

Man's Destruction

I am nothing; a mere human who finds himself living in a society set up on the idea of destroying itself. I am but a tool at the mercy of technical devices which rule the world, and there is nothing I can do.

In this era of scientific developments and ideology, we are faced with the inevitability of war. A generation of what is supposed to be filled with educators and THINKING men at the mercy of machinery is very DISTURBING. We seek to conquer the moon and maybe the universe itself; yet we are unable to establish PEACE in this world in which we live. Mankind has failed to relate to this statement: "Ye who is master of himself shall be conqueror of all the world." We are not masters of ourselves because we are constantly engaged in war to determine whether any nation can endure. In the conflict of endurance of nations we overlook the endurance of humanity.

Today the frequent talk is that of peace, but war can never bring peace in any form. This has been proven over the years. Therefore, let us not focus our attention to outer space; instead let us try to devise a method by which we can obtain peace. In order to do this we must determine, "What is War?" and "What is Peace?"; and moreover, "What is the price we must pay for either?"

War is a mere three letter word carrying a meaning far greater than that of time. In my opinion, war is inevitable and will be a contributing factor to the destruction of the human race. Moreover, war is defined as being an overt conflict consisting of physical, mental, and social hostility. War means to many millions of people hunger, death, inflation and an overall uneasiness which lies in the pit of the hearts of men. To nations war may mean the beginning of the end; or it may mean the coming of a new nation. Moreover, one can say that war is the inability of men to diplomatically solve their problems. It reveals man's cynical pessimistic view of his fellow man. War shows the neglect and irresponsibility the human race has had since the beginning of time.

Neglect and irresponsibility are the other major contributors to man's destruction in its totality. Man is irresponsible in the sense that he is continually spending billions of dollars in space travels. In the same instance the world in which we live is slowly being engulfed by the oceans, seas, rivers, etc. We show neglect by means of inhuman treatment of our brethren. As an illustration of inhuman treatment of our brethren, I will use the United States and the state of North Carolina.

In the states the Blacks have been mistreated since their first arrival here. Furthermore, Blacks have been forced to live in substandard neighborhoods obtaining substandard education. The racial crisis that prevails in America is only a segment of its totality. In any country where people are forced to be inferior, there is racial unrest.

The third major element involved in the total destruction of human life is technology. The same scientific and technical developments that caused modern man to acquire the highest civilization yet will also destroy him. This is due

to the fact that countries are overcrowded, underfed, and the natural resources are being abused. Furthermore, we are turning to computers to do our thinking: thus leading us into a state of mortal fools depending solely on machinery and not the mind of man.

It is left up to us, the young inhabitants of the world, to save it. We must begin to prepare ourselves to meet the task of human existence. If it takes a complete revolution for man to endure, then let us relate to revolutionary measures. Now, before it is too late.

Bro. Curtis Dixon

The Evolution Of The Black Man

I was just a boy then, I remember it quite well. Life was care-free and peaceful for me in my village. My tribe was one of the most peaceful in all Africa. Everything was really so beautiful in my homeland, life was simple and wholesome there.

One day some visitors came to talk to my chief. They had pale skin, light eyes and light hair. The next day some of my brothers left with them. Our chief said that they had gone to a new land called America.

The visitors came back again and again. Our tribe grew small; I lost many of my friends. Finally the time came for me to go to America.

They took us to the coast. On the way there some of my friends tried to run but were caught and whipped. For precaution they put me in chains which hurt my ankles and wrist. We were then herded into ships like beasts. The food was terrible and didn't come often.

We finally arrived. My first impression of America was an auction block, where I was sold into physical bondage.

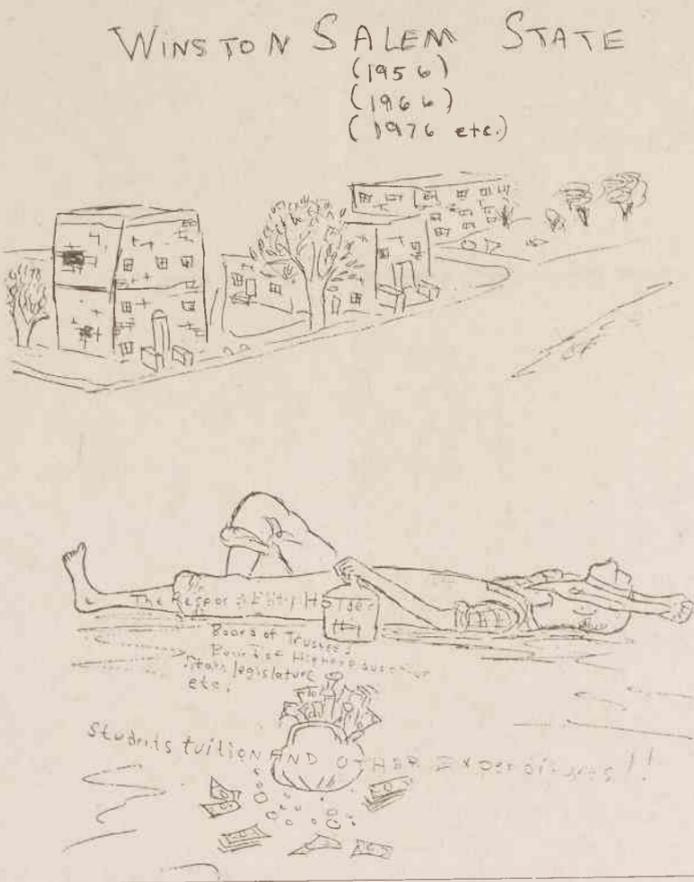
I've developed into a young man. I remember well the harsh treatment they gave me, the stern rule of my white masters. They whipped me and gave me deplorable food and clothing.

Two hundred years have passed and I am still a slave bearing the terrible pain and suffering bestowed upon me. I begin to hate the colonizer and his system, but I just wait patiently for a chance to strike back. I begin to wonder will my slavery ever end.

I am now a mature middle aged man. It is 1865, they say I'm free, but I know that they have only given me a very small amount of freedom. They still call me boy, and they expect me to answer, "Yes, Mister Charlie." If this is the freedom my people were talking about for two hundred years they're crazy. This isn't freedom, this is secondary slavery, a continuation of primary slavery. This is pure "hell."

It is 1969, and I have become revolutionary, ready to attain my real freedom by any means possible. I'm now full of hate enforced by 300 years of slavery. I wonder when will people wake up, or is it going to take revolution, bloodshed, violence, or even war to bring about real peace? I'm now ready to pick up the gun if it is necessary to attain freedom. I am not only willing to pick up the gun in self-defense, but I am ready to fire it. So watch out America; watch out!

Edward Milligan



Conservation . . . Dying?

In such strife-ridden times as these, the concept of conservatism appears to be dying out in favor of a new turn toward liberal thinking.

"Hard-Core" conservatism which persisted in the latter part of the 1950's is slowly fading from the American scene as did Jim Crow of decades before. On evaluating the calibre of students produced by our universities today, we find that they just don't adhere to the more conservative principles established by their parents and forefathers. This can be attributed to the Civil Rights struggle which has its origins in the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott. Then, too, our entering the war in Vietnam in the beginning of this decade had its attributing factors.

This shows that the pendulum of change swings back and forth from a conservative to a liberal standpoint, but with the trend of events of today, the pendulum would seem to have come to a complete stop on the liberal side for at least the next five to ten years.

This process has been aided by the advent of radical thinkers and activists on the American scene. These individuals have in some way infiltrated into the American system and have successfully distilled the total effects of long-time conservative principles.

Today's white university student, as well as the Black student, is more apt to question the sanity of this country and will go all out to evaluate the current modes of American standards to see if they are changing with the times. Today's student is coming to believe that America's presence in Southeast Asia is an immoral thing, and the drafting of this country's youth to fight this immoral war is something that he just cannot contend with. He is undoubtedly losing faith in the American Manner, and seeks to bring about changes in the existing establishment. His alienation from the system makes him want to destroy it, not necessarily improve it, but completely wipe out that which is distasteful to him.

Such ideals would have been unheard by students of yester-year, but we must consider that affairs of that time were in no way akin to those of today. We must also consider that those particular students of yester-year are those who run and perpetuate the system today and their conservatist modes still hold true in our times.

Could the "American Conscience" also be a determining factor in the change of ideals? This question may be debatable, but a careful look at the advancement of the Black Man in this country in the past six or seven years reveals a slight bit of lenience in the American mind.

If the adage "History always repeats itself" holds true, then we can expect our pendulum to swing back in favor of our "American Fathers" within the next five to ten years, but we are the determinants, and what they will become will be what we have made them.

Terry Howard, Co-Editor

Black Student Union

Many of you may be wondering why we have a Black Student Union of Winston-Salem State University's campus where it is supposed to be a Black university. Physically speaking Winston-Salem State University is a black university, but mentally it is a white university. The administration, including most of the faculty, is WHITE. Therefore, the purpose of the Black Student Union is to help make Winston-Salem State University a mentally Black university.

Winston-Salem State University must not continue along the old established doctrines of which we are presently victims. The university must move at a rapid pace to educate black students to become meaningful participants in the struggle to liberate the masses of black people still enslaved by the system.

The ultimate goal of education in any institution of learning should be to prepare students to meet the needs and demands of their culture. The black educational institution, in particular, should prepare students to relate to the needs of the black community.

Presently, the education offered at Winston-Salem State University and other black colleges and universities is irrelevant to the cultural need of the masses of black people. Because existing structures at Winston-Salem State University duplicate those of white institutions, the black student goes through college without having gained the necessary knowledge and skills which he can apply to his African heritage. Education at Winston-Salem State University is based on European culture, and thus black students emerge after four years of college completely Europeanized.

The courses offered at Winston-Salem State University range from

Greek Civilization to European romance languages. When we view most of the curriculum on our campus we are able to find only a smidgen of courses which are meaningful to us as Black people. It is a prerequisite for graduation from Winston-Salem State University that students take at least one course in humanities and two courses in Modern European history. Were the Greeks and Romans the only human culture? History, sociology, economics, American and English literature and other subjects are equally irrelevant to black people.

What does such an education do to a black student? Not only does he accept the white value system, he identifies with whites and expects other blacks to do the same. The typical black college graduate accepts the white values attached to job title, company association, dress, social habits, music, etc. He then argues that if one is to be recognized and progressive in society, he must accept what whites have said to be acceptable. Any talents held by this individual have been lost to the black community and go towards the perpetuation of the white power structure.

Rarely is the black student given the opportunity to demonstrate his ability to be responsible; he seldom has the chance to make a decision for himself because the school dictates what he can and cannot do; and never should he question the status quo. In short, the black student is dehumanized in that he can neither think nor act, except in the manner prescribed by the power structure devised for him.

Black students now recognize the plight of black institutions and black communities in a racist society. There is a demand that our institutions offer an education which is relevant to the needs and demands of our people, and education which does not deny us our heritage, an education which imparts skills, techniques and mechanics that may be utilized in the black community. Rather than attempting to rise above the community, the university should make itself an integral part of the community by offering its resources to the community.

No longer should Winston-Salem State University perpetuate the evils of the racist, capitalistic system, but should educate its students to the evils of the system and at the same time rid itself of those parental and puritanical attitudes which has made black people fall victim to the system.

Therefore, the Black Student Union is needed on this campus to implement a black curriculum that is relevant to black people.

Yours in Blackness,
Bro. Earl Hart

Book Review:

BLACK CLASSIC IS PUBLISHED

"It is Miss Hurston's best novel, and possibly the best novel of the period, excepting Native Son," said Robert Bone of Zora Neale Hurston's "Their Eyes Were Watching God". "Their Eyes Were Watching God" will be published as a 75-cent Fawcett Premier paperback.

Janie had been gone for almost two years as this outstanding classic of Black literature commences. Her neighbors know only that she left home with a lover much younger than herself and that she is back alone. To the local gossips, it's clear that Janie has played the fool. But Janie has a different story.

Then Tea Cake came along, too busy enjoying himself to worry about money or respect, and after a whirlwind courtship they left for the Florida Everglades. And there Janie began to experience life in all its intensities.

The late Zora Neale Hurston was born in 1901 in Eatonville, Florida, the first black town incorporated in America. Her father was a tenant farmer and a jackleg preacher. She grew up to be an outstanding writer.

-T.H.

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