

Editorials

Paradise Enforced

(with apologies to Milton-
and other great Puritans)

Invocation:

O sweet, Earthly Muse! grant to me the sense
That, to the height of this great argument,
I may assert external Providence
And justify the ways of men to God.

I

Of man's forced obedience, and this race
Of that forbidden tree, whose mortal fate
Brought them to these mountains, and all their
woe,

With gain of Eden, when one greater man
Commanded, strap'd them to the blissful seat.
Woe to the inhabitants of Brevard!
Dean, now first inflamed with rage, came up
The Savior, ere th' redeemer, of all,
To wreck on wicked, frail students, the loss
Of that free choice that God had been erring
In giving them. How conscience wakes despair
That slumbered! Wakes the bitter memory
Of what we were, he is, and we are to be.
Of worse deeds, worse sufferings must ensue!

II

The verdurous wall of Paradise up sprung;
Where our generous Dean gave prospect large
Of vegetable souls; And next to Life,
Death, the Tree of Innocence, grew fast by-
Semblance of good, bought dear by banishing ill;
Hence strait conjunction with the sex forbid!
Thus spake the arch-dean proudly, then cried:
"O goodness infinite, goodness immense!
That all this good of evil shall produce,
And evil turn to good; how wonderful
That which, by proclamation, first brought forth
This light of Dullness." We shall hence go 'round
Greatly in lack of thought, and have our fill
Of virtue, saved by the subjected plan!

III

Great are thy virtues, doubtless, noble fruit,
Of Innocence, Ignorance of good and evil;
But Eden is no Eden, thus enforced.
Yet, reaching for the fruit, he plucked, we ate,
Forcefully were engorged without restraint!
Then, looking back, all the evil world beheld,
There Sodom, 'til late our most happy seat,
Waved over by that flaming brand; the gate
With dreadful rules thronged and fiery threats.
Some natural tears we dropped, but wiped them
soon.

Paradise is here before us, here no choice
Of place of rest, and the Dean our guide.
We, heads in hands, with shuffled steps and slow,
Through Paradise, take our charter'd path.

T. Merritt

Letter

As strange as it may seem, to the administration, some of us warm blooded heterosexuals like to visit the opposite sex without the threat of being expelled. It's true that the rules which existed before were inadequate, but now the rules have changed from one extreme to another. The rules were received with mixed feelings, at best; while some students wouldn't sign the form, others did with misgivings. Getting kicked out of school is pretty serious, but it comes under the heading of ridiculous when it's because you were visiting a friend.

The present system was established so that the students could run

the rules instead of blatantly undermining them, as was done under the old system. How can this possibly work if the students don't want to enforce these rules? The administration believes that if a student can't live under these rules he should go home anyway. The administration says that they want the best for everybody. Talk about contradicting yourself. They are hardly looking out for the interests of those who don't like to abide by this system. They have the potential of taking far more than we could receive. Perhaps writing this is a lost cause, but it attempts to find justice.

Mike Callahan

