

Editorial Page

PAGE TWO THE CLARION February 23, 1968

The Pot Problem

(ACP) — "Marijuana is this generation's alcohol." "Kids today smoke pot as avidly as the generation before swallowed goldfish."

That's the way two newswriters expressed their findings concerning the use of marijuana, the Valparaiso (Ind.) University Torch said. The use, sale, or possession of marijuana has greater legal consequences than drinking alcohol. The use of pot has become a source of great concern on campuses across the country.

Why do students smoke it? Some make a ritual of it, some enjoy the intensity of sense perceptions, some are glad for the new perspective of life gained from the deep sleep after a trip. But all run the risk of legal punishment.

The increasing use of pot on campuses was reflected by the insertion in Valparaiso's Student Handbook this year of the clause: "Any unauthorized use of drugs, barbituates, etc., is prohibited by state law and by the University." One Valparaiso dean regards the clause as a "sign of the times," since pot is becoming an "inevitable part of campus life."

The Marijuana Act of 1937 first outlawed marijuana and the Federal Narcotic Act of 1956 classified selling, using, or possessing it as a federal felony. It also established mandatory minimum sentences of two years for possessing and five years for selling pot.

The stiff penalties were enacted on the basis of the incorrect classification of marijuana as a narcotic. It is actually a mild hallucinogenic drug which is not addictive, leaves no hangover, and apparently does no permanent physical damage. There are no withdrawal symptoms as there are with narcotics.

The old idea that marijuana leads to heroin has been discredited in reports of the President's Crime Commission and verbally denounced by John Finlator, director of the Bureau of Drug Abuse Control. The problem of pot, then, is more

a legal than a medical problem. The White House Conference on Narcotic and Drug Abuse stated in 1962: "The hazards of marijuana per se have been greatly exaggerated . . . long criminal sentences imposed upon the occasional user or possessor are in poor social perspective."

With most of the 15,000 arrests last year among college students, the legality of such severe laws is being questioned. In Boston, Atty. Joseph S. Oteri is challenging the law in the Commonwealth vs. Leis and Weiss case. He claims he does not advocate legalizing marijuana but feels the law should include age limits and less severe punishments, somewhat comparable to drinking laws. Similar legal cases are testing the laws in at least ten other states.

It seems likely, the Torch concluded, that the Supreme Court will soon have to deal with the old marijuana law in light of increased knowledge and more widespread use of pot.

Zen Den Will

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be the Peace Core, flashing lights, scenes from Middle Earth, hobbit posters, hobbit incense, and of course magical mysterious rings. Remember Hobbit Night at the ZEN DEN, Saturday, March 24, around 9:00 P. M.

Three Rings for the Elven-kings under the sky,
Seven for the Dwarf-lords in their halls of stone,
Nine for Mortal Men doomed to die,

One for the Dark Lord on his dark throne

In the Land of Mordor where the Shadows lie.

One Ring to rule them all,
One Ring to find them,

One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them

In the Land of Mordor where the Shadows lie.

The Clarion

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The Draft And Graduate School

(ACP) — The new draft law, which does not defer all graduate students, has caused a 40 per cent drop in applications to Michigan State University's graduate school, according to Milton E. Muelder, Dean of Advanced Graduate Studies, the State News reports.

"Students have held off applying until they find out how graduate students are going to be affected by the draft," he added.

Muelder said if the uncertainty caused by the new law keeps applications at their present level, it could have serious consequences on the country.

"It could affect the training of teachers and professors for our universities, the manning of important industrial executive positions and other positions now being manned and staffed by graduate students," he said.

The Council of Graduate Studies (CGS), representing about 250 universities, has sent a letter to President Johnson predicting the consequences of the law and asking for a more explicit ruling on it, Muelder said.

The American Chemical Society (ACS) has also come out against the law. ACS Pres. Charles G. Overberger, in a letter to the National Security Council, said the Society favors a policy "that will not only permit, but (also) encourages qualified students to obtain advanced education."

A policy which drafts men after their first year of graduate work "is not in the national interest and will be damaging both to our national defense effort and to our hopes of suc-

cessfully attacking the many urgent and complex ills which confront us," Overberger said. "The ills which society faces demand highly educated and trained 'practitioners' just as badly as do individual human ills."

Newspaper Confiscated In East Berlin

(ACP) — The Daily Tar Heel, student newspaper of the University of North Carolina, is subversive, capitalistic literature, not fit to be seen by the citizens of the glorious Democratic Peoples Republic of East Germany.

At least that's what the East German border guards at Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin told students Richard Rodgers and Andy Halton, assistant business manager, when they went across the border from West to East Berlin during the Christmas holidays, the newspaper reported.

Rodgers carried an issue on the trip to take a picture of someone reading it in sight of the border. They managed to take the picture before the border guards confiscated the paper.

"Somewhere in East Berlin there are about six border guards getting ready to defeat us, probably as a result of the lead story on women's rules," Rodgers said.

Newman's Still Champ

(ACP) — Rest easily, girls. Paul Newman's still the champ — at egg-eating, that is.

Newman's imaginary record of 50 eggs was threatened, however, when Louisiana State University sophomore Mike Patterson, in an heroic attempt, gobbled 41 in an hour, the Daily Reveille reports.

Patterson took his run at the record, established by Newman in the movie "Cool Hand Luke," before a cheering crowd of 66 men on the basement floor of Hodges Hall.

The psychology major apparently had claimed he could down the eggs and received appropriate challenges from men on the floor. About 15 of them were said to have a special interest in the event.

Patterson, of medium build and weight about 180 pounds, started fast, swallowing more than 30 the first half hour. But then the pace slowed.

"The turning point was at 25, halfway," he said. "Then I started feeling real full."

He walked around the room Newman-style, listened to advice from trainers, and attempted to open up some room by burping. But with one minute to go, he had downed only 40. He decided then to try to gulp them all but gave up the attempt for fear of choking.

Any regrets? "I'll try again about a month after the second semester begins," Patterson said.

Choice 68 Acclaimed By President Johnson

Meets with Program's Student Leaders at White House New York, February 19, 1968— The high point of the CHOICE 68 conference held in Washington, D. C. from February 10-13 was provided by President Lyndon Johnson's decision to meet with the project's Board of Directors. In an interview described by aides as unusual, the President discussed for nearly an hour and a half the students' plan for the national primary to be held April 24.

Since student dissent over the past year has been directed primarily against White House policies — leading most observers to believe that the student vote will be anti-administration — there was considerable surprise and curiosity that the President would take such extraordinary time with the leaders of the collegiate primary.

Nonetheless, the President expressed to the group his conviction that this kind of vote from students was highly significant, that when students express their opinion intelligently, people across the nation "stop, look listen, and evaluate." He added his belief that a stronger vote amongst the nation's youth would favor Democratic candidates and policies.

The President ended the meeting by wishing the students and CHOICE 68 success.

Day Students Are A Vital Part Of College

The 79 day students of Brevard College are an integral part of the college community. The 4 sophomores and 45 freshmen who commute daily for classes and activities are making individual and collective contributions to campus learning and experience.

The day student differs from the student-in-residence, not only in living off campus, but in other areas of his life. He has responsibility at home, responsibility to his community, and in most cases to his church. These are a part of his everyday life which must be integrated with his attending classes, finding time for special meetings and practice sessions taking place on campus, and time to study. His time must be budgeted wisely and he must discipline himself for study because of the various interferences of his environs.

These Brevard College students have adopted to the college atmosphere, and are making a place for themselves as is easily detected when the academic records, sports rosters, club member lists, and publications staffs are examined.

The Dean's list for the fall semester 1967-68 consisted of thirteen students. Six of these were day students. The honor roll for the same period listed eleven day students.

Only last week five freshmen day students were tapped for

the National honorary fraternity, Alpha Beta Gamma, making a total of eight members from commuting students. Doug Moore is Vice-President.

Sophomore, John Tinsley, is president of Phi Theta Kappa, chief marshal, and is a member of the Brevard College track team. He also serves on the Inter-Club Council.

Linda Benson is president of the day students and is a member of the Inter-Club Council.

Clarion staff member, Jo Ann Pace, is president of BSU, a member of the Christian Council, and Kappa Chi. She also serves as a Big Sister, as does Sharon Parker. Sharon is also vice-president of the Spanish-American Club.

Talented Karen Grubb is one of the outstanding art students of the Brevard College Art Department.

The Music Department has Donys Holtzclaw as one of its gifted students. She is also a member of the Pertelote staff. Another day student, Hugh Lothery, is a member of the concert band.

Hall Parrish is making his mark with the Drama Club, having recently played a role in Brevard Little Theater's production of "Witness for the Prosecution".

History seminar buff, Sylvia Monteith, is serving on the Per-

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