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Experience Is A Lousy Teacher

By JAMES VAUGHN

The split level masonry of Five Points Park, Durham, North Carolina, held on to a fresh, innocent, unused look. Thousands of dollars had been spent to insure the tedious laying of each brick in its precise place, watched over by timid, young trees, a handful of dirt. and shrubs holding a promise to later blossom in an attempt to camouflage man's natural tendency towards the hard, cold, elements of steel, iron and concrete. But on the night of February 15, 7:30 p.m., the park aged when two age-old elements of human nature clashed.

Violence erupted as the power structure, the oppressor of the few, sought to continue its practices of oppression and exploitation of human will and dignity, while the oppressed victims resisted with the fury and determination born of being "fed-up", "sick" of being "walked-on" and slaughtered at will by the oppressor.

Protesting the brutal killing of three students, involved in a demonstration on a college campus in Orangeburg, South Carolina by local policemen, members of the Durham Chapter of G.A.S. (Grassroot Association for Students (from North Carolina College at Durham, Duke, Durham Business College and Hillside High School staged what was intended to be a peaceful march. Four-hundred students marched from North Carolina College through downtown Durham to the newly constructed park. A sober ceremony of prayers, hymns, effigy burning and a brief speech was conducted in honor of the slain students. The procession was carried out in much the manner of a funeral until the fire department, the police—Durham's power stucture-decided to intervene. The flames of the effigy burning were quickly doused by the fire department, drenching students along with the fire. The students then ignited the coffin which was carried as a symbol of the three slain students' deaths. Highpowered water hoses were turned on the students who had formed a ring around the burning coffin. After the fire was extinguished the firemen continued to crush the students with the force of the high-powered hoses. Even after Howard Fuller called an end to the meeting summoning students to line up on the sidewalk, following them relentlessly soaking the students in freezing weather laughing and jeering at their triumph over the students, the fire department continued its outrageous actions. Fleeing for protection the students ran down the streets. Outraged, some threw trash cans through windows of downtown stores dissappearing in the safety of the dark night, returning across the track.

Some students walked, attempting to remain calm and at ease in the face of danger. Milton "Toby" Fitch was one. As he passed a broken window of Belk's Department Store, he was seized by policemen, quickly thrown against a building and frisked in the merciless fashion of the "Untouchables" frisking the hardened murderers of Al Capone's gang. As other policemen approached in a rage, Fuller pleaded with them not to assault Fitch further. Joining Fuller in his pleas was another policeman, a Negro.

Ahead of other students approaching the scene was another group of policemen who proceeded to jab Fuller repeatedly in the stomach, chest, and about the neck, forcing him around a nearby car. Fuller, insisting that the policeman had no business beating him for he had not done anything, was dragged by policemen and thrown to the pavement. A young lady, Betty Marable, questioned the unprecedented actions of the police and was threatened by a raised police club. As she attempted to ward off the oncoming blow she was grabbed by the seat of her pants, picked up, and slammed against the pavement. Angered, another student darted towards the policeman only to be restrained by Walter Peguise, also a student, who continued to maintain his composure. Yet as Peguise restrained the student from attacking the policeman, he was

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Choice '68 Viewed

For student radicals these days, the menu has been sparse. Vilified by the press and Congress for their noisy activism, scorned by the majority of their moderate classmates more concerned with campus affairs, and lambasted from the pulpit for their flowing locks and sundry other hygienic offenses, they seem to have nowhere to go.

Their views, sound as they appear to them to be, remain largely ignored, and their protests, correspondingly, have disintegrated into displays of cynicism and emotional diatribes aimed at the Establishment. The American democratic process strikes them as more absurd with each passing day—and each mounting crisis.

CHOICE 68, the National Collegiate Presidential Primary, will probably either solidify the skepticism of the campus radicals or cause them to re-evaluate their thinking as to the actual political power of the vote.

If a sizeable percentage of college students do care enough to participate in the election, and, indeed, do succeed in exerting some appreciable pressure over the policymaking of the country, then the radicals may well channel their considerable energies into the drive to lower the voting age to eighteen.

If the Primary fails, however, to stir the long silent student moderates or to influence American policy, then leftists will probably remain convinced that only forceful and, if need be, violent action will produce acceptable political ends.

But of more immediate concern is whether the radicals will participate at all in CHOICE 68. The ballot, certainly, is well stocked with leftists and moderate-liberals, and the Viet Nam referendum questions should satisfy the most extreme of the radicals. The current anti-administration feeling among students would also seem to indicate that a leftist vote is a distinct possibility.

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KNOW THESE FINANCIAL DANGER SIGNALS

A family "gone broke" is far from rare say researchers at stateregulated consumer finance offices; it happens to more than 155,-000 Americans each year! One warning signal: if your installment debt totals more than 20% of your annual income, you may be heading for financial trouble.

Know These Danger Signals

Each year, more than 175,-000 American families file for bankruptcy. A far larger number are classified by experts as financially "vulnerable" — they are not in trouble now, but they could easily be if they suffered any reverses.

The time to take stock is long before you reach this point—but do you know what the warning signals are? Consumer finance company personnel and other economic experts have compiled the following list of things that may spell trouble for you and your family.

A prime financial danger signal, say authorities in the field, is a combination of two financial conditions. If your savings for a rainy day are less than \$200, and you have an installment debt that would take more than a year to repay at current rates, you are "vulnerable" to any kind of economic reversal.

If your installment debt totals more than 20 per cent of your annual income, that's another red flag of danger. If you or your family are in both categories, watch out; you are in a precarious situation.

Financial experts consider these conditions an overextension of credit and warn against assuming additional credit commitments. This does not however, include a mortgage or noninstallment debt.

Even the extra income provided by a working wife can sometimes spell danger, according to researchers for the consumer finance industry, because the additional money often tempts couples to buy luxury items not needed for overall family well-being. Financial experts warn against including a wife's salary in financial plans for more than six months ahead.

If your salary has remained the same in the past year, yet your bills have gone up, this could be another sign that it's time to cut back.

One way to find out how much credit you can safely carry is to discuss the matter with the manager of a state-regulated consumer finance office. Most of these small loan companies are members of the National Consumer Finance Association, which suggests this formula to help you pull back in time from unwise buying commitments.

Subtract such essential costs as shelter, food, clothing, heat, lights, etc. from your net income (take home pay), as well as expenses already committed . . . for insurance and savings programs, and perhaps payments on previous credit used. The portion of the take home pay remaining may be used for discretionary spending. It is the amount over which the consumer has some freedom of choice. NCFA experts advise spending no more than half of the uncommitted sum on new obliga-

If you do go deeply in debt, See Signals, Page 4

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