

THE LANCE

St. Andrews Presbyterian College

Laurinburg, N. C. 28352

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"Strike Is Right"

Blessings . . . Prust

A few days ago a disillusioned freshman ventured into my office with a tale of woe. Not only was C&C causing him to lose his faith in God (it's about that time of year), but now his faith in the future was cracking too. "The War Game", the articles in "Crisis", and STMS's dire predictions of imminent biological disaster had all combined to blow his long wired circuits. I tried to smile reassuringly, as if to say, "Relax, we're working on it", but caught myself wondering what there is to smile at. The stark horror of our prospects for the future, if they are faced squarely, should elicit either feverishly constructive action or a good honest breakdown. Since I'd prefer not to break down, honesty demands some sort of constructive action.

Central to all our anxiety about the future stands the angry conviction that the war in Vietnam is worse than stupid. It is absurd. Not only is it counter-productive to our international welfare but it precludes the kind of investment it could take to grasp our domestic destiny. Very few on this campus still need to be convinced of this. Only two years ago any prophet of doom who said that the war was taking us to hell was thought to be unpatriotic and weird. Every Chicken Little was thought to be in reality a little chicken, afraid to grab his bayonet, be a man and defend freedom. But finally the absurdity of the war has gotten through to us all. The sky really is about to fall.

But what to do?

This brings me to the strike scheduled for next Wednesday. That's something to do. "But is it constructive?" you ask. It could be. Plans are being made to leaflet Laurinburg, to send teams of students and faculty to ring doorbells and convey to townspeople their deep concern over our government's unresponsiveness.

"But how much good can that do?" It's hard to tell, isn't it. Perhaps little, but perhaps a good deal. Many people have never been challenged by the peace movement, face to face.

But even if few minds are changed, as William Coffin has said, it's sometimes more important to be right than to be effective". The strike is right. It is right because it says what we feel: absurdity has tipped the scales, and until the war stops we cannot conduct "business as usual".

A massive strike on October 15 would make the point to Laurinburg. Combined with the strikes of hundreds of other universities and colleges across the country, the point will be made to Washington as well. And maybe, just maybe . . .

R. C. PRUST

"Day of Conscience"

(Continued from page 1)

In addition to the proposed changes of the FEC, the body has given a guarantee that it will accept the student recommendations with the changes mentioned above. The FEC also stated:

"The college takes the position that it does not officially endorse any political view or protest, but affirms freedom of conscience for all members

of its community. In acknowledgement of this principle, a professor on this day may cancel his classes or other academic obligations as he sees fit and a student may forego the normal obligation of class attendance as his conscience dictates.

"The college recognizes its obligation to safeguard the freedom of all members of the college community."

Dorm Autonomy Brings Vitality To Campus Life

BY SARA LEE

Amid the hustle and bustle of the past week, Parents Day, and the emphasis on Mobilization Day, there has been one action by the Senate which deserves special attention. It should not be overlooked, for its idea and implications may have far-reaching effects on this campus.

The General Policy statement passed by the Senate Monday night reads in part as follows: "Recognizing the different orientations and problems of each individual dormitory; recognizing the ability of each dormitory to effectively and responsibly act to meet its own distinct needs and interests; recognizing that to operate under the concept of representative self-government, the approval or disapproval of a proposal should be determined by those who will be subject to the jurisdiction of the proposal; we affirm the independence of each dormitory and its right to democratic self-government".

This statement is a logical extension of the Constitutional changes made last year making dormitory presidents and vice-presidents representatives of the students in the chief legislative body of the Student Association, the Inter-Dormitory Senate. When class distinctions are cut out and residences become the sole criteria for representation, then it follows that the dormitories must be autonomous in their actions as well as in their vote.

In essence what the Senate adopted as general policy is only a verbalizing of what has been tacitly assumed both this year and last. Dormitories, through their student structure, have been carrying out activities and general policies (such as sign-outs) independently for some time; now all that's happening is the assumption of more responsibility by dormitory officers in taking the initiative in areas such as extension of hours, open dorms, and overall policy.

Granted, this can be poorly and irresponsibly done. But

with officers the caliber of this year's it is not only done well and responsibly, but has introduced a new vitality and searching for better ways within a dorm's individual set-up.

What works for Orange may not fit in Concord what is an added freedom in one dorm may become a huge hang-up in another, is exactly the rationale behind the Senate's decision to allow dormitories to work independently of each other, so that each may be what the students there want without being tied to another dorm's limitations.

Already, several dorms have begun the process of changing rules to fit their own particular content. It is necessary to remember that there are still problems in the overall campus scheme--security is the prime example.

The Senate expects to become a sounding board for new ideas as well as a back-up for an individual dormitory in speaking to the whole campus.

Dorm autonomy is an exciting, vital way to cope with individual problems. But its success still depends on student responsibility. Make it work, won't you?

March

(Continued from page 1)

Mike Ferrell, President of the Student Association, Dr. Hart's technical objection apparently did not interfere with other groups who have used the bus in the past.

Therefore, Wednesday night the Cabinet gave official sanction to the activities of St. Andrews students participating in the march. This affirmed the fact that St. Andrews students have the right to demonstrate their feelings towards contemporary problems, and that their participation, and the recognition of their participation by the Cabinet, make the march a school function. This fact lends support to those who need school transportation to Fayetteville, but the problem still has to go back to Mr. Babcock.

WSAP Thank You

To the Editor of The Lance:
Thanks go to The Lance from WSAP radio for the inclusion of the unexpected advertisement in the Parent's Day Issue. It is such extras which help to show a college newspaper striving for a close cooperation among the students of St. Andrews. Be assured by this of the continued support for The Lance in the future from WSAP.

Keep up the good work,
Tom Edge
Director of Public Relations
David Berry
Exec. Vice-President
Bob Nye
President

Granville dormitory is sponsoring its second annual "Autumn Affair" this Saturday night at the Shriner's Club. Featuring J. G. and the Magnificants, the dance will last from 8 till 1. Free mixers and refreshments will be offered, and the charge is only \$3.50 a couple. Wear casual clothes.

The opening of the first art exhibit featuring work of St. Andrews' new art faculty, Philip and Sharon Whitley, will be at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 14, in the Vardell Building.

At 8 p.m. a poetry reading will feature the work of student poets Arnold Edgerton, John Turner and Craig Smith, and translations by Ronald H. Bayes St. Andrews' writer-in-residence.

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