

# Bertocci Discusses Human Rights For Rondthaler Lecture Wednesday

What rights are basic to man in the society? This was the question treated in assembly on March 8 by Peter A. Bertocci, Rondthaler lecturer from Boston University.

Dr. Bertocci defined "basic rights" as "those rights which a man has merely because he is a human being." He emphasized that the rights to have the job you want, or to attend the school of your choice are not basic rights. The first basic right he cited was that of being innocent until proven guilty. He

pointed out that this right is taken for granted but that it is not granted to its extremes in our society. For an example he pointed to the fact that in some instances criminals are pressured into confessions (sometimes to crimes they did not commit) by threats of having their family hurt or property taken away if they refuse to confess. The suspect often would rather give a false confession than risk leaving his family harmed. He stated that you could not condemn a man on the basis of "the words of his own mouth" but only through a presentation of factual evidence. He pointed out that the tendency today is for a man to be guilty until proven innocent.

The second basic right he discussed was what he called "freedom of conscience." This category includes freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, and freedom of the press. He also stated that every right implies a duty. A man's right of free assembly implies that everyone else has a duty to allow him to speak freely as long as it does not endanger another's property or life. He also pointed out that the right of "freedom of conscience" is based on the assumption that a man is a rational, thinking, feeling being, who has the ability to exercise his conscience. At this time he expounded on the

right-duty relationship he had presented in assembly. He said that the right of free speech did not imply that other men have the duty to listen but only to allow him to speak. For example, he said that the right of filibuster must not be limited but this does not imply that everyone has to stay and listen. He believes that if a man feels strongly enough about an issue he should be allowed to talk about it as long as he wishes. He concluded by saying that the only time he felt that free speech should be denied is when someone yells "Fire!" in a crowded theatre. This could endanger the lives of other people and would thus be an infringement on their rights.

All in all, Dr. Bertocci brought to mind numerous rights which today's society takes for granted without truly comprehending or fully granting them.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The annual college senior dinner, sponsored by the Gramleys, will be held in the Club Dining Room on March 16.

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Gloria Clark, Peace Corps representative from Washington, D. C., will be on campus in the Vocational Room on March 15. She will be glad to interview any interested students.



Jack White usually finds his desk loaded with papers, but he always manages to get to the bottom of the matter.

## Jack White Offers Salem Services In Various Areas

Sara Hunt

It was a big chance, but I took it! I peeped through the crack in his office door, and behind a paper filled desk I luckily found "the man who does everything that Dr. Gramley does not do." Mr. Jack White was busy, but I did not mind waiting since I had been told that to see him I had better catch him away from a phone. He was glad to see me, even after I revealed my mission.

Mr. White has been Assistant to the President at Salem College and Academy for seven years. His work involves anything which is non-academic, and that includes the purchasing and maintenance of all supplies and equipment for the various departments.

The biggest problem and pleasures he has are "the renovation of old facilities and the answering of the telephone." These are the day-

to-day, often forgotten things which seem less glamorous around the campus. A continual improving process, which he heads, is the upgrading of all facilities at Salem. One grand example is the Fine Arts Center which replaced Memorial Hall this year. Another instance is the renovating of the old South Dormitory. Everyone will certainly agree that this has been a day-by-day, brick-by-brick process!

A few years ago, believe it or not, the basement of Clewell was re-decorated. This year Gramley dormitory, after called the Gramley-Hilton because of its top facilities, opened. Now it is Mr. White's plan to fix up the older dorms to meet the advantages of the newer ones. Plans are in the making for an addition to be made to the dining hall this coming summer. There are also high hopes for a College Union

(Continued on page 4)

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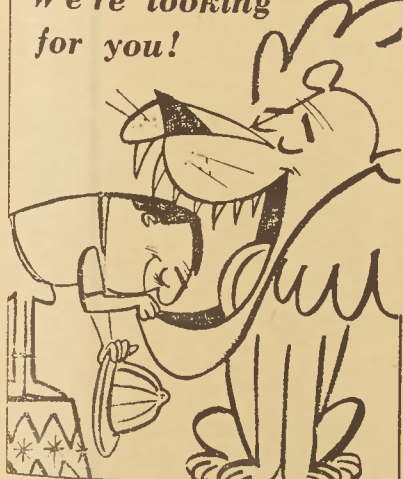
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