

Laundry and Legislation

In the Meredith College student handbook, there is a provision in the student government constitution which reads as follows: "It shall be the function of the Legislative Board to recommend to the student body, changes in the Constitution and in the regulations of the Association." If one reads further, one will find additional stipulations concerning the function of the board. "It shall be the function of the Legislative Board to receive recommendations concerning changes in the constitution and in regulations of the Association from student groups or from the entire student body, from the Faculty Committee on Student Government, or from the Student Government Executive Committee."

Nowhere in the student government constitution are there provisions which state that the function of the Legislative Board is to discuss and act upon matters as dormitory laundry days, the "ride board" in the post office, possible changes in library hours, or other matters of this nature. Granted, these matters may be significant and they probably should be discussed by some student government organ, but to place these matters on the agenda of the Legislative Board serves only to detract from the real function of the board.

While no valid conclusions can be made on the basis of attendance at one Legislative Board meeting, a number of pertinent observations can be made. One, the Legislative Board has become through the years, a clearing house for student gripes and problems. Two, much of the significant work of the board is overshadowed, and in some cases, subordinated to an amazingly wide variety of petty problems. Three, the age-old problem of communication between students and their governing bodies is forcing this board to depart drastically from its intended purpose.

To elaborate further, the structure of the Legislative Board is such that it is the only body on campus on which there is a representative from every hall. Thus, in this representative capacity, the members of this board are the only ones who have direct contact with students and a governing board. While students are frequently apathetic about suggesting proposals to their board representative, a number of proposals do come from the student body, but these proposals are generally concerned with matters which could very easily be handled by a board more directly oriented toward dealing with student preferences, conveniences, and legitimate "gripes."

The proposed solution to this definite problem of organization and function of student government boards is not to set up a "Petty Problems Board," but to utilize a board already in existence. A second look at the student handbook reveals that there is a Student Activities Board, the functions of which are "to educate the student body in standards of social behavior . . . to encourage the development of cultural interests by promoting a strong and varied program outside the classroom . . . (and) to promote a broad program of social activities for students, administration, faculty, and groups off campus." The present status of this board as related to student activities is questionable, and the fact that this board has met only three times this year might indicate that the board is not over-burdened. If the scope of the Student Activities Board were enlarged to include the many non-legislative matters now handled by the Legislative Board, it would seem that each board would logically be considering problems closest to the essential nature of each.

With the establishment of practical House Councils, the opportunity has arisen for the student government to alleviate some of the problems of the Legislative Board. Each House Council has an elected representative to the Student Activities Board, and because of the nature of the House Councils, communication from the Student Activities Board to individual halls could be effected in the course of regular House Council meetings and subsequent reports to the halls.

The possibility of reorganizing and reorienting student government boards is reportedly under consideration by student government officers. While the idea is not new this year, the framework for such a reorganization is being laid. With increasing complexity in student government structure and undertakings, the demand for some sort of logical adjustment is being heard. Is there to be an answer to this demand?

MIH

Once Was the Time of Man

Astronauts circling high above the earth's atmosphere send and bring back words of praise for the breath-taking spectacle before them as they look down upon Earth. Never, they say, have they seen a sight so beautiful.

At the other extreme, those very close to the earth—close to the soil itself—echo the praise of man in space and love the land for the beauty they see in every living thing.

It seems strange then that from a position allowing more objectivity, from a cloud where man can be clearly seen, the sight is bloody. Man, the most beautiful part of the earth, adds not to the glory of the earth but through war aims for destruction. Involved in the intricacies of war, men do not get a "bird's eye view" which reveals the candid realities of hate, cruelty, and brutality in a setting of beauty.

It is unbelievable that people cannot share happy lives in such a place of wonder; it is more amazing that even without sharing, the barest existence is an evidently impossible ideal.

Wars are fought for various reasons, both petty and grand. Wars may be said to accomplish great things; many accomplish nothing. But whether or not wars accomplish something seems somehow unimportant when the costs of war are tallied. Nowhere is "man's inhumanity to man" made more evident than in war; but a country that professes to believe in the dignity and worth of man supports the one institution that does the most to degrade man.

If man believes that killing his neighbor is justifiable, someday he will kill his neighbor. There is a ballad with a haunting refrain:

Once was the time of man.
Once there was grass where you stand.

PAL

Test Your College IQ

1		2	3	4		5
6		7	8	9		10
11	12		13		14	15
16			17			
		18				19
	20					21
22					23	
	24	25		26		27
28				29	30	
31				32		

Across

- 10:30 Daily
- High Grade
- A Hard Place To Sleep
- Musical Note
- 8 and 4, Daily Runs
- What Seniors Never Worry About
- Street
- Iota Tau Omega
- A Blind Date
- Needed To Mail A Letter
- Objective Case Of We
- Station (abbrev.)
- Opposite of False
- And (Fr.)
- Math Term
- Exclamation
- Cornhuskin' Call
- Football

Down

- And Gowns
- Degree
- Division
- Publication Head
- Each Class Thinks They Are
- Musical Note
- Bible Part
- Amounts of Medicine
- Senter
- Self—
- Society
- No Classes Wanted On
- RCG (given)
- Breakfast Item
- Exclamation
- Two Vowels

Campus Chat Questions Tests

(Associated Collegiate Press "Parade of Opinion" Service.)

"Do tests really contribute anything to education?" asks the *Campus Chat*, newspaper of North Texas State University.

They are not an infallible measure of a student's academic ability, nor do they prompt the student to develop his talents and interests to the fullest.

But because professors place such great emphasis on the outcome of exams, the students begin to play a giant guessing game—what will the professor have on his test?

Two students converse. One says, "Don't read chapter nine. George had Professor X last semester and he said there are no questions from that chapter."

"Thanks," the other says. "By the way, I heard he asks only detailed questions, so don't bother with the big stuff."

Like computers, these students tend to spit back memorized knowledge while their own ideas decay. They don't have time to develop their own ideas because they're too busy playing the guessing game. Such a system defeats the purpose of higher education.

How could students be evaluated? Give them passing or failing grades based on the amount of work they do? Let them do research papers and use their own ideas instead of memorizing someone else's. The elimination of tests would make courses more enjoyable, more interesting, and more meaningful for both teacher and student.

"Iota Subscript"

By BETH PEACOCK

The night of Cornhuskin' '66 will be long remembered. Spirits ran high and the puns came easy. Moo College guests even managed to smile as the classes ran them through the pastures and into the barn.

Seniors, in their imperfect glory, proved that three years of experience and a King on the committee could walk away with the biggest pumpkin of all.

The junior stars shone themselves right into second place. While luscious Libba wooed the crowds, the cameras caught the best of the cannibals.

The proverbial slump slowed the sophomores to a grinding halt. Their song was a highlight of the evening, while their further renditions met with little acclaim, as was marked by the judges' decision. So unsuccessfully did Jack and Jim go up the hill that sophomores were forced back to their dorms to do a bit of cleaning.

The frosh won their claim to fame. No longer can they be tagged rookies of the year, for through their splendid performance, Meredith and Prince Hicks will live happily ever after.

Under the direction of J. Henry, the faculty shared in song their heartfelt rendition . . . "through our quizzes they (students) shall serve us."

Yes, the night was memorable in many ways. The participation was great, and the spirit raised the rafters of Jones to its limits.

SG Notes

By CAROLYN McGRADY

Reform Committee Meets

The Judicial Reform Committee has recommended to the Legislative Board that "probation" be made a stricter penalty and that an "official reprimand" be added to the list of penalties given by the Judicial Board. This will enable the Judicial Board to broaden the basis for giving "probation."

Delegates to NSA

Ellen Kirby, president of the Student Government Association, and two other delegates from Meredith have been invited to attend the Carolinas-Virginia Regional Conference of the National Student Association in Chapel Hill on November 4-6. The topic for the conference will be educational reform. Meredith is currently a member of the Southern Intercollegiate Association of Student Governments, and the school may become affiliated with the National Association of Student Governments.

Drinking Rule Studied

The committee on the drinking policy at Meredith is writing other schools to obtain material to evaluate the policy at Meredith in light of policies at other comparable schools.

Library Fund Plans

Mary Arakas, student chairman for the library fund, has announced plans for this year. These plans include a flea market, a carnival, and an auction as well as many small projects throughout the year. The money earned through the drive this year will be used to furnish a reading lounge in the new library. Mary also asks that all students start saving S and H Green Stamps to donate to the fund, as her committee hopes to obtain some furnishings for the lounge in this way.

NOTICE

Letters to the editor, contributions for "Speaking Out," or any other information should be given to the editor by November 10 for publication in the next issue of THE TWIG, which will come out on November 17.



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