

Editorial Page

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Inflation: Up, Up And Away

In a local newspaper recently there was a story concerning the .5 per cent rise in the cost of living for this month of September. This was not surprising, since for more than the last year the cost of living in the United States has been on a steady up-rise.

Inflation has been a major topic for discussion among the political leaders of the nation for years and President Nixon made strong mention of the fact in his successful bid for the Presidency a little over a year ago. He said that, if elected, he would stem the tide of inflation.

Little has been done, as is evidenced by the steady rise during the past several months.

What does the future hold in store for America if the inflationary tactics are followed? Of course, only time will tell the true answer.

It was 40 years ago this month that the nation was also caught up in "booming" society. Everywhere there was prosperity. People played the stock market and many of them made it rich. Money seemed to flow like wine in Nero's palace and it seems that the idea was to live for today and worry little about the future.

Then came that fateful day that the inflation reached its peak and then fell, and fell hard and fast. It took the nation decades to come anywhere close to recovery.

It happened once, and it could happen again. We suggest that all heed the calls that are trying to curb inflation; it may be for our own good.

Communication Gap

In a meeting held last week, the Board of Trustees made a major step in reducing the communication gap between the Board and the students of Brevard College. In a proposal made by Student Government Association president, Ken Eaton, and passed by the Board, a position was created to include a student member to the Board.

Although it was not decided as to what role the student delegate would play on the Board, we feel that the move was definitely a major step forward in bridging the lack of understanding that often emerges between the two different age groups.

We hope that the Board of Trustees will not use this appointment as just a publicity stunt to say that they have made some effort to communicate with the student. We challenge them to make good use of this excellent opportunity to get on a personal basis with the students.

Also the challenge extends to the student body. As students, we must make a conscientious effort to name a representative that will give the true views of the students and one who will act in a dedicated and sincere manner.

The CLARION

The VOICE of Brevard College

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MISTER BREGER



"Because I'm not going to vote for him—that's why..."

New Gymnasium To Open Soon

The latest building accomplishment for the Brevard campus, the new addition to the gymnasium, will open in the near future.

The gymnasium facilities include an audio-visual room, a lined court for handball, tennis and basketball, one classroom. An extra dressing room has been added for visiting teams and spring sports.

The gym floor when completed will be used for gymnastics, wrestling, tumbling, handball, tennis, and basketball. After class activities will be reserved for the Women's Physical Education Department. The seating arrangements will accommodate three hundred people, and women varsity games will be held in the new gymnasium.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

These are indeed exciting times in which to live, especially when one can pursue such inspiring examples of logic as evidenced in articles such as "To Pot or Not to Pot." If this article was written to convert Cannabis smokers to go straight—Wow! If it was written to prevent students from smoking, it insults the intelligence.

First the author of the article is obviously not an authority on marijuana. What does he base his conclusion, "Pot is one of the most potentially harmful options the twentieth century has to offer." The entire atmosphere of the article is highly subjective. He is either naive or this is a put-on.

Before an intelligent person is going to buy these conclusions, he is going to have to put up more than opinions from his "experience." Let's have some facts.

Second, I have never heard an argument proposed with two more preposterous assumptions. "Young people are biologically set like tiny little pills," he says. An assumption of a supposedly logical argument based on Madison Avenue phrase and supposing a scientific basis, is a obvious fallacy. The revolution is not just among the young people, but among people of all ages who see the establishment working against the good of the nation and of mankind. His second assumption is more preposterous than the first. Here we resort to the puritan ethic that pleasure is a sin and therefore must be paid for by pain. Wow! if there is one thing that has led to the hang-ups of this nation it is the puritan ethic. It has resulted in an alcoholic; sexually repressive society. Ironically, it is the cause of the drug problem itself. The puritan ethic has spawned our industrial complex which together with the puritan missionary zeal to make everybody do things our way, now threatens the security of the entire world. The pleasure-pain principle is more a threat to the human race today than over-the-counter LSD.

Thirdly, I don't think "them hippie addicts" feel that pot is a panacea to anything. At most it is a symbol of the anti-es-

establishment. A harmful, non-narcotic, non-toxic, little bit of fun that in many states draws a penalty stiffer than that for violent rape, armed robbery, and murder.

Lastly, I don't see how the author logically related his assumptions to his conclusions that grass is "a threat to the very foundation of society."

I agree with him that smoking dope is bad. It is bad because of the danger of imprisonment and the social stigma that results from getting caught. It is bad just as are cigarettes, coffee, alcohol, diet pills, tranquilizers, and chewing your fingernails, because it encourages escapism. But escapism is not the result of these psychological addictions; it is the result of a society that has become so complex that the individual has trouble defining his role. The solution is not to condemn man's escape mechanisms but to make society compatible to his needs biologically and psychologically.

Man does not exist for society, society exists for man. This is a worn out phrase but it is none-the-less true. Many aspects of our culture have lost sight of this. Ideally, we should

mold a society that a man can exist in without needing to escape. "To Pot or Not to Pot" is irrelevant to the survival of life as we know it. Our ability to adapt our society to us is the question.

Sincerely,

(Name withheld upon request)

Dear Editor:

I don't know of any other way of expressing my feelings for Brevard and you than by writing a letter to your newspaper.

I visited your school for only three days and found you all to be the friendliest students I have ever met. Everyone was extremely considerate of me and my welfare. I think your school is a beautiful one and a credit to North Carolina. I only hope that I might come down again and experience some of the warm friendly hospitality that I received last weekend. Please keep up your reputation as being one of the friendliest schools in the South.

Thank-you again for everything. It was a privilege to be a guest on your campus.

Sincerely,
Karen Clark
George Mason College
Fairfax, Virginia

Perspective

BY RONNIE SMITH
EDITOR

Boy, this sure has been a busy week, hasn't it? It seemed that all of the tests, especially mine, had been previously dangling above me and they all descended upon me like vultures this week and picked me clean of every thing that I had learned and some things that I did not even know that I had learned.

To clarify this vast destruction, it is commonly called mid-term exams.

It is the first milestone for the freshman as they embark upon careers in higher learning and for the sophomores it is the first quarter of the last lap around the Brevard academic year.

On the individual student level it is rewards for a job well done, a shout of warning for others, and the setting of new goals for everyone.

As I write this, I still have two more mid-term exams to study for and take so I'll bring this little talk to a screeching halt.

I'll see you next week.