

*From Editors Desk . . .*

## SOMEBODY HELP US!

**DRUGS, PREGNANCIES, VERENEAL DISEASES, AND ALCOHOLISM ARE REALITIES!** This is not a scare. These problems exist throughout the country. Students on campus know the seriousness of the "New Morality." They have faced up to the realities. But faculty, parents, and alumnae have not. They would rather see these problems discussed behind closed doors. "Bennett College has no such problems." They have persuaded the more idealistic students to believe that all is well on campus.

Our college, small as it is, has its share of students who need help that cannot be obtained from the classroom. No one is saying that Bennett students condone drugs, illicit sex, or alcohol. But services should be made available to those who want them, if it's only two. Campuses across the nation are setting up referral services or health centers to help their own. Just having someone to confer with could save the life of a desperate student. It does not take much money to offer a little guidance, comfort, or advice.

The Banner staff was attacked for running abortion ads in its paper, not by students who benefited from the information, but by faculty members and trustees. Why? Can it be attributed to close-mindedness — Victorian ideas?

Must our students seek help out in the streets? Must they turn to butchers in dark rooms or to suicide?

The Banner Staff is requesting that the Student Government take immediate action in this area. We will continue to press this issue until something is done.

## A FRESHMAN VOICES CONCERN

"They can at least clean up the campus." "Why don't they have more activities?" "Chapel needs to be livened up!" These are just a few of the comments making the rounds at Bennett these days. Many freshmen say that they were disappointed when they arrived, because the campus looked rundown. They have been complaining about the lack of activities other than vespers on campus. Then they feel that the Vesper service is boring. Yet, less than 1/3 of the freshman class attended the freshman class meeting on Oct. 28 to voice their opinions. It seems that we want changes at Bennett, but are unwilling to work for them. We like to complain, but don't care enough to do anything about the changes we complain about. If this is true, we have a clear case of student apathy.

Such apathy and lack of interest on a college campus, shows immaturity and negligence on the part of the students. Therefore we are not ready to accept the responsibility of running the world when our generation comes to bat in the very near future.

This is not directed at freshmen alone, it is even more directed to the upperclassmen who will have to face this responsibility sooner.

But we all complain about the world as well as our campus which represents just a tiny segment of that world. We talk of the conditions of the world, the crime, the pollution, and the war. If we let apathy go unchecked on our campus, as small as it may be, will not that same apathy spread to the world? If so, we will never have a better campus or a better world.

*A Thought . . .*

## DARE TO BE AN INDIVIDUAL

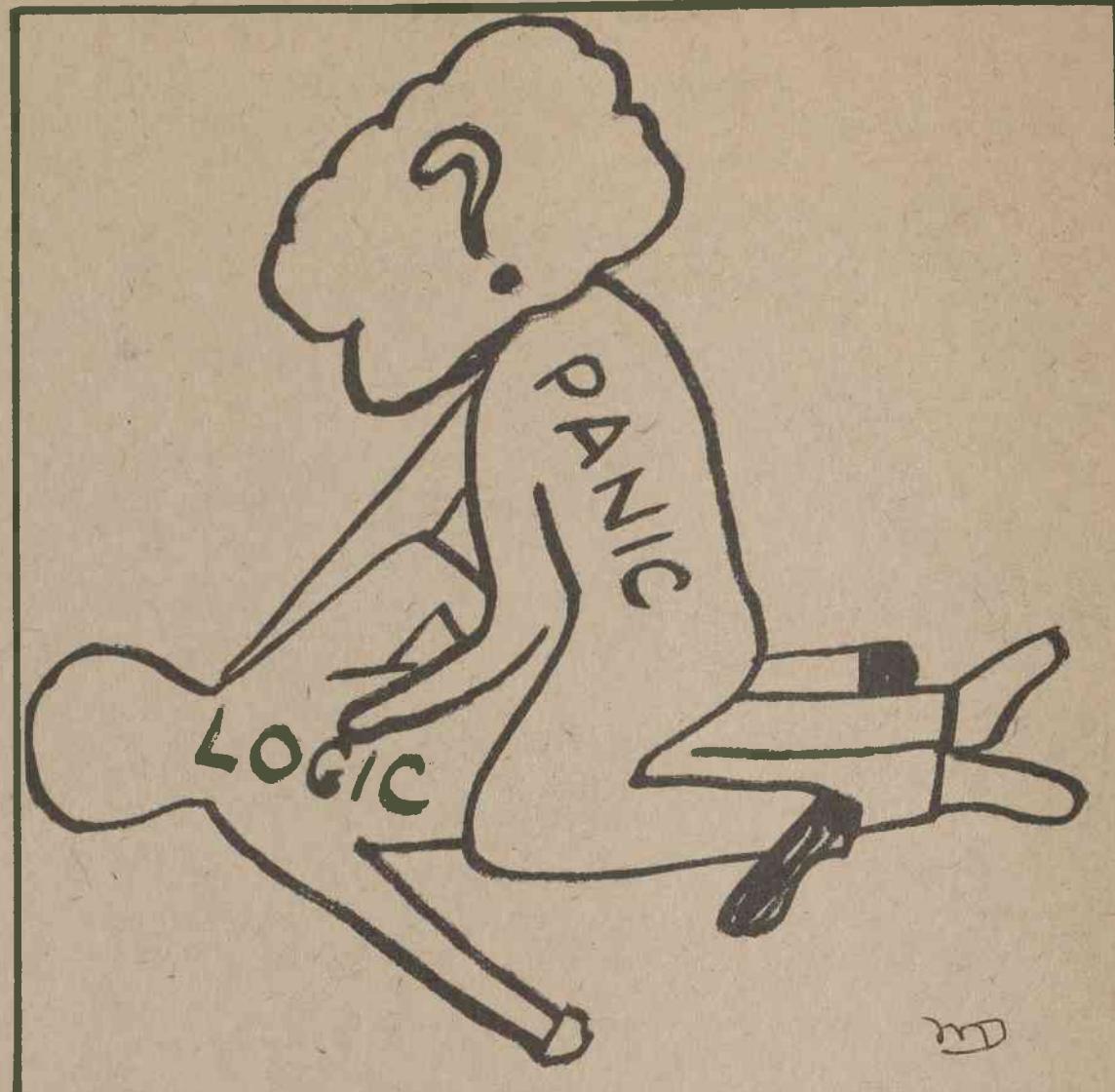
Everyone needs to know who he is and what he is about. I cannot tell you nor can the girl down the hall. Maturity only comes to the person who knows for herself what her being is about. So many of us get lost in the crowd. We are scared to venture out alone. We take everything at face value. We are scared to be branded as an INDIVIDUAL, because we do not know what the term means.

We run away from the issues because it takes too much energy and thinking to work out a practical solution. We follow everyone who meets us with a "pro-Black" theme whether there is realistic logic behind him or not. We are quick to point out who is Black and who is not, without really knowing what

being Black is all about.

When the students on this campus find out who they are and what they are about, many of our campus problems will disappear. When outmoded faculty members dare to undertake the unusual our campus problems will disappear. When the administration up-dates its policies our campus problems will disappear. When the alumnae redefines certain priorities our campus problems will disappear. When the trustees find out relevant campus concerns our problems will disappear.

Once we all find out what life is truly about, then we will be able to pull ourselves up and make BENNETT respond to the needs of a suffering society.



## PANIC CONQUERS LOGIC

**Facts:** A Bennett student was stricken with meningitis. The student, who had been away from the campus, became quite ill on the return trip to the campus and was taken to Cone Hospital where she is being treated.

Rumors then began to sweep the campus, starting in Merner Hall where the student resided. Students who should have reached the stage in their lives where common sense should govern over ignorance, panicked before they obtained the vital facts. The first delegation reached the President's house and voiced their concern. MENINGITIS WAS ON THE RAMPAGE!

The group who had accompanied the stricken student on an off-campus outing, conferred with Dr. Miller on Monday night. Having been refused treatment at Cone Hospital, they were concerned for their health. The amazing fact is they had control over their emotions and were prepared to hear the facts. But those who gained knowledge, purely by accident, went into panic from the start.

After contacting the PROPER HEALTH AUTHORITIES, Dr. Miller went to Merner to console them with the facts and let them know that the matter was under control. Did LOGIC prevail? Oh No!

A dorm matron called her girls down to the parlor and proceeded to give them an unprofessional, ignorant bypass of the events. Another student, whose father happens to be a physician, feels that she needs to know the facts about the ill student so that she can give her father a professional opinion so that he can diagnose precautionary treatment for her. LOGIC? Then another, has worked herself into a nervous condition. LOGIC?

It is natural to get upset over such occurrences, but one part of becoming an ADULT is the ability to con-

trol the emotions. Such panic could have had a crucial, disastrous outcome for the whole city, as well as the campus. It may have been to everyone's advantage if the Health Mobile had pulled on campus to give everyone the NEEDLE. Now that's LOGIC. Isaac H. Miller, says that danger of the infection spreading to other students has apparently vanished. Anyone who would have contacted the disease from sophomore Valarie Moore should have shown symptoms by now.

Valarie is presently in Moses Cone Hospital in intensive care with meningococcal meningitis which is very contagious.

The college infirmary made available prophylactic treatment of sulfur tablets to all persons who may have come into contact with the infected student.

Valerie Moore whose condition is critical, was honored during the Fall Convocation for honor students last week, as well as to become an AKA pledgee. She is a very active student leader on the campus. The entire Bennett Family is pulling for a quick recovery for a "wonderful Belle."

### On Activism

On Tuesday, November 2, 1971, Jerry Walker, a representative from SOBU spoke to the Bennett Family on Student Activism. He stated that student activism has been a factor in American life since 1960 when four freshmen from A&T State University held a sit-in at a downtown lunch counter. This was the first major effort of Black students to achieve desegregation, racial equality, and justice.

He added that since that time, students have played a leading role in major activities. In 1964, Black students from all over the nation started a massive voter registration drive which enabled Black people to gain more political power.

During the years 1968 and 1969, Black Nationalism became very important; Black people were proud of themselves and their African heritage. Students began to ask for courses in Black Studies at colleges around the nation; they also wondered if the over-all college curriculum was really preparing for life outside the college campus.

After a lot of serious thinking, the students realized that the ultimate goal of the Black person is to find out who he is, where he is, and where he is going.

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