

Editorial

One student commented after last week's honors convocations "my faith in my fellow man has been restored." And yet others have remarked that the memories of this year will be embittered, and racked with painful recollection of a year's experience that yielded none of the emotional and psychological growth that should have been the result of a year of conflict, tension, dissention. Instead, they maintain that bitterness and disillusionment have replaced any natural expansion that normally results following a year of crisis.

The dissention and struggles that have occurred this year were healthy, and should have been beneficial. Instead, the issues under discussion--the Smith-Mann issue, the "punitive" F, and the foreign language requirement--have become controversies in which the parties on both sides have lined up for fierce, and venomous attack and counter-attacks in which subtle and some not-so-subtle barbs have been slung.

When controversy becomes acid and ceases to result in constructive analysis and criticism, then it becomes something slightly unworthy of a game that belongs in an academic institution. And this is the state that this year has reached and accomplished. We've progressed only far enough to learn tactics and strategies that shouldn't be characteristic of our status--as students and educators.

Therefore, it would seem that the inference of the crises of this year should be that dissention and challenge are necessary for growth, and yet if the sole result is an embittered lot, hell-bent upon personal vendettas, then the struggles themselves were not worth the disillusionment.

Like the student who regained belief in the goodness of her fellowman, we believe that at least some of us have profited from the encounters.

Year's Review Observes Advances And Retreats

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summer) in a attempt to populate this campus. Finally, two groups devoted to the similar ideals of brotherhood and sisterhood incorporated themselves and became the Brotherhood of Sigma Omega and the Sisterhood of Sigma Phi Delat. Unfortunately, this list covers almost all of those instances which may be properly called good; however, the realization dawns that the major issues that have plagued Wesleyan during this semester are not included.

The major problems that have plagued Wesleyan originate as academic problems (ie: Smith-Mann, punitive F, and foreign language requirements), but between faculty bickering and student resentment, the problems become the line of judgment on which we as flounders stand, take sides, and fall. After we have fallen into our respective groups, we (at least members of the student body) regress to the elementary games of label attach-

ment. There is little more than can be said though it is the earnest desire of this writer that he could say something magical to sooth the situation.

I suppose my personal complaint for this year has nothing to do with foreign language on the "F" or anything as temporary as any of our passing issues. This year's experiences with and at Wesleyan have crushed by personal illusions and some of my ideals, not ideals in our academic institution, but trust in people in general. Maybe I should take sides with the voice I heard in the Circle K Talent Show that sang these words, "My mind is clearing up, at last, all too well, I can see where we all will be. If you strip away the myth..."

If I took this lyric as my conclusion to my third year at Wesleyan, would I have need to thank Scott Wilkinson or the authors of Jesus Christ Superstar? For my sake (as well as for Wesleyan's), I hope I'm wrong.



A SAINT IN HIS OWN TIME.



Over Troubled Water

By ALLEN WINTER

The conviction of Lt. Richard Calley in March unquestionably opened a "new" decade in the life of the American soldier. A familiar quote from the thoughts of Edmund Burke is remembered in this manner-- "Never despair. But if you do, work on in despair." Undeniably public criticism of Calley's conviction demonstrates the despair of a Nation. A few months, a year or a decade may show the reversal by a higher court of the verdict. Yet the verdict is guilty, and if we face the facts, Calley, like so many thousands of Americans who have participated in war or not are murderers--premeditated. As a Nation, public cries have requested that the end of the Vietnam War and other "local wars" that inviltrate our system (not political-physical). The question arises--now what? What of the "Lt. Calley's" that leave for Vietnam today? What of the actual fact that men in boot camp today are being trained for murder--premeditated?!

The thoughts of an extremely interesting and rather refreshing lady come to mind. The lady is Miss Kaye Boyle, a writer of poetry and prose, a revolutionary in her heart with the ability to make one wonder. Miss Boyle presented her works to the Wesleyan campus just last week with a most unforgettable thought. Miss Boyle's thought--if the men in war were tried in court for the actions they commit then the tragedies of war may eventually end. It's a reasonable thought. Out of

half-wishes might I add the thought that we do not have "Freedom without Responsibility." Just as we have a responsibility to protect the freedom we have developed a Nation so we have the responsibility not to debase or disgrace the freedoms we accept. Murder is a freedom no man nor Nations should accept as a responsibility--ideally. So what is our responsibility as people with minds and jealous hearts. Do we build a "new" Nation from the teachings of the Calley trial? Do we learn or are we ready for the thoughts of an unforgettable lady?

There is usually a summary involved with every writing. The points I think that should be established are (one) that I

believe that Miss Boyle would severely criticize the Calley incident. It's ironical that at times it is difficult to live by our beliefs. The teachings of Miss Boyle are worthy to live by as is the idealism of Edmund Burke. We are each torn between hatred for abuse and the belief that we must act. Action may eventually come from world government. World government is an unclear thought. The United Nations is limited. Yet American, Russian, or Chinese intervention can only mean conflict--war--murder--all premeditated. The third (and final point) must be the strongest point, the entire Calley incident should find action and response from the people it intimidates--the American Nation.

Letters To The Editor

Editor's Note: The following is student's on the meaning of Easter.

Dear Editor:

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to this earth in human form through a miraculous birth. He was the expression of God's love and compassion for this world. Though he was despised, rejected and condemned, His humility, boundless compassion, and uncompromising doctrine of love, joy, and peace still live today is just as alive as when He walked the earth.

Just before his crucifixion, He was betrayed, whipped, and even spat upon. He was strip-

ped of His garments and all His human dignity. Men literally crucified the compassionate heart of Him. What undescribable love He has for this World! He is concerned. He wants to rebuild the nation with strength and goodwill.

"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world: but that the world through Him might be saved."

Though Christ's human form was nailed to the cross and laid in a sealed tomb, He is the life that will never die. Death could not and will not conquer Him. He arose from the grave to save the world from eternal damnation.

The resurrection of Christ was the detonation of the earth. With it, a tremendous impact has been made on the scientists, philosophers, and theologians. He sits on the right hand of His Father making intercession for you and me. What wonderous love He has for us!

Together let us try to relate to the reality of Easter. Loving one another as Christ hath loved us. It is only through His love that we can lead meaningful lives expressing perfect love for our fellow man.

Joyce Summer

Dear Julie

Today, for a fleeting instant, I believed in people again. Today Mrs. Smith is the best professor on campus. The instant of recognition came quickly--or so it seems. She has been the best for quite a long time and there are many that know this. The award itself is ironic. It's "as if one were saying you're the best; you can leave now."

Today I lost my belief in people again. There are those that believe that college is a place where you are taught to think. And often wasting some time I thought and remembered. Sometimes you can lose and yet win. Having won I'll leave. Sarcasically yours,

Koz

Reservist Comments On Calley Verdict

By MAX RICHARD FOBES

I am, in a limited capacity, serving the U. S. Military and at the same time associated with the American College campus scene. In view of the two environments, I will express my dissillusioned feelings toward the life sentence imposed upon Lt. William Calley by a Court Martial of the U. S. Military.

Lt. Calley of the U. S. Army was convicted of the "premeditated murder" of 22 South Vietnamese villagers in April, 1971. Although one cannot readily condone his various methods of execution, such as marching My Lai villagers through mine fields, one must come to the realization that Calley's actions have, and will hold true to the American way of war, or for that matter anyone's manner of nationalistic murder.

In general the object of any war is to win. Therefore, in general, to win a war "the soldier" must kill to eliminate the opposition. Is "the soldier" to be condemned for trying to win his country's war?

Calley was sent to Vietnam by the U. S. Military to kill. The fundamental problem with the Military's attitude toward the massacre is that it does not realize the reason why Calley killed. He was convicted of killing women and children, but did Calley kill women and children? He killed the ene-

my.

The fact that the North Viet Cong drew many of their recruits from the My Lai hamlet is not so commonly known. But it is a factor of Calley's attitude. Perhaps, since the women of the hamlet have been known to bear children and the children have developed into Viet Cong, Calley felt that it was his duty to kill. What other circumstance could convince a human being into easily admitting to the wholesale murder of 22 "helpless" civilians?

Although I do not approve of Calley's methods, I must as an American accept and condone his intentions. Lt. Calley was a part of the United States Military that was sent to Vietnam to win a war by killing. If Calley is allowed to be imprisoned for this act, then every American Military should be imprisoned also. Each individual is making a contribution to the death of some Vietnamese. Some are helping the cause more than others, but all are guilty of same crime that Lt. Calley is guilty of.

It has been my deepest desire for this comment to be cold and hard. The cause can be attributed to the fact that the life of the serviceman in Vietnam is cold and hard because war in itself is an unimaginable atrocity.

The Decree

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