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### The Quest For Security Justified

For the past few years it has been an accepted fact that the present generation is concerned deeply with security. Lately, however, many well recommended observations seem to coincide with that of Judge Charles E. Wyzanski, president of the Board of Overseers at Harvard University, who believes that this quest for security is being conducted at the sacrifice of what he calls the "essential zest of life." Dr. Wyzanski, speaking to the University of Pennsylvania's 1954 graduating class, further stated that those who subordinate everything else in life to security are courting "frustration and ignominy."

Dr. Wyzanski stands not alone in his reasoning. Many graduating classes throughout the United States listened to messages similar in content last June.

Dorothy Thompson, while comparing the present generation with her own, found that "considering their years, they are too concerned with security." The youth of today lacks the "Sturm und Strang" that past generations have boasted.

It cannot be denied that all of this is true. But it can be denied that there is anything strangely irregular in this behavior pattern. It is the natural result of many diversified causes.

To be specific, the present generation includes those born from 1929 to the present. 1929—the end of the roaring twenties and the beginning of the great depression, of unemployment, of soup lines. This is the unstable era into which the present generation was born. It was a world—an experience—that they would not like their children—the next generation—to ever know.

Just as America was recovering from this economic, social, and psychological disaster, the clouds of war gathered rapidly and culminated in World War II. By the end of the war in 1945, an official report listed 201,367 Americans dead, about 6,000,000 wounded, and 57,000 missing. The net result of this devastating record was the man's resolution for security through preparedness and the acceleration of atomic bomb research. And as the A-bomb grew into manhood, the mightier Hydrogen Bomb was born—a greater promise of future "security."

By this time, many of those who make up the present generation were teen-agers. The Cold War with Russia became front page material and the world divided into two camps, pro-communist and anti-communist. The Korean War ensued and its ending proved nothing and ended nothing. It was a war in which many of this generation fought and perished. Many returned confused, realizing that since nothing had really been solved, security was yet out of reach.

Nor have national affairs of late been of the kind to instill a feeling of security in young America. Senator Joseph McCarthy, while having admirable objectives, used methods not compatible with our way of life. His investigations have, to an alarming degree, had a tendency to stifle individualism, to make one either conform or be labeled a "security risk."

The past quarter of a century has been years in which this generation has seen more than enough of both national and international "Sturm und Drang." Is it to be wondered that peace and security is so greatly desired? Can anyone blame the generation for striving for the security which they feel is their birthright but which has been denied them since birth?

## BOOK REVIEW: . . . by W. Sherman Perry "UNTO A GOOD LAND"

By VILHELM MOBERG

Simon and Schuster New York, 1954

Vilhelm Moberg, in his native Sweden, has attained the exalted position that Hemingway and Faulkner enjoy in America. Although he is the author of fourteen novels and fifteen plays that have been translated into seventeen languages, it has been relatively recent that the American public has been introduced to the works of Moberg.



PERRY

When *The Emigrants*, a late novel by Moberg, was released in the United States, it created quite a sensation in literary circles and was hailed by critics as "one of the finest long novels in a year of Sundays."

Moberg's followers on this side of the Atlantic will not be disappointed with *Unto A Good Land*. It is one of the most powerful novels to appear on the American scene this year. On the giant tapestry of mid-19th century America, Moberg tells the story of sixteen Swedish immigrants who came to the United States in search of a new and better way of life.

The sixteen Scandinavians are earthy and lusty people void of any sophistry. Weary, poor, and unable to speak English, they arrived in New York Harbor in June 1850, after being on the waters for ten weeks. They must keep on hoping, for it has been decided that they will settle in the sparsely populated territory of Minnesota.

Even in Manhattan, a city of half a million people, the Swedes realize that they have come "unto a good land and a large land, unto a land flowing with milk and honey." As they travel inland, by rail and ship, seeing the richness of America—the thousands of acres of fertile land, the virgin forests, the great lakes, the wild game—they are increasingly awed and thankful and come to believe that America is the greatest land upon the face of the earth.

These Scandinavian farmers—a segment of our forefathers—are of a type that we never seem to meet today in America. There is something so basic-so fundamental-about them that it would not be difficult for a 20th century man to envy them in spite of the great handicaps

they labored under and the many adversities, both natural and human, that were encountered, even after they settled in Minnesota.

The great faith they have in the Almighty God, their keen joy in the simple things of life, the unflinching hope they possess, are all movingly and simply related in this overwhelmingly powerful novel of Moberg's.

*Unto A Good Land* draws much of its power from its very simplicity. Vilhelm Moberg has a story to tell. He does so sincerely and earnestly without

embellishment.

Unfortunately, *Unto A Good Land* is the type of novel that rarely makes the best sellers list in American. In the search for escapist literature, solid books, such as this one, are slighted. However, Moberg can rest assured that he has an appreciative audience in America that eagerly awaits his novels.

Acknowledgements must be made of Gustaf Tannestock, who did such an admirable job in translating *Unto A Good Land* into "American."

### Peering Through The Bird's Eye

By "BONNIE"

ENTREE

I suppose that by this time, many people have spread the proverbial welcome mat for the freshmen and new students, and have also offered a few words of encouragement and inspiration as a prelude to this year's work. My sentiments of reception are much the same as those which you have already heard. However, in addition, I would like to say that you, as new members of the N. C. College community, are being accepted into the shadow of the Eagle's wings with clean slates. Whatever are your objectives, as far as academic and social achievement are concerned, can be obtained through perseverance and conscientiousness. Your years at NCC will always remain the most fertile of your lives if you avail yourselves of the opportunities when, and as they present themselves. Your college career is what you make it, and here's hoping that you make it, nothing but the best.



"BONNIE"

#### Cheer! Cheer For Ole NCC

The football season will begin with St. Augustine vs. NCC, on September 25, at O'Kelly Field. Coach Riddick and the grid-iron squad realize that we are not all pigskin material, but they expect from us, as good Eagles, a type of support for which there is no substitute—the moral support yelled from the bleachers. Cheering is not undignified nor is it something to

be discarded after high school. So let's learn our cheers, follow our cheer-leaders and give the mighty Eagles a shove toward Victory.

#### Beanies Of Distinction

I understand that the Student Government Prexy, Pete Ward, has announced to the freshmen the tradition concerning the green beanies, and has posted notices saying that they must be worn at all times. The upperclassmen expect to see these marks of distinction adding color to the NCC population, and they have been asked to enforce this SG ruling when necessary. After all, beanies are a part of the freshmen attire, and we were all freshmen once. So let's show the right spirit and co-operate Frosh.

#### Orchids To Our Gentlemen

The senior counselors and the freshmen women would like to extend many thanks to the men who were on the campus before September 15, for their brilliant display of good manners and chivalry. It was indeed gratifying to note how respectful they were to our Annie Day Shepard residents. Orchids to you, fellows. It was a vast improvement over last year.

#### Thanks Friends

One of the most satisfying experiences which I have had was to be welcomed back home by the cleanliness and gleam of the building at NCC. Our maintenance staff has worked long and hard on the face of our Alma Mater and the dividends are glorious to behold. A bouquet of Orchids to our friends who slaved through many sweltering days.

## The By-Word At N. C. College Is 'Student Self Direction'

BY YVONNE SCRUGGS

In almost every college or university, regardless of the size or the academic inhibitions, there exists at least one tradition which the students consistently identify with their institution. At North Carolina College, that tradition is the program of Student Self Direction.

To say that Student Self Direction would be more readily understood if a concise definition were used as a point of departure, would be confusing, if not just short of frustrating. For nowhere in the records of the Student Congress, nor of student-faculty advisory boards does there exist a definition upon which all parties concerned, both students, and faculty and staff members, can fully agree.

Therefore, the only accepted truth...the only established fact, is that each and every member of the NCC community is working toward his own interpretation of the common goal.

During a re-thinking program initiated by the combined interests of President Alfonso Elder, the Student Welfare Committee and the Student Government, for the purpose of defining the areas of SG jurisdiction as opposed to executive jurisdiction, a group of students defined Student Self direction in the following manner: "The opportunity for students to live and govern themselves, free from external pressure, according to rules and regulations, established by a duly elected student government organization and stipulated in an instrument

of government such as a constitution, is Student Self Direction." Another definition, though slightly opposite and along a dissimilar vein is: "The Program of Student Self Direction is designed to foster the ability of all people within the college community to develop to the maximum degree those traits beneficial to themselves and to the majority of their constituents and surpress to the greatest possible degree all traits not complementary to group living and group progress."

Both interpretations are sufficient as working definitions of Student Self Direction but cannot exist side by side without ultimately causing violent conflicts between the supporters of each definition. Therefore, it becomes increas-

ingly apparent that an understanding must be reached in the very immediate future between the two opposing forces or the militance which develops in the attempts to accomplish one aim from two different directions will destroy both the past and the potential, substituting nothing for a program which has manifested before, and can again manifest, leadership and accomplishment at North Carolina College.

The key to success of a program of Student Self Direction lies in active participation on the part of the student body in all activities which concern us. Whether development or self-government are concerned, neither can be accomplished through inertia. There will nev-

er exist any type of program beneficial to the student body as long as the student body remains oblivious to its own needs and opportunities, and expresses only a passive interest in the surrounding life. Being active does not necessarily mean being belligerent, for although all privileges must not be fought for, all overtures must be made by those who will profit most.

The importance of ascribing to the necessities in student government such as voting or attending meetings cannot be over emphasized. Within these apparently minor requirements are the roots of all unity and progress. There can only be leaders as long as there are followers, and the extent to which the obligations of the followers, minor or major, are regarded seriously precipitates success or failure.

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