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Gregory Tells of "Eastern Elitist Control"

"It's up to you, young America, but you haven't got much time." This was the central theme of Dick Gregory's two hour lecture before a standing-room only crowd in Avinger Auditorium on November 21. Mr. Gregory, a noted author, recording artist, comedian and lecturer, used a comical approach to discuss, and make real in the minds of his audience, the social problems that face America and the world today.

Opening with satirical remarks about former president Nixon and then moving on to his successor, Gerald Ford, Gregory filled the audience with laughter, only to suddenly chill them with a recital of uncovered corruption which, he claimed, runs rampant in the American political system. He noted that no democracy in the history of the world has lasted more than two hundred years; yet, as America approaches its Bicentennial, we are the only democracy with

a president-and soon, a vice president-who were not elected by the people.

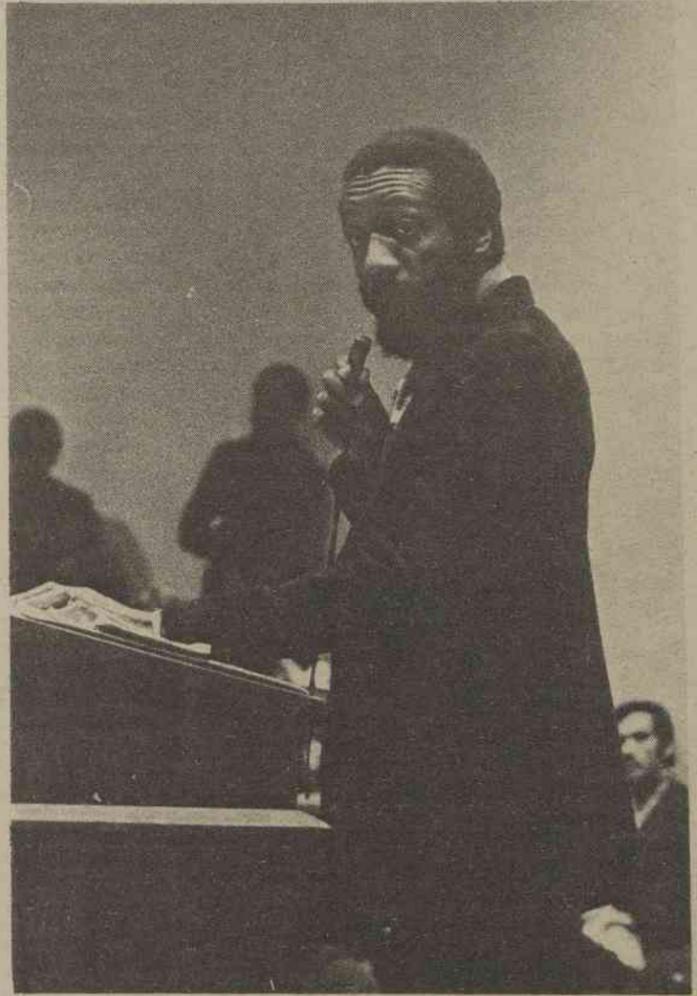
Gregory went on to declare that the American government is essentially being run by a handful of "super-rich, East coast" Americans. Much of his subject matter reflected this premise. The world food problem, he believes, is part of a systematic setup of contrived shortages organized by this super-rich elite to create panic among the people and aid them in their seizure of the government. Just prior to his St. Andrews appearance, he said, he was a member of the United States delegation to the World Food Conference in Rome, which had been called by the United Nations at the urging of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. There, the delegates discussed the current food crisis and tried to devise solutions to the problem of providing food for the half-billion starving people in the world today. Gregory criticized the U.S. government for refusing to make a commitment of its

resources at the Conference, and he described his recent run from Chicago to Washington to dramatize the seriousness of the food problem. Commending the students who participated that day in a fast to help provide food for countries in need, he said "one half of the potential farmland in this country is not being used to produce anything. We Americans waste entirely too much." "These problems," he said, "are the kind young Americans will be constantly faced with in the days ahead, and time is running out faster than you think."

Continuing his remarks on the wasteful ways of the American people, Gregory said that "collapsing morals are closing in on us on the one hand and ecology is closing in on the other." As an example of the moral situation in America, he outlined a theory linking the Central Intelligence Agency with the murders of President Kennedy and his brother Robert, as well as the kidnapping of newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst. All of these, he said are a part of the changing moral climate in this country, but said they are secondary in importance to the problem of what we are doing to our environment.

As a black American, Gregory said, he had grown up in circumstances quite different from that of most people, a theme that frequently appeared in his remarks. He hailed integration as a great achievement, particularly for blacks; black schools and their curriculum, he said, have improved tremendously as a result.

In proposing solutions to the myriad problems he described, Gregory made special reference to his recent books on how to cope with shortages of some food items and the high prices of nearly all of them. A related point was his idea that institutions of higher learning "need to spend less time trying to educate people and more time on teaching them how to live." He conceded, however, that he did not have answers to all the world's difficulties. "One of the big sources of solutions for these problems," he declared, referring to his youthful audience, "is you." He closed by remarking that "inner spirit" is what people exist upon, and that by keeping themselves well-informed, young Americans can be better prepared to make decisions on the problems they will inherit from their elders. They must be ready to start right in, though, for as he said so often, "There isn't much time."



DICK GREGORY, with a colorful speaking style, is seen here telling a packed audience in Avinger of the elitest establishment of the East. His speech was both entertaining and somehow profound. For responses to what he said, see page 2.

Student Advisory Board Selected Under New Plan

Confirming unofficial reports floating around campus since before Thanksgiving break Student Association President Phil Bradley acknowledged this week that the student advisors to the Presidential Search Committee have already been chosen.

The student advisory committee, along with a similar faculty committee headed by Dr. George Melton, is to advise the "Search Committee," as it has come to be known, in its efforts to secure a successor for retiring college president Donald J. Hart. Bradley had previously told *The Lance* that the students would be chosen by the Student Association Cabinet under the self-nomination procedure employed in filling other committee posts. "That was my plan at the time of Dr. Hart's announcement," he said, when asked about the

change. However, an alternative plan designed "to be more representative of the student body and to take less time in formation" was subsequently proposed by Dean Victor Arnold, Bradley noted, and was recently put into effect.

Under the new plan, two Cabinet members, two Senate members, and the four class representatives on the Student Life Committee will serve as the student committee members. Representing the Cabinet will be Phil Bradley, who will serve as chairman of the student committee and Keith Gribble, vice president of the Student Association. The Senate chose from its ranks Terry Clark and Steve Chasson, and the four SLC members are Bill Allen, Sally Beatty, Steve Elkins, and Nat Rackett.

While details concerning the duties of the newly appointed students have not been finalized, it is known that they will be active in drawing up a presidential profile against which candidates for the job will be measured. They will also participate in the interviewing and selection of a new president. The actual search committee, made up of members of St. Andrews' Board of Trustees, is expected to begin its meetings early next year.

Students to Visit Commune

Twenty freshman SAS students, members of Whitney Jones's "Walden Seven" tutorial, will leave tomorrow for a weekend visit to Twin Oaks Community, a commune in Louisa, Virginia.

Interest in the trip was spurred by several books the group read for their course about Utopian communities-theoretical communities in which the inhabitants' lifestyle and philosophy are such that the moral, social and political problems of society at large are done away with. The most influential of the books, which included Plato's "Republic" and St. Thomas More's "Utopia", was "Walden Two," by the famed behavioral scientist B.F. Skinner. His book, a novel about life in a twentieth century Utopian community, was the model after which Twin Oaks was patterned when it was organized in 1967.

Twin Oaks was founded by Kathleen Kinkade, who discovered "Walden Two" in an extension course in philosophy in 1965. A 34-year

old divorcee "working at office jobs," Ms. Kinkade first participated in an unsuccessful attempt to establish a Walden-type commune in Washington, D.C. before she and seven other persons influenced by Skinner's book started Twin Oaks on a farm about 100 acres near Charlottesville, Virginia.

Initially, membership was open to anyone who paid a \$200 fee, which was frequently waived and eventually dropped. Continually in danger of failing for lack of people, the commune allowed anyone at all to join for well over a year. By the middle of 1971, however, a waiting list had developed, and an application form was devised to enable the community to choose from their applicants those who would make the best members. Presently, membership is below the 100, but the goal of the Twin Oaks residents is to have a settlement with a population of 1000. The next issue of the "Lance" will carry a report on the trip to Twin Oaks and what communal life is like.

The new Library hours for weekends beginning winter terms are

Changed from

9:00am-12:30pm Saturday
3:30 pm-10:30pm Sunday

To

1:00pm-5:00pm Saturday
2:00pm-11:30pm Sunday