

CAMPUS COLLOQUY

- by Art Buchwald

I know no one will believe me, but you're just going to have to take my word for it. I met a college student the other day who said that all he wanted out of life was success and financial security.

He asked me not to use his name because he didn't want to embarrass his parents, so I shall call him Hiram.

"Hiram," I asked him, "Why did you decide to take this revolutionary attitude toward society?"

"I don't know exactly when it happened. I was like most of the rest of the students. I wanted to tear down the school, the society, the establishment. I was just another conformist, and I never questioned why I was doing all the things that were expected of me."

"Then one day I thought to myself, 'There's got to be more to life than getting hit over the head by the cops.' I looked around me and saw nothing but sheep. Every student was doing his thing because someone else had done his thing, and no one was doing or saying anything new."

"So you decided to drop out of the student movement and become a millionaire?"

"Not at first. But I met this girl. She was really way out. She wore a cashmere sweater, a plaid skirt and she had on shoes and socks - I couldn't believe anyone would dress like that. But I got to talking to her, and she started making sense."

"She said it wasn't enough to lock yourself in a building or go on a hunger strike in your dorm. If you really wanted to change the world, you had to make a lot of money, and then people wouldn't tell you what to do."

"That's radical thinking," I said.

"Then she gave me a book by Prof. Horatio Alger, and I guess no book I ever read has had more of an effect on me."

"Wasn't Prof. Alger the one who came out first with the success syndrome theory?"

"That's he. His story floored me. I mean a whole new world opened for me, and I knew no matter what the consequences were and no matter what other people thought. I was going to work hard and become rich and successful. Life finally took on some meaning for me, and for the first time I felt like a free man."

"What did you do then?"

"I discovered through this girl that there were other students on campus who felt the way I did - not many, but there were enough. So we formed a group called the 'Students for a Successful Society'. At first we had to go underground, because the administration wouldn't acknowledge us as a legitimate campus organization. But as more and more students heard about us, the SSS kept growing. We've been able to radicalize at least 200 students who would rather be rich than do their thing."

"What are some of your activities to get more supporters?"

"We sell the Wall Street Journal on campus. We've opened a coffeehouse where you can read back copies of Fortune. We have a stock market ticker tape in the back of the room, and on week-

ends we have readings from the National Assn. of Manufacturers. Bulletins."

"Hiram, I know this sounds great. But is it possible that this success syndrome movement is just a passing fad?"

"No, it isn't. I know everyone calls us kooks and weirdos, but no one is going to push us a-

round. We've already had inquiries from other campuses that want to set up similar chapters, and I wouldn't be surprised in the next few years to see what is now a minority movement become the strongest force in the country. After all, nothing succeeds like success."

COMING EVENTS

- April 16 Piedmont Chamber Orchestra in Hanes at 8:15 p.m.
- April 16 Dionysius '73: A Celebration of the Arts David Nagrin Interpretive Dance Group at 8:00 p.m. in Reynolda Ballroom
- April 17 Jonathan Williams in the Drama Workshop at 1:15 p.m.
- April 17 Razphael Trio Wait Chapel at 8:15 p.m.
- April 18 Puppet show sponsored by the Education Dept. in the Drama Workshop at 7:00 p.m.
- April 20 Michael Graudo--pantomimist at 8:45 p.m. in Wait Chapel
- April 20 Clark Organ Recital in Shirley at 7:30 p.m.
- April 22 Opening of Senior art exhibit in FAC gallery.
- April 23 Heidemann Recital in Shirley at 8:15 p.m.
- April 24 Bruce & Nancy Roberts speaking on Carolina Ghosts in Shirley at 1:00 p.m.
- April 26 Nelson Twins perform in Hanes at 1:15 p.m. Dansalems Spring Recital in Hanes at 8:00 p.m.
- April 27 Byrd Organ Recital in Shirley at 8:15 p.m.
- April 29 Tinker Organ Recital in Shirley at 4:00 p.m. Heaton Recital in Shirley at 8:15 p.m.

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