are simply robots in that there is little awareness about anything other than the physical side of life, which can even be seen in the process of memorizing. But the mental and spiritual side of life is lacking in these people. Stated opinions are few and far between, and if an opinion is expressed the expressor is usually unable to support it. Even more significant is the lack of the individual to ask himself and others the greatest question of all with regards towards learning, the question "Why?"

The description of the problem could go on and on, but probably most of us are aware of it in one form or another. What must be answered is how these people got this way in the first place, and what this institution and we as individuals can do to solve it.

Indifference can be caused by many things including fear. It is not unreasonable to suggest that fear is the main thing affecting these indifferent people. It is entirely possible that the great pressure applied to students in the secondary schools to do well so that they will be able to get into college and live a successful life is heavy enough to cause much doubt and worry. Though this fear may be sub-conscious it makes people afraid to take chances, to be opinionated, and to be aggressive in the pursuit of an education and the true values in life.

In dealing with this problem this institution needs to make a stronger effort in stressing the discovering of the true values in life. There is a great need to try and get these individuals to extend themselves into activities and matters which will require that they formulate their ideals and values, and give much valuable experience in living life itself or to gain an awareness.

The roots to this problem undoubtedly lie in modern day society. It is much too evident that a false value system is being created in many ways. A major portion of the responsibility for the correction of this situation rests with the colleges and universities of the country, and the time to act is now.

A Realistic Rule

The recommendation on a possible change of the drinking rule adopted by the Exec. Board this week is a welcomed and needed new look at this old and controversial rule. This recommendation is both practical and realistic, which is more than can be said about the present rule.

Despite some various student opinion it is rather evident that the present drinking rule is more for the defense of the college than it is for the witch hunting of students. Apparently the college feels that this rule is necessary in order to present to the public that institution is trying to prevail the highest moral character on its student. In short, it is saying that to drink is to sin.

It is doubtful many people on this campus would agree with that particular theology. And it should be clear to most thinking people that the recommended change would in no way weaken the college's interest in the high moral character of its students. In this sense, what's wrong with a realistic rule?

Deferments Discussed

(CPS) — The question of student deferments from the draft will be discussed at four meetings during the next month.

A spokesman for the Selective Service System said the Washington meeting would begin on Jan. 13 and continue through Jan. 14 if necessary. Attending the meeting will be officials of the American Council on Educational and other Washington-based education associations. Officials from the Office of Education, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Labor will be on hand.

The meeting will discuss the possibility of setting up a set of guidelines for use by local draft boards when they consider student deferments.

Such a set of guidelines has been urged by the American Council on Education. John F. Morse, director of the ACE's commission on federal relations, sent three letters to Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey in December asking that he issue a statement of "guidelines" to local boards for "orderly procedures" for the classification of students.

The council asked for a statement that would help clear up "confusion on both the rights and responsibilities of students in connection with their draft status."

The council noted that "local boards must still make their own determinations" but suggests "unless some guidance is provided them, I fear they will make them in a vacuum."

After the ACE's request, Gen. Hershey issued a statement which appeared in the January issue of the Selective Service publication that is sent to all local boards. Hershey said the Selective Service System will try to defer as many students as possible "but this is not a one-way street."

"The student must prove by his contributions to society after college that the training was worth the time. He must demonstrate during college that he is progressing toward the objectives for which he is being trained and that he is an individual that should be trained," Hershey's statement said.

The student classification is one that could be reexamined at an early time, a Selective Service official said. He noted that the need for more manpower in the 1-A had already caused an examination of the 1-Y category, or those who will not be called except in a national emergency as declared by Congress.

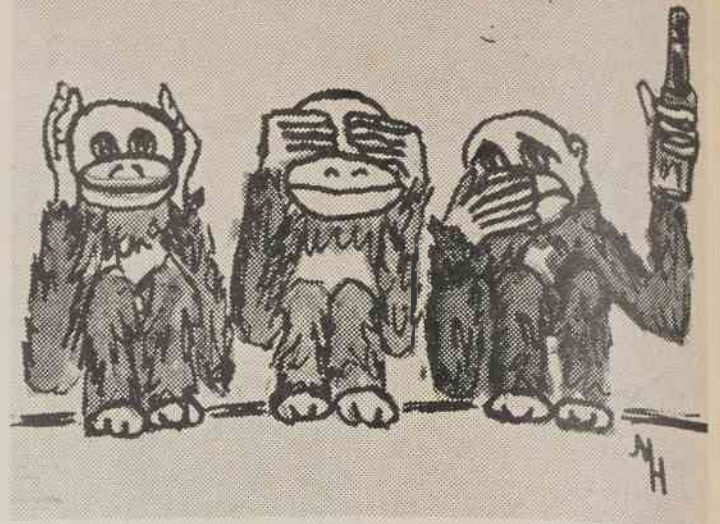
Selective Service officials don't expect to announce any decision on student deferments until after the Feb. 8 meeting. If a set of guidelines is established, it will be sent to state directors from the national office.

Oddities Of Government

(CPS) The office of Rep. Edith Green (D., Ore.) sent out a news letter recently that reports on the strange things that go on in government. In an article titled "Consistency is the Hobgoblin of Little Minds," the news letter said:

"In order to produce more tobacco, the federal government spent \$5,280,000 in fiscal year 1965 to improve tobacco farming techniques and methods of marketing. In addition, the U. S. tobacco subsidies to growers amounted to \$373,341 in 1965 and \$11,517,064 in 1964."

It was then added: "In order to warn the public of the possible relation between smoking and cancer, the federal government spent \$3,335,300 on researching tobacco health hazards in the same year. U. S. law requires as of Jan. 1, 1966, every cigarette pack to carry a warning to smokers, the wording of which the industry will draft."



Hear No Evil! See No Evil!
Drink No Evil!

SDS Gathers

By LYN COLE

URBANA, Ill. (CPS) — A major change in emphasis from demonstration to education was planned by the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) at their December National Council meeting (Dec. 31 - Jan. 2).

The National Council rejected two proposals and part of a third for militant action programs against the Viet Nam War and instead adopted three calling for more research and petitions to protest the war.

One of the three, the much-publicized "Freedom Draft," proposes a three-part "draft card," one part to be sent to President Johnson, one to be carried by the signer, and the third to be sent to the national office of SDS. The card would say, "I do not want to fight in Viet Nam, because the war is destroying our hopes for democracy both there and at home. I want to build, not burn. The work done by many young Americans in Alabama and Mississippi is a prime example of what I want to do." The NC decided however, to submit the text to legal counsel to determine if it violates any law against counseling men to avoid the draft. If there is "any danger" of such a violation, the proposal will be submitted to the membership in referendum.

A second adopted resolution would establish a committee to do research and prepare materials on "the transfer of resources from public needs to the military budget." The third resolution, adopted as a "political defense" for the 32 University of Michigan students arrested for sitting-in at the Ann Arbor draft board Oct. 15 (and for which 12 have since lost their student deferments), calls for SDS chapters to petition local boards not to "use the draft to silence dissent" and to "challenge the draft board members

to public debate." A clause calling for sit-ins at the local draft board offices.

A \$75,000 Radical Education Project proposed by National Council member Al Haber, research assistant in the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations at the University of Michigan, was adopted with the stipulation that most of the money needed to finance it be raised independently of SDS. The REP would organize research and study groups on "problems, ideology, analysis, and strategy" felt to be important; publish a printed bi-weekly bulletin containing "analysis of important problems for radicalism in America," bibliography, and other educational and research aids; "establish speakers' bureaus on issue areas important to the movement"; and organize speakers' tours and conferences.

The Rep is needed, according to Haber, because "the (SDS) national office is not able to give priority or adequate attention to educational needs because of the heavy demands of action and organizing work."

Other proposals passed include those on farm labor, an oil project, and art exhibits. The one on farm labor would have the Los Angeles and San Francisco regional offices of SDS distribute literature in support of the strike by grape pickers in Delano and Kern counties of California. The Austin, Texas, regional office will plan and coordinate research on "the power oil corporations exert in this country and the world" and a teaching program on the opening day of the International Petroleum Exposition to be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma, May 12-21.

The National Council approved the credentials of about 50 new chapters, bringing the total to more than 125, and an SDS spokesman estimated the total number of SDS members at about 3500.

News and Views

By DWIGHT WAGNER

The death of Prime Minister Shastri of India comes this week at a most difficult time for the world as well as for India herself. Shastri had the difficult job of trying to take Nehru's place, and despite many difficulties he was able to gain some success.

At this moment India is experiencing some rather serious problems which might reach epidemic proportions in the near future. Chief among these problems is the present food shortage which is threatening mass starvation. India has appealed to the United States, and we are now in the process of shipping millions of tons of surplus wheat to these people.

This program will continue through out the year with an average of one busel of wheat out of every three that is grown going to the Indians. It can be clearly seen that this food crisis is no small matter, and the feeding of some 480 million people

may prove impossible from preventing many from starving.

The problem of starvation is not helped by the fact that millions of rats and other rodents and animals eat vast quantities of the available food. It is estimated that there are about five rats for every individual in India and the situation is not any made better by the many believers of the Hindu religion who will not kill any living thing because they believe that it may contain a descendant's soul.

While India is the world's largest democracy it is also the world's most disorganized democracy. Now that Shastri has died the process of breaking in a new prime minister must start again. The central government has always had a problem in governing the separate states because of a lack of power, and this must be corrected along with a hundred other problems before success is found.