

# Viewpoints/Opinions:

## Ignorance Shows Itself

Approximately forty-eight hours ago, the words, "Where is my \$25.00 you Jew?" appeared on the wall. Everyone at St. Andrews is familiar with "the wall"—that few square feet of brick where students can let off steam by spray painting messages to faculty, administration or fellow students. These messages are sometimes humorous, sometimes cryptic, and sometimes just plain silly.

But this new message falls into none of those categories. It is, to say the least, tasteless and offensive, and to say the most, vicious, bigoted, and cruel; a moral outrage completely repugnant to the ideals of Christian charity, liberal learning, and pluralism, which this college espouses. It reeks of ignorance and hatred.

Fellow students who saw this liberal-made comment to the effect of, "It's bad, but there will be people like that wherever you go. Don't worry about it too much." No one "worried about" the exploitation of the Indian people in their own country until Gandhi spoke out. No one "worried about" the degradation of blacks in the American South until Martin Luther King, Jr. led the civil rights marches. Someone must "worry about" hatred and prejudice now. But no one "worried about" the Nazis and other "people like that" in Germany in the 1930's and '40's. Six million Jews died. Happy Passover.

By Neil Leslie

## American Irony

I wrote my friend, Sandra Bernardez, a letter recently. She is a 21 year old woman who lives in Dansrisa, Belize. She is studying to be a nurse at the town "hospital." As I wrote, I was shocked to realize how removed I am from her reality.

I remember how strange I felt asking her to help me pick out a straw at the the "sidewalk" vendor. I remember when she asked me to buy her a soda. And when she walked with me back to the motel so I might give her a few dollars for monthly necessities. I felt cheated. And I felt guilty for the life I lead.

Her life consists of setting what money she can from the occasional tourists who wander through Dansrisa on their way to ancient Mayan ruins or out to

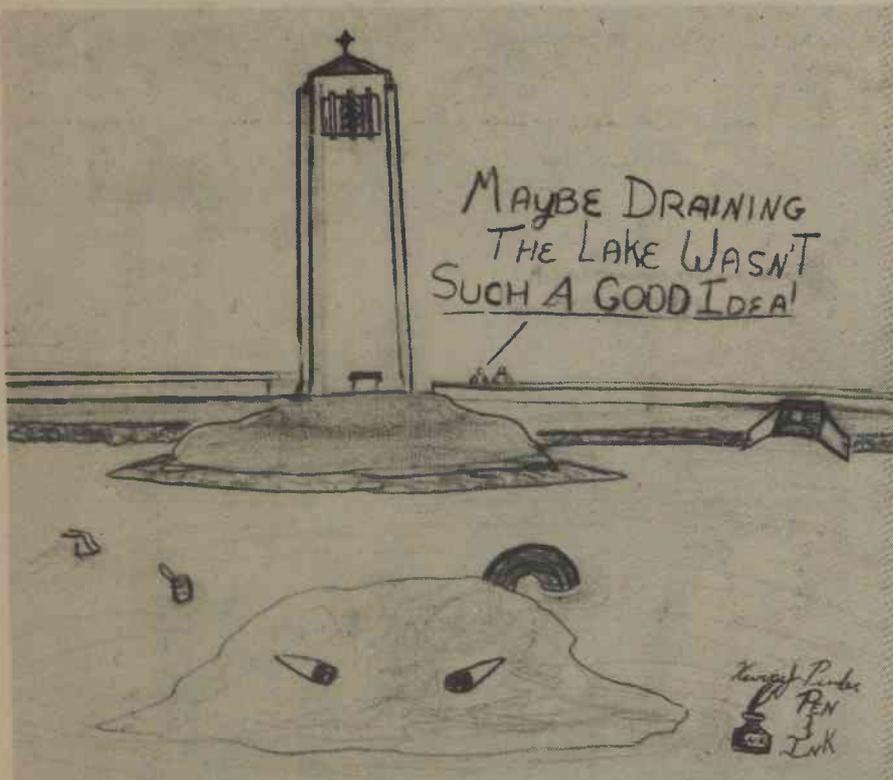
the barrier reef offshore. Her training income pays for food for her three younger sibilnss.

My life revolves around intellectual pursuits, tennis on Thursday, swimming laps, and discarding not quite perfect food. It seems so meaningless in comparison.

She dreams about the United States. The only North Americans she has ever met have been those like myself, who could afford to travel that far to study marine ecology. And she knows by my stature that we have too much to eat.

And I'm sure that she laughs inside about my priorities when hers are survival and happiness.

By Emily Kennedy



Modern reality is the existence of a capitalistic nation whose telos is to consume resources at ever-growing rates. Modern reality is the realization that these resources being consumed so quickly are very limited. Modern reality is the realization of a population explosion which threatens to starve most of the third world in as soon as 30 years. Modern reality is fear because of these realizations. Modern reality is the norm that war is the legitimate expression of this fear. Modern reality is the use of nuclear arms as an expression of war. Can we tolerate modern reality as an expression of nuclear arms? Of course not. Our only hope lies in the realization that we all live on this planet together and we must cooperate IN THE CAREFUL USE OF ITS RESOURCES. But as long as Modern reality remains to be the existence of a capitalistic nation whose telos it is to consume resources at ever-growing rates, I don't see how we can avoid Modern reality as an expression of nuclear arms.